

THE SECOND BOOKE OF PARALIPOMENON. IN HEBREW, *Di-bre Haiamim*.

THE ARGVMENT OF THE SECOND BOOKE OF PARALIPOMENON.

1. *Par. 1.* As the former booke sheweth, how after manie generations from the beginning of the world, God selecting one special nation for his peculiar people, and the same being afterwarde made a kingdome, the Scepter therof, both
11. by Gods and the peoples election, came to Dauid, and
28. his sonne Salomon: Soe this booke declareth that first *Salomon reigned peaceably ouer the whole kingdom*. In the nine first chapters. Then, in the other twentie fewen chapters, relateth how the same kingdom was diuided, tenne tribes being taken away (the historie wherof is but here briefly touched) and two only, with the title of the *kingdom of Iuda*, were possessed, by succession of *nineteen kinges*, al of Dauids and Salomons issue, in royal estate til the captiuitie in Babylon.
- The connexion of this booke with the former.
- The contentes diuided into two partes.

Chapter 1

Salomon established in the throne, offereth a thousand hoftes of sacrifice, 7. asking wisdom, 12. it is geuen him; with riches, and temporal glorie, which he asked not. 14. He prouideth manie chariottes and horsemen.

The first part. Salomons reigne in the whole kingdome.

Salomon therefore the sonne of Dauid was strengthened in his kingdom, and our Lord was with him, and magnified him on high. ² And Salomon commanded al Israel, the tribunes, and the centurions, and the dukes, and iudges of al Israel, and the princes of the families: ³ and he went with al the multitude into the Exchequer of Gabaon, where was the tabernacle of the covenant of our Lord, which Moyse the

feruant of God made, in the wilderneffe. ⁴ For Dauid had brought the Arke of God from Cariathiarim into the place, which he had prepared for it, and where he had pitcht a tabernacle for it, that is, in Ierufalem. ⁵ The altar also of braffe, which Befeel the sonne of Vri the sonne of Hur had made was there before the tabernacle of our Lord: which also Salomon fought, and all the assembly. ⁶ And Salomon went vp to the altar of braffe, before the tabernacle of the couenant of our Lord, and offered on it a thousand hostes. ⁷ And behold in that verie night God appeared to him, saying: Aske what thou wilt that I may geue it thee. ⁸ And Salomon sayd to God: Thou hast done great mercie with my father Dauid: and hast made me king for him. ⁹ Now therefore Lord God be thy word fulfilled, which thou hast promised to Dauid my father: for thou hast made me king ouer thy people great in number, which is so innumerable as the dust of the earth. ¹⁰ Geue me wisdom and intelligence, that I may come in & goe out before thy people: for who can worthely iudge this thy people, which is so great? ¹¹ And God sayd to Salomon: Because this rather hath pleased thy hart, and thou hast not asked riches, and substance, and glorie, nor their liues that hate thee, no nor manie dayes of life: but hast desired wisdom and knowledge, that thou mayst be able to iudge my people, ouer which I haue made thee king. ¹² Wisdom and knowledge are geuen thee: and riches, and substance and glorie I wil geue thee, soe that none among the kinges neither before thee, nor after thee shal be like thee. ¹³ Salomon therefore came from the Exceffe of Gabaon into Ierufalem before the tabernacle of couenant, & reigned ouer Ifrael. ¹⁴ And he gathered to him chariotes and horsemen, and there amounted to him a thousand foure hundred chariotes, and twelue thousand horsemen: and he caused them to be in the cities of the chariotes, and with the king in Ierufalem. ¹⁵ And the king gaue siluer and gold in Ierufalem ^aas stones, & cedar trees as fycomores, which

1. Paral. 13.

^a It is the maner of holie scripture to expresse thinges exceeding vulgar capacitie by the figure *Hyperbole*.

grow in the champayne in great multitude. ¹⁶ And there were horfes brought him from Ægypt, and from Coa by the kinges merchantes, which went, and brought by a price, ¹⁷ a chariote of foure horfes for fix hundred peces of filuer, and an horfe for an hundred fiftie: in like maner of al the kingdomes of Hetheites, and of the kinges of Syria market was made.

Chapter 2

Other workemen being provided to build the Temple, 7. Salomon procureth a cunning artificer from the king of Tyre, and special timber, 16. to be cutte, and sent from thence.

And Salomon determined to build a house to the name of our Lord, and a palace for himself. ² And he numbred feuentie thousand men that caried on their shoulders, and eightie thousand that should hew stones in the mountaynes, and ouerfeers of them three thousand fix hundred. ³ He sent also to Hiram the king of Tyre, saying: As thou didst with Dauid my father, and didst send him cedar trees, to build him a house, wherein also he dwelt: ⁴ so doe with me that I may build a house to the name of our Lord my God, that I may consecrate it to burne incense before him, and to perfume with aromatical spices, and to the euerlasting propoition of loaves, and for holocaustes, morning and evening, on the sabbathes also, and the newmoones, and the solemnities of our Lord God for euer, which are commanded Ifrael. ⁵ For the house which I desire to build, is great: for our God is great aboue al goddes. ⁶ Who then can be able, to build him a wortheie house? if heauen, and the heauens of heauens can not conteyne him: how great am I, that I may build him a house? but to this end only, that incense may be burnt before him. ⁷ Send me therefore a cunning man, that hath skil to worke in gold, and filuer, brasse, and yron, purple, scarlet, and hyacinth, and that knoweth to make engraued workes

with these artificers, which I haue with me in Iewrie, and Ierufalem, whom Dauid my father prepared. ⁸ But fend me alfo cedar trees, firretrees, and pintrees from Libanus: for I know that thy feruantes haue skil to hew the timber of Libanus, and my feruantes fhall be with thy feruantes, ⁹ that manie trees may be prepared for me. For the houle which I defire to build, is exceding great, and glorious. ¹⁰ Moreouer to the workemen, that fhall hew the trees, thy feruantes, I wil geue for victuals of wheat twentie thoufand cores, and of barley as manie cores, and of wine twentie thoufand, oyle alfo twentie thoufand fates. ¹¹ And Hiram the king of Tyre by letters, which he fent to Salomon, fayd: Becaufe the Lord loued his people, therefore hath he made thee to reigne ouer it. ¹² And he added, faying: Bleffed be the Lord the God of Ifrael, that made heauen and earth, who hath geuen to Dauid the king a fonne wife and learned, and of vnderftanding, and prudent, to build a houle to the Lord, and a palace for himfelf. ¹³ I therefore haue fent thee a man wife and moft skilful, Hiram, ^amy father, ¹⁴ the fonne of a woman of the daughters of Dan, whole father was a Tyrian, who knoweth to worke in gold, and filuer, braffe, and yron, and marble, and in timber, in purple alfo, and hiacinth, and filke and fcarlet: and that knoweth to graue al engrauing, and to deuife wifely whatfoeuer in the worke is neceffarie with thy artificers, and with the artificers of my lord Dauid thy father. ¹⁵ The wheate therefore, and barley, and oile, and wine, which thou my lord haft promifed, fend to thy feruantes. ¹⁶ And we wil cut downe the trees out of Libanus, as manie as fhall be neceffarie for thee, and wil conuey them in boates by the fea vnto Ioppe: and it fhall be thy part to tranfport them into Ierufalem. ¹⁷ Salomon therefore numbred al the men, that were profelytes in the land of Ifrael, after the numbering which Dauid his father numbered, and they were found an hundred

^a It is probable, that this man had inftructed the king of Tyre in true religion of one God whom he confeffeth *v. 11. 12.* and that therefore the king called him his father.

fiftie three thoufand and fix hundred. ¹⁸ And he made of them feuentie thoufand, that fhould carie burdens on their fhoulders, and eightie thoufand, that fhould cut ftones out of the mountaynes: and three thoufand and fix hundred ouerfeers of the worke of the people.

Chapter 3

The Temple is begunne to be built in mount Moria, the fourth yeare of Salomons reigne. 3. The forme wherof is defcribed, and the precious matter, 8. efpecially of Sancta fanctorum: 14. with a coftlie veile, 15. and two excellent pillers before the gate.

2. Reg. 24.

3. Reg. 6.

And Salomon began to build the houle of our Lord in Ierufalem, in mount ^{a)}Moria, which had bene fhewed to Dauid his father, in the place, which ^{b)}Dauid had prepared in the floore of Ornan the Iebufeite. ² And he began to build in the fecond moneth, in the fourth yeare of his kingdom. ³ And thefe be the foundations, which Salomon layd, to build the houle of God, of length in the firft meafure fixtie cubites, of bredth twentie cubites. ⁴ But the porch before the front, which was extended in length according to the meafure of the bredth of the houle, of twentie cubites: moreouer the height was of an hundred twentie cubites: and he did guild it on the infide with moft pure gold. ⁵ Alfo the greater houle he couered with wodden bordes of firre tree, and he faftened on plates of fine gold throughout: and he graued in it palme trees, and as it were litle chaines embracing one an other. ⁶ He paued alfo the floore of the Temple with moft precious marble, in much beautie. ⁷ Moreouer it was moft tried gold, of the plates wherof he couered the houle, and the beames

^a This mount *Moria*, fignifying *vifion*, was fo named by Abraham, who was there readie to facrifice his fonne Ifaac *Gen. 22.*

^b And Dauid, by the appointment of an Angel, offered there facrifice. *2. Reg. 14. 1. Par. 21.*

therof, and the poftes, and the walles, and the doores: and he graued cherubs in the walles. ⁸ He made alfo the houfe of *Sanctum fanctorum*: the length according to the bredth of the houfe, of twentie cubites: and the bredth likewife of it twentie cubites: and he couered it with plates of gold, as it were fix hundred talentes. ⁹ Yea and he made nailes of gold, fo that euerie naile weighed fiftie ficles a peece: the vpper chambers alfo he couered with gold. ¹⁰ He made alfo in the houfe of *Sanctum fanctorum* two Cherubs of ftatuarie worke: and he couered them with gold. ¹¹ The winges of the cherubs were extended twentie cubites, fo that one wing had five cubites, and touched the wal of the houfe: and the other hauing five cubites, touched the wing of the other cherub, ¹² In like maner the wing of the other cherub, had five cubites, and touched the wal: and his other wing of five cubites, touched the wing of the other cherub. ¹³ Therefore the winges of both the cherubs were fpred forth, and were extended twentie cubites: and they ftoode vpriight on their feete, and their faces were turned to the vtter houfe. ¹⁴ He made alfo a vele of hyacinth, purple, fcarlet, and filke: & woue in it cherubs. ¹⁵ Before the doores alfo of the temple two pillers, which had five and thirtie cubites in height: moreouer their heades, of five cubites. ¹⁶ Moreouer alfo as it were litle chaynes in the oracle, & he put them to the heades of the pillers: pomegranates alfo an hundred, which he put between the litle chaynes. ¹⁷ The pillers alfo them felues he put in the entrance of the temple, one on the right hand, and the other on the left: that, which was on the right hand, he called Iachin: and that on the left hand, Boz. 3. Reg. 7.

