

THE FOVRT BOOKE OF KINGES; ACCORDING TO THE HEBREWES THE SECOND OF MALACHIM.

THE ARGVMENT OF THE FOVRTH BOOKE OF KINGES.

This fourth booke profecuteth the hiftorie of the two Kingdomes of Iuda and Ifrael, to the feuerall captiuities of them both. Shewing manie fpecial vertues and herocical actes of good Kinges, Prophetes, and other godlie perfons: and diuers crimes of the wicked. For in Iuda were fome good kinges, highly commended; fome euil, whom God fpared in this world for Dauids fake. So that in both fortes King Dauids feede continued in his throne, and royal ftate (firft in the twelue tribes, afterward in two) nere foure hundred fourfcore yeares. And after the captiuitie (as wil appeare in the age enfuing) it was conferued in honour and eftimation, til Chrift our Sauour. But in the Kingdome of Ifrael (or tenne tribes) which ftood about two hundred fiftie yeares, was great change, by rayfing and extirpating royal families. Al their kinges were bad, yet partly were fet vp by God himfelf, partly fuffered to reigne; and in both Kingdomes, were true and falfe prophetes, God vſing the minifterie of al, to his owne glorie, the good of his Church, and puniſhment of others, and fometimes of themfelues. So this booke may be diuided into two partes. In the feuentene former chapters, are recorded ioyntly and mixtly the principal thinges donne in both kingdomes, til the captiuitie of the tenne tribes. The other eight chapters containe other thinges donne in Iuda, vntil their captiuitie in Babylon.

The kingdom of Iuda conferued in Dauids feede.

Many royal families begūne and deftroyed in the kingdom of Ifrael.

This booke diuided into two partes.

Chapter 1

Ochozias King of Ifrael confulting Beelzebub, for his ficknes, is blamed by Elias, and fortold, that he ſhal die.

The firft part. Of thinges donne in both kingdomes, with the declination and ruine of Ifrael.

9. Fire from heauen deuoureth two capitaines with ech of them fiftie men. 13. The third by his more modeftie elfcapeth the like danger. 15. With him Elias cometh to the King. 17. The fame King dieth, and his brother Ioram fuccedeth.

And Moab moued warre agaynft Ifrael, after that Achab was dead. ² And Ochozias fel through the ftanchions of his vpper chamber which he had in Samaria, and was ficke: and he fent meffengers, faying to them: Goe, confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron, whether I may liue of this my infirmitie. ³ And an Angel of our Lord fpake to Elias the Thefbite, faying: Arife, and goe vp to meete the meffengers of the king of Samaria, and thou fhalt fay to them: What is there not a God in Ifrael, that ye goe to confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron? ⁴ Wherefore thus faith our Lord: From the bed on which thou art afcended, thou fhalt not goe downe, but dying thou fhalt die. And Elias went away. ⁵ And the meffengers returned to Ochozias. Who faid to them: Why are you returned? ⁶ But they answered him: A man mette vs: and fayd to vs: Goe, and returne to the king, that fent you, and you fhall fay to him: Thus faith our Lord: Doeft thou therfore fent to confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron, becaufe there was not God in Ifrael? Therefore from the bed, which thou art vpon, thou fhalt not goe downe, but dying thou fhalt dye. ⁷ Who faid to them: What shape and habite had that man, which mette you, and fpake thefe wordes? ⁸ But they faid: A hearie man, and girded about his raines with a girdle of lether: Who faid: ^aIt is Elias the Thefbite. ⁹ And he fent vnto him a capitaine of fiftie men, and the fiftie that were vnder him. Who went vp and fayd to him fitting in the toppe of the mount: Man of God, the king hath commanded that thou come downe. ¹⁰ And Elias answering, fayd to the

^a Elias was knownen by his much hayre, and diftinct habite, from ordinary men.

captaine of fiftie men: If I be a man of God, ^alet fyre come downe from heauen, and deuoure thee, and thy fiftie. Fyre therfore came downe from heauen, and deuoured him and the fiftie men that were with him. ¹¹ And he fent againe vnto him an other captaine of fiftie men, and his fiftie with him. Who spake to him: Man of God, Thus faith the king: Make haft, come downe. ¹² Elias anfwering laid: If I be a man of God, let fyre come downe from heauen, and deuoure thee, and thy fiftie. Fyre therfore came downe from heauen, and deuoured him, and his fiftie. ¹³ Agayne he fent a third captaine of fiftie men, and the fiftie that were with him. Who when he was come, bowed his knees toward Elias, and prayed him and fayd: Man of God despise not my life and the liues of thy feruantes that are with me. ¹⁴ Behold fyre came downe from heauen, and hath deuoured the two first captaynes of fiftie men, and the fifties, that were with them: but now I befech thee that thou haue mercie on my life. ¹⁵ And an Angel of our Lord spake to Elias, faying: Goe downe with him, feare not. He therfore arofe, and went downe with him to the king, ¹⁶ and spake to him: Thus faith our Lord: Because thou haft fent meffengers to confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron, as though there were not a God in Ifrael, of whom thou mightest aske the word, therfore from the bed, which thou art ascended vpon, thou shalt not descend, but dying thou shalt die. ¹⁷ He died therfore according to the word of our Lord which Elias spake, & Ioram his brother reigned for him, in the fecond yeare of Ioram the sonne of Iofaphat the king of Iuda: for he had no sonne. ¹⁸ But the rest of the wordes of Ochozias, which he wrought, are not these written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael?

^a In zeale of iustice Elias procured fire from heauen to burne these proud capitaines and their men, as he procured fire to burne the holocaust, and then flew the falsprophetes. *3. Reg. 18. apud. Aug. li. 2. c. 20. di mirabil. S. Script.*

Chapter 2

Elifeus wil not part from Elias. 7. Fiftie disciples folow them to Iordan. 8. The water is diuided by Elias cloke, and they two pafse the drie chanel. 9. Elias is afsumpted in a fire chariote, and his duple fpirite is geuen to Elifeus, 13. who returning by like miraculous meanes our Iordan, the disciples receiue and honour him as their religious Superiour. 16. They feeke Elias, but find him not. 19. Elifeus amendeth the waters by cafting in falt. 23. Boyes are torne by beares for mocking Elifeus.

And it came to paffe, when our Lord would take ^avp Elias by a hurle winde into heauen, Elias and Elifeus went from Galgal. ² And Elias fayd to Elifeus: Sitte here, becaufe our Lord hath fent me as far as Bethel. To whom Elifeus fayd: Our Lord liueth, and thy foule liueth, I wil not leaue thee. And when he was come downe to Bethel, ³ the children of the prophetes, that were in Bethel, went forth to Elifeus, and fayd to him: Doeft thou know, that this day our Lord wil take thy maifter from thee? Who answered: I alfo know it: hold your peace. ⁴ And Elias fayd to Elifeus: Sitte here, becaufe our Lord hath fent me into Iericho. And he fayd: Our Lord liueth, & thy foule liueth, I wil not leaue thee. And when they were come to Iericho, ⁵ the children of the prophetes, that were in Iericho, came to Elifeus, and fayd to him: Doeft thou know that this day our Lord wil take away thy maifter from thee? And he fayd: I alfo know it, hold your peace. ⁶ And Elias fayd to him: Sitte here, becaufe our Lord hath fent me as farre as Iordan. Who fayd: Our Lord liueth, and thy foule liueth, I wil not leaue thee: They went therfore both together, ⁷ & fiftie men of the children of the prophetes folowed them, who alfo ftood ouer

ayre, or lovver
heauen.

^a VVither Elias was carried being taken vp into the ayre, is vncertain: but certaine that he yet liueth, and muft dye. As S. Auguftin teacheth. *li. 9. c. 6. de Gen. ad lit.* See *Annot. in Gen. 6. & Apocalip. 11.*

agaynft them, farre of: but they two ftood vpon Iordan. ⁸ And Elias tooke his mantel, and folded it together, and fmote the waters, which were diuided into two partes, and they both paffed ouer by the drie land. ⁹ And when they were ouer, Elias fayd to Elifeus: Aske what thou wilt haue me to doe for thee, before I be taken from thee. And Elifeus fayd: I befech thee that in me may be ^a)thy duple fpirit. ¹⁰ Who answered: Thou haft asked a hard thing: Neuertheleffe if thou fee me, when I fhall be taken from thee, thou fhalt haue that thou haft asked: but if thou fee me not, thou shalt not haue it. ¹¹ And when they went forward, and going talked together, behold a fyrie chariote, and fyrie horfes parted them two afunder: and Elias afcended by a hurle winde into heauen. ¹² And Elifeus faw him, and cried: My father, my father, the chariote of Ifrael, and the guider therof. And he faw him no more: and he tooke his garmentes, and rent them in two peeces. ¹³ And he tooke vp the mantel of Elias, that was fallen to him: and returning he ftood vpon the banke of Iordan, ¹⁴ and with the mantel of Elias, that fel downe to him, he fmote the waters, and they were not diuided. And he fayd: Where is the God of Elias, now alfo? and he fmote the waters, and they were diuided this way and that way, and Elifeus paffed ouer. ¹⁵ And the children of the prophetes, that were in Iericho, ouer agaynft him feing him, fayd: The fpirit of Elias hath refted vpon Elifeus. And coming to meete him, ^b)adored him flatte to the ground, ¹⁶ and they fayd to him: Behold, there are with thy feruantes fiftie ftrong men, that can goe, and feeke thy maifter, left perhaps the fpirit of our Lord hath taken him, and caft him vpon one of the mountaines, or into one of the valleyes. Who fayd: Send not. ¹⁷ And they forced him, til he agreed, and fayd: Send. And they fent fiftie men. Who when

^a He defired not duple fpirite to his mafter, but the duple fpirite of prophecyng, and of working miracles, which Elias had. *v. 15.*

^b They adored him for his holines, and becaufe God had geuen him the fpirit of fo great a prophete, not for worldlie, but fpiritual excellencie, & therefore not with ciuil but religious honour.

they had fought three daies, found not. ¹⁸ And they returned to him: but he dwelt in Iericho, and he fayd to them: Did I not fay to you: Send not? ¹⁹ The men alfo of the citie fayd to Elifeus: Behold the habitation of this citie is very good, as thy felfe my lord perceiueft: but the waters are very il, and the ground barren. ²⁰ But he fayd: Fetch me a new veffel, and put falt into it. Which when they had brought, ²¹ going out to the fountayne of the waters, he caft falt into it, and fayd: Thus fayth our Lord: I haue amended thefe waters, and death fhall no more be in them, nor barrenneffe. ²² The waters therfore were amended vntil this day, according to the word of Elifeus, which he fpake. ²³ And from thence he went vp into Bethel: & when he went vp by the way, little laddes came forth out of the citie, and mocked him, faying: Come vp baldhead, come vp baldhead. ²⁴ Who when he had looked backe, he faw them, & curfed them in the name of our Lord: and two beares came forth out of the foreft, & tore of them two and fourtie boyes. ²⁵ And from thence he went into the mount of Carmel, and from thence he turned into Samaria.

Chapter 3

Ioram king of Ifrael accompanied with the kinges of Iuda & Edom, fighteth againft the king of Moab, for not paying tribute according to their league. 9. Wanting waters, 16. Elifeus procureth fufficient without raine: and prophecieth victorie. 21. The king of Moab deceiued by a vifion is ouerthrowne in the felde, 26. then being befieged immolateth his firft begotten fonne: and the Ifraelites leaue the fiege.

And Ioram the fonne of Achab reigned ouer Ifrael in Samaria the eighteenth yeare of Iofaphat the king of Iuda. And he reigned twelue yeares. ² And he did euil before our Lord, but not as his father and mother: for he tooke away the ftatues of Baal, which his father had made. ³ Neuertheles in

the finnes of Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to sinne, he stucke fast, and departed not from them. ⁴ Moreouer Mefa the king of Moab, nourished manie sheepe, and he payed to the king of Ifrael an hundred thousand lambes, and a hundred thousand rammes with their fleeces. ⁵ And when Achab was dead, he brake the league, which he had made with the king of Ifrael. ⁶ Therefore king Ioram went forth that day out of Samaria, and mustered all Ifrael. ⁷ And he sent to Iofaphat the king of Iuda, saying: The king of Moab is reuolted from me, come with me against him to battel. Who answered: I wil come vp: he that is mine, is thine: my people, thy people: & my horses thy horses. ⁸ And he said: What way shal we goe vp? but he answered: By the desert of Idumea. ⁹ Therefore the king of Ifrael, and the king of Iuda, and the king of Edom went forward, and compassed seven daies iourney, neither was there water for the armie, and the beasts, that followed them. ¹⁰ And the king of Ifrael said: Alas alas alas, our Lord hath gathered vs three kinges together, that he might deliuer vs into the handes of Moab. ¹¹ And Iofaphat said: Is there not here a prophet of our Lord, that we may beseech our Lord by him? And one of the seruantes of the king of Ifrael answered: Here is Elifeus the sonne of Saphat, which powred water vpon the handes of Elias. ¹² And Iofaphat said: The word of our Lord is with him. And the king of Ifrael went downe to him, and Iofaphat the king of Iuda, and the king of Edom. ¹³ And Elifeus said to the king of Ifrael: What is to me and thee? goe to the prophetes of thy father, and thy mother. And the king of Ifrael said to him: Why hath our Lord gathered together these three kinges, that he might deliuer them into the handes of Moab? ¹⁴ And Elifeus said to him: The Lord of hostes liueth, in whose fight I stand, If I did not reuerence the face of Iofaphat the king of Iuda, I would not certes haue harkened to thee, nor looked on thee. ¹⁵ But now bring me hither a plaier on instrumentes. And when the player sang, the hand of our Lord came vpon him, and he said: ¹⁶ Thus saith our Lord: Make the chanel of this torrent diche

and diches. ¹⁷ For thus faith our Lord: You shal not fee winde, nor raine: and this chanel shal be filled with waters, & you shal drinke, and your families, & your beaftes. ¹⁸ And this is a fmal thing in the fight of our Lord: moreouer he wil deliuer alfo Moab into your handes. ¹⁹ And you fhall ftrike euerie fenfed citie, and euerie principal citie, and ^a)shal cut downe al fruiteful trees, and shal ftoppe vp al fountaines of waters, and euerie goodlie field you shal couer with ftones. ²⁰ It came to paffe therfore in the morning, when they vfed to offer the facrifice, and behold, water came by the way of Edom, and the ground was filled with waters. ²¹ But al the Moabites hearing that the kinges were come vp to fight againft them, they called together al that were girded with a belt vpon them, and they ftoode in the borders. ²² And ryfing early in the morning, and the funne being now rifen ouer againft the waters, the Moabites faw the waters ouer againft them red, as it were bloud, ²³ and faid: It is the bloud of the fword: the kinges haue fought among them felues, and are flaine one of an other: now goe on forward to the pray, Moab. ²⁴ And they went forward into the campe of Ifrael: Moreouer Ifrael ryfing vp, ftroke Moab: but they fled before them. They therfore that had ouercome, came and ftroke Moab, ²⁵ and deftroyed the cities: & euerie principal field they filled euerie man cafting ftones: and they ftopt vp al the fountaines of waters: and cut downe al trees that bare fruite, fo that there remained onlie brike walles: and the citie was befette of the flingers, and for a great part therof was ftrooken. ²⁶ Which when the king of Moab had feene, to witte, that the enemies had preuayled, he tooke with him feuen hundred men that drew fword, to breake in vpon the king of Edom: and they could not. ²⁷ And taking his firft begotten fonne, that should haue reigned for him, he offered him an holocauft vpon the wal: and

^a It was forbid *Deut. 20.* to cut downe fruit trees in the land of Chanaan, which the Ifraelite fhould poffeffe, but the land of Moab perteyned not to them, and fo it was not prohibited to anoy that countrie vpon iuft offence.

there was great indignation in Ifrael, and forthwith they retyred from him, and returned into their countrie.

Chapter 4

Elifeus fo multiplieth a poore widowes oyle, that she payeth her debtes and liueth of the reft. 8. By his prayers a Sunamite woman hath a fonne. 18. Which dying he rayfeth to life. 38. He taketh away the bitternes of coloquintida, which by chance was put in the potte, 42. and feedeth manie with few loaues.

