

despairing of his health, he wrote unto the Jews the letter underwritten, containing the form of a supplication, after this manner:

{9:19} Antiochus, king and governor, to the good Jews his citizens wisheth much joy, health, and prosperity:

{9:20} If ye and your children fare well, and your affairs be to your contentment, I give very great thanks to God, having my hope in heaven.

{9:21} As for me, I was weak, or else I would have remembered kindly your honour and good will returning out of Persia, and being taken with a grievous disease, I thought it necessary to care for the common safety of all:

{9:22} Not distrusting mine health, but having great hope to escape this sickness.

{9:23} But considering that even my father, at what time he led an army into the high countries, appointed a successor,

{9:24} To the end that, if any thing fell out contrary to expectation, or if any tidings were brought that were grievous, they of the land, knowing to whom the state was left, might not be troubled:

{9:25} Again, considering how that the princes that are borderers and neighbours unto my kingdom wait for opportunities, and expect what shall be the event. I have appointed my son Antiochus king, whom I often committed and commended unto many of you, when I went up into the high provinces; to whom I have written as followeth:

{9:26} Therefore I pray and request you to remember the benefits that I have done unto you generally, and in special, and that every man will be still faithful to me and my son.

{9:27} For I am persuaded that he understanding my mind will favourably and graciously yield to your desires.

{9:28} Thus the murderer and blasphemer having suffered most grievously, as he entreated other men, so died he a miserable death in a strange country in the mountains.

{9:29} And Philip, that was brought up with him, carried away his body, who also fearing the son of Antiochus went into Egypt to Ptolemeus Philometor.

{10:1} Now Maccabeus and his company, the Lord guiding them, recovered the temple and the city:

{10:2} But the altars which the heathen had built in the open street, and also the chapels, they pulled down.

{10:3} And having cleansed the temple they made another altar, and striking stones they took fire out of them, and offered a sacrifice after two years, and set forth incense, and lights, and shewbread.

{10:4} When that was done, they fell flat down, and besought the Lord that they might come no more into such troubles; but if they sinned any more against him, that he himself would chasten them with mercy, and that they might not be delivered unto the blasphemous and barbarous nations.

{10:5} Now upon the same day that the strangers

profaned the temple, on the very same day it was cleansed again, even the five and twentieth day of the same month, which is Casleu.

{10:6} And they kept the eight days with gladness, as in the feast of the tabernacles, remembering that not long afore they had held the feast of the tabernacles, when as they wandered in the mountains and dens like beasts.

{10:7} Therefore they bare branches, and fair boughs, and palms also, and sang psalms unto him that had given them good success in cleansing his place.

{10:8} They ordained also by a common statute and decree, That every year those days should be kept of the whole nation of the Jews.

{10:9} And this was the end of Antiochus, called Epiphanes.

{10:10} Now will we declare the acts of Antiochus Eupator, who was the son of this wicked man, gathering briefly the calamities of the wars.

{10:11} So when he was come to the crown, he set one Lysias over the affairs of his realm, and appointed him his chief governor of Celosyria and Phenice.

{10:12} For Ptolemeus, that was called Macron, choosing rather to do justice unto the Jews for the wrong that had been done unto them, endeavoured to continue peace with them.

{10:13} Whereupon being accused of the king's friends before Eupator, and called traitor at every word because he had left Cyprus, that Philometor had committed unto him, and departed to Antiochus Epiphanes, and seeing that he was in no honourable place, he was so discouraged, that he poisoned himself and died.

{10:14} But when Gorgias was governor of the holds, he hired soldiers, and nourished war continually with the Jews:

{10:15} And therewithall the Idumeans, having gotten into their hands the most commodious holds, kept the Jews occupied, and receiving those that were banished from Jerusalem, they went about to nourish war.

{10:16} Then they that were with Maccabeus made supplication, and besought God that he would be their helper; and so they ran with violence upon the strong holds of the Idumeans,

{10:17} And assailing them strongly, they won the holds, and kept off all that fought upon the wall, and slew all that fell into their hands, and killed no fewer than twenty thousand.

{10:18} And because certain, who were no less than nine thousand, were fled together into two very strong castles, having all manner of things convenient to sustain the siege,

{10:19} Maccabeus left Simon and Joseph, and Zaccheus also, and them that were with him, who were enough to besiege them, and departed himself unto those places which more needed his help.

{10:20} Now they that were with Simon, being led with covetousness, were persuaded for money through certain of

those that were in the castle, and took seventy thousand drachms, and let some of them escape.

