

Sermon.

I AM NOW READY TO BE OFFERED, AND THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE IS AT HAND.

I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.

HENCEFORTH THERE IS LAID UP FOR ME A CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, WHICH THE LORD, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE, SHALL GIVE ME AT THAT DAY: AND NOT TO ME ONLY, BUT UNTO ALL THEM ALSO THAT LOVE HIS APPEARING.—2 TIMOTHY IV, 6-8.

In the year in which the Son of God was crucified, and when, therefore, the Church of Christ was in its infancy—when the chief opponents of the gospel were prejudiced and wicked Jews, who could not quietly endure to see the progress of Christianity after the day of Pentecost—a scene presented itself in the Sanhedrim, or chief council of the Jewish nation, of which the sacred historian thought fit to leave a record.