**CHAPTER** **4**

*Tobias thinking he shall die, giveth his son godly admonitions: and telleth him of money he had lent to a friend.*

**1** Therefore when Tobias thought that his prayer was heard that he might die, he called to him Tobias his son,

**2** And said to him: Hear, my son, the words of my mouth, and lay them as a foundation in thy heart.

**3** When God shall take my soul, thou shalt bury my body: and thou shalt honour thy mother all the days of her life:

**4** For thou must be mindful what and how great perils she suffered for thee in her womb.

**5** And when she also shall have ended the time of her life, bury her by me.

**6** And all the days of thy life have God in thy mind: and take heed thou never consent to sin, nor transgress the commandments of the Lord our God.

**7** Give alms out of thy substance, and turn not away thy face from any poor person: for so it shall come to pass that the face of the Lord shall not be turned from thee.

**8** According to thy ability be merciful.

**9** If thou have much give abundantly: if thou have little, take care even so to bestow willingly a little.

**10** For thus thou storest up to thyself a good reward for the day of necessity.

**11** For alms deliver from all sin, and from death, and will not suffer the soul to go into darkness.

**12** Alms shall be a great confidence before the most high God, to all them that give it.

**13** Take heed to keep thyself, my son, from all fornication, and beside thy wife never endure to know a crime.

**14** Never suffer pride to reign in thy mind, or in thy words: for from it all perdition took its beginning.

**15** If any man hath done any work for thee, immediately pay him his hire, and let not the wages of thy hired servant stay with thee at all.

**16** See thou never do to another what thou wouldst hate to have done to thee by another.

**17** Eat thy bread with the hungry and the needy, and with thy garments cover the naked.

**18** Lay out thy bread, and thy wine upon the burial of a just man, and do not eat and drink thereof with the wicked.

**19** Seek counsel always of a wise man.

**20** Bless God at all times: and desire of him to direct thy ways, and that all thy counsels may abide in him.

**21** I tell thee also, my son, that I lent ten talents of silver, while thou wast yet a child, to Gabelus, in Rages a city of the Medes, and I have a note of his hand with me:

**22** Now therefore inquire how thou mayst go to him, and receive of him the foresaid sum of money, and restore to him the note of his hand.

**23** Fear not, my son: we lead indeed a poor life, but we shall have many good things if we fear God, and depart from all sin, and do that which is good.