{10:21} But when it was told Maccabeus what was done, he called the governors of the people together, and accused those men, that they had sold their brethren for money, and set their enemies free to fight against them.

{10:22} So he slew those that were found traitors, and immediately took the two castles.

{10:23} And having good success with his weapons in all things he took in hand, he slew in the two holds more than twenty thousand.

{10:24} Now Timotheus, whom the Jews had overcome before, when he had gathered a great multitude of foreign forces, and horses out of Asia not a few, came as though he would take Jewry by force of arms.

{10:25} But when he drew near, they that were with Maccabeus turned themselves to pray unto God, and sprinkled earth upon their heads, and girded their loins with sackcloth,

{10:26} And fell down at the foot of the altar, and besought him to be merciful to them, and to be an enemy to their enemies, and an adversary to their adversaries, as the law declareth.

{10:27} So after the prayer they took their weapons, and went on further from the city: and when they drew near to their enemies, they kept by themselves.

{10:28} Now the sun being newly risen, they joined both together; the one part having together with their virtue their refuge also unto the Lord for a pledge of their success and victory: the other side making their rage leader of their battle

{10:29} But when the battle waxed strong, there appeared unto the enemies from heaven five comely men upon horses, with bridles of gold, and two of them led the Jews,

{10:30} And took Maccabeus betwixt them, and covered him on every side weapons, and kept him safe, but shot arrows and lightnings against the enemies: so that being confounded with blindness, and full of trouble, they were killed.

{10:31} And there were slain of footmen twenty thousand and five hundred, and six hundred horsemen.

{10:32} As for Timotheus himself, he fled into a very strong hold, called Gawra, where Chereas was governor.

{10:33} But they that were with Maccabeus laid siege against the fortress courageously four days.

{10:34} And they that were within, trusting to the strength of the place, blasphemed exceedingly, and uttered wicked words.

{10:35} Nevertheless upon the fifth day early twenty young men of Maccabeus' company, inflamed with anger because of the blasphemies, assaulted the wall manly, and with a fierce courage killed all that they met withal.

{10:36} Others likewise ascending after them, whiles they were busied with them that were within, burnt the towers,

and kindling fires burnt the blasphemers alive; and others broke open the gates, and, having received in the rest of the army, took the city,

{10:37} And killed Timotheus, that was hid in a certain pit, and Chereas his brother, with Apollophanes.

{10:38} When this was done, they praised the Lord with psalms and thanksgiving, who had done so great things for Israel, and given them the victory.

{11:1} Not long after the, Lysias the king's protector and cousin, who also managed the affairs, took sore displeasure for the things that were done.

{11:2} And when he had gathered about fourscore thousand with all the horsemen, he came against the Jews, thinking to make the city an habitation of the Gentiles,

{11:3} And to make a gain of the temple, as of the other chapels of the heathen, and to set the high priesthood to sale every year:

{11:4} Not at all considering the power of God but puffed up with his ten thousands of footmen, and his thousands of horsemen, and his fourscore elephants.

{11:5} So he came to Judea, and drew near to Bethsura, which was a strong town, but distant from Jerusalem about five furlongs, and he laid sore siege unto it.

{11:6} Now when they that were with Maccabeus heard that he besieged the holds, they and all the people with lamentation and tears besought the Lord that he would send a good angel to deliver Israel.

{11:7} Then Maccabeus himself first of all took weapons, exhorting the other that they would jeopard themselves together with him to help their brethren: so they went forth together with a willing mind.

{11:8} And as they were at Jerusalem, there appeared before them on horseback one in white clothing, shaking his armour of gold.

{11:9} Then they praised the merciful God all together, and took heart, insomuch that they were ready not only to fight with men, but with most cruel beasts, and to pierce through walls of iron.

{11:10} Thus they marched forward in their armour, having an helper from heaven: for the Lord was merciful unto them

{11:11} And giving a charge upon their enemies like lions, they slew eleven thousand footmen, and sixteen hundred horsemen, and put all the other to flight.

{11:12} Many of them also being wounded escaped naked; and Lysias himself fled away shamefully, and so escaped.

{11:13} Who, as he was a man of understanding, casting with himself what loss he had had, and considering that the Hebrews could not be overcome, because the Almighty God helped them, he sent unto them,

{11:14} And persuaded them to agree to all reasonable conditions, and promised that he would persuade the king

that he must needs be a friend unto them.