And a certayne woman of the wiues of the prophetes cried to Elifeus, faying: Thy feruant my hufband is dead, and thou knoweft that thy feruant was one that feared God, & behold the creditour is come to take away my two fonnes to ferue him. ² To whom Elifeus fayd: What wilt thou that I doe for thee? Tel me, what haft thou in thy houfe? But she answered: I thy handmaid haue nothing in my houfe, but a litle oyle, to anoynt me withal. ³ To whom he fayd: Goe, borrow of al thy neighbours emptie veffels not a few. ⁴ And goe in, and shut thy doore, when thou art within, thou and thy fonnes: and powre therof into al thefe veffels: and when they shal be ful, thou fhalt take them away. ⁵ The woman therefore went, and shut the doore vpon her, and vpon her fonnes: they brought her veffels, and she powred in. ⁶ And when the veffels were ful, she fayd to her fonne: Bring me yet a veffel. And he answered: I haue none. And the oile ftood. ⁷ And she came, and told the man of God. And he fayde: Goe, fel the oyle, and pay thy creditour: and thou and thy fonnes liue of the reft. ⁸ And there came a certayne day, and Elifeus paffed by Sunam: and there was there a great woman, which held him to eate bread: and when he paffed often that way, he turned in to her to eate bread. ⁹ Who fayd to her hufband: I perceiue that this is a holie man of God, which paffeth by vs often. ¹⁰ Let vs therefore make him a litle chamber, and fette him a litle bed

in it, and a table, and a ftoole, and a candleticke, that when he cometh to vs he may tarie there. ¹¹ There came therfore a certayne day, and coming he turned in to the chamber, and refted there. ¹² And he fayd to Giezi his feruant: Call this Sunamite. Who when he had called her, and she ftoode before him, ¹³ he fayd to his feruant: Speake to her: Behold thou haft diligently miniftred to vs in al thinges, what wilt thou that I doe for thee? haft thou any bufines, and wilt thou that I fpeake to the king, or the general of the warrefare? Who answered: I dwel in the middes of myne owne people. ¹⁴ And he fayd: What wil she then that I doe for her? And Giezi fayd: Aske not: for she hath no fonne, and her hufband is old. ¹⁵ He therfore cōmanded him to cal her: who when she was called, and ftoode before the doore, ¹⁶ he fayd to her: At this tyme, this felf fame houre, if life accompanie, thou shalt haue a fonne in thy wombe. But she answered: Doe not I befech thee my lord, man of God, doe not lie to thy handmayd. ¹⁷ And the woman conceiued, and brought forth a fonne in that time, and in the felf fame houre, that Elifeus had fayd. ¹⁸ And the childe grewe. And vpon a certaine day, when going forth he went to his father, vnto the reapers, ¹⁹ he fayd to his father: My head aketh, my head aketh. But he faid to his feruant: Take him, and bring him to his mother, ²⁰ who when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, she fette him vpon her knees vntil noone, and he dyed. ²¹ And she went vp, and laid him vpon the bed of the man of God, and shut the doore: and going forth ²² called her husband, and fayd: Send with me, I befech thee, one of the feruantes, and an affe, that I may runne to the man of God, and returne. ²³ Who fayd to her: For what caufe doeft thou goe to him? The Calendes be not to day, nor the Sabbath. Who answered: I wil goe. ²⁴ And she fadled the affe, and commanded her feruant: driue, and make haft, make no ftay in going. And doe that which I command thee. ²⁵ She therfore went forward, and came to the man of God into mount Carmel: and when the man of God faw her ouer againft

him, he said to Giezi his seruant: Behold that Sunamite. ²⁶ Goe therefore to meete her, and say to her: Is all well about thee, and about thy husband, and about thy sonne? Who answered: Well. ²⁷ And when she was come to the man of God into the mount, she caught his feet: and Giezi came to remove her. And the man of God said: Let her alone, for her soul is in anguish, and our Lord hath hid it from me, and hath not told me. ²⁸ Who said to him: Did I aske a sonne of my Lord? Did I not say to thee: Mocke me not? ²⁹ And he said to Giezi: Gird thy loynes, and take my staffe in thy hand, & goe. If a man meete thee, salute him not: and if any man salute thee, answer him not: and thou shalt put my staffe vpon the face of the childe. ³⁰ Moreover the mother of the childe said: Our Lord lieth, and thy soul lieth, I will not leaue thee. He arose therefore, and followed her. ³¹ But Giezi was gone before them, and had put the staffe vpon the face of the childe, & there was not voice, nor sense: and he returned to meete him, and told him, saying: ^a)The childe is not risen. ³² Eliseus therefore went into the house, and behold the childe lay dead on his bed: ³³ and going in he shut the doore vpon him, & vpon the childe & prayed to our Lord. ³⁴ And he went vp, and lay vpon the childe: and he put his mouth vpon his mouth, & his eyes vpon his eyes & his hands vpon his hands: and he bowed himself ouer him, and the childes flesh was warmed. ³⁵ But he returning, walked vp and downe in the house, once hither & thither: & he went vp, and lay vpon him: and the childe gaped seven tymes, and opened his eyes. ³⁶ And he called Giezi, & said to him: Call this Sunamite. Who being called, went in vnto him: Who said: Take thy sonne. ³⁷ She came, and fell at his feet, and adored vpon the ground: and

^a God sent his law by his seruant, and it auailed not to mankinde dead in sinnes. But he coming & accomodating himself to our infirmitie, participating our death we are quickned. So S. Augustin myftically applieth this figuratiue miracle to Christ and his Church. *li. 12. c. 35. cont. Faft. Manich.* and manie like thinges of the old Testament he sheweth to be figures of the new.

tooke her fonne, and went out, ³⁸ and Elifeus returned into Galgal. And there was a famine in the land, and the children of the prophetes dwelt before him; and he sayd to one of his feruantes: Sette on a great potte, and feeth broth for the children of the prophetes. ³⁹ And one went out into the field to gather wilde herbes: and he found as it were a wilde vine, and gathered of it the colocynthides of the field, and filled his mantel, and returning cut it into the potte of broth, for he knew not what it was. ⁴⁰ They therfore powred it to their felowes, to eate: and when they had tafted of the broth, they cried, faying: Death is in the potte, man of God. And they could not eate. ⁴¹ But he sayd: Bring meale, and when they had brought it, he caft it into the potte, and faid: Powere in for the multitude, that they may eate. And there was no more anie bitterneffe in the potte. ⁴² And a certaine man came from Baalfalifa bringing to the man of God loaues of the firft frutes, twentie barley loaues, and new wheate in his fcrippe. But he faid: Geue to the people, that they may eate. ⁴³ And his feruant answered him: How much is this, that I fhould fette it before an hundred men? Agayne he faid: Geue to the people, that they may eate: for thus faith our Lord: They fhall eate, and there fhall be leaft. ⁴⁴ He therfore fette it before them: who did eate, and there was leaft according to the word of our Lord.

Chapter 5

Naaman the general captaine of Syria is clenfed of leprofie, by washing him felf as Elifeus appointeth him feuen times in Iordan: 15. profefseth his belief in one God promifing to ferue him. 20. Giezi taketh giftes of Naaman, 25. and is ftricken with leprofie.

Naaman the General of the warfare of the king of Syria, was a great man with his lord, and honorable: for by him our Lord gaue health to Syria: and he was a valiant man and rich, but a

leper. ² Moreouer out of Syria there were come forth robbers, and had led away captiue out of the Land of Ifrael a litle girle, which wayted vpon the wife of Naaman. ³ Who faid to her maiftrefse: I would my lord had bene with the prophete, that is in Samaria: furely he would haue cured him from the leprofie, which he hath. ⁴ Naaman therfore went in to his lord, and told him faying: Thus and thus hath the wench of the Land of Ifrael fpoken. ⁵ And the king of Syria fayd to him: Goe, & I wil fend letters to the king of Ifrael. Who when he was fette forward, and had taken with him ten talentes of filuer, and fix thoufand peces of gold, and ten change of rayment, ⁶ he brought the letters to the king of Ifrael, in thefe wordes: When thou shalt receiue this letter, know that I haue fent to thee Naaman my feruant, that thou mayeft cure him of his leprofie. ⁷ And when the king of Ifrael had read the letters, he rent his garmentes, and faid: Am I God, that I can kil, and geue life, becaufe this man hath fent to me, that I should cure a man of his leprofie? marke, and fee that he seeketh occafions againft me. ⁸ Which when Elifeus the man of God had heard, to witte, that the king of Ifrael had rent his garmentes, he fent to him, faying: Why haft thou rent thy garmentes? let him come to me and let him know that there is a prophet in Ifrael. ⁹ Naaman therfore came with horfes and chariotes, and ftood at the doore of the houle of Elifeus: ¹⁰ and Elifeus fent a meffenger to him, faying: Goe and be washed feuen times in Iordan, and thy flesh shal receiue health, and thou shalt be cleane. ¹¹ Naaman being angrie departed, faying: I thought he would come out to me, and fstanding would inuocate the name of the Lord his God, and touch with his hand the place of the leprofie, and cure me. ¹² What are not Abana, and Pharphar the riuers of Damafcus, better then al the waters of Ifrael, that I may be washed in them, and be made cleane? Therfore when he had turned him felf, and went away with indignation, ¹³ his feruantes came vnto him, & fpake to him: Father, & if the prophet had fayd a great thing to thee, certes, thou shouldest haue done it: how much more wheras now he fayd vnto thee:

Be washed, and thou shalt be cleane? ¹⁴ He went downe, & washed in Iordan feuen times according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was reftored, as the flesh of a litle childe, & he was made cleane. ¹⁵ And returning to the man of God with al his trayne, he came, and ftood before him, & fayd: In very deede I know that there is no other God in al the earth, but only in Ifrael. I befech thee therfore to take a benediction of thy feruant. ¹⁶ But he answered: Our Lord liueth, before whom I ftand, I wil not take it. And when he would haue forced him, he did in nowife agree. ¹⁷ And Naaman fayd: As thou wilt, but I befech thee: graunt vnto me thy feruant, that I may take of ^a)the earth the burden of two mules: for thy feruant wil no more make holocaust, or victimes to ftrange goddes, but to the Lord. ¹⁸ But this onlie is it, for which thou shalt befech the Lord for thy feruant, when my maifter shal goe into the temple of Remmon, to adore: and he leaning vpon my hand, if I shal adore in the temple of Remmon, he adoring in the fame place, that the Lord pardon me thy feruant for this thing. ¹⁹ Who fayd to him: [♠]Goe in peace. He therfore went from him in the fpring time of the earth. ²⁰ And ^b)Giezi the feruant of the man of God, fayd: My maifter hath fpared Naaman this Syrian, that he tooke not of him the thinges which he brought: Our Lord liueth, I wil runne after him, and wil take fome thing of him. ²¹ And Giezi folowed at the backe of Naaman: whom when he faw running toward him, he lept downe from his chariote to mete him, and faid: Are al thinges wel? ²² And he faid: Wel. My maifter hath fent me to thee, faying: Euen now there are come to me two yong men from mount Ephraim, of the children of the prophetes: geue them a talent of filuer, and two change

^a In refpect of Gods fpecial electing and factifying the land of Chanaan, by his true religion, Naaman rightly eftemed that earth fitter for an altar then the earth of his owne countrie.

^b Giezi prefigured Iudas the falfe Apoftle of Chrift, and al thofe that buy or fel fpiritual thinges for money who by their auarice lofe Gods grace, and gaine infamie in this world, and eternal damnation in the next. *S. Aug. fer. 208. de tempore.*

of rayment. ²³ And Naaman fayd: It is better that thou take two talentcs. And he forced him, & bound the two talentcs of filuer in two bagges, and the duple rayment, & layd it vpon two of his feruantes, who alfo caried it before him. ²⁴ And when he was come now in the euening, he tooke it out of their hand, & layd it vp in the houle, & difmiffed the men, and they departed. ²⁵ And himfelf going in, ftood before his maifter. And Elifeus faid: From whence comeft thou Giezi? Who answered: Thy feruant hath not gone any whither. ²⁶ But he fayd: Was not my hart prefent, when the man returned out of his chariote to meete thee? Now therfore thou haft receiued filuer, and taken rayment, to bye oliuetes, and vineyardes, and sheepe, and oxen, and feruantes, and handmaidcs. ²⁷ But the leprofie alfo of Naaman fhall cleaue to thee, and to thy feede, for euer. And he went out from him a leper as it were fnow.

ANNOTATIONS

- 19 Goe in peace.) Schifmatiques, as they are commonly (but improperly) now called in England, which being in mind and iudgement Catholiques, goe fometimes to Proteftantes common prayers, or fermons, draw an excufe of their fact, from this warrant of the Prophet, permitting a Nobleman of Syria to goe and ferue his king in the temple, when he adored an Idol. But whofoeuer wil duly confider this example, fhall find great difference in refpect of the times, places, perfons, and of the very doubtcs propofed, betwen this mans cafe and ours. For before Chrifts Gofpel was promulgate, neither al Articles of faith were fo exprefly taught, nor the external profeffion therof fo ftrictly commanded, as now they are in time of more grace, which geueth more ayde to mans weaknes, wherein alfo more perfection is required, and therfore our Sauour exacteth of al *to confefle him*, and his Religion, *before men: els he vvill denie them before his Father*. Likewife in the place, where this Nobleman dwelt, his prefence in the temple, and feruice to the king, could not be accounted a reuolt from true religion, which was neuer profeffed there, nor be fcandalous to anie man being al Infidels: but in a chriftian countrie, where al beare the name of Chriftians, efpecially where men are at controuerfie about the true Chriftian religion, al that frequent, or repaire to the fame affemblies, for publique feruice of God, are reputed to be of the fame religion; or els diffemblers, as it were to haue no
- The cafe of going to heretical feruice, and Naamans going to the temple of an idol differ in diuers refpectes.
- Difference of times.
- Of places.
- Mat. 10.*

FOUR KINGS

care of religion, knowing God, and not glorifying him as God, and reuolting from the truth which they had lerned. The difference alfo of perfons is great. For this Nobleman hauing before his conuerfion ferued his king, in the office of fufstayning him, when he bowed to the Idol, if he fhould haue refused to do the fame, it would rather haue bene fuppofed, that he difdained his Maifter, or fhewed difloyaltie, then thought, that he refrayned for religion: wheras in our cafe, verie few do fuch temporal feruice, about the king in the church: and fuch as doe carrie the fword, fcepter, or the like, are accounted of that religion, which is there practifed; except they manifeft the contrarie, as this man did, and our men commonly do not. Yea if anie do fay they are Catholiques, and yet goe to the Proteftantes church, they are counted of that rank, S. Paul fpeaketh of, which *confefse they knovv God, but denie him in their deedes*. And thofe which refufe fuch an office, can not be iudged difloyal, becaufe it is fufficiently knowne, that Catholiques refufe of mere confcience. An other moft efpecial difference is in the things demanded. This Syrian promifing exprefly before the Prophet, and his owne great trayne, that he would neuer againe ferue falfe goddes, and that he would ferue the onlie true God, and for that purpofe caried earth with him, to make an Altar for Sacrifice, and returning home preached the miracle wrought in himfelf, defired not to doe anie thing, wherby he might feme to ferue an Idol: but that when the king leaning vpon him, fhould adore Remmon, he might bow with his maifter, not adoring the Idol, for he refolued and promifed the contrarie, but adoring God Almighty, in whom now he beleued. And this the Prophet approued, in that time, place, and perfon to be lawful. But thofe that now in England goe to Proteftants feruice, or fermons, do neither publickly renounce al herefies, nor profefse to frequent Maffe, the true Sacrifice of the Chriftian Church, nor auouch the erecting of an Altar, but goe to church, to fhew them felues obedient to the Parlament law, which abandoned the true Diuine Seruice, and in place therof appointed & commanded al to be prefent, at a new forme of common prayer, thereby making it a diftinctiue figne of conformitie, and participation in that religion, which thefe diffemblers in their confciences know to be falfe. This example therfore doth in no forte warrant their going to the heretical church, but contrariwife admonifheth al to take refolution in our cafe (as Naaman did in his) of our Elifeus, or fpiritual Superior, and if he fhould fay: Goe in peace, then might they pleade an excufe, but he fayth: None can goe without incurring greuous finne, and eternal damnation. The cafe being fo much different from Naamans. It is in deede more like to that of Eleazarus, and other Machabees, who were commanded *by eating fvvines flesh, to depart from the lavv of God, and their fathers*. VVhich by no meanes was lawful to doe, nor to make fhew of doing it, but rather to dye, as they did moft glorioufly.

Of perfons.

Rom. 1. 2. Pet. 1.

Tit. 2.

The things demanded differ much.

D. Brijtons Motino. 23.

Perfonal prefence at heretical feruice in England, a diftinctiue figne of conformity to herefie.

A cafe very like to ours.

2. Machab. 6. 7.

Chapter 6

Elifeus maketh iron to fwimme vpon the water: 8. leadeth the king of Syria his men (fent to apprehend him) blindly into Samaria. 20. Where their eyes being opened, they are curtoufly intertained, and freely difmifed. 24. The Syrians befiege Samaria. 26. For extreme famine a mother eateth her child. 31. And the king commandeth to kil Elifeus.

And the children of the prophetes fayd to Elifeus: Behold the place, wherein we dwel before thee is ftreite for vs. ² Let vs goe as far as Iordan, and take out of the wood euerie man fome timber, that we may build there a place to dwel in. Who faid: Goe. ³ And one of them fayd: Come therfore thou alfo with thy feruantes. He answered: I wil come. ⁴ And he went with them. And when they were come to Iordan they cut wood. ⁵ And it chanced, that when one had cut downe timber, the head of the axe fel into the water: and he cried out, and faid: Alas alas alas my lord, this fame alfo I ^adid borow. ⁶ And the man of God fayd: Where fel it? and he fhewed him the place: he therfore cut of a pece of wood, and caft it thither: and the yron did fwimme, ⁷ and he faid: Take it vp. Who ftretched forth his hand, and tooke it. ⁸ And the king of Syria fought againft Ifrael, and tooke counfel with his feruantes, faying: In that and that place let vs lay embufhementes. ⁹ Therfore the man of God fent to the king of Ifrael, faying: Beware thou paffe not into fuch a place: becaufe the Syrians are there in embushementes. ¹⁰ The king of Ifrael therfore fent to the place, which the man of God had told him, and preuented him, and looked wel to him felf there not once or twife. ¹¹ And the hart of the king of Syria was trubled for this thing. And calling together his feruantes, he fayd: Why doe you not tel me who is the betraier of me to the king of Ifrael?

^a His grief was great, becaufe he had not meanes to recompence the loffe to the owner.