Chapter 4

The formes of the brafen altar, 2. of the lauatorie (or Sea) with figuers of twelue oxen, 6. of other tenne final lauatories, 7. tenne candlestickes, 8. tenne tables, and an hundred baffens, a great hal for the Prieftes, 10. and other veffel, and ornamentes of the Temple are defcribed.

3. Reg. 7.

He made also an altar of braffe, ^{a)}of twentie cubites in length, and of twentie cubites in bredth, and of ten cubites in height. ² ^{b)}A Sea also cast, ten cubites from brimme to brimme, round in compaffe: it had five cubites in height, and a cord of thirtie cubites did compaffe it round about. ³ There was also vnder it the fimilitude of oxen, and certaine engrauinges of ten cubites on the outfide compaffed the belie of the Sea, as it were with two rewes. ⁴ And the oxen were cast: and the Sea it felf was fette vpon the twelue oxen, of the which three looked toward the North, and other three to the Weft: moreouer other three to the South, and the three that remayned, to the Eaft, hauing the Sea vpon them: and the hinder partes of the oxen were inward vnder the fea. ⁵ Moreouer the thickneffe therof had the meafure of a palme, and the brimme therof was as it were the brimme of a chalice, or of a cripped lilie: and it held three thoufand metretes. ⁶ He made also ten lauatories: and fet five on the right hand, and five on the left, that they might wafh in them al thinges, that they would offer for holocaust: moreouer in the Sea the prieftes were washed. ⁷ And he made also ^{c)}ten golden candlestickes, according to the fashion which they were commanded to be made by: and he fet them in the temple, five on the right hand, & five on the left. ⁸ Moreouer also ten tables: and he fet them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left. Phials also of gold an hundred. ⁹ He made also the court of the prieftes, and a great hal: and doores in the hal, which he couered with braffe. ¹⁰ Moreouer he fet the Sea on the right fide agaynft the Eaft toward the South. ¹¹ And Hiram made cauldrons, and flesh hookes, and phials: and accomplished al the kinges

^a As wel the Temple as the Altars, and other appertinances were made after the forme of Moyfes Tabernacle altares of facrifice & incense, and the rest: but greater in quantitie, of more precious matter, and more excellent workmanship.

^b A great brafen vessell, and some other thinges that were not before.

^c Also a greater number of candlestickes, and other the like.

worke in the houle of God: ¹² that is to say, two pillars, and the chapters, and the heades, and as it were certayne litle nettes, which should couer the heades ouer the chapters. ¹³ Pomegranates also foure hundred, and two litle nettes, for that two rewes of the pomegranates were ioyned to each litle nette, which couered the pommels, and the heades of the pillars. ¹⁴ He made feedes also, and lauatories, which he put vpon the feedes: ¹⁵ one fea, also twelue oxen vnder the fea. ¹⁶ And the cauldrons, and flesh hookes, and phials. Al the vessels did Hiram his father make for Salomon in the houle of our Lord of most pure braffe. ¹⁷ In the countrie of Iordan did the king cast them, in a clay ground betwen Socot and Saredatha. ¹⁸ And the multitude of vessels was innumerable, so that the weight of the braffe was not knowen. ¹⁹ And Salomon made al the vessels of the houle of God, and the golden altar, and the tables, & vpon them the loaves of propofition, ²⁰ the candlestickes also with their lampes to giue light before the oracle, according to the rite, of most pure gold: ²¹ and certayne flourishing thinges, and lampes, and golden tonges al were made of most fine gold. ²² The vessels also of perfume and censers, and phials, and litle mortars, of most pure gold. And he graued the doores of the inner temple, that is, in *Sancta sanctorum*: and the doores of the temple without of gold. And so al the worke was finished which Salomon made in the houle of our Lord.

Chapter 5

Manie giftes are offered. 4. The Arke is brought with great solemnitie into the Temple. 6. Innumerable hostes are offered, 11. with excellent musick, & the Temple is replenished with the glorie of God.

Salomon therefore brought in al the thinges, that Daud his father had vowed, the siluer, and gold, and al the vessels he put in the treasures of the

3. *Reg.* 7. house of God. ² After which thinges he gathered together al the ancientes of Ifrael, and al the princes of the tribes, and the heades of families, of the children of Ifrael into Ierufalem, to bring ^{a)}the Arke of the couenant of our Lord from the Citie of Daud, which is Sion. ³ There came therfore vnto the king al the men of Ifrael in the folemne day of the feuenth moneth. ⁴ And when al the ancientes of Ifrael were come, the Leuites caried the Arke, ⁵ and brought it in, and al the furniture of the tabernacle. Moreouer the Priefstes, with the Leuites did carrie the veffels of the Sanctuarie, which were in the tabernacle. ⁶ And king Salomon, and al the affembly of Ifrael, and al that were gathered before the Arke, immolated rammes, and oxen without anie number: for fo great was the multitude of victimes. ⁷ And the priefstes brought in the Arke of the couenant of our Lord into his place, that is, to the oracle of the temple, into *Sancta sanctorum* vnder the winges of the cherubs: ⁸ fo that the cherubs fpred their winges ouer the place, wherin the Arke was fet, and couered the Arke it felfe with his barres. ⁹ And the heades of the barres, wherwith the Arke was caried, becaufe they were a litle longer, appeared before the oracle: but if a man had beene a litle outward, he could not fee them. The Arke therfore was there vntil this present day. ¹⁰ And there was nothing in the Arke, but the two tables, which Moyfes had put in Horeb, when our Lord gaue the law to the children of Ifrael coming out of Ægypt. ¹¹ And the Priefstes being gone out of the Sanctuarie (for al the priefstes that could be found there, were fanctified, neither as yet at that time were the courfes, and the order of the minifteries deuided among them) ¹² as wel the Leuites as the finging men, that is, both they which were vnder Afaph, and they which were vnder Heman, and they which were vnder Idithun, their fonnes, & brethren reuefted with fine linnen clothes, founded on cymbals, and pfalteries,

^a An other Arke was not made, becaufe that was moft holie & moft excellent, which Moyfes made. Likewife other holie thinges of the tabernacle were brought into the Temple with great folemnitie.

and harpes, ftanding at the Eaft fide of the Altar, and with them Prieftes an hundred twentie, founding with trumpettes. ¹³ Therefore al founding together, both with trumpettes, and voyce, and cymbals, and organes, and with diuerfe kind of mufical instrumentes, and lifting vp their voice on high: the found was heard far of, fo that when they began to prayfe our Lord, and to fay: Confefse to our Lord becaufe he is good, becaufe his mercie is for euer: the houle of God was filled with a cloud, ¹⁴ that the Prieftes could not ftand and minifter for the darkeneffe. For the glorie of our Lord had filled the houle of God.

Chapter 6

Salomon bleffeth the people, 4. prayeth to God, geuing thanks for benefites receiued, 16. and requesting continual protection, and that God wil heare the prayers of the people, 32. yea alfo of ftrangers that pray in the Temple.

Then Salomon fayd: Our Lord promifed that he would dwel ^ain darkeneffe: ² and I haue built a houle to his name, that he might dwel there for euer. ³ And the king turned his face, and bleffed al the multitude of Ifrael (for al the multitude ftood attent) and fayd: ⁴ Bleffed be our Lord the God of Ifrael, who in worke hath accomplifhed that, which he fpake to Dauid my father, faying: ⁵ From the day, that I brought my people out of the Land of Ægypt, I chofe not a citie of al the tribes of Ifrael, that a houle might be built in it to my name: neither did I choofe anie other man, to be Duke in my people Ifrael. ⁶ But I chofe Ierufalem, that my name may be in it: and I chofe Dauid, that I might appoynt him ouer my people Ifrael. ⁷ And wheras Dauid my father had meant to build a houle to the name

^a God fhewed his prefence by the darke cloud which replenifhed the Temple.

of our Lord the God of Ifrael, ⁸ our Lord fayd to him: Because thy wil was this, that thou wouldest build a houle to my name, thou haft done wel certes to haue fuch a wil: ⁹ howbeit thou fhalt not build the houle, but thy fonne, which fhall come out of thy loynes, he fhall build a houle to my name. ¹⁰ Our Lord therfore hath accomplished his word, which he fpake: and I am rifen for Daud my father, and fit vpon the throne of Ifrael, as our Lord hath fpoken: and haue built a houle to the name of our Lord the God of Ifrael. ¹¹ And I haue put in it the Arke, wherin is the couenant of our Lord, which he made with the children of Ifrael. ¹² He therfore ftoode before the Altar of our Lord, ouer agaynft al the multitude of Ifrael, and ftretched forth his handes. ¹³ For Salomon had made an eminent place of braffe, and had put it in the middes of the Temple, hauing five cubites of length, & bredth, & three of height: & he ftoode vpon it: & afterward ^a)kneeling ouer agaynft al the multitude of Ifrael, and ^b)his handes lifted vp toward heauen, ¹⁴ he fayd: Lord God of Ifrael, there is not the like God to thee in heauen and in earth: which keepeft couenant and mercie with thy feruantes, that walke before thee in al their hart: ¹⁵ which haft performed to thy feruant Daud my father what thinges foeuer thou hadft fpoken to him: and the thinges that by mouth thou hadft promifed, in worke thou haft accomplished, as alfo the prefent time proueth. ¹⁶ Now therfore Lord God of Ifrael, fulfil to thy feruant my father Daud, what foeuer thou didft fpeake to him, faying: There fhall not fayle of thee a man before me, to fitte vpon the throne of Ifrael: yet fo if thy children keepe their waies, and walke in my law, as thou alfo haft walked before me. ¹⁷ And now Lord God of Ifrael, be thy word confirmed, which thou haft fpoken to thy feruant Daud. ¹⁸ Is it credible

Bafilica.

