

in their mission, that we find the unbelieving Jews at Thessalonica complaining that "the men who had turned the world upside down, were come thither also : " \* a proof that great numbers must have been converted to the faith, and that the change in their life and conversation had been considerable enough to excite notice.

During this time the Jewish nation had again past from the condition of a Roman province to that of an independent sovereignty under Herod Agrippi, the grandson of Herod the Great. This prince having been retained in captivity by Tiberius, was liberated by Caius Caligula, and elevated to the tetrarchy of his deceased uncle Philip ; and finally, at the accession of Cladius, received the kingdom of Judæa and Samaria in addition. It was during his reign that James the Apostle was put to death, and Peter was imprisoned ; but at the death of this monarch, which happened shortly after, Judæa relapsed into a Roman province, although young Agrippi was permitted to retain some part of the regal dignity ; for he nominated the high priest, and he is occasionally termed *king* ; although not regularly invested. This was the Agrippa before whom Paul defended himself when allowed by Festus to plead his own cause. Excepting, however, in the point of idolatry, — which the Jews resisted with a pertinacity which astonished all their heathen governors, as well now, under the Romans, as formerly during the sway of the Seleucidæ, — the habits of the people differed little from those of surrounding nations. Rome was the metropolis of the world, and the fashions of Rome were adopted among the higher classes here, as elsewhere.

\* Acts xvii. 6.