¹² And one of his feruantes fayd: Not fo my lord king, but Elifeus the prophet, which is in Ifrael, telleth the king of Ifrael al wordes, whatfoeuer thou fhalt fpeake in thy priuy chamber. ¹³ And he fayd to them: Goe, and fee where he is: that I may fend, and take him. And they told him, faying: Behold in Dothan. ¹⁴ He therfore fent thither horfes and chariotes, and the force of his armie: who when they were come in the night, they befette the citie. ¹⁵ And the feruant of the man of God rifing early, went out, and faw an armie round about the citie, and horfes and chariotes: and he told him, faying: Alas alas alas my lord, what shal we doe? ¹⁶ But he answered: Feare not: for there are more with vs then with them. ¹⁷ And when Elifeus had prayed, he fayd: Lord open the eies of this man, that he may fee. And our Lord opened the eies of the feruant, and ^ahe beheld: and loe the mountaine ful of horfes, and of frie chariotes round about Elifeus. ¹⁸ But the enemies went downe to him: moreouer Elifeus prayed to our Lord, faying: Strike, I befech thee, this people with blindeneffe. And our Lord fmote them, that they faw not, according to the word of Elifeus. ¹⁹ And Elifeus fayd to them: This is not the way neither is this the citie: folow me, & I wil shew you the man, whom you feeke. He therfore led them into Samaria: ²⁰ and when they were entered into Samaria, Elifeus faid: Lord open the eies of thefe men, that they may fee. And our Lord opened their eies, and they faw them felues to be in the middes of Samaria. ²¹ And the king of Ifrael faid to Elifeus, when he had fene them: Shal I ftrike them, my father? ²² And he faid: Thou shalt not ftrike them: for thou didft not take them with thy fword, and thy bow, that thou mayft ftrike them: but ^bfet bread and water before them, that they may eate and drinke, and goe to their maifter. ²³ And a great

^a A hufbandman, in yorfhire called Kettle had the gift to fee euil fpirites, wherby he often detected & hindered their bad purpofes. *Neubrig. li. 2. c. 21. Rer. Anglic.*

^b By bread and water is vnderftood ordinarie meate and drinke. *v. 23.*

preparation of meates was fette before them, and they did eate and drinke, and he difmiffed them, and they went away to their maifter, and the robbers of Syria came no more into the Land of Ifrael. ²⁴ And it came to paffe after thefe thinges, Benadad the king of Syria gathered together al his armie, and went vp, and befieged Samaria. ²⁵ And there was a great famine in Samaria: and fo long it was befieged, til the head of an affe was fold for foure fcore filuer peeces, & the fourth part of a cabre of pigeons dung, for fiue filuer peeces. ²⁶ And when the king of Ifrael paffed by the wall, a certayne woman cried out to him, faying: Saue me my lord king. ²⁷ Who fayd: No, our Lord faue thee: how can I faue thee? of the floore, or of the preffe? And the king fayd to her: What ayleth thee? Who answered: ²⁸ This woman fayd to me: Geue thy fonne, that we may eate him to day, & my fonne we wil eate to morrow. ²⁹ We therfore boyled my fonne, and did eate him. And I fayd to her the next day: Geue thy fonne, that we may eate him. Who hath hid her fonne. ³⁰ Which when the king had heard, he rent his garmentes, and paffed by the wal. And al the people faw the hearecloth, which he ware next vpon his flesh. ³¹ And the king fayd: Thefe thinges doe God to me, and thefe adde he, if the head of Elifeus the fonne of Saphat shal ftand vpon him this day. ³² But Elifeus fate in his houle, and the ancientes fate with him. He therfore fent a man before: and before that meffenger came, he fayd to the ancientes: Doe you know that this murderers fonne hath fent to cut of my head? See therfore, when the meffenger shal come, fhut the doore, and fuffer him not to enter in: for behold the fount of his maifters feete is behinde him. ³³ Whiles he was yet fpeaking to them, the meffenger appeared, which came to him. And he fayd: Behold, this fo great euil is of our Lord: what shal I looke for more of our Lord?

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 7

Elifeus prophecietieth plentie of corne the next day, and death to a chief man that wil not beleue it. 3. Foure Lepers going to yeld themfelues to the Syrians, 6. who by Gods prouidence are frighted and fled away, 9. bring newes therof to Samaria, 12. which by trial is found true. 16. And fo there is plentie of corne, and the incredulous nobleman is trod to death, with preffe of multitude in the gate, as the prophet fortold.

And Elifeus fayd: Heare ye the word of our Lord: Thus fayth our Lord: At this time to morow a bushel of floure shal be at one ftater, and two bushels of barley at one ftater, in the gate of Samaria. ² One of the Dukes, vpon whose hand the king leaned, anfwering the man of God, fayd: If our Lord shal make fludgates in heauen, ^a)can that poffibly be which thou fpeakeft? Who fayd: Thou fhalt fee it with thine eies, and shalt not eate therof. ³ There were therefore foure men lepers, beside the entrance of the gate: who fayd one to an other: What meane we to be here til we die? ⁴ Whether we enter into the citie, we shal die for famine: or whether we tarie here, die we muft: come therefore, and let vs runne away to the campe of Syria. If they spare vs, we shal liue: but if they wil kil vs, we shal die neuertheleffe. ⁵ They arofe therefore in the euening, to come to the campe of Syria. And when they were come to the beginning of the campe of Syria, they found no man there. ⁶ For our Lord had made them in the campe of Syria to heare the found of chariotes, and horfes, and of a verie great armie: and they fayd one to an other: Behold the king of Ifrael hath for wages hyred agaynft vs the kinges of the Hetheites, and of the Ægyptians, and they are come vpon vs. ⁷ They arofe therefore, and fled in the darke, and leaft their tentes, and

^a Difcourfe of mans reason can not reach to the powre of God, who can do al that he wil, and wil doe al that he faith: therefore the incredulous are iustly punished. *v. 20.*

their horfes and affes in the campe, and fled defirous to faue their liues only. ⁸ Therefore when thefe lepers were come to the beginning of the campe, they entered into one tabernacle, and did eate and drinke: and they tooke thence filuer, and gold, and rayment, and went, and hid it: againe they returned to an other tabernacle, and from thence likewife taking away they hid it. ⁹ And they faid one to an other: We doe not wel: for this is a day of good tydings. If we fhall hold our peace, and wil not tel vntil morning, we fhall be blamed of a heinous offence: Come, let vs goe, and make report in the kinges court. ¹⁰ And when they were come to the gate of the citie, they told them faying: We went to the campe of Syria, and found no man there, but horfes, and affes tyed, and the tentes pitched. ¹¹ The porters therfore went, and told it to the king within his palace. ¹² Who arofe in the night, & fayd to his feruants: I tel you what the Syrians haue done to vs: They know that we fuffer great famine, and therfore they are gone out of the campe and lie hid in the fieldes, faying: When they fhall come forth out of the citie, we wil take them aliue, and then we may enter into the citie. ¹³ But one of his feruantes answered: Let vs take fife horfes that are remaining in the citie (becaufe they onlie are in the whole multitude of Ifrael for the other are confumed) and fending, we may trie. ¹⁴ They brought therfore two horfes, and the king fent into the campe of the Syrians, faying: Goe ye, and fee. ¹⁵ Who went after them as far as Iordan: and behold al the way was ful of rayment, and veffels, which the Syrians had caft away, when they were amafed, and the meffengers returning told the king. ¹⁶ And the people going forth fpoyled the campe of Syria: and a bufhel of floure became at one ftater, and two bufhels of barley at one ftater, according to the word of our Lord. ¹⁷ Moreouer the king appoynted that duke on whose hand he leaned, to ftand at the gate: whom the multitude trode in the entrance of the gate, & he died, according as the man of God had fpoken, when the king came downe to him. ¹⁸ And it came to paffe according to the word of the man of God, which he fpake to the king, when he fayd: Two bushels of

barley shall be at one ftater, and a bushel of floure at one ftater, this verie tyme to morow in the gate of Samaria: ¹⁹ when that duke answered the man of God, and sayd: Although our Lord would make fludgates in the heauen, can this be done which thou speakest? And he said to him: Thou shalt see with thine eyes, and shall not eat thereof. ²⁰ It chanced therefore to him as it was foretold, and the people trode him in the gate, and he died.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 8

After seven yeares famine foretold by Elifeus, the Sunamite woman returning home, recovereth her landes and reuenues. 7. Elifeus forsheweth the death of Benadad king of Syria, and cruel reigne of Hazael. 16. Ioram reigning in Iuda, the Idumeans revolt from him. Also Lobna. 23. He dieth, and his sonne Ochozias succeedeth.

And Elifeus spake to the woman, whose sonne he restored to life, saying: Arise, goe thou and thy house, and sojourn whersoever thou shalt finde: for our Lord hath called a famine, and it shall come upon the land seven yeares. ² Who arose, & did according to the word of the man of God: & going with her household, she sojourned in the land of the Philistines many dayes. ³ And when the seven yeares were ended, the woman returned out of the Land of the Philistines: and she went forth to speake to the king for her house, and for her landes. ⁴ And the king spake with Gezi the servant of the man of God, saying: Tell me all the marvelous things that Elifeus hath done. ⁵ And when he had told the king how he had raised a dead man, the woman appeared, whose sonne he had revived, crying to the king for her house, and her landes. And Gezi said: My lord king, this is the woman, and this is her sonne, whom Elifeus raised. ⁶ And the king asked

the woman: who told him. And the king gaue her an eunuch, faying: Reftore her al thinges that are hers, and al the reuenewes of the landes, from the day, that ſhe leaft the land vntil this prefent. ⁷ Elifeus alfo came to Damafcus, and Benadad the king of Syria was ficke: and they told him, faying: The man of God cometh hither. ⁸ And the king fayd to Hazael: Take with thee prefentes, and goe to meete the man of God, and confult the Lord by him, faying: Can I efcape of this myne infirmitie? ⁹ Hazael therfore went to meete him, hauing with him prefentes, and al good thinges of Damafcus, the lodes of fourtie camels. And when he ſtood before him, he fayd: Thy ſonne Benadad the king of Syria hath ſent me to thee, faying: Can I recouer of this mine infirmitie? ¹⁰ And Elifeus fayd to him: Goe, tel him: ^a)Thou ſhalt be healed: but our Lord hath fhewed me that dying he ſhal die. ¹¹ And he ſtood with him, and was trubled ſo far that he blushed: and the man of God wept. ¹² To whom Hazael fayd: Why doeth my lord weepe? But he fayd: Becauſe I know what euils thou wilt doe to the children of Ifrael. Their fenced cities thou wilt burne with fyre, and their yongmen thou wilt kil with the ſword, and their litle ones thou wilt dash in peeces, and wemen with childe thou wilt diuide. ¹³ And Hazael fayd: What am I thy ſeruant a dog, that I ſhould doe this great thing? And Elifeus fayd: Our Lord hath ſhewed me that thou ſhalt be king of Syria. ¹⁴ Who when he was departed from Elifeus, came to his maifter, who fayd to him: What fayd Elifeus to thee? But he answered: He told me: Thou ſhalt recouer health. ¹⁵ And when the next day was come, he tooke a couerlette, and powred water thereon, and ſpred it vpon his face: who being dead, Hazael reigned for him. ¹⁶ In the fifth yeare of Ioram the ſonne of Achab the king of Ifrael, and of Ioſaphat the king of Iuda, reigned Ioram the ſonne of Ioſaphat the king of Iuda. ¹⁷ He was two and thirtie yeares old when he began to reigne, and he reigned eight yeares in Ieruſalem. ¹⁸ And he walked in the waies of the kinges

^a This was true in ſome ſenſe, ſicknes ending when death came.

of Ifrael, as the houle of Achab had walked: for ^athe daughter of Achab was his wife: and he did that which is euil in the fight of our Lord. ¹⁹ But our Lord would not defstroy Iuda, for Dauid his feruant, as he had promifed him, to geue him a lampe to him, and to his children alwaies. ²⁰ In his daies reuolted Edom, from being vnder Iuda, and made to it felf a king. ²¹ And Ioram came to Seira, and al the chariotes with him: and he arofe in the night, and ftroke the Idumeans, that had befet him, and the captaynes of the chariotes, and the people fled into their tabernacles. ²² Edom therfore reuolted from being vnder Iuda, vntil this day. Then Lobna alfo reuolted at that time. ²³ But the reft of the wordes of Ioram, and al that he did, are not thefe thinges written in the Booke of the wordes of the kinges of Iuda? ²⁴ And Ioram flept with his fathers, and was buried with them in the Citie of Dauid, and Ochozias his fonne reigned for him. ²⁵ In the twelfth yeare of Ioram the fonne of Achab the king of Ifrael, reigned Ochozias the fonne of Ioram the king of Iuda. ²⁶ Two and twentie yeares old was Ochozias when he began to reigne, and he reigned one yeare in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Athalia the daughter of Amri the king of Ifrael. ²⁷ And he walked in the waies of the houle of Achab: and he did that which is euil before our Lord, as the houle of Achab: for he was the fonne in lawe of the houle of Achab. ²⁸ He went alfo with Ioram the fonne of Achab, to fight agaynft Hazael the king of Syria in Ramoth Galaad, and the Syrians wounded Ioram. ²⁹ Who returned to be cured, in Iezrahel: becaufe the Syrians wounded him in Ramoth fighting agaynft Hazael the king of Syria. Moreouer Ochozias the fonne of Ioram the king of Iuda, went downe to vifite Ioram the fonne of Achab into Iezrahel, becaufe he was ficke there.

ANNOTATIONS

^a Athalia *v.* 26. is called the daughter of Amri. VVherfore it femeth that either fhe was the adopted daughter of her brother Achab, or is there called the daughter of her grandfather.

Chapter 9

Iehu is anointed king of Ifrael, 7. to defstroy the houle of Achab and Iezabel. 14. He prefently killeth Ioram king of Ifrael. 27. Likewife Ochozias king of Iuda. 30. Alfo Iezabel, who is eaten by dogges.

And Elifeus the prophete called one of the children of the prophetes, and fayd to him: Girde thy loynes, and take this litle boxe of oyle in thy hand, and goe into Ramoth Galaad. ² And when thou fhalt come thither, thou fhalt fee Iehu the fonne of Iofaphat the fonne of Namfi: and going in thou fhalt rayfe him out of the middes of his brethren, and shalt bring him into an inner chamber. ³ And holding the litle boxe of oyle, thou shalt powre vpon his head, and shalt fay: Thus fayth our Lord: I haue anoynted thee king ouer Ifrael. And thou shalt open the doore, and flee, and shalt not ftay there. ⁴ The yongman therfore the childe of a prophete went into Ramoth Galaad, ⁵ and entered in thither: and behold the captaynes of the armie fate, and he fayd: I haue a word to thee ô prince. And Iehu fayd: To whom of vs al? But he fayd: To thee ô prince. ⁶ And he arofe, and went into the chamber: but he powred oyle vpon his head, and fayd: Thus fayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: I haue anoynted thee king ouer the people of the Lord of Ifrael, ⁷ and thou shalt ftrike the houle of Achab thy maifter, and I wil reuenge the bloud of my feruantes the prophetes, and the bloud of al the feruantes of the Lord of the hand of Iezabel. ⁸ And I wil defstroy al the houle of Achab, and wil kil of Achab him that piffeth agaynft a wal, and the shut vp, and the meaneft in Ifrael. ⁹ And I wil make the houle of Achab, as the houle of Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, and as the houle of Baafa the fonne of Ahias. ¹⁰ Iezabel alfo the dogges fhall eate in the field of Iezrahel, neither shall there be anie to burie her. And he opened the doore, and fled. ¹¹ And Iehu went forth to his maifters feruantes. Who faid to him: Are al thinges wel? Why came this madde man to thee? Who fayd to them: You know

the man, and what he spake. ¹² But they answered: It is false, but rather doe thou tel vs. Who sayd to them: Thus and thus he spake to me: and he sayd: Thus sayth our Lord, I haue anoynted thee king ouer Israel. ¹³ They therefore made haft, and euerie man taking his mantel layd it vnder his feete, after the fimilitude of a iudgement feate, & they founded the trumpet, and sayd: Iehu hath the kingdom. ¹⁴ Iehu therefore the sonne of Iofaphat the sonne of Namfi conspired agaynst Ioram. Moreouer Ioram had besieged Ramoth Galaad, he, and al Israel agaynst Hazael the king of Syria: ¹⁵ and was returned to be cured in Iezrael of the woundes, for the Syrians had wounded him, fighting against Hazael the king of Syria. And Iehu sayd: If it please you, let no man goe forth fugitiue out of the citie, lest he goe, and tel in Iezrahel. ¹⁶ And he mounted, and went into Iezrahel: for Ioram was sicke there, and Ochozias the king of Iuda was come downe to visite Ioram. ¹⁷ The watchman therefore, that stood vpon the toure of Iezrahel, saw the troupe of Iehu coming, & said: I see a troupe. And Ioram said: Take a Chariote, and send to meete them, and let him that goeth say: Are al thinges wel? ¹⁸ He went therefore, that was gotten vp into the chariote, to meete him, and sayd: Thus faith the king: Are al thinges peaceable? And Iehu sayd: What haft thou to doe with peace? passe, and folow me. The watchman also told, saying: The messenger came to them, & returneth not. ¹⁹ He sent also the second chariote of horses: and he came to them, and said: Thus sayth the king: Is there peace? And Iehu sayd: What haft thou to doe with peace? passe, and folow me. ²⁰ And the watchman told, saying: He is come as far as they, & returneth not: and it is the pace as it were the pace of Iehu the sonne of Namfi, for he goeth amayne. ²¹ And Ioram sayd: Make readie the chariote. And they made readie his chariote, and Ioram the king of Israel went forth, and Ochozias the king of Iuda, ech in their chariotes, and they went forth to meete Iehu, and found him in the field of Naboth the Iezrahelite. ²² And when Ioram had seene Iehu, he sayd: is there

peace Iehu? But he answered: What peace? The fornications of Iezabel thy mother, and her manie forceries are in their vigour. ²³ And Ioram turned his hand, and fleing fayd to Ochozias: Treafon Ochozias. ²⁴ Moreouer Iehu bent his bow with his hand, and fstroke Ioram between the shoulders: and the arrow went out through his hart, and immediatly he fel in his chariote. ²⁵ And Iehu fayd to captaine Badacer: Take him, throwe him forth in the field of Naboth the Iezrahelite: for I remember when I and thou fitting in a chariote did folow Achab this mans father, that our Lord lifted vp this burden vpon him, faying: ²⁶ If not for the bloud of Naboth, and ^afor the bloud of his children, which I faw yefterday, fayth our Lord, I requite thee not in this field fayth our Lord. Now therfore take him, and throw him into the field according to the word of our Lord. ²⁷ But Ochozias the king of Iuda feing this, fled by the way of the houle of the garden: and Iehu purfewed him, and faid: This man alfo fstrike ye in his chariote. And they fstroke him in the going vp of Gauer, which is befide Ieblaam: who fled into Mageddo, and died there. ²⁸ And his feruantes layd him vpon his chariote, and caried him into Ierufalem: and they buried him there in his fepulchre with his fathers in the Citie of Dauid. ²⁹ In the eleuenth yeare of Ioram the fonne of Achab, reigned Ochozias ouer Iuda, ³⁰ and Iehu came into Iezrahel. Moreouer Iezabel hearing of his entrance, paynted her face with ftibicke ftone, and decked her head, and beheld through the window ³¹ Iehu coming at the gate, and fayd: Can there be peace to Zambri, that killed his maifter? ³² And Iehu lifted vp his face to the window, and fayd: What is she? And two or three eunuches bowed them felues to him. ³³ But he fayd to them: Caft her downe headlong, & they threw her downe and the wal was fprinkled with the bloud,

^a VVhen Naboth was fallly accused & vniuftly ftoned to death, as if he had blaſphemed God, and curſed the king, for his pretended crimes, his finnes were alfo flaine, and his landes and goodes confifcate: which appeareth by the kings prefent going to poſſeſſe the vinyard. *3. Reg. 21.*

and the hooves of the horfes trode her. ³⁴ And when he was entered in, to eate, and to drinke, he fayd: Goe, and fee that curfed woman, and burie her: becaufe she is a kinges daughter. ³⁵ And when they went to burie her, they found nothing but the skul, and the feete, and the extreme partes of the handes. ³⁶ And returning they told him. And Iehu fayd: It is the word of our Lord, which he fpake by his feruant Elias the Thefbite, faying: In the field of Iezrahel shal the dogges eate the flesh of Iezabel, ³⁷ and the flesh of Iezabel shal be as dung vpon the face of the earth in the field of Iezrahel, fo that they which paffe by shal fay: Is this that fame Iezabel?