^a Kneeling,

^b Lifting vp handes, ftretching forth armes, and the like external geftures do much helpe internal attention in prayer, and alfo fturre vp others to godlie imitation: and therfore hath bene much practifed by deuout perfons both in the old and new Teftament.

then that God should dwell with men vpon the earth? If heauen and the heauens of heauens doe not take thee, how much more this house, which I haue built? ¹⁹ But to this end only it is made, that thou shouldest respect the prayer of thy seruant, and his supplication Lord my God: and mayst heare the prayers, which thy seruant powreth out before thee: ²⁰ that thou open thine eyes vpon this house daies & nightes, vpon the place, wherein thou hast promised that thy name should be inuocated, ²¹ and wouldest heare the prayer; which thy seruant prayeth in it: and mayst heare the prayers of thy seruant, and of thy people Israel. Whosoever shall pray in this place, heare out of thy habitation, that is from the heauens, and be propitious. ²² If anie man shall sinne agaynst his neighbour, and come readie to sweare agaynst him, and binde himself with a curse before the altar in this house: ²³ thou shalt heare from heauen, and shalt doe the iudgement of thy seruantes, so that thou render to the vniust his way vpon his owne head, and reuenge the iust, rewarding him according to his iustice. ²⁴ If thy people Israel shall be overcome of their enemies, (for they wil sinne to thee) and conuerted shall doe penance, and beseech thy name, and pray in this place, ²⁵ thou shalt heare from heauen, and be thou propitious to the sinne of thy people Israel, and reduce them into the land, which thou gauest them, and their fathers. ²⁶ If the heauen being shut, there fall no rayne for the finnes of the people, and they shall beseech thee in this place, and shall confesse to thy name, and shall be conuerted from their finnes, when thou shalt afflict them, ²⁷ heare from heauen ô Lord, and forgeue the finnes of thy seruantes and of thy people Israel, and teach them the good way, by the which they may goe: and geue rayne to thy land, which thou hast geuen thy people to possesse. ²⁸ If famine shall arise in the land, and pestilence, rust, and blast, and locust, and bruche, and the enemies, waisting the countries, shall besiege the gates of the citie, and all plague and infirmitie shall presse them: ²⁹ if any of thy people Israel shall pray, knowing their plague and infirmitie, and shall spread forth their

handes in ^{a)}this houle, ³⁰ thou fhalt heare from heauen, to wit, out of thy high habitation, and be thou propitious, and render to euerie one according to his wayes which thou knowest him to haue in his hart: (for thou onlie knowest the hartes of the children of men:) ³¹ that they may feare thee, and walke in thy waies al the daies, that they liue vpon the face of the land, which thou haft geuen to our fathers. ³² The Forener also, which is not of thy people Ifrael, if he come from a far countrie, for thy ftrong hand, & thy ftreched out arme, and adore in this place: ³³ thou fhalt heare from heauen thy most firme habitation, & shalt do al thinges, for the which that pilgrime shal inuocate thee: that al the peoples of the earth may know thy name, and may feare thee, as thy people Ifrael, and may know, that thy name is inuocated vpon this houle, which I haue built. ³⁴ If thy people shal goe forth to warre agaynft their aduerfaries, by the way, that thou fhalt fend them, shal adore thee agaynft the way, wherein is this citie, which thou haft chofen, and the houle, which I haue built to thy name: ³⁵ thou fhalt from heauen heare their prayers, and petition, and doe thou reuenge. ³⁶ And if they shal finne to thee (for there is no man that finneth not) and thou be angrie with them, and deliuer them to the enemies, and they leade them captiue into a farre countrie, or which is neere at the leaft, ³⁷ and being conuerted in their hart in the land, to the which they were led captiue, shal doe penance, and shal befech thee in the land of their captiuitie, faying: We haue finned, we haue done wickedly, we haue delt vniuftly: ³⁸ and shal returne to thee in al their hart, and in al their foule, in the land of their captiuitie, to the which they were led, shal adore thee agaynft the way of their land, which thou gauest their fathers, and of the citie, which thou haft chofen, and of the houle, which I haue built to thy name: ³⁹ thou

^a In this chapter and often els where it is euident, that places dedicated to Gods seruice are more acceptable to him, then other places.

shalt heare from heauen, that is, from thy firme habitation their prayers, and doe thou iudgement, and forgeue thy people, although finneful: ⁴⁰ for thou art my God: let thine eies, I befech thee, be opened, and let thine eares be attent, to the prayer, that is made in this place. ⁴¹ Now therfore arife Lord God in thy reft, thou and the Arke of thy ftrengh: Let thy Prieftes Lord God put on faluation, & thy Saintes reioyfe in good thinges. ⁴² Lord God turne not away from the face of thy Chrift: remember the mercies of Dauid thy feruant.

Chapter 7

Fire from heauen deuoureth the holocaustes, and glorie replenisheth the Temple. 5. More facrifices are offered, 8. and the Temple is dedicated, with feuen daies folemnie, the eight day collection is made. 12. God fignifieth that he hath heard Salomons prayer, 17. conditionally (as it was made) if they ferue him, 19. otherwife he wil punish them.

And when Salomon had finished to poure out his prayers, fyre defcended from heauen, and deuoured the holocaustes and victimes: and the maieftie of our Lord filled the houfe. ² Neither could the Prieftes enter into the Temple of our Lord, becaufe the maieftie of our Lord had filled the temple of our Lord. ³ Yea and al the children of Ifrael fawe the fyre defcending, and the glorie of our Lord vpon the houfe: and falling flat on the earth vpon the pauement paued with ftone, they adored, and prayfed our Lord: Becaufe he is good, becaufe his mercie is for euer. ⁴ And the king and al the people immolated victimes before our Lord. ⁵ King Salomon therfore killed hoftes, of oxen twentie two thoufand, of rammes an hundred twentie thoufand: and the king and al the people dedicated the houfe of God. ⁶ And the Prieftes ftood in their offices: and the Leuites with the inftrumetes of the fongues of our Lord, which Dauid the king made to prayfe our Lord: Becaufe

his mercie is for euer, finging ^{a)}the hymnes of Daud by their handes: moreouer the Priestes founded with trumpettes before them, and al Ifrael stood. ⁷ Salomon also sanctified the middes of the court before the temple of our Lord: for he had offered there the holocaustes, and the fatte of the pacifiques: becaufe the brafen altar, which he had made, could not fusteyne the holocaustes and the facrifices and the fatte. ⁸ Salomon therefore made a folemnitie at that time feuen daies, and al Ifrael with him, an affemblie verie great, from the entrance of Emath to the Torrent of Ægypt. ⁹ And he made in the eight day an affemblie, becaufe he had dedicated the altar feuen daies, and had celebrated the folemnitie feuen daies. ¹⁰ Therefore in the three and twentieth day of the feuenth moneth, he difmift the people to their tabernacles, reioyning and being glad for the good, that our Lord had done to Daud, and Salomon, and Ifrael his people. ¹¹ And Salomon accomplished the houle of our Lord, and the houle of the king, and al that he had difpofed in his hart to do, in the houle of our Lord, and in his owne houle, and he prospered. ¹² And our Lord appeared to him by night, and fayd: I haue heard thy prayer, and haue chofen this place to me for a houle of facrifice. ¹³ If I fhall shut heauen, and rayne fall not, and shall bid and command the locuft to deuoure the land, and fhall fend peftilence into my people: ¹⁴ and my people being conuerted, vpon whom my name is inuocated, fhall befech me, and feeke out my face, and shall doe penance from their moft wicked waies: I also wil heare from heauen, and wil be propitious to their finnes, and wil faue their land. ¹⁵ Mine eies also shall be opened, and mine eares erected to his prayer, that shall pray in this place. ¹⁶ For I haue chofen, and haue sanctified this place, that my name may be there for euer, and mine eies and my hart may remaine there al daies. ¹⁷ Thou also if thou walke before me, as Daud thy father

^a As the Temple was the fpecial place of prayer, chofen by God: *v. 12.* fo fpecial Hymnes Pfalmes and other fet formes of bleffing are more gratfull to God, and more effectual to his feruantes.

walked, and shalt doe according to al thinges, which I haue commanded thee, and shalt keepe my iuftices and iudgementes: ¹⁸ I wil rayfe vp the throne of thy kingdom, as I promifed to Dauid thy father, faying: There shal not be taken away of thy ftocke a man, that shal be prince in Ifrael. ¹⁹ But if you shal be turned away, and shal forfake my iuftices, and my preceptes, which I haue propofed to you, and going shal ferue ftrange goddes, and adore them, ²⁰ I wil plucke you out of my land, which I haue geuen you: and this houle, which I haue fanctified to my name, I wil caft away from my face, and wil deliuer it for a parable, and an exemple to al peoples. ²¹ And this houle shal be for a prouerbe to al paffengers, and they shal fay being aftonyshed: Why hath the Lord done fo to this land, and to this houle? ²² And they shal anfwer: Becaufe they forfooke the Lord the God of their fathers, who brought them out of the Land of Ægypt, and tooke hold of ftrange goddes, and adored them, and worshipped them: therefore are al thefe euils come vpon them.

Chapter 8

Salomon buildeth diuers cities, 7. maketh the refidue of the Chananites tributarie, 12. offereth the ordinarie hoftes of facrifices in the folemne feaftes, 14. difpofeth the Prieftes and Leuites in their offices, as Dauid had ordained: 17. and fendeth shippes to fetch gold from Ophir.

And twentie yeares being complete after that Salomon built the houle of our Lord and his owne houle: ² he built the cities, which Hiram had geuen to Salomon, and made the children of Ifrael dwel there. ³ He went alfo into Emath Suba, and obteyned it. ⁴ And he built Palmira in the defert, and he built other cities very wel fenfed in Emath. ⁵ And he built Beth horon the vpper, and Beth horon the nether, walled cities hauing gates and barrigates and

lockes. ⁶ Balaath alfo and al the ftrongeft cities that were Salomons, and al the cities of the chariotes, and the cities of the horfemen. Al thinges whatfoeuer Salomon would, & difpofed, he built in Ierufalem and in Libanus, and in al the land of his dominion. ⁷ Al the people that was leaft of the Hetheites, and Amorrheites, and Pherezeites, and Heueites, and Iebuſeites, which were not of the ſtocke of Ifrael, ⁸ of their children: and of the pofteritie, which the children of Ifrael had not flaine, Salomon ſubdewed to be tributaries, vntil this day. ⁹ Moreouer of the children of Ifrael he fette not to ſerue the kinges workes: for they were men of warre, and the chiefe captaines, and princes of his chariotes and horfemen. ¹⁰ And al the princes of king Salomons armie were two hundred fiftie, which taught the people. ¹¹ But the daughter of Pharaos he remoued from the citie of Dauid, into the houſe, which he had built for her. For the king ſayd: My wife ſhal not dwel in the houſe of Dauid the king of Ifrael, ^a)becauſe it is ſanctified: becauſe the Arke of our Lord is entered into it. ¹² Then Salomon offered holocauſtes to our Lord vpon the altar of our Lord, which he had built before the porch, ¹³ that euerie day there might be offering on it, according to the precept of Moyſes, in the Sabbathes, and in the Calendes, and in the feſtiual daies thrife a yere, that is to ſay, in the Solemnitie of Azymes, and in the Solemnitie of weekes, and in the Solemnitie of tabernacles. ¹⁴ And he appoynted according to the diſpoſition of Dauid his father the offices of the Prieſtes in their miniſteries: & the Leuites in their order that they ſhould prayſe, and miniſter before the Prieſtes according to the rite of euerie day: & the porters in their diuiſions by gate and gate: (for ſo Dauid the man of God had commanded. ¹⁵ Neither did they tranſgreſſe of the kinges commandentes as wel the Prieſtes as the Leuites, touching al thinges, that he had commanded, and in the cuſtodies of

^a Salomon was yet ſo farre from communicating with Infidels, that he ſuffered not his wife (an infidel) to be preſent where the Arke of God had bene placed. *1. Par. 15.*

the treafures. ¹⁶ Salomon had al expenfes prepared, from the day that he founded the houle of our Lord, vntil the day wherein he perfitted it. ¹⁷ Then went Salomon into Afiongaber, and into Ailath to the coaft of the Red fea, which is in the Land of Edom. ¹⁸ And Hiram fent vnto him by the handes of his feruantes, shippes, and cunning mariners, and they went with Salomons feruantes into Ophir, and they tooke from thence foure hundred fiftie talentes of gold, and brought it to king Salomon.

