**CHAPTER** **44**

*The praises of the holy fathers, in particular of Enoch, Noe, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.*

**1** Let us now praise men of renown, and our fathers in their generation.

**2** The Lord hath wrought great glory through his magnificence from the beginning.

**3** Such as have borne rule in their dominions, men of great power, and endued with their wisdom, shewing forth in the prophets the dignity of prophets,

**4** And ruling over the present people, and by the strength of wisdom instructing the people in most holy words.

**5** Such as by their skill sought out musical tunes, and published canticles of the scriptures.

**6** Rich men in virtue, studying beautifulness: living at peace in their houses.

**7** All these have gained glory in their generations, and were praised in their days.

**8** They that were born of them have left a name behind them, that their praises might be related:

**9** And there are some, of whom there is no memorial: who are perished, as if they had never been: and are become as if they had never been born, and their children with them.

**10** But these were men of mercy, whose godly deeds have not failed:

**11** Good things continue with their seed,

**12** Their posterity are a holy inheritance, and their seed hath stood in the covenants.

**13** And their children for their sakes remain for ever: their seed and their glory shall not be forsaken.

**14** Their bodies are buried in peace, and their name liveth unto generation and generation.

**15** Let the people shew forth their wisdom, and the church declare their praise.

**16** Henoch pleased God, and was translated into paradise, that he may give repentance to the nations.

**17** Noe was found perfect, just, and in the time of wrath he was made a reconciliation.

**18** Therefore was there a remnant left to the earth, when the flood came.

**19** The covenants of the world were made with him, that all flesh should no more be destroyed with the flood.

**20** Abraham was the great father of a multitude of nations, and there was not found the like to him in glory, who kept the law of the most High, and was in covenant with him.

**21** In his flesh he established the covenant, and in temptation he was found faithful.

**22** Therefore by an oath he gave him glory in his posterity, that he should increase as the dust of the earth,

**23** And that he would exalt his seed as the stars, and they should inherit from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth.

**24** And he did in like manner with Isaac for the sake of Abraham his father.

**25** The Lord gave him the blessing of all nations, and confirmed his covenant upon the head of Jacob.

**26** He acknowledged him in his blessings, and gave him an inheritance, and divided him his portion in twelve tribes.

**27** And he preserved for him men of mercy, that found grace in the eyes of all flesh.