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 10

The Samaritanes fearing the force of Iehu, choofe no other king, but offer him their feruice: 6. and by his commandment kil the late kings feuentie fonnes. 12. Fourtie two brothers of Ochozias late king of Iuda are flaine. 15. Iehu making league with Ionadab, vtterly deftroyeth Achabs houfe. 18. By a ftratagem killeth al the worshippers of Baal, 26. burneth his ftatua, & turneth his temple into a iakes: 28. but maintaineth Ieroboams golden calues. 32. The Afyrians afflict Ifrael. 34. Iehu dieth, and his fonne Ioachaz reigneth.

And Achab had feuentie fonnes in Samaria: Iehu therfore wrote letters, and fent into Samaria to the chiefe of the citie, and to the ancientes, and to them that brought vp Achabs children, faying: ² As fowne as you shal receiue thefe letters, ye that haue your maifters fonnes, and chariotes, and horfes, and fenfed cities, and armour, ³ choofe the better, and him that shal please you of your maifters fonnes, and fet him vpon his fathers throne, and fight for the houfe of your lord. ⁴ They were fore afrayd, and faid: Behold two

kinges could not stand before him, and how shall we be able to resist? ⁵ The officers therefore of the house, and the rulers of the citie, and the ancients, and the tutors sent to Jehu, saying: We are thy servants, whatsoever thou shalt command we will do, neither will we make vs a king: Doe thou whatsoever pleaseth thee. ⁶ And he wrote letters to them againe, the second tyme, saying: If you be mine, and obey me, take the heades of your masters wives, and come to me this verie houre to morrow into Iezrahel. Moreover the kinges wives, feuentie men were brought vp with the chiefe of the citie. ⁷ And when the letters were come to them, they tooke the kinges wives, and flew feuentie men, and put their heades in baskets, and sent them to him into Iezrahel. ⁸ And a messenger came, & told him, saying: They haue brought the heades of the kinges wives. Who answered: Lay them in two heapes by the entrance of the gate vntil morning. ⁹ And when it was light, he went forth, and standing sayd to al the people: You are iust: If I haue conspired agaynst my master, and haue slayne him, who hath strooken al these? ¹⁰ See therefore now there hath not fallen of the wordes of our Lord on the ground, which our Lord spake vpon the house of Achab, and our Lord hath done that which he spake in the hand of his servant Elias. ¹¹ Jehu therefore smote al that were left of the house of Achab in Iezrahel, and al his nobles, and familiars, and priestes, til there remayned no reliques of him. ¹² And he arose, and came into Samaria: and when he was come to the cabbin of the shepheardes in the way, ¹³ he found the brethren of Ochozias the king of Iuda, and he sayd to them: What are you? Who answered: We are the brethren of Ochozias, and are come downe to salute the kinges wives, and the queenes wives. ¹⁴ Who sayd: Take them aliue. Whom when they had taken aliue, they killed them in a cesterne beside the cabbin, two and fourtie men, and he left not any of them. ¹⁵ And when he was gone thence, he found ^a) Ionadab the sonne

^a This Ionadab instituted a peculiar rule of religious abstinence: which his posterity duly obserued. *Ierem. 35.*

of Rechab coming to meete him, and he bleffed him. And he fayd to him: Is thy hart right as my hart with thy hart? And Ionadab fayd: It is. If it be so, quoth he, geue me thy hand. Who gaue him his hand. But he lifted him vp to him into the chariote, ¹⁶ and fayd to him: Come with me, and see my zeale for our Lord. And being fette in his chariote, ¹⁷ he brought him into Samaria. And he ftroke al that were leaft of Achab in Samaria, til there was not one, according to the word of our Lord, which he fpake by Elias. ¹⁸ Iehu therfore affembled al the people, and fayd to them: Achab worshipped Baal a litle, but ^aI wil worshipec him more. ¹⁹ Now therfore cal to me al the prophetes of Baal, and al his feruantes, and al his priestes: let there be none but that he come, for I haue a great facrifice to Baal: He that shal be wanting shal not liue. Moreouer Iehu did this craftely, that he might deftroy the worshippers of Baal. ²⁰ And he fayd: Sanctifie a solemne day to Baal. And he called ²¹ and fent into al the borders of Ifrael, and al the feruantes of Baal came: there was leaft not one that came not. And they entered into the temple of Baal: and the house of Baal was filled, from one end to the other. ²² And he fayd to them that were ouer the garmentes: Bring forth garmentes for al the feruantes of Baal. And they brought them forth garmentes. ²³ And Iehu going in, and Ionadab the sonne of Rechab into the temple of Baal, fayd to the worshippers of Baal: Search, and see left perhaps there be any with you of the feruantes of the Lord, but that there be the feruantes of Baal onlie. ²⁴ They therfore went in to make victimnes and holocaustes: but Iehu had prepared him without fourescore men, and fayd to them: Whofoeuer shal escape of these men, whom I wil bring into your handes, his life shal be for the life of him. ²⁵ And it came to passe, when the holocauste was ended, Iehu commanded his fouldiars and captaynes: Goe in, and strike them, let none escape.

^a Iehu finned in feaning, and causing others to sacrifice to Baal, his zeale wanting both discretion and equitie for *euil must not be done that good may come therof.* Rom. 3.

And the fouldiars and captaynes ftroke them in the edge of the fword, and caft them forth: and they went into the citie of the temple of Baal, ²⁶ and brought forth the ftatue out of Baals temple, and burnt it, ²⁷ and brake it in peeces. They deftroyed alfo the temple of Baal, and made a iakes for it vntil this day. ²⁸ Iehu therefore deftroyed Baal out of Ifrael: ²⁹ but yet from the finnes of Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to finne, he departed not, neither forfooke he the golden calues, that were in Bethel, and Dan. ³⁰ And our Lord fayd to Iehu: ^a)Because thou haft diligently done that which was right, and that pleafed in mine eies, and haft done al thinges that were in my hart, againft the houfe of Achab: thy children fhall fitte vpon the throne of Ifrael to the fourth generation. ³¹ Moreouer Iehu obferued not to walke in the law of our Lord the God of Ifrael in al his hart: for he departed not from the finnes of Ieroboam, who had made Ifrael to finne. ³² In thofe daies our Lord began to be wearie of Ifrael: and Hazael fmote them in al the coftes of Ifrael, ³³ from Iordan agaynft the Eaft quarter, al the land of Galaad, and Gad, and Ruben, and Manaffes, from Aroer, which is vpon the Torrent Arnon, and Galaad, and Bafan. ³⁴ But the reft of the wordes of Iehu, & al that he did, and his ftrengh, are not thefe thinges writen in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Ifrael? ³⁵ And Iehu fleep with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria: and Ioac-haz his fonne reigned for him. ³⁶ And the dayes which Iehu reigned ouer Ifrael, be eight and twentie yeares in Samaria.

ANNOTATIONS

^a *Moral good vvorkes* done in ftate of mortal finne not meriting eternal life, are often rewarded temporally. *S. Aug. cont. mend. c. 2.*

Chapter 11

Athalia killing al the kinges progenie (except Ioas, who is faued by his aunt) vfurpeth the kingdome. 4. But the feuenth yeare Ioiada the high priest crowneth Ioas king, 13. caufeth Athalia to be flaine, 17. and maketh couenant betwen God, the king, and the people.

But Athalia the mother of Ochozias feing her fonne dead, arofe, and ^aflew al the kinges feede. ² But Iofaba king Iorams daughter, the fifter of Ochozias, taking Ioas the fonne of Ochozias, ftole him out of the middes of the kinges children, that were flaine, and his nurce out of the bedchamber: and hid him from the face of Athalia, that he should not be flaine. ³ And he was with her fixe yeares secretly in the houle of our Lord. Moreouer Athalia reigned ouer the land. ⁴ And in the feuenth yeare ^bIoiada fent and taking the centurions, and the fouldiars brought them in to him into the temple of our Lord, and made a couenant with them: and adiuring them in the houle of our Lord, fhewed them the kinges fonne: ⁵ and commanded them, faying: This is the thing, which you muft doe. ⁶ Let the third part of you goe in on the Sabbath, and keep the watch of the kinges houle. And let a third part be at the gate Sur: & let a third part be at the gate behind the dwelling of the shildebearers: and you shal keepe the watch of the houle of Meffa. ⁷ But let two partes of you al that goe forth on the Sabbath, keepe the watch of the houle of our Lord about the king. ⁸ And you shal gard him round about, hauing weapons in your hands: & if anie man shal enter the precinct of the temple, let him be flaine: and you shal be with the king coming in & going out. ⁹ And the centurions did according to al thinges, that Ioiada the priest had commanded them: &

^a Ambition caufe of much crueltie.

^b Our Sauour calleth this high priest Zacharias, which fignifieth *bleffed of our Lord*, for the iuftice which he did towards Athalia and Ioas. *Hierom li. 4. in Math. c. 23.*

euerie one taking their men, that went in on the Sabbath, with them that went out in the Sabbath, came to Ioiada the priest. ¹⁰ Who gaue them the speares, & the weapons of king Dauid, which were in the house of our Lord. ¹¹ And they stood euerie one hauing their weapons in their hand, on the right side of the temple, vnto the leaft side of the altar, & of the temple, about the king. ¹² And he brought forth the kinges sonne, and put vpon him the diademe, and the couenant: and they made him king, and anoynted him: and clapping with the hand, sayd: God faue the king. ¹³ And Athalia heard the voice of people running: and she going in to the multitudes into the temple of our Lord, ¹⁴ saw the king standing vpon the tribunal seate according to the maner, and the fingers, and trumpettes nere him, and al the people of the land reioyng, and founding the trumpettes: and she rent her garments, and cried: A conspiracie, a conspiracie. ¹⁵ But Ioiada commanded the centurions, that were ouer the armie, and sayd to them: Lead her forth without the precinct of the temple, and whofoeuer shal folow her, let him be stricken with the sword. For the priest had sayd: Let her ^a)not be flaine in the temple of our Lord. ¹⁶ And they layd handes on her: and threw her by the way of the entrance of the horses, beside the palace, and she was flaine there. ¹⁷ Ioiada therefore made a couenant between our Lord, and the king, and between the people, that it should be the people of our Lord, and between the king and the people. ¹⁸ And al the people of the land entered into the temple of Baal, and destroyed his altars, and his images they brake in peces stoutly: Mathan also the priest of Baal they flew before the altar. And the priest sette gardes in the house of our Lord. ¹⁹ And he tooke the centurions, and the legions of Cerethi and Phelethi, and al the people of the land, and they brought the king from the house of our Lord: and they came by the way of the gate of the shilde-bearers into the palace, and he sat vpon the throne of

^a Great respect is to be had of holie places. VVherof cometh the priuilege of Sanctuaries.

the kinges. ²⁰ And al the people of the land reioyced, and the citie was quiet: but Athalia was flaine with the fword in the kinges houle. ²¹ And Ioas was feuen yeares old, when he began to reigne.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 12

Ioas vvilleth the priestes to repaire vwhat needeth in the temple, receiuing al the money offered there. 6. VVhich they not performing, the high priest prouideth that al is amended, 16. the priestes receiuing only the money due to themfelues. 17. Hazael king of Syria taking Geth, and threatning Ierufalem is pacified vvith money. 19. Ioas is traitaroufly flaine by his feruantes, and his sonne Amafias reigneth.

In the feuenth yeare of Iehu reigned Ioas: and he reigned fourtie yeares in Ierufalem. The name of his mother was Sebia of Berfabee. ² And Ioas did right before our Lord al the daies, that Ioiada the priest taught him. ³ But yet the excelfes he tooke not away: for the people immolated & burnt incense in the excelfes. ⁴ And Ioas fayd to the priestes: Al the money of the sanctified thinges, which is brought into the temple of our Lord by the paffengers, which is offered for the ^a)price of a foule, and which of their owne accord, and of their owne free hart they bring into the temple of our Lord: ⁵ let the priestes take it according to their order, and maynteine reparations of the houle, if they shal see any thing that needeth reparation. ⁶ Therefore vntil the three and twentieth yeare of king Ioas, the priestes did not make reparations of the temple. ⁷ And king Ioas called Ioiada the high priest and the priestes, saying to them: Why make you not the reparations of the temple?

^a That is, the ordinarie oblation for ech particular perfon. *Exod. 30.*

A cheft or
almes boxe.

Take you therefore money no more according to your order, but render it to the reparation of the temple. ⁸ And the priestes were prohibited to take money anie more of the people, and to make the reparations of the temple. ⁹ And Ioiada the high prieft tooke a treafurie, and opened a hole in the toppe, and fette it by the altar at the right hand of them that goe into the houle of our Lord, and the priestes that kept the doores, did caft into it al the money, that was brought to the temple of our Lord. ¹⁰ And when they faw that there was very much money in the treafurie, the kinges fcribe, and the high prieft went vp, and powred it out, and counted the money, that was found in the houle of our Lord: ¹¹ and they gaue it according to number and meafure into their hand, which did ouerfee the mafons of the houle of our Lord: who beftowed it on carpenters, and on mafons, fuch as wrought in the houle of our Lord, ¹² and made reparation: and on them that hewed ftones, and that they should bye trees, and ftones, that were hewed, fo that the reparation of the houle of our Lord was accomplished in al thinges, which had neede of coft to vphold the houle. ¹³ But yet there were not made of the fame money the water pottes of the temple of our Lord, and the fleshhookes, and cenfars, and trumpets, and euerie veffel of gold and filuer, of the money, that was brought into the temple of our Lord. ¹⁴ For it was geuen them that did the worke, that the temple of our Lord might be repayred: ¹⁵ and there was no account made with thofe men, that receiued the money to diftribute it to the craftes men, but vpon their fidelitie they beftowed it. ¹⁶ But the money for offence, & the money for finnes, they brought not into the temple of our Lord, becaufe it was the priestes. ¹⁷ Then Hazael the king of Syria went vp, and fought agaynft Geth, and tooke it: and directed his face to goe vp to Ierufalem. ¹⁸ For which caufe Ioas the king of Iuda tooke al the fanctified thinges, which Iofaphat, and Ioram, and Ochozias his fathers the kinges of Iuda had ^a)confecrated, and which him felf had

^a Dedicated to holie vfe.

offered: and al the filuer, that could be found in the treafures of the temple of our Lord, and in the kinges palace: and fent it to Hazael the king of Syria, and he retyred from Ierufalem. ¹⁹ But the reft of the wordes of Ioas, and al that he did, are not thefe thinges written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Iuda? ²⁰ And his feruantes arofe, and confpired among them felues, and ftroke Ioas in the houle of Mello in the defcent of Sella. ²¹ For Iofachar the fonne of Semaath, and Iozabad the fonne of Somer his feruantes, ftroke him, and he died: and they buried him with his fathers in ^a)the Citie of Daud, and Amafias his fonne reigned for him.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 13

Ioachaz King of Ifrael is afflicted by the Syrians, 4. and deliuered. 6. Yet deftroyeth not idolatrie: 8. dieth, and his fonne Ioas foloweth his euil fteppes. 14. Elifeus being ficke, willeth the king to shoote, 18. and to ftrike the earth, who ftriking thrife, is told that he shal thrife ftrike the Syrians. 20. Elifeus dieth, and a dead man is reuiued touching his bones. 22. Ioas recouereth that which the Syrians had taken from Ifrael.