Chapter 9

The Queene of Saba admireth Salomons wifdom, 9. geueth, and receiueh prefents. 13. Of the great ftore of treafure which is yearely brought in, 13. king Salomon maketh pretious armour, 17. a throne, 20. and plate. 24. Other kinges fend him giftes, fo he abundeth in glorie, and riches. 29. After fourtie yeares reigne he dieth, and his fonne Roboam fuccedeth.

The queene of Saba alfo, when fhe had heard *1. Reg. 10.*
the fame of Salomon, came to proue him in
hard propofitions in Ierufalem, with great riches,
and camels, which caried fpices, and very much gold,
and pretious ftones. And when fhe was come to Salomon, fhe fpake to him what thinges foeuer were in her hart. ² And Salomon expounded to her al thinges that fhe propounded: neither was there anie thing, that he made not playne vnto her. ³ Who after she faw, to witte, the wifdom of Salomon, and the houle which he had built, ⁴ moreouer alfo the meates of his table, and the habitations of his feruantes, and the offices of his minifters, and their garmentes, the cupbearers alfo, and their garmentes, and the victimes, which he immolated in the houle of our Lord: there was no fpirit in her anie longer, she was foe aftonied. ⁵ And she fayd to the king: The word is true, which I heard in my countrie of thy vertues and wifdom. ⁶ I did not beleue them that told it, vntil my felf was come, and mine eies had feene,

and I had proued fcarce the half part of thy wifedom to haue beene told me: thou haft paffed the fame with thy vertues. ⁷ Bleffed are thy men, and bleffed are thy feruantes, which affift before thee at al time, and heare thy wifedom. ⁸ Be the Lord thy God bleffed, who would ordayne thee ouer his throne, king ^{a)}of the Lord thy God. Becaufe God loueth Ifrael, and wil preferue it for euer: therefore hath he fette thee king ouer it, to doe iudgements and iuftice. ⁹ And she gaue to the king an hundred twentie talentes of gold, and fpices exceding much, and moft pretious ftones: there were not fuch fpices, as thefe, which the Queene of Saba gaue to King Salomon. ¹⁰ But the feruantes of Hiram alfo with the feruantes of Salomon brought gold from Ophir, and Thymtrees, and moft pretious ftones: ¹¹ wherof the king made, to witte, of the Thymtrees, ftayers in the houle of our Lord, and in the kinges houle, harpes alfo and pfalteries for the finging men: neuer were there feene fuch trees in the Land of Iuda. ¹² And king Salomon gaue to the Queene of Saba al thinges that fhe would, and that she asked, and manie moe thinges then she brought to him: who returning, went into her countrie with her feruantes. ¹³ And the weight of gold, that was brought to Salomon euerie yeare was fix hundred fixtie fix talentes of gold: ¹⁴ befide that fumme, which the legates of diuers nations, and the merchantes were accuftomed to bring, and al the kinges of Arabia, and the Dukes of the landes, which brought gold and filuer to Salomon. ¹⁵ King Salomon therefore made two hundred golden fpeares, of the fumme of fix hundred peces of gold, which were fpent in euerie fpeare: ¹⁶ alfo three hundred golden fhieldes of three hundred peces of gold, with which euerie shield was couered: and the king put them in the armarie, which was befette with a wood. ¹⁷ The king alfo made a great throne of iuorie, and couered it with moft fyne gold. ¹⁸ Six fteppes alfo, wherwith the going vp was

^a They are called kinges of God, which reigne by his grace and according to his wil. VWherevpon they vfe this ftile: *By the grace of God, K. of England, Ierufalem, &c.*

to the throne, and a foote ftoole of gold, and two litle armes on either fide, and two lions fstanding by the litle armes, ¹⁹ yea and other twelue litle lions fstanding vpon the fteppes on both fides: there was not fuch a throne in al kingdomes. ²⁰ Al the veffels alfo of the kinges table were of gold, and the veffels of the houfe of the foreft of Libanus of moft pure gold. For filuer in thofe daies was reputed for nothing. ²¹ For the kinges shippes went into Tharfis with the feruantes of Hiram, once in three yeares: and they brought from thence gold and filuer, and yuorie, and apes, and pecockes. ²² Salomon therfore was magnified aboue al the kinges of the earth for riches and glorie. ²³ And al the kinges of the earth defired to fee Salomons face, that they might heare the wifedom, which God had geuen in his hart. ²⁴ And they brought him giftes, veffels of filuer, and gold, and garmentes, and armour, and fpices, horfes, and mules, euerie yeare. ²⁵ Salomon alfo had fourtie thoufand horfes in the ftables, and of chariotes, and horfemen, twelue thoufand, and he placed them in the cities of the chariotes, and where the king was in Ierufalem. ²⁶ He exercifed alfo authoritie ouer al the kinges from the riuer Euphrates vnto the land of the Philifthines, and vnto the borders of Ægypt. ²⁷ And he made fo great plentie of filuer in Ierufalem as it were of ftones: and of cedres fo great a multitude as of ficomores, which grow in the cham-payne. ²⁸ And horfes were brought him out of Ægypt, and al countries. ²⁹ But the reft of the workes of Salomon the firft and laft are writen in the wordes of Nathan the Prophet, and in the bookes of Ahias the Silonite, in the Vifion alfo of Addo the Seer, agaynft Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat. ³⁰ And Salomon reigned in Ierufalem ouer al Ifrael fourtie yeares. ³¹ And he aflept with his fathers: and they buried him in the citie of Daud: and Roboam his fonne reigned for him.

^a His fall to luxurie and idolatrie is recorded, *3. Reg. 11.*

Chapter 10

Roboam requested by Ieroboam and the people to lighten their yoke of seruice, 6. leauing the counfel of the ancient, and folowing young counfellers, threatneth to prefse the people: 16. wherupon manie reuolt from him.

The second part.
Diuifion of the kingdom.
Dauids iffue reigning only in two tribes, which alfo are caried captiue into Babylon.

3. Reg. 12.

And Roboam went forth into Sichem: for thither al Ifrael was affembled, to make him king. ² Which when Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat had heard, who was in Ægypt (for he was fled thither from Salomon) forthwith he returned. ³ And they called him, & he came with al Ifrael & fpake to Roboam, faying: ⁴ Thy father preffed vs with a moft hard yoke, do thou command lighter thinges then thy father, who layd vpon vs a heauie feruitude, and eafe thou a litle of the burden, that we may ferue thee. ⁵ Who fayd: After three daies returne ye to me. And when the people was gone, ⁶ he tooke counfel with the Ancientes, which ftoode before his father Salomon, whiles he yet liued, faying: What counfel geue you, that I may anwer the people? ⁷ Who fayd to him: If thou wilt pleafe this people, and pacifie them with wordes of clemencie, they wil ferue thee at al times. ⁸ But he forfooke the counfel of the Ancientes, and began to treat with yongmen, that had beene brought vp with him, and were in his trayne. ⁹ And he fayd to them: What femeth to you? or what fhall I anwer this people, which hath fayd to me: Eafe the yoke which thy father layd vpon vs? ¹⁰ But they answered as yongmen, and brought vp with him in delicateneffe, and fayd: Thus fhalt thou fpeake to the people, that fayd to thee: Thy father aggrauated our yoke, doe thou eafe it: and thus fhalt thou anwer them: My leaft finger is thicker then the loynes of my father. ¹¹ My father layd vpon you an heauie yoke, and I wil adde a greater weight: my father bette you with fcourges, but I wil beate you with fcorpions. ¹² Ieroboam therfore came, and al the people to Roboam the third day, as he had commanded them. ¹³ And the king

answered rough wordes, leauing the counfel of the Ancientes: ¹⁴ and he fpake according to the yongmens wil: My father layd vpon you a heauie yoke, which I wil make heauier: my father bette you with fcourges, but I wil beate you with fcorpions. ¹⁵ And he condefcended not to the peoples requeftes: for it was the wil of God, that his word fhould be accomplifhed, which he had fpoken by the hand of Ahias the Silonite to Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat. ¹⁶ And al the people when the king fpake rough wordes, fayd thus vnto him: We haue no part in Dauid, nor inheritance in the fonne of Ifai. Returne into thy tabernacles ô Ifrael, and do thou feede thy houfe Dauid. And Ifrael went into their tabernacles. ¹⁷ But ouer the children of Ifrael, that dwelt in the cities of Iuda, Roboam reigned. ¹⁸ And king Roboam fent Aduram, who was ouer the tributes, and the children of Ifrael ftoned him, and he died: moreouer king Roboam made haft to get vp into his chariote, and fled into Ierufalem. ¹⁹ And Ifrael reuolted from the houfe of Dauid vntil this day.

Chapter 11

Roboam intending by force to reduce al Ifrael to his fubiectiõ, is warned by a Prophet to ceafe from that enterprife. 5. He maketh walles about diuers cities, 11. furnifheth them with victuals, and munition. 13. Prieftes, Leuites, and manie others repaire to Ierufalem, becaufe Ieroboam maketh a new religion, and new prieftes. 18. Roboam taketh manie wiues, and concubines. 22. Preferreth Abias aboue al his other fonnes.

And Roboam came into Ierufalem, and called together al the houfe of Iuda and Benjamin, an hundred fourefcore thoufand chofen men and warriers, to fight agaynft Ifrael, and to conuert his kingdom vnto him. ² And the word of our Lord came to Semeias the man of God, faying: ³ Speake to Roboam the fonne of Salomon the king of Iuda, and to al Ifrael,

that is in Iuda and Beniamin: ⁴ Thus sayth our Lord: You shal not goe vp, neither shal you fight agaynft your brethren: let euerie man returne into his house, because this thing is done by my wil. Who when they had heard the word of our Lord, returned, neither went they forward agaynft Ieroboam. ⁵ And Roboam dwelt in Ierufalem, and built walled cities in Iuda. ⁶ And he built Bethlehem, and Etam, and Thecue, ⁷ Bethfur also, and Socho, & Odollam, ⁸ moreouer also Geth, and Marefa, and Ziph, ⁹ yea and Aduram, and Lachis, and Azeca, ¹⁰ Saraa also, and Aialon, and Hebron, which were in Iuda and Beniamin, most fenced cities. ¹¹ And when he had inclosed them with walles, he put in them princes, and store houses of victuals, that is, of oile and wine. ¹² Yea and in euerie citie he made armories of shields and speares, and he strengthened them with great diligence, and reigned ouer Iuda and Beniamin. ¹³ And the Priestes and Leuites, that were in al Ifrael, came to him out of al their feates, ¹⁴ ^{a)}leauing their suburbs, and their possessions, and passing to Iuda, and Ierufalem, because Ieroboam had cast them of, and their posteritie: that they should not execute the priesthood of our Lord. ¹⁵ Who made vnto him selfe priestes of the excelses, and of diuels, and of the calves which he had made. ¹⁶ Yea and of al the tribes of Ifrael, whosoever had geuen their hart to seeke our Lord the God of Ifrael, came into Ierufalem to immolate their victimnes before our Lord the God of their fathers. ¹⁷ And they strengthened the kingdom of Iuda, and established Roboam the sonne of Salomon for three yeares: for they walked in the waies of Dauid and Salomon, onlie three yeares. ¹⁸ And Roboam tooke to wife Mahalath, the daughter of Ierimoth the sonne of Dauid: Abihail also the daughter of Eliab the sonne of Ifai, ¹⁹ who bare him sonnes Iehus, and Somorias, and Zoom. ²⁰ After this woman also he tooke Maacha the daughter of Abfalom, who bare him Abia, and Ethai, and Ziza, and Salomith. ²¹ And

^a A worthie example to suffer temporal damage rather then to conforme them selues to the practife of false religion.