{11:15} Then Maccabeus consented to all that Lysias desired, being careful of the common good; and whatsoever Maccabeus wrote unto Lysias concerning the Jews, the king granted it.

{11:16} For there were letters written unto the Jews from Lysias to this effect: Lysias unto the people of the Jews sendeth greeting:

{11:17} John and Absolom, who were sent from you, delivered me the petition subscribed, and made request for the performance of the contents thereof.

{11:18} Therefore what things soever were meet to be reported to the king, I have declared them, and he hath granted as much as might be.

{11:19} And if then ye will keep yourselves loyal to the state, hereafter also will I endeavour to be a means of your good.

{11:20} But of the particulars I have given order both to these and the other that came from me, to commune with you.

{11:21} Fare ye well. The hundred and eight and fortieth year, the four and twentieth day of the month Dioscorinthius.

{11:22} Now the king's letter contained these words: King Antiochus unto his brother Lysias sendeth greeting:

{11:23} Since our father is translated unto the gods, our will is, that they that are in our realm live quietly, that every one may attend upon his own affairs.

{11:24} We understand also that the Jews would not consent to our father, for to be brought unto the custom of the Gentiles, but had rather keep their own manner of living: for the which cause they require of us, that we should suffer them to live after their own laws.

{11:25} Wherefore our mind is, that this nation shall be in rest, and we have determined to restore them their temple, that they may live according to the customs of their forefathers.

{11:26} Thou shalt do well therefore to send unto them, and grant them peace, that when they are certified of our mind, they may be of good comfort, and ever go cheerfully about their own affairs.

{11:27} And the letter of the king unto the nation of the Jews was after this manner: King Antiochus sendeth greeting unto the council, and the rest of the Jews:

{11:28} If ye fare well, we have our desire; we are also in good health.

{11:29} Menelaus declared unto us, that your desire was to return home, and to follow your own business:

{11:30} Wherefore they that will depart shall have safe conduct till the thirtieth day of Xanthicus with security.

{11:31} And the Jews shall use their own kind of meats and laws, as before; and none of them any manner of ways shall be molested for things ignorantly done.

{11:32} I have sent also Menelaus, that he may comfort you.

{11:33} Fare ye well. In the hundred forty and eighth year, and the fifteenth day of the month Xanthicus.

{11:34} The Romans also sent unto them a letter containing these words: Quintus Memmius and Titus Manlius, ambassadors of the Romans, send greeting unto the people of the Jews.

{11:35} Whatsoever Lysias the king's cousin hath granted, therewith we also are well pleased.

{11:36} But touching such things as he judged to be referred to the king, after ye have advised thereof, send one forthwith, that we may declare as it is convenient for you: for we are now going to Antioch.

{11:37} Therefore send some with speed, that we may know what is your mind.

{11:38} Farewell. This hundred and eight and fortieth year, the fifteenth day of the month Xanthicus.

{12:1} When these covenants were made, Lysias went unto the king, and the Jews were about their husbandry.

{12:2} But of the governours of several places, Timotheus, and Apollonius the son of Genneus, also Hieronymus, and Demophon, and beside them Nicanor the governor of Cyprus, would not suffer them to be quiet and live in peace.

{12:3} The men of Joppa also did such an ungodly deed: they prayed the Jews that dwelt among them to go with their wives and children into the boats which they had prepared, as though they had meant them no hurt.

{12:4} Who accepted of it according to the common decree of the city, as being desirous to live in peace, and suspecting nothing: but when they were gone forth into the deep, they drowned no less than two hundred of them.

{12:5} When Judas heard of this cruelty done unto his countrymen, he commanded those that were with him to make them ready.

{12:6} And calling upon God the righteous Judge, he came against those murderers of his brethren, and burnt the haven by night, and set the boats on fire, and those that fled thither he slew.

{12:7} And when the town was shut up, he went backward, as if he would return to root out all them of the city of Joppa.

{12:8} But when he heard that the Jamnites were minded to do in like manner unto the Jews that dwelt among them,

{12:9} He came upon the Jamnites also by night, and set fire on the haven and the navy, so that the light of the fire was seen at Jerusalem two hundred and forty furlongs off.

{12:10} Now when they were gone from thence nine furlongs in their journey toward Timotheus, no fewer than five thousand men on foot and five hundred horsemen of the Arabians set upon him.

{12:11} Whereupon there was a very sore battle; but Judas' side by the help of God got the victory; so that the Nomades of Arabia, being overcome, besought Judas for peace, promising both to give him cattle, and to pleasure him otherwise.