In the three and twentieth yeare of Ioas the fonne of Ochozias the king of Iuda, reigned Ioachaz the fonne of Iehu ouer Ifrael in Samaria, feuentene yeares. ² And he did euil before our Lord, and folowed the finnes of Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to finne, and declined not from them. ³ And the furie of our Lord was wrath agaynft Ifrael, and he deliuered them into the hand of Hazael the king of Syria,

^a He was buried in the citie but not in the fepulcher of the kinges. *2. Paral. 24.* for his impietie in the latter part of his life.

and into the hand of Benadad the sonne of Hazael, alwaies. ⁴ But Ioachaz befought the face of our Lord, and our Lord heard him: for he saw the distresse of Ifrael, that the king of Syria had broken them: ⁵ and our Lord gave a fauour to Ifrael, and they were deliuered out of the hand of the king of Syria: and the children of Ifrael dwelt in their tabernacles as yesternight and the day before. ⁶ But yet they departed not from the finnes of Ieroboam who made Ifrael to sinne, but they walked in them: for the groue also remayned in Samaria. ⁷ And there were leaft to Ioachaz of the people but fiftie horsemen, and ten chariotes, and ten thousand footmen: for the king of Syria had slain them, and had brought them as dust by threshing in the barne floore. ⁸ But the rest of the wordes of Ioachaz, and all that he did, and his strength, are not these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael? ⁹ And Ioachaz slept with his fathers, & they buried him in Samaria: and Ioas his sonne reigned for him. ¹⁰ In the feuen and thirtieth yeare of Ioas the king of Iuda reigned Ioas the sonne of Ioachaz ouer Ifrael in Samaria fixtene yeares, ¹¹ and he did that which is euill in the sight of our Lord, he declined not from all the finnes of Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to sinne, but he walked in them. ¹² But the rest of the wordes of Ioas, and all that he did, and his strength, how he fought agaynst Amasias the king of Iuda, are not these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael? ¹³ And Ioas slept with his fathers: but Ieroboam sat vpon his throne. Moreouer Ioas, was buried in Samaria with the kinges of Ifrael. ¹⁴ And Elifeus was sicke of an infirmitie, wherof also he died: and Ioas the king of Ifrael went downe to him, and wept before him, and sayd: My father, my father, the chariote of Ifrael and the gardener therof. ¹⁵ And Elifeus sayd to him: fetch a bow and arrowes. And when he had brought him a bow, and arrowes, ¹⁶ he sayd to the king of Ifrael: Put thy hand vpon the bow. And when he had put his hand, Elifeus put his hands ouer the kinges hands, ¹⁷ and sayd: Open the east window. And when

he had opened it, Elifeus fayd: Shote an arrow. And he shot. And Elifeus fayd: The arrow of the faluation of our Lord, and the arrow of faluation agaynft Syria: and thou shalt ftrike Syria in Aphec, til thou confume it. ¹⁸ And he fayd: Take vp the arrowes. Who when he had taken them agayne, he fayd to him: Strike the earth with a iauelin. And when he had ftriken three times, and ftood ftil, ¹⁹ the man of God was angrie with him, & fayd: ^aIf thou hadft ftriken fiue or fix or feuen times, thou hadft ftriken Syria euen to deftruction: but now three times fhalt thou ftrike it. ²⁰ Elifeus therfore died, and they buried him. And the rouers of Moab came into the land the fame yeare. ²¹ And certayne perfons burying a man, faw the rouers, and threw the bodie in the fepulchre of Elifeus. Which when it had touched the bones of Elifeus, the man reuiued, and ftood vpon his feete. ²² Hazael therfore the king of Syria afflicted Ifrael al the daies of Ioachaz: ²³ and our Lord had mercie on them, and returned to them for his couenant, which he had with Abraham, and Ifaac, and Iacob: and he would not deftroy them, nor vtterly caft them away, vntil this prefent time. ²⁴ And Hazael the king of Syria died, and Benadad his fonne reigned for him. ²⁵ Moreouer Ioas the fonne of Ioachaz, tooke the cities out of the hand of Benadad the fonne of Hazael, which he had taken out of the hand of Ioachaz his father by the right of warre, three times did Ioas ftrike him, and he deliuered the cities to Ifrael.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 14

Amafias king of Iuda killeth thofe that had flaine his father, 7. and ftriketh Edom. 8. Prouoking Ioas king of

^a It was reueiled to the prophet that fo often as the king fhould ftrike the earth, fo often he fhould haue victories againft the Syrians, but not how often he would ftrike on the earth.

Ifrael to warre, receiueth a contemptible anſwer: 11. prouoking againe is beaten in battle, and Ierufalem is ranſact. 15. Ioas dieth and his ſonne Ieroboam foloweth the bad ſteppes of the firſt Ieroboam; yet recouereth manie places loft before. And dying his ſonne Zacharias reigneth.

In the ſecond yeare of Ioas the ſonne of Ioachaz the king of Ifrael reigned Amaſias the ſonne of Ioas the king of Iuda. ² Fiue and twentie yeares old was he when he began to reigne: and nine and twentie yeares he reigned in Ierufalem, the name of his mother was Ioadan of Ierufalem. ³ And he did right before our Lord, but yet not as Daud his father. He did according to al thinges, which Ioas his father did: ⁴ but this onlie that he tooke not away the excelfes: for yet the people immolated, and burnt incenſe in the excelfes. ⁵ And when he obtayned the kingdom, he fmote his ſeruantes, which had flaine the king his father: ⁶ but their children that killed him, he did not put to death, according to that which is written in the booke of the law of Moyſes, as our Lord *Deut. 14.* commanded, ſaying: The fathers ſhal not die for the children, neither ſhal the children die for the fathers: but euerie one ſhal die in his owne finne. ⁷ He fmote Edom in the Vail of Salt pittes ten thouſand, and tooke the rocke in battel, and called the name therof, Iectehel vntil this preſent daye. ⁸ Then Amaſias ſent meſſengers to Ioas the ſonne of Ioachaz, the ſonne of Iehu the king of Ifrael, ſaying: Come, ^alet vs fee one an other. ⁹ And Ioas the king of Ifrael ſent agayne to Amaſias the king of Iuda ſaying: A thiftle of Libanus ſent to a cedar tree, which is in Libanus, ſaying: Geue thy daughter to my ſonne to wife. And the beaſtes of the foreſt, that are in Libanus, paſſed and trode the thiftle. ¹⁰ Thou ſtriking haſt preuayled ouer Edom, and thy hart hath puffed thee vp: be content with the glorie, and fit in thy houſe: Why prouokeſt thou euil, that thou mayſt fal and Iuda

^a Amongſt kinges being at variance, *Seing one an other* importeth, as much as to fight a battle.

with thee. ¹¹ And Amafias agreed not. And Ioas the king of Ifrael went vp, and they faw eche other, he and Amafias the king of Iuda in Bethfames a towne of Iuda. ¹² And Iuda was ftrooken before Ifrael, and euerie man fled into their tabernacles. ¹³ But Ioas the king of Ifrael did take Amafias the king of Iuda the fonne of Ioas, the fonne of Ochozias, in Bethfames, and brought him into Ierufalem: and he brake downe the wal of Ierufalem, from the gate of Ephraim vnto the gate of the corner, fowre hundred cubites. ¹⁴ And he tooke al the gold, and filuer, and al the veffel, that were found in the houle of our Lord, and in the kinges treafures, and hoftages, and returned into Samaria. ¹⁵ But the reft of the wordes of Ioas which he did, and his ftrengh, wherwith he fought againft Amafias the king of Iuda, are not thefe thinges writen in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael? ¹⁶ And Ioas flept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kinges of Ifrael: & Ieroboam his fonne reigned for him. ¹⁷ And Amafias the fonne of Ioas the king of Iuda liued, after that Ioas the fonne of Ioachaz the king of Ifrael was dead, fifetene yeares. ¹⁸ But the reft of the wordes of Amafias, are not thefe thinges writen in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Iuda? ¹⁹ And there was a confpiracie made againft him in Ierufalem: but he fled into Lachis. And they fent after him into Lachis, and killed him there. ²⁰ And they caried him away vpon horfes, and he was buried in Ierufalem with his fathers in the Citie of Daud. ²¹ And al the people of Iuda tooke Azarias fixtene yeares old, and made him king for his father Amafias. ²² He built Ælath, and reftored it to Iuda, after that the king flept with his fathers. ²³ In the fifteenth yeare of Amafias the fonne of Ioas the king of Iuda, reigned Ieroboam the fonne of Ioas the king of Ifrael in Samaria, one and fourtie yeares: ²⁴ and he did that which is euil before our Lord. He departed not from al the finnes of Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to finne. ²⁵ He reftored the borders of Ifrael from the entrance of Emath, vnto the Sea of the wilderneffe, according to the word of our Lord the God of Ifrael,

Iona. 1. which he fpake by his feruāt Ionas the fonne of Amathi, the prophete, who was of Geth, which is in Opher. ²⁶ For our Lord faw the affliction of Ifrael exceding bitter, and that they were confumed vnto the imprifoned & meaneft perfons, and that there was none to helpe Ifrael. ²⁷ Neither did our Lord determine that he would deftroy the name of Ifrael from vnder heauen, but he faued them in the hand of Ieroboam the fonne of Ioas. ²⁸ But the reft of the wordes of Ieroboam, and al that he did, and his ftrength, wherwith he fought, and how he reftored Damafcus, and Emath to Iuda in Ifrael, are not thefe thinges written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael? ²⁹ And Ieroboam flept with his fathers the kinges of Ifrael, and Zacharias his fonne, reigned for him.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 15

Azarias beginneth wel, 4. afterward (for offering incenfe on the altar 2. Paralip. 26.) is ftrooken with leprofie, caft out of the temple, and from conuerfation with the people, his fonne Ioathan ruling the kingdom. 8. Sellum killeth Zacharias king of Ifrael and reigneth in his place. 14. After one moneth Manahem killeth Sellum & reigneth alfo wickedly. 19. Maketh league with the Syrians, 22. dieth and his fonne Phaceia reigneth. 25. Phacee killeth him, and reigneth. 29. The Afsyrians fpoyle the countrie, and carie away manie captiues. 30. Ofee killeth Phacee and reigneth. 32. In the meane time Ioathan reigning in Iuda is infested with enemies, 38. dieth, and his fonne Achaz reigneth.

In the feuen and twentieth yeare of Ieroboam the king of Ifrael reigned ^{a)}Azarias the fonne of Amafias

^a Otherwife called Ozias. *2. Paral. 26. Mat. 1.*

the king of Iuda. ² He was fixtene yeares old, when he began to reigne, and two and fiftie yeares he reigned in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Iechelia of Ierufalem. ³ And he did that which was liked before our Lord, according to al thinges that his father Amafias did. ⁴ But the excelfes he deftroyed not: as yet the people facrificed, and burnt incenfe in the excelfes. ⁵ And our Lord ftroke the king, and he was ^a)a leper vntil the day of his death, and he dwelt in a free houfe a part: but Ioathan the kinges fonne gouerned the palace, and iudged the people of the land. ⁶ But the reft of the wordes of Azarias, and al that he did, are not thefe thinges writen in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Iuda? ⁷ And Azarias flept with his fathers: and they buried him with his anceftors ^b)in the Citie of Daud, and Ioathan his fonne reigned for him. ⁸ In the eight and thirteth yeare of Azarias the king of Iuda, reigned Zacharias the fonne of Ieroboam ouer Ifrael in Samaria fixe monethes: ⁹ and he did that which is euil before our Lord, as his fathers had done: he departed not from the finnes of Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to finne. ¹⁰ And Sellum the fonne of Iabes confpired againft him: and fmote him openly, killed him, and reigned for him. ¹¹ But the reft of the wordes of Zacharias, are not thefe writen in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Ifrael? ¹² This is the word of our Lord, which he fpake to Iehu, faying: Thy children fhall fit vnto the fourth generation vpon the throne of Ifrael. And fo it came to paffe. ¹³ Sellum the fonne of Iabes reigned the nine and thirteth yeare of Azarias the king of Iuda: and reigned one moneth in Samaria. ¹⁴ And Manahem the fonne of Gadi went vp from Therfa: and he came into Samaria, and fmote Sellum the fonne of Iabes in Samaria, and flew him, &

^a This punifhment was inflicted vpon him, for his prefumption to offer incēse on the altar. 2. *Paralip.* 26.

^b He was buried honorably in the *Citie of Daud*, that is, nere to the walles, but in the filde, becaufe he was a leper euen to his death. 2. *Paral.* 26.

reigned for him. ¹⁵ But the rest of the wordes of Sellum, & his conspiracie, wherwith he wrought treason, are not these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Ifrael? ¹⁶ Then Manahem fstroke Thapfa and al that were in it and the borders therof from Therfa, for they would not open vnto him: and he flew al wemen therof that were withchilde, and ripped them. ¹⁷ In the nine and thirteth yeare of Azarias the king of Iuda, reigned Manahem the sonne of Gadi ouer Ifrael ten yeares in Samaria. ¹⁸ And he did that which was euil before our Lord: he departed not from the finnes of Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to sinne al his dayes. ¹⁹ Phul also the king of the Affyrians came into the land, and Manahem gaue to Phul a thousand talentes of filuer, that he should ayde him, & establishe his kingdom. ²⁰ And Manahem put a taxe of filuer vpon Ifrael, on them that were mightie and riche to geue the king of the Affyrians, fiftie ficles of filuer euerie man: and the king of the Affyrians returned, and taried not in the land. ²¹ But the rest of the wordes of Manahem, and al that he did, are not these things writen in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael? ²² And Manahem slept with his fathers: and Phaceia his sonne reigned for him. ²³ In the fifteth yeare of Azarias the king of Iuda reigned Phaceia the sonne of Manahem ouer Ifrael in Samaria two yeares: ²⁴ and he did that which was euil before our Lord: he departed not from the finnes of Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to sinne. ²⁵ And Phacee the sonne of Romelia, his captaine conspired against him, and fstroke him in Samaria, in the towre of the kinges house beside Argob and beside Arie, and with him fiftie men of the children of the Galaadites, and he flewe him, and reigned for him. ²⁶ But the rest of the wordes of Phaceia & al that he did, are not these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Ifrael? ²⁷ In the two and fifteth yeare of Azarias the king of Iuda reigned Phacee the sonne of Romelia ouer Ifrael in Samaria twentie yeares. ²⁸ And he did that which was euil before our Lord: he departed not from the finnes of Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat,

who made Ifrael to finne. ²⁹ In the daies of Phacee the king of Ifrael came Theglathphalafar the king of Affur, & ^a)tooke Aion, and Abel the houfe of Maachar and Ianoë, and Cedès, and Afor, and Galaad, and Galilee, and al the land of Nepthali: and tranfported them vnto the Affyrians. ³⁰ And Ofee the fonne of Ela confpired, and lay in wayte againft Phacee the fonne of Romelia, and ftroke him, and flew him: and he reigned for him the twentieth yeare of Ioatham the fonne of ^b)Ozias. ³¹ But the reft of the wordes of Phacee, and al that he did, are not thefe things written in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kings of Ifrael? ³² In the fecond yeare of Phacee the fonne of Romelia the king of Ifrael, reigned Ioatham the fonne of Ozias the king of Iuda. ³³ Fiue and twentie yeares old was he when he began to reigne, and fixtene yeares he reigned in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Ierufa, the daughter of Sadoc. ³⁴ And he did that which was liked before our Lord: according to al things, which Ozias his father had done, did he worke. ³⁵ Howbeit the excelfes he tooke not away: as yet the people immolated, and burnt incenfe in the excelfes. He built the higheft gate of the houfe of our Lord. ³⁶ But the reft of the wordes of Ioatham, and al that he did, are not thefe things written in the Booke of the words of the dayes of the kings of Iuda? ³⁷ In thofe dayes our Lord began to fend into Iuda Rafin the king of Syria, and Phacee the fonne of Romelia. ³⁸ And Ioatham flept with his fathers, and was buried with them in the Citie of Daud his father, and Achaz his fonne reigned for him.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 16

Achaz king of Iuda befides other idolatrie, facrificeth his owne fonne to idoles. 5. The kinges of Ifrael and Syria

^a Some men of Ruben, Gad, Manaffes, and Nepthali, were caried captiues into Affyria.

^b Otherwife called Azarias. *v. 1.*

befieging Ierufalem, the Afsyrians are hyred to releue it. 10. Achaz caufeth Vrias to make an altar like to one in Damafcus, 14. in place of Gods altar: 17. remoueth diuers other things perteyning to diuine feruice, 19. dieth, and his fonne Ezechias reigneth.

In the feuenteth yeare of Phacee the fonne of Romelia reigned Achaz the fonne of Ioatham king of Iuda. ² Twentie yeares old was Achaz when he began to reigne, and he reigned fixtene yeares in Ierufalem: he did not that which was pleafing in the fight of our Lord his God, as Daudid his father. ³ But he walked in the way of the kings of Ifrael: moreouer alfo he confecrated his fonne, making him paffe through fire according to the idols of the Gentils: which our Lord deftroyed before the children of Ifrael. ⁴ He immolated alfo victimnes, and burnt incenfe in the excelfes, and on the hilles, and vnder euery tree full of greene leaues. ⁵ Then went vp Rafin the king of Syria, and Phacee the fonne of Romelia the king of Ifrael into Ierufalem to fight: & when they befieged Achaz, they were not able to ouercome him. ⁶ At that time Rafin the king of Syria reftored Aila to Syria, and threw out the Iewes out of Aila: and the Idumeians came into Aila, and dwelt there vnto this day. ⁷ And Achaz fent meffengers to Theglathphalafar the king of the Affyrians, faying: I am thy feruant, and thy fonne: come vp, and faue me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and from the hand of the king of Ifrael, which are rifen together againft me. ⁸ And when he had gathered together the filuer and gold, that could be founde in the houle of our Lord, and in the kings treasures, he fent giftes to the king of the Affyrians. ⁹ Who alfo agreed to his wil: for the king of the Affyrians went vp into Damafcus, and wafted it: and he transferred the inhabitants therof to Cyrene, but Rafin he flew. ¹⁰ And king Achaz went forth to meete Theglathphalafar the king of the Affyrians into Damafcus, and when he had feene the altar of Damafcus, king Achaz fent to Vrias the prieft a paterne of it, and a fimilitude according to al the worke

therof. ¹¹ And Vrias the priest built an altar, according to al things, which king Achaz had commanded, from Damafcus, fo did the priest Vrias, whileft king Achaz came from Damafcus. ¹² And when the king was come from Damafcus, he faw the altar and worfhipped it: and went vp and immolated holocaustes, and his facrifice, ¹³ and offered libamentes, and powred the bloud of the pacifiques, which he had offered vpon the altar. ¹⁴ Moreover the altar of braffe that was before our Lord, he remoued from the face of the temple, and from the place of the altar, and from the place of the temple of our Lord: and he fett it at the fide of the altar toward the North. ¹⁵ King Achaz alfo commanded Vrias the priest, faying: Vpon the greater altar offer the morning holocaust, and the euening facrifice, and the kings holocaust, and his facrifice, and the holocaust of the whole people of the land, and their facrifices, and their libamentes: and al the bloud of the holocaust, and al the bloud of the vic-time thou fhalt powre out vpon it: but the altar of braffe fhall be prepared readie at my pleafure. ¹⁶ Vrias therfore the priest did according to al things, which king Achaz had commanded him. ¹⁷ And king Achaz tooke the engrauen feete, and the lauatorie that was vpon them: and he tooke downe the fea from the oxen of braffe, that held it vp, and put it vpon the pauement paved with ftone. ¹⁸ The Mufach alfo of the Sabbath, which he had built in the temple: and the entrie of the king outward, he turned into the temple of our Lord becaufe of the king of the Affyrians. ¹⁹ But the reft of the wordes of Achaz, which he did, are not thefe writen in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Iuda? ²⁰ And Achaz flept with his fathers, and was buried with them in the Citie of Daud, and Ezechias his fonne reigned for him.

