

THE ARGUMENT OF S. MARKES GHOSPEL.

S. Markes Ghospel may be wel diuided into foure parts.

The first part, of the preparation that was made to the manifestation of Chrif: Chap. 1. in the beginning.

The Second, of his manifesting himself by Preaching & Miracles, & that in Galilee: the residue of the 1. chap. vnto the 10. chap.

The third, of his comming into Iewrie, towards his Pafsion: chap. 10.

The fourth, of the Holy weeke of his Pafsion in Hierufalem: chap. 11. to the end of the booke.

Of S. Marke and his conuerfion with the two Apoftles S. Paul and S. Barnabee, we haue at large Act. 12. and 15. fome what alfo Col. 4. and 2. Tim. 4. and to Philemon. Moreouer of his familiaritie with the Prince of the Apoftles S. Peter, we haue 1. Pet. 5. For fo it pleased our Lord, that only two of the Euangelifts should be of his twelue Apoftles, to wit, S. Matthew and S. Iohn. The other two, S. Marke and S. Luke, he gaue vnto vs of the Difciples of his two moft principal and moft glorious Apoftles S. Peter and S. Paul. Whose Ghospels therefore were of Antiquitie counted as the Ghospels of S. Peter and S. Paul them felues. Marke the Difciple, and interpreter of Peter (faith S. Hierom) according to that which he heard of Peters mouth, wrote at Rome a briefe Ghospel at the request of the Brethren (about 10. or 12. yeares after our Lordes Ascension.) which when Peter had heard, he approued it, and with his authoritie did publifh it to the Church to be read, as Clemens Alexandrinus writeth li. 6. Hypotypof.

In the fame place S. Hierom addeth, how he went into Ægypt to preach, and was the first Bishop of the cheefe Citie there, named Alexandria: and how Philo Iudæus at the fame time feeling & admiring the life & conuerfation of the Chriftians there vnder S. Marke, who were Monkes, wrote a booke thereof, which is extant

to this day. And not only S. Hierom (in Marco, & in Philone) but also Eusebius Hist. li. 2. ca. 15. 16. 17. Epiphanius Secta 29. Nazaræorum li. 1. to. 2. Cassianus de Instit. Cænobiorum li. 2. c. 5. Sozomenus li. 1. c. 12. Nicephorus lib. 2. c. 15. and diuerse others doe make mention of the said Monkes out of the same Authour. Finally, He died (saith S. Hierom) the 8. yeare of Nero, and was buried at Alexandria, Anianus succeeding in his place. But from Alexandria he was translated to Venice, Anno Dom. 830.

It is also to be noted, that in respect of S. Peter, who sent S. Marke his scholar to Alexandria, and made him the first Bishop there, this See was esteemed next in dignitie to the See of Rome, and the Bishop thereof was accounted the cheefe Metropolitan or Patriarch of the East, and that by the first Council of Nyce. Whereof see S. Leo ep. 53. S. Gregorie li. 5. ep. 60. & li. 6. ep. 37.