Roboam loued Maacha the daughter of Abfalom aboue al his wiues, and concubines: for he had married eightene wiues, and threefcore concubines: and he begat eight and twentie fonnes, and threefcore daughters. ²² But he appoynted for head Abias the fonne of Maacha duke ouer al his brethren: for he meant to make him king, ²³ because he was wifer, and mightier aboue al his fonnes, and in al the coftes of Iuda, and of Benjamin, and in al the walled cities: and he gaue them much meate, and he defired manie wiues.

Chapter 12

For the finnes of Roboam, and the people manie strong cities, alfo Ierufalem, are taken and fpoyled by the king of Ægypt. 8. They repent, and the Ægyptians depart, 9. but carie away the treafures. 13. Roboam dieth, and his fonne Abias reigneth.

And when the kingdom of Roboam was strengthened and fortified, he forfooke the law of our Lord, and al Ifrael with him. ² And in the fifth yeare of the kingdom of Roboam, came vp Sefac the king of Ægypt into Ierufalem (because they had finned to our Lord) ³ with a thoufand two hundred chariotes, and threefcore thoufand horfemen. ⁴ Neither was anie number of the common people, that came with him out of Ægypt, to witte, Lybians, and Troglodytes, and Æthiopians. ⁵ And he tooke the moft fenced cities in Iuda, and came ouer vnto Ierufalem. ⁶ And Semeias the prophete went to Roboam, and to the princes of Iuda, that were gathered together in Ierufalem, fleing from Sefac, and he fayd to them: Thus fayth our Lord: You haue leaft me, and I haue leaft you in the hand of Sefac. ⁷ And the princes of Ifrael, and the king, being aftonied, fayd: Our Lord is iuft. ⁸ And when our Lord had feene that they were humbled, the word of our Lord came to Semeias, faying: Because they are humbled, I wil not deftroy them, and I wil geue them a litle ayde, and my

furie shal not droppe vpon Ierufalem by the hand of Sefac. ⁹ But yet they shal ferue him, that they may know the distance of my seruice, and of the seruice of the kingdom of the earth. ¹⁰ Therefore Sefac the king of Ægypt retyred from Ierufalem, taking away the treafures of the houle of our Lord, and of the kinges houle, and he tooke al thinges with him, and the golden shieldes that Salomon had made, ¹¹ for the which the king made brafen ones, and deliuered them to the princes of the shieldbearers, which kept the entrance of the palace. ¹² And when the king entred into the houle of our Lord, the shieldbearers came, and tooke them, & brought them backe agayne to their armorie. ¹³ But yet because they were humbled, the wrath of our Lord was turned away from them, neither were they vtterly destroyed: for in Iuda there were found good workes. ¹⁴ King Roboam therefore was strengthened in Ierufalem, & reigned: one and fourtie yeares old was he when he beganne to reigne, and he reigned feuentene yeares in Ierufalem, the citie, which our Lord chofe, to confirme his name there, out of al the tribes of Ifrael: and the name of his mother was Naama an Ammonite. ¹⁵ And he did euil, and prepared not his hart to feke our Lord. ¹⁶ But the workes of Roboam the first and the laft are written in the Bookes of Semeias the Prophete, and of Addo the Seer, and diligently expounded: and Roboam and Ieroboam fought one agaynst the other al their daies. ¹⁷ And Roboam flept with his fathers, and was buried in the citie of Dauid. And Abias his fonne reigned for him.

Chapter 13

Abias maketh warre agaynst Ieroboam, 4. exhorteth the people of Ifrael for iuftice, and religions fake to returne to him. 13. In the meane time Ieroboam inuironeth him with forces, but by Gods afsiftance Abias preuaileth, 21. and reigneth fecurely.

3. Reg. 15.

In the eighteenth yeare of king Ieroboam, reigned Abias ouer Iuda. ² Three yeares reigned he in

Ierufalem, and his mothers name was Michaia, the daughter of Vriel of Gabaa: there was warre between Abias and Ieroboam. ³ And when Abias had begun battel, and had moft warlike men, & of chofen ones four hundreth thoufand: Ieroboam put his armie in aray on the contrarie fide, eight hundreth thoufand men, who them felues alfo were chofen men, and moft valiant to battels. ⁴ Abias therfore ftood vpon mount Semeron, which was in Ephraim, and fayd: Heare Ieroboam, and al Ifrael: ⁵ Are you ignorant that our Lord the God of Ifrael gaue the kingdom to Daud ouer Ifrael for euer, to him and his children as a ^a)couenant of falt? ⁶ And there rofe vp Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, the feruant of Salomon the fonne of Daud: and rebelled agaynft his lord. ⁷ And there were gathered to him al the moft vayne men, and the children of Belial: and they preuayled agaynft Roboam the fonne of Salomon: moreouer Roboam was rude, and of a fearful hart, and could not refift them. ⁸ Now therefore you fay that you are able to refift the kingdom of our Lord, which he poffeffeth by the children of Daud, and you haue a great multitude of people, and golden calues, which Ieroboam hath made you for goddes. ⁹ And you haue caft out the Prieftes of our Lord, the children of Aaron, and the Leuites: and you haue made you prieftes, as al the peoples of the earth: who foeuer fhall come & confecrate his hand in a bullock of oxen, and in feuen rammes, is made the priefte of them that are not goddes. ¹⁰ But our Lord is God, whom we forfake not, and the Prieftes do minifter to our Lord of the children of Aaron, and the Leuites are in their order. ¹¹ Holocauftes alfo they do offer to our Lord, euerie day morning and euening, and incenfe made according to the preceptes of the law, and the loaues are fet forth on a moft cleane table, and there is with vs the golden candlefticke, and the lampes therof, that they may be lighted alwaies at euening: for we keepe the preceptes of the Lord our God, whom you haue forfaken. ¹² Therefore in our hofte God is the prince, and his Prieftes, which

^a A firme and perpetual couenant. *Num. 18. v. 19.*

found with trumpettes, and refound agaynft you: children of Ifrael fight not agaynft our Lord the God of your fathers, becaufe it is not expedient for you. ¹³ He fpeaking thefe things, Ieroboam endeouored to entrappe him behind. And when he ftood ouer agaynft the enemies, he compaffed Iuda vnwitting with his armie. ¹⁴ And Iudas looking backe, faw the battel at hand before and behind, and cryed to our Lord: and the Prieftes begane to found with trumpettes. ¹⁵ And al the men of Iuda made a fhout: and behold they crying, God terrified Ieroboam, and al Ifrael that ftood agaynft Abias and Iuda. ¹⁶ And the children of Ifrael fled from Iuda, and our Lord deliuered them into their hand. ¹⁷ Abias therefore and his people ftroke them with a great flaughter, and there fel wounded of Ifrael fiue hundreth thoufand valiant men. ¹⁸ And the children of Ifrael were humbled, at that time, and the children of Iuda exceedingly encouraged becaufe they had truſted in our Lord the God of their fathers. ¹⁹ And Abias purfewed Ieroboam fleing, and he tooke his cities, Bethel and her daughters, and Iefana with her daughters, Ephron alfo and her daughters. ²⁰ Neither was Ieroboam able to refiſt anie more in the daies of Abias: whom our Lord ftroke, and he died. ²¹ Therefore Abias, his empire being ſtrengthened, tooke fourtene wiues: and he begat two and twentie ſonnes, and fixtene daughters. ²² But the reſt of the wordes of Abias, and of his waies and wordes, are writen diligently in the Booke of Addo the Prophete.

Chapter 14

Abias dieth, and his ſonne Afa reigneth, deſtroyeth idolatrie, 6. fortifieth his cities, 9. and ouercometh, by Gods ſpecial helpe, the Æthiopians armie of a million of men.

And Abias flept with his fathers, and they buried him in the Citie of Daud: and Afa his ſonne reigned for him, in whoſe daies the land was quiet tenne yeares. ² And Afa did that which

was good and pleasing in the fight of his God, and he ouerthrew the altars of ^a)ftrange seruice, and the excellences, ³ and brake the statues, and cut downe the groues. ⁴ And he commanded Iuda that they should seeke our Lord the God of their fathers, and should doe the law, and al the commandementes. ⁵ And he tooke away out of al the cities of Iuda the altars, and temples, & reigned in peace. ⁶ He built also fenced cities in Iuda, because he was quiet, and there had no battels risen in his time, our Lord geuing peace. ⁷ And he sayd to Iuda: Let vs build these cities, and compasse them with walles, and strengthen them with towers, and gates, and lockes, whiles things are quiet from battels, because we haue fought our Lord the God of our fathers, and he hath geuen vs peace round about. They therfore did build, and there was no impediment in building. ⁸ And Afa had in his armie of them that caried shieldes and speares, of Iuda three hundred thousand: and of Beniamin shield-bearers and archers, two hundred eightie thousand, al these were most valiant men. ⁹ And Zara the Æthiopian with his armie issued forth agaynst them, tenne hundred thousand, and with three hundred chariotes: and he came as far as Marefa. ¹⁰ Moreouer Afa went on to meete him, and set his armie in array to battel in the vale Sephata, which is neere Marefa. ¹¹ And he inuocated our Lord God, and sayd: Lord there is no difference with thee, whether thou helpe in few, or in manie: helpe vs ô Lord our God: for hauing confidence in thee, and in thy name we are come agaynst this multitude. Lord, thou art our God, let not man preuaile agaynst thee. ¹² Our Lord therfore terrified the Æthiopians before Afa and Iuda: and the Æthiopians fled. ¹³ And Afa pursued them, and the people that was with him, vnto Gerara: and the Æthiopians fel to vtter destruction, because our Lord killing them, and his armie fighting they were destroyed. They tooke therfore manie

^a It perteyned properly to the king to destroy the exterior practise of idolatrie, but to the Priestes, & prophetes to informe the interior mind, & consciences of euerie one.

spoiles, ¹⁴ and they ftroke al the cities round about Gerara: for great terrour had inuaded al men: and they fpoyled the cities, and caried away much praye. ¹⁵ Yea and deftroying the fheepecotes of fheepe, they tooke an infinite multitude of cattel, and of camels: and returned into Ierufalem.

Chapter 15

Azarias prophecieth that Ifrael shal lack the true God, Prieftes, and the law, a long time. 8. Which king Afa hearing moft ferioufly deftroyeth idolatrie, 12. maketh couenant and oath to ferue God, 16. and depofeth his mother for offering facrifce to Priapus.