The great veffel.

The place vvhere the king offered.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 17

Salmanazar king of Affyrians maketh Ofee king of Ifrael tributarie, and perceuing his endeouour to be deliuered

therof, imprifoneth him; after three yeares fiege taketh Samaria, and carieth the people captiue into Afsyria. 7. Al which God permitteth for diuers great finnes here recited. 25. The new inhabitantes of the countrie not knowing God, are deuoured by lions. VVherupon a true priest is fent to inſtruct them. 29. But they lerning the rites of true religion do mixe the fame with idolatrie.

In the twelfth yeare of Achaz king of Iuda, reigned Ofee the fonne of Ela in Samaria ouer Ifrael nine yeares. ² And he did euil before our Lord: but not as the kinges of Ifrael that had bene before him. ³ Againſt him came vp Salmanafar king of the Affyrians, and Ofee was made feruant to him, and payd him tributes. ⁴ And when the king of the Affyrians had found, that Ofee endeuoring to rebel had ſent meſſengers to Sua the king of Ægypt, that he might not pay tributes to the king of the Affyrians, as euery yeare he was accuſtomed, he beſieged him, and caſt him bound into prifon. ⁵ And he ranged through al the land: and going vp to Samaria, he beſieged it three yeares. ⁶ And in the ninth yeare of Ofee, the king of Affyrians tooke Samaria, and transferred Ifrael vnto the Affyrians: and he put them in Hala, and in Habor beſide the riuer of Gozan, in the cities of the Medes. ⁷ For it came to paſſe, when the children of Ifrael had finned to our Lord their God, which brought them out of the land of Ægypt, and out of the hand of Pharao the king of Ægypt, they worſhipped ſtrange goddes. ⁸ And they walked according to the rite of the Gentiles, which our Lord had confumed in the ſight of the children of Ifrael, and of the kings of Ifrael: becauſe they had done in like maner. ⁹ And the children of Ifrael offended our Lord their God with wordes not right: & built them excelfes in al their cities from the Towre of watchmen vnto the fenced citie. ¹⁰ And they made them ſtatues & groues on euerie high hil, and vnder euerie thicke wooddie tree: ¹¹ and burnt there incenſe vpon the altars after the maner of the Gentiles, which our Lord

remoued from their face: and they did wicked things, prouoking our Lord. ¹² And they worhipped the filthes, wherof our Lord commanded them, that they should not doe this thing. ¹³ And our Lord testified in Ifrael and in Iuda by the hand of al the Prophetes and Seers, faying: Returne from your most wicked wayes, and keepe my precepts, and ceremonies according to al the law, which I commanded your fathers: and as I haue sent to you in the hand of my seruantes the Prophetes. ¹⁴ Who heard not, but hardened their necke according to the necke of their fathers, who would not obey our Lord their God. ¹⁵ And they cast away his ordinances, and the couenant that he made with their fathers, and the testifications, wherwith he contested them: and they folowed vanities, and did vaynly: and they folowed the Gentiles, that were round about them, concerning which our Lord had commanded them, that they should not doe as they did. ¹⁶ And they forfooke al the preceptes of our Lord their God: and made to them selues two molten calues, and groues, and adored al the hoste of heauen: and they serued Baal, ¹⁷ and consecrated their sonnes, and their daughters through fyre: and they gaue themselues to deuinations, and fothfayings: and they deliuered vp themselues to doe euil before our Lord, ^a)that they might prouoke him. ¹⁸ And our Lord was wrath with Ifrael vehemently, and tooke them away from his sight, and there remayned but the tribe of Iuda onlie. ¹⁹ But neither Iuda it self kept the commandementes of our Lord their God: but walked in the errours of Ifrael, which it had wrought. ²⁰ And our Lord reiected al the seede of Ifrael, and afflicted them, & deliuered them into the hand of the spoylers, til he threwe them away from his face: ²¹ euen now from that time, when Ifrael was rent from the house of Daud, and made Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat their king: for Ieroboam seperated Ifrael from our Lord, and made them sinne a great sinne. ²² And the children of Ifrael walked in al the finnes of Ieroboam, which he had done: and they departed not from them, ²³ vntil our

^a That is, consequently they did prouoke him. As *3. Reg. 14. v. 9.*

Lord tooke away Ifrael from his face, as he had fpoken in the hand of al his feruantes the Prophetes: and Ifrael was tranfported out of their land vnto the Affyrians, vntil this day. ²⁴ And the king of the Affyrians brought from Babylon, and from Cutha, and from Auah, and from Emath, and from Sepharuaim: and placed them in the cities of Samaria for the children of Ifrael: who poffeffed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities therof. ²⁵ And when they began to dwel there, they feared not our Lord: and our Lord fent lions vpon them, which killed them. ²⁶ And it was told the king of the Affyrians, and fayd: The nations, which thou haft transferred, and made to dwel in the cities of Samaria, know not the ordinances of the God of the land: and the Lord hath fent lions vpon them: and behold they kil them, for that they know not the rite of the God of the land. ²⁷ And the king of the Affyrians commanded, faying: Bring thither one of the priestes, which you brought thence captiue, and let him goe, and dwel with them: and let him teach them the ordinances of the God of the land. ²⁸ Therefore when one of thofe priests, which were led captiue from Samaria, was come, he dwelt in Bethel, and taught them how they fhould worship our Lord. ²⁹ And euerie Nation framed their owne god, and put them in the highe temples, which the Samaritanes had made, Nation and Nation in their cities, where they dwelt. ³⁰ For the men of Babylon made Socothbenoth: and the Cutheites made Nergel: and the men of Emath made Afima. ³¹ Moreover the Heueites made Nebahaz & Tharthac. And they that were of Sepharuaim burnt their children in fyre, to Adramelech, and Anamelech the goddes of Sepharuaim. ³² And neuertheles they ^a)worhipped our Lord. And they made to themfelues of the vileft perfones priestes of the excelfes, and they placed them in the highe temples. ³³ And when they worhipped our Lord, they ferued alfo their owne goddes according to the custome of the Nations out of the which they were tranfported to Samaria:

^a Not truly worhipped but made fhew to worhippe. For true worship of God admitteth not worship of anie falfe god. *v. 34.*

FOUR KINGS

³⁴ vntil this present day they folow the old maner: they feare not our Lord, neither keepe they his ceremonies, and iudgements, and law, and the commandment, which our Lord commanded the children of Iacob, whom he furnamed Ifrael: ³⁵ and he had made a couenant with them, & had commanded them, faying: Feare not ftrange goddes, and adore them not, neither worfhip them, and immolate not to them. ³⁶ But the Lord your God, which brought you out of the Land of Ægypt in great ftrengh, and a ftretched out arme, him feare ye, and him adore, and to him doe ye immolate. ³⁷ The ceremonies alfo, and iudgementes, and law, and the commandment, that he wrote you, kepe ye, that you may doe them alwaies: and feare not ftrange goddes. ³⁸ And the couenant, that he made with you, forget not: neither doe ye worfhip ftrange goddes, ³⁹ but feare our Lord your God, and he wil deliuer you out of the hand of al your enemies. ⁴⁰ But they heard not, but did according to their old cuftome. ⁴¹ Thefe Nations therfore were fearing of our Lord but neuertheleffe feruing their idols alfo: for both their children and nephewes, as their fathers did, foe doe they vntil this present day.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 18

The fecond part.
Actes of other
kinges til the cap-
tiuitie of Iuda.

Ezechias deftroyeth al places of idolatrie in Iuda, breaking alfo the brafen serpent, made by Moyfes, becaufe the people offered incense to it. 9. The captiuitie of the ten tribes is repeted. 13. Ezechias not able to refift the Affyrians payeth much money to them. 17. They neuertheles fend forces againft Ierufalem, reproch the king, blafpheme God, and terrifie the people.

In the third yeare of Ofee the fonne of Ela king of Ifrael, reigned Ezechias the fonne of Achaz king of Iuda. ² Fiue and twentie yeares old was he when

he began to reigne: and he reigned nine and twentie yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Abi the daughter of Zacharias. ³ And he did that which was good before our Lord, according to al thinges which Daudid his father had done. ⁴ He deftroied the excelfes, and brake the ftatues in peece, and cut downe the groues, and brake the brafen ferpent, which Moyfes had made: for vntil that time the children of Ifrael ^a)burnt incenfe to it: and he called the name therof *Noheftan*. ⁵ He truſted in our Lord the God of Ifrael: therfore after him there was not the like to him in al the kings of Iuda, yea neither among them that were before him: ⁶ and he cleaued to our Lord, and departed not from his ſteppes, and he did his commandmentes, which our Lord commanded Moyfes. ⁷ Wherefore our Lord alfo was with him, and in al thinges, to the which he proceded, he behaued himſelfe wifely. He rebelled alfo agaynſt the king of the Affyrians, and ſerued him not. ⁸ He ſtroke the Philiftians as farre as Gaza, & al the borders, from the Towre of watchmen vnto the fenced citie. ⁹ In the fourth yeare of king Ezechias, which was the feuenth yeare of Ofee the ſonne of Ela the king of Ifrael, came vp Salmanafar the king of the Affyrians into Samaria, and affaulted it, ¹⁰ and tooke it. For after three yeares, in the fixt yeare of Ezechias, that is, the ninth yeare of Ofee the king of Ifrael, Samaria was taken: ¹¹ and the king of the Affyrians tranſported Ifrael vnto the Affyrians, and placed them in Hala, and in Habor riuers of Gozan in the cities of the Medes: ¹² becauſe they heard not the voice of our Lord their God, but tranſgreſſed his couenant: al thinges, that Moyfes the ſeruant of our Lord commanded,

A peece
of braffe.

^a This image of a ſerpent not only when it wrought miraculous health, but alſo long after was worthely referred in memorie of the benefite: but when the people offered ſacrifice vnto it, which is proper to God only, good Ezechias did laudably breake it. And to ſhew that there was no deitie in it: called it *Noheftan*, that is, a peece of braffe. And ſo in the Catholique Church when anie holie Relique or Image is abuſed, it is taken away, or the error otherwiſe corrected. See *S. Aug. li. 10. c. 8. ciuit. Ser. 14. de verb. Apoft. & 101. de temp.*

they heard not, neither did they it. ¹³ In the fourteenth yeare of king Ezechias, came vp Sennacherib the king of Affyrians to al the fenfed cities of Iuda: and tooke them. ¹⁴ Then fent Ezechias the king of Iuda meffengers to the king of the Affyrians into Lachis, faying: I haue finned, retyre from me: and al that thou fhalt put vpon me, I will beare. Therefore the king of the Affyrians put a taxe vpon Ezechias the king of Iuda, three hundred talents of filuer, and thirtie talents of gold. ¹⁵ And Ezechias gaue al the filuer that was found in the houle of our Lord, and in the kinges treasures. ¹⁶ At that time Ezechias brake the doores of the temple of our Lord, and the plates of gold, which he had faftened on them, and gaue them to the king of the Affyrians. ¹⁷ But the king of the Affyrians fent Tharthan, and Rabfaris, and Rabfaces from Lachis to king Ezechias with a ftrong powre to Ierufalem: who when they were come vp they came to Ierufalem, and ftoode befide the conduite of the vpper poole, which is in the way of the fullers field. ¹⁸ And they called the king: and there went out to them Eliacim the fonne of Helcias gouernour of the houle and Sobna the Scribe and Ioah the fonne of Afaph, the regifter. ¹⁹ And Rabfaces fayd to them: Speake to Ezechias: Thus fayth the great king, the king of Affyrians: What is this confidence, that thou doeft ftay vpon? ²⁰ Perhaps thou haft taken counfel, to prepare thy felfe to battle. Wherin haft thou confidence, that thou dareft to rebel? ²¹ Dofth thou hope in Ægypt a ftaffe of reede and broken, vpon which if a man leane, broken into fplinters it wil enter into his hand, and pearce it? So is Pharao the king of Ægypt, to al that haue confidence in him. ²² But if you wil fay to me: We haue confidence in our Lord God: is not this he, whose excelfes and altars Ezechias hath taken away: and he commanded Iuda and Ierufalem: Before this altar fhall you adore in Ierufalem? ²³ Now therfore paffe to my lord the king of the Affyrians, and I wil geue you two thoufand horfes, and fee whether you be able to haue ryders for them. ²⁴ And how can you refifte before one prince of the leaft feruantes of my lord? Haft thou confidence in Ægypt for the chariotes and horfemen?

Or recorder.

²⁵ Why am I come vp without the wil of the Lord to deftroy it? The Lord fayd to me: Goe vp to this land, ^{a)}and deftroy it. ²⁶ And Eliacim the fonne of Helcias, and Sobna, and Ioahē fayd to Rabfaces: We pray thee that thou fpeake to vs thy feruantes in Syryake: for we vnderftand this tongue: and fpeake not to vs in the Iewes language, the people hearing it, which is vpon the wal. ²⁷ And Rabfaces answered them, faying: What did my lord fend me to thee, that I fhould fpeake thefe wordes, and not rather to the men that fit vpon the wal, that they may eate their owne dung, and drinke their vrine with you? ²⁸ Rabfaces therfore ftood, and cryed out with a lowd voyce in the Iewes language, and fayd: Heare ye the wordes of the great king, the king of the Affyrians. ²⁹ Thus fayth the king: Let not Ezechias feduce you: for he fhall not be able to deliuer you out of my hand. ³⁰ Neither let him geue you confidence vpon the Lord, faying: Our Lord deliuering wil deliuer vs, and this citie fhall not be geuen into the hand of the king of the Affyrians. ³¹ Doe not heare Ezechias. For thus fayth the king of the Affyrians: Doe with me that which is profitable for you, and come forth to me: and euery man fhall eate of his vineyard, and of his figge tree: and you fhall drinke waters of your owne cefternes, ³² til I come, and tranfporte you into a land, that is like to your land, into a fruiteful land, and plentiful of wyne, a land of bread and of vineyardes, a land of oliuetes, and of oyle and honie, and you fhall liue, and fhall not die. Heare not Ezechias, who deceiueth you, faying: Our Lord wil deliuer vs. ³³ ^{b)}Did the goddes of Nations deliuer their land from the hand of the king of Affyrians? ³⁴ Where is the god of Emath & Arphad? Where is the god of Sepharuaim, of Ana, and Aua? did they deliuer Samaria out of my hand?

^a He falſly addeth of his owne that *he ſhould deſtroy it*. For Iſaias prophecied the contrarie, that the Affyrians ſhould be deſtroyed, *Iſaie. 37.* and ſo it came to paſſe. *ch. 19. v. 35. 2. Paral. 32.*

^b Paganes and Heretikes are fooliſh & impudent to compare their falſe goddes and phancies with God almightie and Catholique Religion.

³⁵ What are they among al the goddes of nations, which haue deliuered their countrey out of my hand, that the Lord can deliuer Ierufalem out of my hand? ³⁶ The people therefore held their peace, and did not anwer him any thing: for they had receiued the kings commandement that they should not anwer him. ³⁷ And Eliacim the fonne of Helcias, gouernour of the houle, and Sobna the scribe, and Ioah the fonne of Afaph register came to Ezechias, their garments rent, and told him the wordes of Rabfaces.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 19

Ezechias in affliction requesteth the prayers of Ifaias the prophet, 6. who affureth him of Gods helpe. 8. The king of the Afsyrians ftill threatneth and blasphemeth. 15. Ezechias praieth, 20. and God hearing the prayers of the one, and blasphemies of the other, 28. promifeth to protect Ierufalem. 35. An Angel in one night killeth an hundred fourfcore and fwe thoufand of the Afsyrians campe, their king returneth to Niniue, is there flaine by two of his owne fonnes, and an other fonne reigneth in his place.