{12:12} Then Judas, thinking indeed that they would be profitable in many things, granted them peace: whereupon they shook hands, and so they departed to their tents.

{12:13} He went also about to make a bridge to a certain strong city, which was fenced about with walls, and inhabited by people of divers countries; and the name of it was Caspis.

{12:14} But they that were within it put such trust in the strength of the walls and provision of victuals, that they behaved themselves rudely toward them that were with Judas, railing and blaspheming, and uttering such words as were not to be spoken.

{12:15} Wherefore Judas with his company, calling upon the great Lord of the world, who without rams or engines of war did cast down Jericho in the time of Joshua, gave a fierce assault against the walls,

{12:16} And took the city by the will of God, and made unspeakable slaughters, insomuch that a lake two furlongs broad near adjoining thereunto, being filled full, was seen running with blood.

{12:17} Then departed they from thence seven hundred and fifty furlongs, and came to Characa unto the Jews that are called Tubieni.

{12:18} But as for Timotheus, they found him not in the places: for before he had dispatched any thing, he departed from thence, having left a very strong garrison in a certain hold.

{12:19} Howbeit Dositheus and Sosipater, who were of Maccabeus' captains, went forth, and slew those that Timotheus had left in the fortress, above ten thousand men.

{12:20} And Maccabeus ranged his army by bands, and set them over the bands, and went against Timotheus, who had about him an hundred and twenty thousand men of foot, and two thousand and five hundred horsemen.

{12:21} Now when Timotheus had knowledge of Judas' coming, he sent the women and children and the other baggage unto a fortress called Carnion: for the town was hard to besiege, and uneasy to come unto, by reason of the straitness of all the places.

{12:22} But when Judas his first band came in sight, the enemies, being smitten with fear and terror through the appearing of him who seeth all things, fled amain, one running into this way, another that way, so as that they were often hurt of their own men, and wounded with the points of their own swords.

{12:23} Judas also was very earnest in pursuing them, killing those wicked wretches, of whom he slew about thirty thousand men.

{12:24} Moreover Timotheus himself fell into the hands of Dositheus and Sosipater, whom he besought with much craft to let him go with his life, because he had many of the

Jews' parents, and the brethren of some of them, who, if they put him to death, should not be regarded.

{12:25} So when he had assured them with many words that he would restore them without hurt, according to the agreement, they let him go for the saving of their brethren.

{12:26} Then Maccabeus marched forth to Carnion, and to the temple of Atargatis, and there he slew five and twenty thousand persons.

{12:27} And after he had put to flight and destroyed them, Judas removed the host toward Ephron, a strong city, wherein Lysias abode, and a great multitude of divers nations, and the strong young men kept the walls, and defended them mightily: wherein also was great provision of engines and darts.

{12:28} But when Judas and his company had called upon Almighty God, who with his power breaketh the strength of his enemies, they won the city, and slew twenty and five thousand of them that were within,

{12:29} From thence they departed to Scythopolis, which lieth six hundred furlongs from Jerusalem,

{12:30} But when the Jews that dwelt there had testified that the Scythopolitans dealt lovingly with them, and entreated them kindly in the time of their adversity;

{12:31} They gave them thanks, desiring them to be friendly still unto them: and so they came to Jerusalem, the feast of the weeks approaching.

{12:32} And after the feast, called Pentecost, they went forth against Gorgias the governor of Idumea,

{12:33} Who came out with three thousand men of foot and four hundred horsemen.

{12:34} And it happened that in their fighting together a few of the Jews were slain.

{12:35} At which time Dositheus, one of Bacenor's company, who was on horseback, and a strong man, was still upon Gorgias, and taking hold of his coat drew him by force; and when he would have taken that cursed man alive, a horseman of Thracia coming upon him smote off his shoulder, so that Gorgias fled unto Marisa.

{12:36} Now when they that were with Gorgias had fought long, and were weary, Judas called upon the Lord, that he would shew himself to be their helper and leader of the battle.

{12:37} And with that he began in his own language, and sung psalms with a loud voice, and rushing unawares upon Gorgias' men, he put them to flight.

{12:38} So Judas gathered his host, and came into the city of Odollam, And when the seventh day came, they purified themselves, as the custom was, and kept the sabbath in the same place.

{12:39} And upon the day following, as the use had been, Judas and his company came to take up the bodies of them that were slain, and to bury them with their kinsmen in their fathers' graves.

{12:40} Now under the coats of every one that was slain they found things consecrated to the idols of the Jamnites, which is forbidden the Jews by the law. Then every man saw that this was the cause wherefore they were slain.