And Azarias the fonne of Oded, the Spirit of God coming vpon him, ² went out to meete Afa, and fayd to him: Heare ye me Afa, and al Iuda and Beniamin: Our Lord is with you, ^a)because you haue beene with him. If you wil feeke him, you fhall finde: but if you forfake him, he wil forfake you. ³ And manie daies fhall paffe in Ifrael without the true God, and without Prieft a teacher, and without the Law. ⁴ And when they fhall returne in their diftreffe to our Lord the God of Ifrael, and fhall feeke him, they fhall finde him. ⁵ At that time there fhall not be peace to him that goeth out and cometh in, but terrours on euerie fide in the inhabitants of the earth. ⁶ For nation fhall fight agaynft nation, and citie agaynft citie, because our Lord wil trouble them with al diftreffe. ⁷ You therfore take courage, and let not your handes be diffolued: for there fhall be reward to your worke. ⁸ Which when Afa had heard, to witte, the wordes, and the prophecie of Azarias the fonne of Oded the prophete, he tooke courage, and tooke away the Idols out of al the land of Iuda, and out of Beniamin, and out of the cities, which he had taken, of mount Ephraim, and he dedicated the altar of our Lord,

^a Cooperation with Gods grace meriteth increafe of grace.

which was before the porche of our Lord. ⁹ And he gathered together al Iuda and Beniamin, and the ftrangers with them of Ephraim, and of Manaffes, and of Simeon: for manie were fled to him of Ifrael, feing that our Lord his God was with him. ¹⁰ And when they were come into Ierufalem the third moneth, in the fifteenth yeare of the reigne of Afa, ¹¹ they immolated to our Lord in that day of the fpoiles, & the praie, that they had brought, oxen feuen hundred, and rammes feuen thoufand. ¹² And he went in after the maner to eftablifh the couenant, that they fhould feeke our Lord the God of their fathers in al their hart, and in al their foul. ¹³ And if anie man, quoth he, fhall not feeke our Lord the God of Ifrael, let him die, from the leaft to the greateft, from man vnto woman. ¹⁴ And they fware to our Lord with a lowd voyce in iubilation, and in noyfe of trumpet, and found of fhaulmes, ¹⁵ al that were in Iuda with execration: for in al their hart did they fweare, and with al their wil did they feeke him, and found him, & our Lord gaue them reft round about. ¹⁶ Yea and Maacha the mother of king Afa he depofed from the royal empyre, becaufe fhe had made in a groue the idol of Priapus: which he wholly deftroyed, and breaking into peeces, burnt it in the Torrent cedron. ¹⁷ But the ^aExcellfes were leaft in Ifrael: neuertheleffe the hart of Afa was perfect al his daies. ¹⁸ And thofe thinges which his father had vowed, and him felf, he brought into the houfe of our Lord, gold and filuer, and of veffels diuers furniture. ¹⁹ And there was no warre vnto the fiue and thirteth yeare of the reigne of Afa.

Chapter 16

Agaynft the king of Ifrael, king Afa procureth helpe of the Affyrians, 7. which a prophet reproving is put in

^a King Afa deftroyed the places where Idoles were ferued, *chap. 14. v. 2.* but tollerated the places where fome offered facrifice to God befide the proper altar in Ierufalem, becaufe this was difpenfable and not the other.

fetters. 11. Afa dieth, with difeafe of his feete, and is buried with pompe.

3. Reg. 15.

And in the fix and thirteth yeare of his reigne, came vp Baafa the king of Ifrael into Iuda, and with a wall compaffed Rama, that none could fafely goe out and come in of the kingdom of Afa. ² Afa therfore brought forth filuer and gold, out of the treafures houfe of our Lord, and of the kinges treafures, and he fent to Benadad the king of Syria, who dwelt in Damafcus, faying: ³ There is league betwen me & thee, my father alfo and thy father had concord, wherefore I haue fent thee filuer and gold, that breaking the league, which thou haft with Baafa the king of Ifrael, thou make him retire from me. ⁴ Which being knowen, Benadad fent the princes of his hoftes to the cities of Ifrael: who ftroke Ahion, and Dan, and Ablemaim, and al the walled cities of Nephthali. ⁵ Which when Baafa had heard, he ceafed to build Rama, and intermitted his worke. ⁶ Moreouer Afa the king tooke al Iuda, and caried away the ftones of Rama, and the timber that Baafa had prepared for the building: and he built of them Gabaa, & Mafpha. ⁷ At that time came Hanani the prophete to Afa the king of Iuda, and fayd to him: Becaufe thou haft had confidence in the king of Syria, and not in our Lord thy God, therfore hath the armie of the king of Syria efaped out of thy hand. ⁸ Were not the Æthiopians, and Libyians manie moe in chariotes, and horfemen, and a multitude exceding great: whom, when thou didft beleue in our Lord, he deliuered into thy hand? ⁹ For the eies of our Lord behold al the earth, and geue ftrengh to them, that with perfect hart beleue in him. Thou therfore haft done foolyfhly, & for this caufe from this prefent time fhall battels arife agaynft thee. ¹⁰ And Afa being angrie agaynft the Seer, commanded him to be caft into fetters: for he tooke indignation excedingly vpon this thing: and he flewe of the people at that time verie manie. ¹¹ But the workes of Afa the firft & the laft are written in the Booke of the kinges of Iuda

and Ifrael. ¹² Afa alfo fel ficke in the nine and thirteth yeare of his reigne, of a moft vehement ^a)payne of his feete, and neither in his infirmitie did he feeke our Lord, but rather trusted in the arte of Phifitians. ¹³ And he flept with his fathers: and he died the one and fourteth yeare of his reigne. ¹⁴ And they buried him in his fepulchre, which he had digged for himfelf in the Citie of Dauid: and they layd him vpon his bed ful of fpices and odoriferous oyntementes, which were made by the arte of apothecaries, and they burnt it ouer him with exceding ambition.

Chapter 17

Iofaphat fucceding in the kingdom preuaileth in bat-tel agaynft the king of Ifrael, 6. deftroiyeth Idolaters, and fendeth Prieftes and Levites to inftruct the people. 11. The Philiftians and Arabians fend prefentes to king Iofaphat. 13. The leaders of the armie and fouldiars are numbred.

And Iofaphat his fonne reigned for him, & grew ftrong agaynft Ifrael. ² And he appoynted numbers of fouldiars in al the cities of Iuda, that were compaffed with walles. And he placed garrifons in the land of Iuda, and in the cities of Ephraim, which Afa his father had taken. ³ And our Lord was with Iofaphat, becaufe he walked in the firft waies of Dauid his father: and he trusted not in Baalim, ⁴ but in the God of his father, and went forward in his preceptes, and not according to the finnes of Ifrael. ⁵ And our Lord confirmed the kingdom in his hand, and al Iuda gaue giftes to Iofaphat: and there grew to him infinite riches, and much glorie. ⁶ And when his hart had

^a Iuft punifhment with paine of his feete, for iniurioufly putting Gods prophet in fetters. *v. 10.* So God punifhed him temporally, for that and other paffionate finnes: and he died in good ftate, for his hart was perfect al his dayes, (*Chap. 15. v. 17.*) that is, moft part of his life, efpecially in his laft dayes.

taken courage ^{a)}for the waies of our Lord, he tooke away also the Excelfes and groues out of Iuda. ⁷ And in the third yeare of his kingdom, he fent of his princes Ben-hail, and Abdias, and Zacharias, and Nathanael, and Micheas, that they should teach in the cities of Iuda: ⁸ and with them Leuites, Semeias, and Nathanas, and Zabadias, Afael also, and Semiramoth, and Ionathan, and Adonias and Tobias, and Thobadonias Leuites, and with them Elifama, and Ioram Prieftes. ⁹ And they taught the people in Iuda, hauing the booke of the law of our Lord: and they went about al the cities of Iuda, and instructed the people. ¹⁰ Therfore the dread of our Lord came vpon al the kingdomes of the landes, that were round about Iuda, neither durft they make battel agaynst Iofaphat. ¹¹ Yea and the Philiftians brought giftes to Iofaphat, and tribute of filuer, the Arabians also brought cattel, of rammes feuen thoufand feuen hundred, and buckegoates as manie. ¹² Iofaphat therfore grewe, and was magnified on high: and he built in Iuda houfes like to toures, and walled cities. ¹³ And he prepared manie workes in the cities of Iuda: there were also men of warre, and valiant in Ierufalem, ¹⁴ of whom this is the number by the houfes and families of euerie one: In Iuda princes of the armie, Ednas duke, and with him most valiant men three hundred thoufand. ¹⁵ After him Iohanan the prince, and with him two hundred eightie thoufand. ¹⁶ After him also Amafias the sonne of Zechri, consecrated to our Lord, and with him two hundred thoufand of valiant men. ¹⁷ Him followed Eliada valiant to battels, and with him of them that held bow & fhield two hundred thoufand. ¹⁸ After this man also Iozabad, and with him an hundred eightie thoufand readie fouldiars. ¹⁹ Al thefe were at the hand of the king, befide others, whom he had put in walled cities, in al Iuda.

^a Good workes approued by new benefites from God, as a reward therof, do geue more hope & confidence to procede from vertue to vertue. *S. Tho. li. de regimine Regum.*

Chapter 18

Iofaphat ioyned in affinitie with wicked Achab king of Ifrael, goeth with him againft Ramoth Galaad, four hundred falfe prophetes promifing victorie. 14. Micheas prophesying the contrarie, 25. is put in prifon. 28. Achab (notwithftanding he changeth his attire, and leaueth Iofaphat in danger) 33. is flaine.

Iofaphat therfore was rich and verie glorious, and was ioyned in affinitie to Achab. ² And he went downe to him after certaine yeares into Samaria: at whome coming Achab killed muttons, and oxen very manie for him and the people that came with him: and he perfwaded him to goe vp into Ramoth Galaad. ³ And Achab the king of Ifrael fayd to Iofaphat the king of Iuda: Come with me into Ramoth Galaad. To whom he answered: As I am thou alfo: as thy people; fo my people alfo: and ^a)we wil be with thee in battel. ⁴ Iofaphat fayd to the king of Ifrael: Confult I befech thee prefently the word of our Lord. ⁵ Therfore the king of Ifrael gathered together of the prophetes four hundred men, and fayd to them: Shal we goe into Ramoth Galaad to fight, or fitte ftill? But they fayd: Goe vp, fay they, and God wil deliuer it into thy hand. ⁶ And Iofaphat fayd: Is there not here a prophete of our Lord, that we may enquire alfo of him? ⁷ And the king of Ifrael fayd to Iofaphat: There is one man, of whom we may aske the wil of our Lord: but I hate him, becaufe he doth not prophecie me good, but euil at al times: and it is Micheas the fonne of Iemla. And Iofaphat fayd: Speake not in this maner ô king. ⁸ The king of Ifrael therfore called one of the Eunuches, and fayd to him: Cal quickly Micheas the fonne of Iemla. ⁹ Moreouer the king of Ifrael, and Iofaphat the king of Iuda, both fate in their thrones, clothed with kingly attyre, and they fate in the court befeide the