V Which thinges when Ezechias the king had heard, he rent his garmentes, and was couered with sackcloth, and entered into the houle of our Lord. ² And he fent Eliacim the gouernour of the houle, and Sobna the scribe, and the ancientes of the priestes couered with sackclothes, to Ifaias the prophete the fonne of Amos. ³ Who fayd to him: Thus faith Ezechias: This day is a day of tribulation, and rebuke, and of blasphemie: the children are come to the birth, and the woman in trauel hath not ftrengh. ⁴ If perhaps our Lord thy God wil heare al the wordes of Rabfaces, whom the king of the Affyrians his maifter hath fent to vpbrayd the liuing God, and reproue with wordes,

which our Lord thy God hath heard: and make thou prayer for the remnantes that are found. ⁵ The feruantes therfore of king Ezechias came to Ifaie. ⁶ And Ifaie fayd to them: Thus shal you fay to your maifter: Thus fayth our Lord: Feare not for the wordes which thou haft heard, with which the feruantes of the king of the Affyrians haue blafphemed me. ⁷ Behold I wil fend into him a fpirit, and he shal here a meffage, and fhall returne into his country, and I wil ouerthrow him with the fword in his country. ⁸ Rabfaces therfore returned, and found the king of the Affyrians expugning Lobna: for he heard that he was departed from Lachis. ⁹ And when he had heard of Tharaca the king of Æthiopia, fay-ing: Behold, he is come forth to fight agaynft thee: and went agaynft him, he fent meffengers to Ezechias, fay-ing: ¹⁰ Say this to Ezechias the king of Iuda: Let not thy God feduce thee, in whom thou haft confidence: neither fay thou: Ierufalem fhall not be deliuered into the handes of the king of the Affyrians. ¹¹ For thou thyfelf haft heard what the kinges of the Affyrians haue done to al the countries, how they haue fpoyled them: canft thou therfore onlie be deliuered? ¹² Why haue the goddes of the Nations deliuered al thofe, whom my fathers haue deftroyed, to witte, Gozan, & Haran, and Refeph, and the children of Eden, which were in Thelaffar? ¹³ Where is the king of Emath, and the king of Arphad, and the king of the citie of Sepharuaim, of Ana and Aua? ¹⁴ Therefore when Ezechias had receiued the letters of the hand of meffengers, & had read them, he went vp into the houle of our Lord, & layd them open ^abefore our Lord, ¹⁵ & prayd in his fight, faying: Lord God of Ifrael, which fitteft vpon the cherubins, thou art the only God of al the kinges of the earth: thou madeft heauen and earth: ¹⁶ Incline thine eare, and heare: open Lord thine eies, and fee: and heare al the wordes of Senacherib, who hath fent to vpbrayd vnto vs the liuing God. ¹⁷ In verie deede Lord, the kinges of the Affyrians haue deftroyed Nations, and the countries of al. ¹⁸ And

^a Before the Arke & Propitiatorie being the fpecial place of prayer.

they haue caft their goddes into fire: for they were not goddes, but the workes of mens handes of wood and ftone, and they deftroyed them. ¹⁹ Now therfore O Lord our God, faue vs from his hand, that al the kingdomes of the earth may know, that thou art the Lord the onlie God. ²⁰ And Ifaie the fonne of Amos fent to Ezechias, faying: Thus faith our Lord the God of Ifrael: That which thou haft befought me concerning Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians, I haue heard. ²¹ This is the word, that our Lord hath fpoken of him: The ^avirgine daughter of Sion hath difpised thee, and fcorned thee: Behinde thy backe hath the daughter of Ierufalem wagged her head. ²² Whom haft thou vpbrayded, and whom haft thou blafphemed? againft whom haft thou exalted thy voice, and lifted vp thine eies in high? againft the holie one of Ifrael. ²³ By the hand of thy feruantes thou haft vpbrayded our Lord, and haft fayd: In the multitude of my chariotes haue I climed the height of mountaynes, in the toppe of Libanus, and haue cut downe high cedars therof, and the chofen firretrees of it. And I haue entered into the borders therof, & the forreft of the ^bcarmel therof ²⁴ haue I cut downe. And I haue drunke ftrange waters, and haue dried vp with the fteppes of my feete al the waters inclofed. ²⁵ Why, haft thou not heard what I haue done from the begining? From ancient daies I haue made that thing, and now I haue brought it to effect: and fenfed cities fhall be into ruine of litle hilles bickering together. ²⁶ And they that fitte in them, weake of hand, they haue trembled and are confounded, they became as the graffe of the field, and the greene herbe of the roofes of houfes, which withered before it came to ripeneffe. ²⁷ Thy habitation, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy waye I haue knowen before, & thy furie againft me. ²⁸ Thou haft bene madde againft me,

^a Though manie in the kingdom of Iuda fel to idolatrie, yet in refpect of the reft publikly profeffing true faith and religion the Church is ftill called a virgin and defpiceth idolaters, blafphemers, and falfe goddes.

^b A pleafant hill in the foreft.

& thy pride hath ascended into myn eares: I therefore wil put a ring in thy noftrils, and a bitte in thy lippes, and wil bring thee back into the way, by the which thou cameft. ²⁹ And to thee Ezechias this fhall be a figne: Eate this yeare what thou fhalt finde: & in the fecond yeare, the things that growe of themfelues: moreouer in the third yeare fawe ye and reape: plant ye vineyardes, and eate the fruite of them. ³⁰ And whatfoeuer fhall be leaft of the houle of Iuda, fhall take roote downward, and beare fruit vppward. ³¹ For out of Ierufalem there fhall remnantes goe forth, and that which is to be faued from the mounte of Sion: the zeale of the Lord of hoftes fhall doe this. ³² Wherefore thus fayth our Lord of the king of the Affyrians: He fhall not enter into this citie, nor fhoot arrowe into it, neither fhall fhield occupie it, nor munition compaffe it. ³³ By the way that he came, he fhall returne: and into this citie he fhall not enter, fayth our Lord. ³⁴ And I wil protect this citie, and wil faue it for my felf, and for Dauid my feruant. ³⁵ It came to paffe therefore in that night, an Angel of our Lord came, and ftroke in the campe of the Affyrians an hundred eightie fiue thoufand. And when he was rifen early, he fawe al the bodies of the dead, ³⁶ and Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians departing went away, and taried in Ninieue. ³⁷ And when he adored in the temple of Nefroch his god, Adramelech and Sarafar his fonnes ftroke him with the fword, and they fled into the land of the Armenians, and Afarhaddon his fonne reigned for him.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 20

Ezechias being fick is told by Ifaias that he fhall die: but praying to God obtayneth fiftenne yeares longer life, 8. and in confirmation therof receiueth a figne in Achaaz dial, returning back tenne lines. 12. To the Affyrians bringing him prefents, he sheweth al his treafures. 16. Which Ifaias reproving prophecieth the captiuitie

of Iuda. 20. Ezechias dieth, and his fonne Manafses reigneth.

In thofe dayes Ezechias was fick euen to death: and Ifaie the fonne of Amos the prophete, came and fayd to him: Thus fayth our Lord God: Take order with thy houfe, for thou fhalt die, and fhalt not liue. ² Who turned his face to the wal, and prayed our Lord, faying: ³ I befech thee Lord, remember I pray thee how I haue walked before thee in truth, and in a perfect hart, and haue done that which is liked before thee. Ezechias therfore wept with great weeping. ⁴ And before Ifaie was gone out of the middes of the court, the word of our Lord came to him, faying: ⁵ Returne, and tel Ezechias the prince of my people: Thus fayth our Lord the God of Dauid thy father: I haue heard thy prayer, and feene thy teares: and behold I haue healed thee, the third day thou fhalt goe vp to the temple of the Lord. ⁶ And I wil adde to thy daies fiftene yeares: yea & out of the hand of the king of Affyrians I wil deliuer thee, and this citie, & I wil protect this citie for my fake, and for Dauid my feruant. ⁷ And Ifaie faid: Fetch me a bunch of figges. Which when they had brought, and had layd it vpon his fore, he was cured. ⁸ And Ezechias had fayd to Ifaie: What figne fhall there be, that our Lord wil heale me, and that I fhall goe vp the third day to the temple of our Lord? ⁹ To whom Ifaie fayd: This fhall be the figne from our Lord, that our Lord wil doe the word, which he hath fpoken: Wilt thou that the shadow goe forward ten lines, or that it goe backe foe many degrees. ¹⁰ And Ezechias fayd: It is an eafie matter for the shadow to goe forward ten lines, neither wil I that this be done, but that it returne back ten degrees. ¹¹ Ifaie therfore the prophet inuocated

our Lord, and brought backe the shadow by ^{a)}the lines, by the which it was now gone downe in the dial of Achaz, backward ten degrees. ¹² In that time Berodach Baladan, the sonne of Baladan, the king of the Babylonians sent letters and giftes to Ezechias: for he had heard that Ezechias had bene sicke. ¹³ And Ezechias reioyced in their coming, and he shewed them the house of aromaticall spices, and gold and filuer, and diuerse precious, odours, oyntementes also, and the house of his vessels, and al that he had in his treasures. There was not any thing which Ezechias shewed them not in his house, and in al his powre. ¹⁴ And Ifaie the prophete came to king Ezechias, and sayd to him: What sayd these men? or from whence came they to thee? To whom Ezechias said: From a far countrie they came to me out of Babylon. ¹⁵ But he answered: What saw they in thy house? Ezechias sayd: They saw al things whatsoever are in my house: there is nothing that I haue not shewed them in my treasures. ¹⁶ Ifaie therefore said to Ezechias, heare the word of our Lord: ¹⁷ Behold the daies shal come, & al things shal be taken away, that are in thy house, and that thy fathers haue layd vp vntil this day, into Babylon: there shal not anie thing remayne, sayth our Lord. ¹⁸ Yea of the children also that come forth of thee, whom thou shalt beget shal be taken away, and they shal be eunuches in the palace of the king of Babylon. ¹⁹ Ezechias said to Ifaie: The word of our Lord which thou hast spoken is good: be there peace and truth in my daies. ²⁰ But the rest of the wordes of Ezechias, and al his strength, and how he made a poole, and a conduite, and brought waters in to the citie, are not these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies

^a If these tenne lines importe so manie houres, then the dial going forwardes againe, by like degrees, this day was increased by twentie houres, and was longer then that in which Iosue procured stay of the sunne the space of one day, to witte of twelue houres. *Iosue. 10.* as S. Dyonise thinketh. *Epist. ad Policarp.* See *Glossa ord. in Iosue.*

of the kinges of Iuda? ²¹ And Ezechias flept with his fathers, and Manaffes his fonne reigned for him.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 21

For the enormous impietie of Manaffes, 10. God threatneth destruction of the kingdom. 16. He fpilleth innocent blood, 18. dieth, and his fonne Amon reigneth alfo wickedly: 23. is flaine by his feruantes, and his fonne Iofias reigneth.

Twelue yeares old was Manaffes, when he began to reigne, & he reigned fiue and fiftie yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Haphfiba. ² And he did euil in the fight of our Lord, according to the idols of the Nations, which our Lord deftroyed from the face of the children of Ifrael. ³ And he was turned, and built the excelfes, which Ezechias his father had deftroyed: and he fette vp altars to Baal, and made groues, as Achab the king of Ifrael had done: and he adored al the hoft of heauen, and worshipped it. ⁴ And he built altars in the houfe of our Lord, of the which our Lord fayd: In Ierufalem I wil put my name. ⁵ And he built altars to al the hoft of heauen in the two courtes of the temple of our Lord. ⁶ And he made his fonne paffe through fyre: and he vfed foothfaying, and obferued diuinations, and made pithones, and multiplied inchanters, to doe euil before our Lord, and to prouoke him. ⁷ He fette alfo the idol of the groue, which he had made in the temple of our Lord: concerning the which our Lord fpake to Daud, and to Salomon his fonne: In this temple, and in Ierufalem, which I haue chofen out of al the tribes of Ifrael, I wil put my name for euer. ⁸ And I wil noe more make the foote of Ifrael to be moued out of the land, which I gaue to their fathers: yet fo

if in worke they fhall keepe al things, that I haue commanded them, al the law which my feruant Moyfes commanded them. ⁹ But they heard not: but were seduced by Manaffes, to doe euil ^{a)}about the Nations, which our Lord deftroyed before the face of the children of Ifrael. ¹⁰ And our Lord fpake in the hand of his feruantes, the prophetes, faying: ¹¹ Becaufe Manaffes the king of Iuda hath done thefe moft wicked abominations, paffing al thinges that the Amorrheites did before him, and hath made Iuda alfo to finne in his filthes: ¹² therefore thus fayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: Behold I wil bring in euils vpon Ierufalem and Iuda: that whofoeuer fhall heare it, both his eares fhall tingle. ¹³ And I wil ftretch out vpon Ierufalem the corde of Samaria, and the weight of the houfe of Achab: and I wil wipe out Ierufalem, as tablets are wont to be wiped out, and wying out I wil turne it, and draw often the pencil vpon the face therof. ¹⁴ ^{b)} But I wil leaue remnantes of mine inheritance, and wil deliuer them into the handes of their enemies: and they fhall be vnto waite, and vnto fpoile to al their aduerfaries: ¹⁵ becaufe they haue done euil before me, and haue continewed prouoking me, from the day that their fathers came out of Ægypt, vntil this day. ¹⁶ Moreouer Manaffes shed alfo innocent bloud exceding much til he filled Ierufalem euen to the mouth: befide his finnes, wherein he made Iuda to finne, to doe euil before our Lord. ¹⁷ But the reft of the wordes of Manaffes, and al that he did, and his finne, which he finned, are not thefe thinges written in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Iuda? ¹⁸ And Manaffes flept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his houfe, in the garden of Oza: and Amon his fonne reigned for him. ¹⁹ Two and twentie yeares old was Amon when he

^a The Iewes finned more greuoufly reuolting from the Law of God and contemning the admonitions of holie prophetes, then the nations that had neither law nor prophetes to inſtruct them.

^b God ftill preferred ſome in true religion, though they alſo ſuffered tribulations with the wicked for the general finnes of the king and people. *Pfal.* 88. *v.* 35. Yea this king Manaffes in captiuitie became vertuous and recouered his kingdom. 2. *Paralip.* 33.

began to reigne: two yeares alfo he reigned in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Meffalemeth the daughter of Ieteba. ²⁰ And he did euil in the fight of our Lord, as Manaffes his father had done. ²¹ And he walked in al the way, by the which his father had walked: and he ferued the filthes, which his father had ferued, and he adored them, ²² and forfooke our Lord the God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of our Lord. ²³ And his feruantes lay in wayte agaynft him, and flewe the king in his houfe. ²⁴ But the people of the land ftroke al them, that had confpired agaynft king Amon: and made Iofias his fonne their king for him. ²⁵ But the reft of the wordes of Amon which he did, are not thefe writen in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Iuda? ²⁶ And they buried him in his fepulchre, in the garden of Oza: and Iofias his fonne reigned for him.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 22

Iofias repayreth the temple, and Diuine feruice. 8. The booke of law is found, 11. wherupon they confult our Lord, 15. and are foretold that much euil shal fal vpon them, 18. but the good king shal dye in peace.

Eight yeares old was Iofias when he began to reigne, he reigned one and thirtie yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Idida, the daughter of Hadaia of Befecath. ² And he did that which was liked before our Lord, and walked in al the waies of Dauid his father: he declined not to the right hand, or to the lefte. ³ And in the eighteenth yeare of king Iofias, the king fent Saphan the fonne of Aflia, the fonne of Meffulam, the fcribe of the temple of our Lord, faying to him: ⁴ Goe to Helcias the high prieft, that the money may be gathered into a fumme, which hath beene brought into the temple of our Lord, which the porters

of the temple haue gathered of the people, ⁵ and let it be geuen to the workemen by the ouerfeers of the houle of our Lord: who also shal distribute it to them that worke in the temple of our Lord, to make reparations of the temple: ⁶ that is, to the carpenters and masons, and to them that mend broken places: and that timber may be bought, and stones out of the quarries to repayre the temple of our Lord. ⁷ Yet let not the money which they receiue be accounted to them, but let them haue it in their powre, and vpon their fidelitie. ⁸ And Helcias the highe priest sayd to Saphan the scribe: I haue found the Booke of the law in the houle of our Lord: and Helcias gaue the volume to Saphan, who also did reade it. ⁹ Saphan also the scribe came to the king, and reported vnto him that which he had commanded, and sayd: Thy seruantes haue gathered into a summe the money, which is found in the houle of our Lord: and they haue geuen it to be distributed to the workemen, by the ouerfeers of the workes of the temple of our Lord. ¹⁰ Saphan also the scribe told the king, saying: Helcias the priest hath geuen me a Booke. Which when Saphan had read before the king, ¹¹ and the king had heard the wordes of the law of our Lord, he rent his garmentes. ¹² And he willed Helcias the priest, and Ahicam the sonne of Saphan, and Achobor the sonne of Micha, and Saphan the Scribe, and Afaia the kinges seruant, saying: ¹³ Goe and consult our Lord for me, and for the people, and for al Iuda, concerning the wordes of this volume, which is found: for the great wrath of our Lord is kindled agaynst vs: because our fathers haue not heard the wordes of this Booke, to doe al that is written for vs. ¹⁴ Helcias therefore the priest, and Ahicam, and Achabor, and Saphan, and Afaia went to Holda a propheteffe the wife of Selum the sonne of Thecua, the sonne of Araas keeper of the garmentes, who dwelt in Ierusalem in the ^asecond: and they spake to her. ¹⁵ And she answered them: Thus sayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: Tel the man, that sent you to me: ¹⁶ Thus sayth our Lord: Behold, I wil bring

^a Within the second wall the citie hauing three wals. *3. Reg. 3.*

euils vpon this place, and vpon the inhabitantes therof, al the wordes of the law which the king of Iuda hath read: ¹⁷ becaufe they haue forfaken me, and haue facrificed to ftrange goddes, prouoking me in al the workes of their handes: and my indignation fhall be kindled in this place, and fhall not be quenched. ¹⁸ But to the king of Iuda, that fent you to confult our Lord, thus you fhall fay: Thus fayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: For that thou haft heard the wordes of the volume, ¹⁹ and thy hart is ftricken with feare, and thou art humbled before the Lord, hearing the wordes agaynft this place, and the inhabitantes therof, to witte that they fhould become a wonder and a curfe: and haft rent thy garmentes, and wept before me, and I haue heard it, fayth our Lord: ²⁰ therefore I wil gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy fepulchre in peace, that thy eies may not fee al the euils, which I wil bring in vpon this place.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 23

Iofias reading the law before the people, they al promife to ferue God. 4. Al thinges belonging to Idolatrie are caft forth of the temple, 8. and other places of Iuda. 15. He alfo deftroyeth the altar in Bethel (not remouing the bones of a prophet) 19. and other altares in Samaria: killeth the falfe prieftes. 21. And maketh a notorious great Pafch. 26. Yet God threatneth the captiuitie of Iuda for their finnes. 29. Iofias is flaine in battle by the king of Ægypt: and his fonne Ioachaz reigneth. VWho after three monethes is depofed by the king of Ægypt, and his brother Eliacim, henceforth called Ioakim, made king.

