

rich as well as lasting, to all ages and to all lands.

Converted, illuminated, and made an Apostle by the grace of God, Paul stands before us as the very embodiment of earnestness, and the especial minister of Christ to the Gentiles.

In order to study Paul in his new character of an *Apostle*, we will consider, first, *his conduct among his own people, the Jews*.

He was a *patriot* in the truest and noblest sense. He had deserved their praise: he received only their hatred; but neither persecution, nor the rejection of his message, nor the lapse of time could alienate that noble heart from its loyalty, nor quench the love that bound him to his people Israel. Defamed, beaten, imprisoned, with a nobility that seldom finds a parallel, he says, "I have not aught to accuse my nation of." And then he calls God to witness, "I say the truth in Christ; I lie not that I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh."

We cannot help contrasting this with the flimsy, spurious patriotism of multitudes in our own day. How many, for instance, have we seen leaving England, where, perhaps, they were treated better than they deserved, and coming to this continent, commence bitterly to inveigh against her in a foreign country and under a foreign flag. The deeper our Christianity, the truer our patriotism. And as no