^a For this he was iuftly reprehended, but his fimple intention diminifhed his fault, and fo he was more eafily pardoned, & for his good workes otherwife donne in Gods feruice. *ch. 19. 3.*

gate of Samaria, and al the prophetes prophecied before them. ¹⁰ But Sedecias the fonne of Chanaana made him hornes of yron, and fayd: Thus fayth our Lord: With thefe fhalt thou ftrike Syria, til thou deftroy it. ¹¹ And al the prophetes in like maner prophecied, and fayd: Goe vp into Ramoth Galaad, and thou fhalt prosper, and our Lord wil deliuer them into the kinges hand. ¹² And the meffenger that went to cal Micheas, fayd to him: Behold the wordes of al the prophetes with one mouth tel the king good thinges: I befech thee therfore that thy word alfo diffent not from them, and that thou fpeake prosperous thinges. ¹³ To whom Micheas answered: Our Lord liueth, whatfoeuer my God fhall fay to me, that I wil fpeake. ¹⁴ He therfore came to the king. To whom the king fayd: Micheas, fhall we goe into Ramoth Galaad to fight, or fit ftill? To whom he answered: ^a)Goe ye vp: for al thinges fhall fall out prosperous, and the enemies fhall be deliuered into your handes. ¹⁵ And the king fayd: Agayne, and agayne I adiure thee, that thou fpeake not to me, but that which is true in the name of our Lord. ¹⁶ But he fayd: I faw al Ifrael difperft in the mountaynes, as fheepe without a fhepherd: and our Lord fayd: Thefe haue no maifters: let euerie man returne into his houfe in peace. ¹⁷ And the king of Ifrael fayd to Iofaphat: Did I not tel thee that this man did not prophecie me anie good, but thefe thinges that be euil? ¹⁸ But he fayd: Heare ye therfore the word of our Lord: I faw our Lord fitting in his throne, and al the hoft of heauen affitting him on the right hand and on the left. ¹⁹ And our Lord fayd: Who fhall deceiue Achab the king of Ifrael, that he may goe vp and fall in Ramoth Galaad? And when one fayd in this maner, and an other otherwife: ²⁰ there came forth a fpirit, and ftood before our Lord, and fayd: I wil deceiue him. To whom our Lord fayd: Wherin wilt thou deceiue him? ²¹ But he answered: I wil goe forth, and wil be a lying fpirit in the mouth of al his prophetes. And our Lord fayd: Thou fhalt deceiue, and fhalt preuaile: goe forth, and doe fo. ²² Now therfore, behold our Lord

^a See *Annotation 3. Reg. 22. v. 15.*

hath geuen the fpirit of lying in the mouth of al thy prophetes, and our Lord hath fpoken of thee euil thinges. ²³ And Sedecias the fonne of Chanaana came, and ftroke the cheeke of Micheas, and fayd: Which way paffed the fpirit of our Lord from me, that it fhould fpeake to thee? ²⁴ And Micheas fayd: Thou thy felf fhalt fee in that day, when thou fhalt enter into chamber out of chamber, to be hid. ²⁵ And the king of Ifrael commanded, faying: Take Micheas, and lead him to Amon the gouernour of the citie, and to Ioab the fonne of Amelech. ²⁶ And you fhall fay: Thus fayth the king: Caft this felow into prifon, and giue him a litle bread, and a litle water, til I returne in peace. ²⁷ And Micheas fayd: If thou returne in peace, our Lord hath not fpoken in me, & he fayd: Heare al ye peoples. ²⁸ Therefore the king of Ifrael, and Iofaphat the king of Iuda went vp into Ramoth Galaad. ²⁹ And the king of Ifrael fayd to Iofaphat: I wil change my habite, and fo I wil goe to the fight, but be thou clothed with thine owne garmentes. And the king of Ifrael changing his habit came to the battel. ³⁰ And the king of Syria had commanded the captaynes of his horfemen faying: Fight not agaynft the leaft, or agaynft the greateft, but agaynft the king of Ifrael only. ³¹ Therefore when the princes of the horfemen faw Iofaphat, they fayd: This is the king of Ifrael. And they compaffed him fighting: but he cried to our Lord, and he holpe him, and turned them away from him. ³² For when the captaynes of the horfemen faw, that it was not the king of Ifrael, they leaft him. ³³ And it chanced that one of the people fhot an arrow at aduenture, and ftroke the king of Ifrael between the necke and the fhoulders, and he fayd to his cocher: Turne thy hand, and carie me out of the battel, becaufe I am wounded. ³⁴ And the fight was ended in that day: moreouer the king of Ifrael ftood in his chariote agaynft the Syrians vntil euening, and died at the funne fette.

Chapter 19

Iofaphat being reproofed by a prophet for yielding help to Achab, 5. appoynteth Iudges in feuerall cities, admonishing them to doe iuftice: 8. exhorteth Prieftes and Leuites to execute their functions carefully. 11. Amarias High Prielt directing and ruling in thinges belonging to God, Zabedias general captayne gouerneth the kinges affayres.

And Iofaphat the king of Iuda returned into his houfe peaceably, into Ierufalem. ² Whom Iehu the fonne of Hanani the Seer mette, and fayd to him: ^a)To the impious man thou geueft ayde, and to them that hate our Lord thou art ioyned in frendfhip, and therefore thou didft deferue in deed the wrath of our Lord: ³ but good workes are found in thee, for that thou haft taken away the groues out of the land of Iuda, and haft prepared thy hart to feeke our Lord the God of thy fathers. ⁴ Iofaphat therfore dwelt in Ierufalem: and he went forth to the people agayne from Berfabee vnto mount Ephraim, and recalled them to our Lord the God of their fathers. ⁵ And he appoynted iudges of the land in al the fenced cities of Iuda, in euerie place, ⁶ and commanding the iudges, he fayd: Take heede what you doe: for you exercife not the iudgement of man, but of our Lord: and whatfoeuer you fhall iudge, it fhall redound to you. ⁷ Let the feare of our Lord be with you, and with diligence doe al thinges: for there is no iniquitie with the Lord our God, nor acception of perfonnes, nor

^a Precifian Donatiftes holding it vnlawful to conuerfe with finners amongft other Scriptures alleaged this reprehention of Iofaphat for his focietie with Achab. To whom *S. Auguftin* anwereth, that he was not blamed for other conuerfation with Achab, but for ayding him, and ioyning with him in the act of finne, when he contemning Micheas the true prophete of God, and beleuing falfe prophetes went to battel wherein both kinges offended, but with difference; fo one was flaine though he femed to be fecure, the other was faued in great danger, and repenting was pardoned. *li. 2. c. 18. cont. epift. Parmen.*

defyre of giftes. ⁸ In Ierufalem alfo Iofaphat appoynted Leuites, and Prieftes, and princes of families of Ifrael, that they fhould iudge the iudgement and caufe of our Lord to the inhabitantes therof. ⁹ And he commanded them, faying: Thus fhall you doe in the feare of our Lord faithfully, and with a perfect hart. ¹⁰ Euerie caufe, that fhall come to you of your brethren, that dwel in their cities, betwen kinred and kinred, wherfoeuer there is queftion of the law, of the commandement, of ceremonies, of iuftifications: fhew it them, that they finne not agaynft our Lord, and left there come wrath vpon you and your brethren: fo doing therfore you fhall not finne. ¹¹ And ^a)Amarias the priefte and your Bishop fhall be chiefe in thefe thinges, which pertayn to God: moreover Zabadias the fonne of Ifmahel, who is the prince in the houle of Iuda, fhall be ouer thofe workes, which pertayne to the kinges office: and you haue maifters the Leuites before you, take courage, and doe diligently, and our Lord wil be with the good.

Chapter 20

The Ammonites, Moabites, and Syrians ioyning forces agaynft Iofaphat, 3. he feeketh Gods helpe by publique prayer and fafting. 14. A Prophet fortelleth that God wil fight for them: 20. fo they fing praifes to God, the enemies kil ech other. 24. Iofaphat with his men gather verie great fpoiles, 30. reigneth in peace, 35. but his nauie perifheth, for his focietie with wicked Ochozias.

After thefe thinges were the children of Moab gathered together, and the children of Ammon, and with them of the Ammonites, to fight agaynft Iofaphat. ² And there came meffengers, and told Iofaphat, faying: There cometh agaynft thee a

^a A moft plaine diftinction of fpiritual and temporal authoritie and offices, not intituted by Iofaphat, nor anie other king, but by God himfelf. *Deut. 17. Num. 27.*

great multitude from those places, which are beyond the sea, and out of Syria, and behold they stay in Afathonthamar, which is Engaddi. ³ And Iofaphat being frightened with feare, he tooke him wholly to beseech our Lord, and he ^aproclaimed a fast to all Iuda. ⁴ And Iudas was gathered together to pray to our Lord: yea and all ^bcame out of their cities to beseech him. ⁵ And when Iofaphat stood in the middes of the assemblie of Iuda, and Ierusalem in the house of our Lord before the new court, ⁶ he sayd: Lord God of our fathers, thou art God in heauen, and rulest ouer all the kingdomes of Nations, in thy hand is strength and might, neither can any man resist thee. ⁷ Didst not thou our God kill all the inhabitantes of this land before thy people Israel, and gauest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for euer? ⁸ And they dwelt in it, & built in it a Sanctuarie to thy name, saying: ⁹ If euils fall vpon vs, the sword of iudgement, pestilence, & famine, we will stand before this house in thy sight, wherein thy name is inuocated: & we will crie to thee in our tribulations, and thou shalt heare, and saue vs. ¹⁰ Now therefore behold the children of Ammon, and mount Seir, by whom thou didst not grant Israel to passe, when they came out of Ægypt, but they declined from them, & flew them not: ¹¹ doe the contrarie, and endeuoure to cast vs out of the possession, which thou hast deliuered to vs. ¹² Our God, wilt not thou therefore iudge them? In vs in deed there is not so great strength, that we can resist this multitude, which cometh violently vpon vs. But whereas we are ignorant what we ought to doe, this onlie we haue leaft, that we direct our eyes to thee. ¹³ And all Iuda stood before our Lord with their little ones, and wiues, and their children. ¹⁴ And there was Iahaziel the sonne of Zacharias, the sonne of Banaias, the sonne of Iehiel, the sonne of Mathanias, a Leuite of the children

^a They fasted not only to subdue the flesh to the spirit but also for other necessities.

^b Example of pilgrimage to holie places, because it pleaseth God to heare the prayers of good people rather in one place then in another. *ch. 6. 7. &c.*

of Afaph, vpon whom the fpirit of our Lord came in the middes of the multitude, ¹⁵ and he fayd: Attend ye al Iuda, and you that dwel in Ierufalem, and thou king Iofaphat: thus fayth our Lord to you: Feare not, neither dread ye this multitude: for it is not your battel, but Gods. ¹⁶ To morrow you shal goe downe agaynft them: for they wil come vp by the fteepe named Sis, and you shal find them in the vtmoft part of the torrent, which is agaynft the wilderneffe of Ieruel. ¹⁷ It shal not be you that shal fight, but onlie ftand confidently, and you shal fee the helpe of our Lord ouer you, ô Iuda, and Ierufalem: feare not, neither dreade ye: to morrow you shal goe out agaynft them, and our Lord wil be with you. ¹⁸ Iofaphat therfore, and Iuda, and al the inhabitantes of Ierufalem fel flat on the earth before our Lord, and adored him. ¹⁹ Moreouer the Leuites of the children of Caath, and of the children of Core prayfed our Lord the God of Ifrael with a lowd voice, on high. ²⁰ And when they had rifen earely in the morning, they went forth by the defert of Thecua: and they being gone forth, Iofaphat ftanding in the middes of them, fayd: Heare me ye men of Iuda, and al the inhabters of Ierufalem: ^a)beleue in the Lord your God, and you fhall be fecure: beleue his prophetes, and al thinges fhall fal out prosperous. ²¹ He gaue counfel alfo to the people, and appoynted the finging men of our Lord, that they fhould prayfe him in their companies, and fhould goe before the hoft, and with agreable voice fhould fay: Confefse to our Lord, becaufe his mercie is foreuer. ²² And when they began to fing prayfes, our Lord turned their embuſhementes vpon themfelues, to witte, of the children of Ammon, and of Moab, and of mount Seir, who were gone forth to fight agaynft Iuda, and were ftriken. ²³ For the children

Pfal. 135.