A

nd they reported to the king that which fhe had fayd. Who fent: and al the ancientes of

Iuda and Ierufalem were affembled to him. ² And the king went vp to the temple of our Lord, and al the men of Iuda, and al that dwelt in Ierufalem with him priestes and prophetes, and al the people from litle to great: and in hearing of al he read al the wordes of the Booke of the couenant, which was found in the houle of our Lord. ³ And the king ftood vpon the fteppe: and made a couenant with our Lord, to walke after our Lord, & kepe his preceptes, and teftimonies and ceremonies, with al their hart, and with al their foule, and to performe the wordes of this couenant, which were written in that booke: & the people agreed to the couenant. ⁴ And the king willed Helcias the high prieft, & the priestes of the fecond order, & al the porters, that they fhould caft out of the temple of our Lord al the veffels, that had bene made to Baal, and in the groue, and to al the hoft of heauen: & he burnt them without Ierufalem in the Valley cedron, and caried the duft of them into Bethel. ⁵ And he deftroyed the Southfayers, which the kinges of Iuda had appointed to facrifice in the excelfes in the cities of Iuda, and round about Ierufalem: and them that burnt incenfe to Baal, and to the Sunne, and to the Moone, and to the twelue fignes, and to al the hoft of heauen. ⁶ And he caufed the groue to be caried forth out of the houle of our Lord without Ierufalem in the Valley cedron, & he burnt it there, and brought it into duft, and threw it vpon the fepulchres of the common people. ⁷ He deftroyed alfo the litle houfes of the effeminate, which were in the houle of our Lord, for the which the women woue as it were litle houfes of the groue. ⁸ And he gathered together al the priestes of the cities of Iuda: and he contaminated the excelfes, where the priestes did facrifice from Gabaa vnto Berfabee: and he deftroyed the altars of the gates in the entrance of the doore of Iofue chief of the citie, which was on the left hand of the gate of the citie. ⁹ Howbeit the priestes^a of the excelfes went not vp to the altar of our Lord

^a Becaufe they had offered facrifice to falfe goddes and in vnlawful places they were fufpended from offering anie more facrifice at al.

in Ierufalem: but only they did eate azimes in the middes of their brethren. ¹⁰ He contaminated alfo Topheth, which is in the Valley of the fonne of Ennom: that no man fhould confecrate his fonne or daughter by fyre to Moloch. ¹¹ He tooke away alfo the horfes, which the kinges of Iuda had geuen to the Sunne, in the entrance of the temple of our Lord, befide the chamber of Nathan-melech the eunuch, who was in Pharurim: and the chariotes of the Sunne he burnt with fire. ¹² The altars alfo that were vpon the roofes of the vpper chamber of Achaz, which the kinges of Iuda had made, and the altars which Manaffes had made in the two cortes of the temple of our Lord, the king deftroyed: and he ranne from thence, and fprinkled the afhes of them into the Torrent cedron. ¹³ The excelfes alfo that were in Ierufalem on the right fide of the Mount of offence, which Salomon the king of Ifrael had built to Aftaroth the idol of the Sidonians, and to Chamos the fcandal of Moab, and to Melchom the abomination of the children of Ammon, the king deftroyed. ¹⁴ And he brake in peces the ftatues, and cut downe the groues: and he filled their places with the bones of dead men. ¹⁵ Moreouer the altar alfo, that was in Bethel, and the excelfe, which Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat had made, who made Ifrael to finne: and that altar, and excelfe he deftroyed, and burnt, and brake into powder, and the groue alfo he burnt. ¹⁶ And Iofias turning, faw there fepulchres, that were in the mount: and he fent and tooke the bones out of the fepulchres, and burnt them vpon the altar, and polluted it according to the word of our Lord, which the man of God fpake, who had foretold thefe thinges. ¹⁷ And he fayd: What title is that, which I fee? And the citzens of that citie answered: It is the fepulchre of the man of God, which came from Iuda, and foretold thefe thinges which thou haft done vpon the altar of Bethel. ¹⁸ And he fayd: Let him alone, let no man moue his bones. And his bones remayned vntouched with the bones of the prophet, that came out of Samaria. ¹⁹ Moreouer al the temples of the excelfes, which were in the cities of Samaria, which the kinges of Ifrael had made to prouoke our Lord, Iofias

3. Reg. 11.

3. Reg. 15.

tooke away: and he did to them according to al the workes, which he had done in Bethel. ²⁰ And he flew al the priestes of the excelfes, that were there vpon the altars: and he burnt mens bones vpon them: & turned into Ierufalem. ²¹ And he commanded al the people, fay-ing: Make a Phafe to our Lord your God, according as it is written in the booke of this couenant. ²² For ^a)there was not fuch a Phafe made from the daies of the Iudges, which iudged Ifrael, and of al the daies of the kinges of Ifrael, and of the kinges of Iuda, ²³ as in the eighteenth yeare of king Iofias this Phafe was made to our Lord in Ierufalem. ²⁴ Yea and the Pythones, and Southfayers, and the images of idols, and the filthes, and the abominations, that had bene in the land of Iuda and Ierufalem, Iofias tooke away: that he might eftablifh the wordes of the law, that were written in the Booke, which Helcias the prieft found in the temple of our Lord. ²⁵ There was no king before him like to him, that returned to our Lord in al his hart, & in al his foule, and in al his powre according to al the law of Moyfes: neither after him did there arife the like to him. ²⁶ But yet our Lord was not auerted from the wrath of his great furie, wherwith his furie was wrath agaynft Iuda: for the prouocations, wherwith ^b)Manaffes had prouoked him. ²⁷ Our Lord therfore fayd Iuda alfo wil I take away from my face, as I haue taken away Ifrael: and I wil reiect this citie, which I chofe Ierufalem, and the houfe, wherof I fayd: My name fhall be there. ²⁸ But the reft of the wordes of Iofias, and al that he did, are not thefe thinges written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Iuda? ²⁹ In his dayes came vp Pharaos Nechao the king of Ægypt, agaynft the king of Affyrians to the riuer Euphrates: and Iofias the king went to meete him: and

^a Iofephus writeth that this godlie king gaue thirtie thoufand lambes and kiddes to the poore people for their Pafch & three thoufand oxen for Holocauftes. The priestes alfo & Leuites added more of their owne. *li. 10. Antiq. c. 5.*

^b Albeit Manaffes repented, and was reftored to God fauour, & to his kingdome. *2. Paral. 3.* Yet his finnes were temporally punifhed, both in himfelf, and his pofteritie.

was flaine in Mageddo, when he had feene him. ³⁰ And his feruantes caried him dead from Mageddo: & they brought him into Ierufalem, and buried him in his fepulchre. And the people of the land tooke Ioachaz the fonne of Iofias: and they anoynted him, and made him king for his father. ³¹ Three and twentie yeares old was Ioachaz when he began to reigne, and he reigned three monethes in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Amital, the daughter of Ieremie of Lobna. ³² And he did euil before our Lord, according to al thinges which his fathers had done. ³³ And Pharao Nechao bound him in Rebla, which is in the land Emath, that he fhould not reigne in Ierufalem: and he fette a penaltie vpon the land, an hundred talentes of filuer, and a talent of gold. ³⁴ And Pharao Nechao made Eliacim king the fonne of Iofias, for Iofias his father: and turned his name Ioakim. Moreouer he tooke Ioachaz and brought him into Ægypt, and he died there. ³⁵ And Ioakim gaue the filuer and the gold to Pharao, when he had taxed the land vpon euerie man, that it might be payd according to the precept of Pharao: and he exacted of euerie man according to his abilitie, as wel filuer as gold of the people of the land: to geue vnto Pharao Nechao. ³⁶ Fiue and twentie yeares old was Ioakim, when he began to reigne: and he reigned eleuen yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Zebida the daughter of Phadaia of Ruma. ³⁷ And he did euil before our Lord according to al thinges, which his fathers had done.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 24

Ioakim ferueth the king of Babylon three yeares. 2. Manie rousers infest his countrie. 5. He dieth, and his fonne Ioachin reigneth. 10. The king of Babylon carieth king Ioachin, and al the chief perfones, and treafures into Babylon, 17. appointing Matthanias, whom he nameth

Sedecias, king of Iuda. 20. VVho reuolteth from the king of Babylon.

In his daies came vp Nabuchodonofor the king of Babylon, and Ioakim was made his feruant three yeares: and he rebelled agaynft him againe. ² And our Lord fent in vpon him the rouers of the Chaldees, and the rouers of Syria, and the rouers of Moab, & the rouers of the children of Ammon: and he fent them into Iuda, to deftroy it, according to the word of our Lord, which he had fpoken by his feruantes the prophetes. ³ And this by the word of our Lord was done againft Iuda, to take it away before him for al the finnes of Manaffes which he did, ⁴ and for the innocent bloud, that he had fhed, & filled Ierufalem with the bloud of innocentes: & for this thing God would not be made propitious. ⁵ But the reft of the wordes of Ioakim, and al that he did, are not thefe thinges writen in the Booke of the wordes of the daies of the kinges of Iuda? And Ioakim ^aflept with his fathers: ⁶ and Ioachin his fonne reigned for him. ⁷ And the king of Ægypt added no more to come out of his countrie: for the king of Babylon had taken al that had beene the kinges of Ægypt, from the riuier of Ægypt, vnto the riuier Euphrates. ⁸ Eightene yeares old was Ioachin when he began to reigne, and he reigned three monethes in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Nohefta the daughter of Elnathan of Ierufalem. ⁹ And he did euil before our Lord, according to al thinges which his father had done. ¹⁰ At that time came vp the feruantes of Nabuchodonofor the king of Babylon into Ierufalem, and the citie was compaffed with fortes. ¹¹ And Nabuchodonofor the king of Babylon came to the citie with his feruantes to affault it. ¹² And Ioachin the king of Iuda went forth to the king of Babylon, he and his mother, and his feruantes, and

^a Not dying in peace, for he was flaine by Nabuchodonofor. *Iofephus li. 10. c. 8. Ant.* And his bodie was caft out of the citie, according as Ieremie prophecied *c. 22. vvith the burial of an alse shal he be buried. &c.*

his nobles, and his eunuches: and the king of Babylon receiued him the eight yeare of his reigne. ¹³ And he brought forth from thence al the treafures of the houle of our Lord, and the treafures of the kinges houle: and he cut in peces al the golden veffel, which Salomon the king of Ifrael had made in the temple of our Lord, according to the word of our Lord. ¹⁴ And he tranfported al Ierufalem, and al the princes, and al the ftrong men of the armie, ten thoufand into captiuitie: and euerie artificer and inclofer: and nothing was left, fauing the poore forte of the people of the land. ¹⁵ He tranfported alfo Ioachin into Babylon, and the kinges mother, and the kinges wiues, and his eunuches: and the iudges of the land he led into captiuitie from Ierufalem into Babylon. ¹⁶ And al the ftrong men, feuen thoufand, and the artificers, and inclofers a thoufand, al valiant men and warriers: and the king of Babylon led them captiues into Babylon. ¹⁷ And he appointed Matthanias his vncke for him: and called his name Sedecias. ¹⁸ One and twentie yeares old was Sedecias when he began to reigne, and he reigned eleuen yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Amital, the daughter of Ieremie of Lobna. ¹⁹ And he did euil before our Lord, according to al thinges which Ioakim had done. ²⁰ For our Lord was wrath againft Ierufalem and againft Iuda, til he caft them away from his face: and Sedecias ^areuolted from the king of Babylon.

ANNOTATIONS

Chapter 25

Nabuchodonofor king of Babylon befeiging Ierufalem two yeares, the fouldiars preffed with famine flee away. King

^a In this he greuoffly offended hauing fworne to ferue him. And therfore Ezechiel *c. 17.* fortelleth the miferie that wil fal vpon him, *shal he that broke couenant efcape? &c.*

Sedecias also fleeth, 5. is taken and brought before Nabuchodonosor. 7. Al his finnes are flaine in his fight: his eyes are put out, and he is caried into Babylon: the Temple, the kinges palace, and other houses burned; the walles deftroyed, the people caried captiue 12. except poore husbandmen. 13. Al vefsel of braſe, filuer, and gold broken and tranſported. 18. Saraiaſ high prielt, and other principal men are flaine. 22. Godoliaſ made gouernour, 25. is flaine by Ifmael. 27. Ioachin is deliuered from priſon, and exalted by a new king of Babylon.

And it came to paſſe in the ninthe yeare of his reigne, the tenth moneth, the tenth day of the moneth, came Nabuchodonosor the king of Babylon, himſelfe and al his armie vnto Ierufalem, and they befette it: and built rampires round about it. ² And the citie was ſhut vp & trenched about vntil the eleuenth yeare of king Sedeciaſ, ³ the ninth day of the moneth: and there was a fore famine in the citie, neither was there bread for the people of the land. ⁴ And a breach was made into the citie: and al the men of warre fled in the night by the way of the gate, which is betwen the duble wal toward the kinges garden (moreouer the Chaldeeſ befieged the citie round about.) Sedeciaſ therfore fled by the way, that leadeth to the champayne of the wildernes. ⁵ And the armie of the Chaldeeſ purſewed the king, and ouertooke him in the plaine of Iericho: and al the warriors, that were with him, were diſperſed, and forfooke him. ⁶ They therfore hauing taken the king, brought him to the king of Babylon into Reblatha, who ſpake iudgement with him. ⁷ And he flewe the finnes of Sedeciaſ before his face, and he ^a)put out his eies, and

^a Certaine falſe prophetes perſwaded the king and the people not to beleue the prophetes, which forwarned them of theſe calamities, becauſe (ſayd they) they contradicte one an other, Ieremie ſaying (*ch. 32. & 34.*) *the eyes of Sedeciaſ ſhould ſee the eyes of Nabuchodonosor, and ſhould be led into Babylon:* and Ezechiel ſaying (*c. 12. v. 13.*) *that he ſhould not ſee Babylon.*

bound him with cheynes, and ^a)brought him into Babylon. ⁸ The fifth moneth, the feuenth day of the moneth, that is, the ninetenth yeare of the king of Babylon, came Nabuzardan the General of the armie, the feruant of the king of Babylon into Ierufalem. ⁹ And he burnt the houle of our Lord, the kings houle, and the houfes of Ierufalem, & euerie houle he burnt with fyre. ¹⁰ And al the armie of the Chaldees, which was with the General of the fouldiars, deftroied the walles of Ierufalem round about. ¹¹ And Nabuzardan the General of the armie, tranfported the remnant of the people that remained in the citie, and the fugitiues, that were fled to the king of Babylon, and the reft of the comon people. ¹² And of the poore of the land he leift dreffers of vineyardes and hulbandmen. ¹³ And the brafen pillars, that were in the temple of our Lord, and the feete, and the fea of braffe, which was in the houle of our Lord, the Chaldees brake, and tranfported al the braffe into Babylon. ¹⁴ The pottes alfo of braffe, and mafars, and forkes with three teeth, and cuppes, and litle mortars, and al the veffel of braffe, in the which they miniftred, they tooke away. ¹⁵ Moreouer alfo the cenfars, and phials: thofe that were of gold: and that were of filuer the General of the warfare tooke, ¹⁶ that is, two pillars, one fea, and the feete which Salomon had made in the temple of our Lord: there was ^b)no weight of the braffe of al the veffels. ¹⁷ One pillar had eightene cubites in height: and the litle head of braffe vpon it was three cubites in height: and the nette, and the pomegranates vpon the litle head of the pillar, al of braffe: the fecond alfo had the like adorning. ¹⁸ Alfo the general of the armie tooke Saraias the chiefe prieft, and Sophonias the fecond prieft, and three porters. ¹⁹ And of the citie one Eunuch, which was captayne ouer the men of warre: and fiue men of them, that wayted before the king, whom he

^a Both faying moft truly: for he was caried thither after his eyes were put out. *Iofephus li. 10. Antiq. c. 10.*

^b There was fo exceding much, that they wel could not, or did not weigh it.

found in the citie, and Sopher the captaine of the armie who proued the yong fouldiars of the people of the land: and threescore men of the common people, which were found in the citie. ²⁰ Whom Nabuzardan the General of the armie taking, brought them to the king of Babylon into Reblatha. ²¹ And the king of Babylon ftroke them, and flew them in Reblatha in the land of Emath: and Iuda was tranſported out of their land. ²² And he made Godolias the fonne of Ahicam the fonne of Saphan Gouvernour ouer the people, that was leift in the land of Iuda, which Nabuchodonofor the king of Babylon had leift. ²³ Which when al the captaynes of the fouldiars had heard, they and the men that were with them, to witte, that the king of Babylon had appoynted Godolias, there came to Godolias into Maſpha Iſmael the fonne of Mathanias, and Iohanen the fonne of Caree, and Saraia the fonne of Thanehumeth a Netophathite, and Iezonias the fonne of Maachathi, they and their felowes. ²⁴ And Godolias ſware to them and to their companions, ſaying: Be not afraid to ſerue the Caldees: tarie in the countrey, and ſerue the king of Babylon, and it ſhal be wel with you. ²⁵ But it came to paſſe in the ſeuenth moneth, there came Iſmahel the fonne of Nathanias, the fonne of Elifama of the kinges feede, and ten men with him: and ftroke Godolias, who alſo died: yea the Iewes alſo & the Chaldees, that were with him in Maſpha. ²⁶ And al the people ryſing vp from litle to great, & the captaynes of the fouldiars, came into Ægypt fearing the Caldees. ²⁷ But it came to paſſe in the ſeuen and thirtieth yeare of the Tranſmigration of Ioachin the king of Iuda, in the twelfth moneth, the ſeuen and twentieth day of the moneth: Euilmerodach the king of Babylon, in the yeare, that he began to reigne, ^alifted vp the head of Ioachin the king of Iuda out of priſon. ²⁸ And he ſpake vnto him

^a By Gods ſpecial prouidence king Ioachin (otherwiſe called Iechonias *2. Par. 3. & Mat. 1.*) is exalted, and ſet ouer al the Iewes; vnto whom others ſuccede in like authoritie, and ſo is fulfilled the prophecie of Iacob. *Gen. 49. The ſcepter ſhal not be taken from Iuda, nor a duke of his thiegh til he come that is to be ſent.*

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courteoufly: and he fette his throne aboue the throne of the kinges, that were with him in Babylon. ²⁹ And he changed his garmentes, which he had in the prifon, and he did eate bread alwayes in his fight, al the dayes of his life. ³⁰ A certayne prouifion alfo he appointed for him without intermiffion, which was alfo geuen him of the king day by day, al the daies of his life.

ANNOTATIONS