{12:41} All men therefore praising the Lord, the righteous Judge, who had opened the things that were hid,

{12:42} Betook themselves unto prayer, and besought him that the sin committed might wholly be put out of remembrance. Besides, that noble Judas exhorted the people to keep themselves from sin, forso much as they saw before their eyes the things that came to pass for the sins of those that were slain.

{12:43} And when he had made a gathering throughout the company to the sum of two thousand drachms of silver, he sent it to Jerusalem to offer a sin offering, doing therein very well and honestly, in that he was mindful of the resurrection:

{12:44} For if he had not hoped that they that were slain should have risen again, it had been superfluous and vain to pray for the dead.

{12:45} And also in that he perceived that there was great favour laid up for those that died godly, it was an holy and good thought. Whereupon he made a reconciliation for the dead, that they might be delivered from sin.

{13:1} In the hundred forty and ninth year it was told Judas, that Antiochus Eupator was coming with a great power into Judea,

{13:2} And with him Lysias his protector, and ruler of his affairs, having either of them a Grecian power of footmen, an hundred and ten thousand, and horsemen five thousand and three hundred, and elephants two and twenty, and three hundred chariots armed with hooks.

{13:3} Menelaus also joined himself with them, and with great dissimulation encouraged Antiochus, not for the safeguard of the country, but because he thought to have been made governor.

{13:4} But the King of kings moved Antiochus' mind against this wicked wretch, and Lysias informed the king that this man was the cause of all mischief, so that the king commanded to bring him unto Berea, and to put him to death, as the manner is in that place.

{13:5} Now there was in that place a tower of fifty cubits high, full of ashes, and it had a round instrument which on every side hanged down into the ashes.

{13:6} And whosoever was condemned of sacrilege, or had committed any other grievous crime, there did all men thrust him unto death.

{13:7} Such a death it happened that wicked man to die, not having so much as burial in the earth; and that most justly:

{13:8} For inasmuch as he had committed many sins about the altar, whose fire and ashes were holy, he received his death in ashes.

{13:9} Now the king came with a barbarous and haughty mind to do far worse to the Jews, than had been done in his

father's time.

{13:10} Which things when Judas perceived, he commanded the multitude to call upon the Lord night and day, that if ever at any other time, he would now also help them, being at the point to be put from their law, from their country, and from the holy temple:

{13:11} And that he would not suffer the people, that had even now been but a little refreshed, to be in subjection to the blasphemous nations.

{13:12} So when they had all done this together, and besought the merciful Lord with weeping and fasting, and lying flat upon the ground three days long, Judas, having exhorted them, commanded they should be in a readiness.

{13:13} And Judas, being apart with the elders, determined, before the king's host should enter into Judea, and get the city, to go forth and try the matter in fight by the help of the Lord.

{13:14} So when he had committed all to the Creator of the world, and exhorted his soldiers to fight manfully, even unto death, for the laws, the temple, the city, the country, and the commonwealth, he camped by Modin:

{13:15} And having given the watchword to them that were about him, Victory is of God; with the most valiant and choice young men he went in into the king's tent by night, and slew in the camp about four thousand men, and the chieftest of the elephants, with all that were upon him.

{13:16} And at last they filled the camp with fear and tumult, and departed with good success.

{13:17} This was done in the break of the day, because the protection of the Lord did help him.

{13:18} Now when the king had taken a taste of the manliness of the Jews, he went about to take the holds by policy,

{13:19} And marched toward Bethsura, which was a strong hold of the Jews: but he was put to flight, failed, and lost of his men:

{13:20} For Judas had conveyed unto them that were in it such things as were necessary.

{13:21} But Rhodocus, who was in the Jews' host, disclosed the secrets to the enemies; therefore he was sought out, and when they had gotten him, they put him in prison.

{13:22} The king treated with them in Bethsum the second time, gave his hand, took their's, departed, fought with Judas, was overcome;

{13:23} Heard that Philip, who was left over the affairs in Antioch, was desperately bent, confounded, intreated the Jews, submitted himself, and sware to all equal conditions, agreed with them, and offered sacrifice, honoured the temple, and dealt kindly with the place,

{13:24} And accepted well of Maccabeus, made him principal governor from Ptolemais unto the Gerrhenians;

{13:25} Came to Ptolemais: the people there were grieved

for the covenants; for they stormed, because they would make their covenants void:

{13:26} Lysias went up to the judgment seat, said as much as could be in defence of the cause, persuaded, pacified, made them well affected, returned to Antioch. Thus it went touching the king's coming and departing.

{14:1} After three years was Judas informed, that Demetrius the son of Seleucus, having entered by the haven of Tripolis with a great power and navy,

{14:2} Had taken the country, and killed Antiochus, and Lysias his protector.

{14:3} Now one Alcimus, who had been high priest, and had defiled himself wilfully in the times of their mingling with the Gentiles, seeing that by no means he could save himself, nor have any more access to the holy altar,

{14:4} Came to king Demetrius in the hundred and one and fiftieth year, presenting unto him a crown of gold, and a palm, and also of the boughs which were used solemnly in the temple: and so that day he held his peace.

{14:5} Howbeit having gotten opportunity to further his foolish enterprize, and being called into counsel by Demetrius, and asked how the Jews stood affected, and what they intended, he answered thereunto:

{14:6} Those of the Jews that he called Assideans, whose captain is Judas Maccabeus, nourish war and are seditious, and will not let the rest be in peace.

{14:7} Therefore I, being deprived of mine ancestors' honour, I mean the high priesthood, am now come hither:

{14:8} First, verily for the unfeigned care I have of things pertaining to the king; and secondly, even for that I intend the good of mine own countrymen: for all our nation is in no small misery through the unadvised dealing of them aforesaid.

{14:9} Wherefore, O king, seeing knowest all these things, be careful for the country, and our nation, which is pressed on every side, according to the clemency that thou readily shewest unto all.

{14:10} For as long as Judas liveth, it is not possible that the state should be quiet.

{14:11} This was no sooner spoken of him, but others of the king's friends, being maliciously set against Judas, did more incense Demetrius.

{14:12} And forthwith calling Nicanor, who had been master of the elephants, and making him governor over Judea, he sent him forth,

{14:13} Commanding him to slay Judas, and to scatter them that were with him, and to make Alcimus high priest of the great temple.

{14:14} Then the heathen, that had fled out of Judea from Judas, came to Nicanor by flocks, thinking the harm and calamities of the Jews to be their welfare.

{14:15} Now when the Jews heard of Nicanor's coming, and that the heathen were up against them, they cast earth

upon their heads, and made supplication to him that had established his people for ever, and who always helpeth his portion with manifestation of his presence.

{14:16} So at the commandment of the captain they removed straightways from thence, and came near unto them at the town of Dessau.

{14:17} Now Simon, Judas' brother, had joined battle with Nicanor, but was somewhat discomfited through the sudden silence of his enemies.

{14:18} Nevertheless Nicanor, hearing of the manliness of them that were with Judas, and the courageousness that they had to fight for their country, durst not try the matter by the sword.

{14:19} Wherefore he sent Posidonius, and Theodotus, and Mattathias, to make peace.

{14:20} So when they had taken long advisement thereupon, and the captain had made the multitude acquainted therewith, and it appeared that they were all of one mind, they consented to the covenants,

{14:21} And appointed a day to meet in together by themselves: and when the day came, and stools were set for either of them,

{14:22} Ludas placed armed men ready in convenient places, lest some treachery should be suddenly practised by the enemies: so they made a peaceable conference.

{14:23} Now Nicanor abode in Jerusalem, and did no hurt, but sent away the people that came flocking unto him.

{14:24} And he would not willingly have Judas out of his sight: for he love the man from his heart

{14:25} He prayed him also to take a wife, and to beget children: so he married, was quiet, and took part of this life.

{14:26} But Alcimus, perceiving the love that was betwixt them, and considering the covenants that were made, came to Demetrius, and told him that Nicanor was not well affected toward the state; for that he had ordained Judas, a traitor to his realm, to be the king's successor.

{14:27} Then the king being in a rage, and provoked with the accusations of the most wicked man, wrote to Nicanor, signifying that he was much displeased with the covenants, and commanding him that he should send Maccabeus prisoner in all haste unto Antioch.

{14:28} When this came to Nicanor's hearing, he was much confounded in himself, and took it grievously that he should make void the articles which were agreed upon, the man being in no fault.

{14:29} But because there was no dealing against the king, he watched his time to accomplish this thing by policy.

{14:30} Notwithstanding, when Maccabeus saw that Nicanor began to be churlish unto him, and that he entreated him more roughly than he was wont, perceiving that such sour behaviour came not of good, he gathered together not a few of his men, and withdrew himself from Nicanor.

{14:31} But the other, knowing that he was notably