^a Faith is the fundation of al good workes, *Heb. 11.* but not fufficient to faluation without other vertues, and therfore they not only beleued but alfo faſted and prayed, and where nede required fought with weapons, though at this time it pleaſed God to fight for them. See *Iofue. 23.*

of Ammon, and of Moab, rose together agaynst the inhabitantes of mount Seir, to kil and destroy them: and when they had in worke atcheued this, being turned also agaynst themselues, they fel wounded one of an other. ²⁴ Moreouer Iuda when they were come to the watch place, that looketh to the desert, saw a far of al the countrie abrode ful of dead bodies, and that none remayned aliue that could escape death. ²⁵ Iofaphat therfore came, and al the people with him to take away the spoiles of the dead, and they found among the dead bodies, diuerse stufte, garments also, and most pretious veffels: and they spoiled it, soe that they could not carie al thinges, nor in three dayes take away the spoiles for the greatnesse of the praye. ²⁶ And in the fourth day they were assembled in the Vale of blessing: for becaufe there they had blessed our Lord, they called that place the Vale of blessing vntil this present day. ²⁷ And euerie man of Iuda returned, and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, and Iofaphat before them into Ierufalem with great ioy, becaufe our Lord had geuen them ioy of their enemies. ²⁸ And they entered into Ierufalem with psalteries, and harpes, and trumpettes into the house of our Lord. ²⁹ And the dread of our Lord fel vpon al the kingdomes of the landes when they heard that our Lord had fought agaynst the enemies of Israel. ³⁰ And the kingdom of Iofaphat was quiet and God gaue him peace round about. ³¹ Iofaphat therfore reigned ouer Iuda, and he was fife and thirtie yeares old when he begane to reigne: and he reigned fife and twentie yeares in Ierufalem: and the name of his mother was Azuba the daughter of Selahi. ³² And he walked in the way of his father Afa, neither declined he from it, doing the thinges that were pleasing before our Lord. ³³ But ^ayet the excelses he tooke not away, and as yet the people had not directed their hart to our Lord the God of their fathers. ³⁴ But the rest of the actes of Iofaphat,

^a He destroyed the places where sacrifice was offered to idoles, *ch. 17. v. 6.* but tolerated other places where the people offered to God our Lord without the temple, not being able to reduce al to perfection.

the first and the last are written in the wordes of Iehu the sonne of Hanani, which he disposed into the Bookes of the kinges of Israell. ³⁵ After these thinges Iosaphat the king of Iuda entered frendshipe with Ochozias the king of Israell, whose workes were most impious. ³⁶ And he was partaker to make shippes, which should goe into Tharfis: and they made a nauie in Afiongaber. ³⁷ And Eliezer the sonne of Dodau of Marefa prophesied to Iosaphat, saying: Because thou hast had a league with Ochozias, our Lord hath ftrooken thy workes, and the shippes are broken, neither could they goe into Tharfis.

Chapter 21

Iosaphat dieth, and Ioram succeding killeth his owne brethren, and some other chiefe men, 6. reigneth wickedly. 8. Edom, and Lobna reuolt from him. 12. Elias by letters forwarneth him of plagues, 16. which falling vpon him, he dieth after two yeares languishing, and horrible difeafe.

And Iosaphat flept with his fathers, & was buried with them in the Citie of Dauid: and Ioram his sonne reigned for him. ² Who had brethren the sonnes of Iosaphat, Azarias, and Iahiel, and Zacharias, and Azarias, and Michael, and Sapharias. All these were the sonnes of Iosaphat the king of Iuda. ³ And their father gaue them manie giftes of filuer, and of gold, and pensions, with the most fenced cities in Iuda: but the kingdom he deliuered to Ioram, because he was the first begotten. ⁴ And Ioram rose ouer the kingdom of his father: and when he had establihed himself, he slew all his brethren with the sword, and certain of the princes of Israell. ⁵ Two and thirtie yeare old was Ioram when he began to reigne: and he reigned eight yeares in Ierusalem. ⁶ And he walked in the waies of the kinges of Israell, as the house of Achab had done: for Achabs daughter was his wife, and he did euil in the sight of our Lord. ⁷ But our Lord would not destroy the house of Dauid for the

4. Reg. 8.

couenant, which he had made with him: and becaufe he had promifed that he would geue him a lampe, and to his fonnes for euer. ⁸ In thofe daies Edom rebelled, from being fubiect to Iuda, and made them felues a king. ⁹ And when Ioram had paffed with his princes, and al the horfemen, that were with him, he rofe in the night, and ftroke Edom, which had compaffed him, and al the captaynes of his horfemen. ¹⁰ But yet Edom rebelled, from being vnder the dominion of Iuda vntil this day: at that time Lobna alfo reuolted, from being vnder his hand. For he had forfaken our Lord the God of their fathers. ¹¹ Moreouer he built alfo excelfes in the cities of Iuda, and he made the inhabitantes of Ierufalem to fornicate, and Iuda to tranfgrefse. ¹² And there were letters brought him ^afrom Elias the prophete, in which was writen: Thus fayth our Lord the God of Dauid thy father: Becaufe thou haft not walked in the waies of Iofaphat thy father, & in the waies of Afa the king of Iuda, ¹³ but haft gone by the waies of the kinges of Ifrael, and haft made Iuda to fornicate, and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, hauing imitated the fornication of the houle of Achab, moreouer alfo haft killed thy brethren, the houle of thy father, better men then thou: ¹⁴ behold our Lord wil ftrike thee with a great plague with al thy people, and children, and thy wiues, and al thy fubftance. ¹⁵ And thou shalt be ficke of a very fore difeafe of thy bealie, til thy vital partes come forth by litle and litle euerie day. ¹⁶ Our Lord therefore raifed vp agaynft Ioram the fpirit of the Philiftianes, and of the Arabians, which are borderers to the Æthiopians. ¹⁷ And they went vp into the Land of Iuda, and wafted it, and they fpoyled al the fubftance, that was found in the kinges houle, moreouer alfo his fonnes, and wiues: neither was there a fonne left him but Ioachaz, who was the yongeft. ¹⁸ And

^a Elias was affumped from ordinarie conuerfation with mortal men the eighteenth yeare of king Iofaphat *4. Reg. 2, 3.* who reigned twentie fue yeares. *3. Reg. 22. v. 42.* So he fhewed this fpecial care of Ioram and his kingdom, after his affumption feuen yeares.

beside al these thinges our Lord ftroke him with an incurable difeafe of the bealie. ¹⁹ And when day succeded day, and the fpaces of times paffed about, the circuite of two yeares was complete: and foe being wafted with a long comfumption, foe that he voyded euen his very bowels, he was ridde of the difeafe, and of his life together. And he died in an exceding vile infirmitie, & the people made him not exequies according to the maner of burning, as they had done to his ancefters. ²⁰ He was two and thirtie yeares old, when he began to reigne, and he reigned eight yeares in Ierufalem. And he walked not rightly, and they buried him in the Citie of Daud: but yet not in the fepulchre of the kinges.

Chapter 22

Ochozias reigning one yeare, 3. is flaine together with Ioram king of Ifrael, by king Iehu. 10. Athalia killeth the kinges children (onlie Ioas being faued by his aunt) and vfurpeth the kingdom fix yeares.

And the inhabitantes of Ierufalem made Ochozias⁴. *Reg. 8. v. 25.*
his leaft fonne, king for him: for al the elders, *ch. 9.*
that had bene before him, the rouers of the Arabians had flayne, which inuaded the campe: and Ochozias the fonne of Ioram the king of Iuda reigned. ² Two and ^{a)}fourtie yeares old was Ochozias when he began to reigne, and he reigned one yeare in Ierufalem, and the name of his mother was Athalia the daughter of ^{b)}Amri. ³ But he alfo went by the waies of the houle of Achab: for his mother forced him to doe impioufly. ⁴ He therfore did euil in the fight of our Lord, as the houle of Achab: for they were his counfelers after the death of his father, to his deftruction. ⁵ And he walked

^a To wit when he beganne to reigne alone: for he reigned together with his father at the age of 22. *4. Reg. 8. v. 26.* And after his fathers death but one yeare.

^b See *4. Reg. 8. v. 18.*

in their counfells. And he went forth with Ioram the fonne of Achab king of Ifrael, into battel agaynft Hazael king of Syria, into Ramoth Galaad: and the Syrians wounded Ioram. ⁶ Who returned to be cured into Iezrael: for he had taken manie woundes in the forefayd battel. Therefore Ochozias the fonne of Ioram king of Iuda, went downe to vifit Ioram the fonne of Achab in Iezrael being ficke. ⁷ For it was the wil of God agaynft Ochozias, that he fhould come to Ioram: and when he was come he fhould goe out alfo againft Iehu the fonne of Namfi, whom our Lord anynted to deftroy the houfe of Achab. ⁸ When Iehu therfore ouerthrew the houfe of Achab, he found the princes of Iuda, and the fonne of the brethren of Ochozias, which ferued him, and he flewe them. ⁹ Searching alfo for Ochozias himfelf, he tooke him lying hid in Samaria: and being brought vnto him, he killed him, and they buried him: becaufe he was the fonne of Iofaphat, who had fought our Lord in al his hart ^a)neither was there anie more hope that anie fhould reigne of the ftocke of Ochozias. ¹⁰ For Athalia his mother, feing that her fonne was dead, arofe, and flew al the kinges ftocke of the houfe of Ioram. ¹¹ Sauing that Iofabeth the kinges daughter tooke Ioas the fonne of Ochozias, and ftole him out of the middes of the kinges fonnes, when they were flayne, and she hid him with his nource in the bedde chamber: and Iofabeth that hid him, was the daughter of king Ioram, the wife of Ioiada the high prieft, the fifter of Ochozias, and therefore Athalia did not kil him. ¹² He therfore was with them in the houfe of God fix yeares, in the which Athalia reigned ouer the Land.

^a Human hope failed, but Gods prouidence vfed meanes to conferue fome of Dauids iffue to fitte in his throne. Yea to continue the fucceffion til Chrif. *Mat. 1.*

Chapter 23

Ioiada the Hiegh prieft annoynteth and crowneth Ioas king, 12. caufeth Athalia to be flaine, 16. idolatrie to be deftroied, 18. and Gods feruice aduanced.

And in the feuenth yeare Ioiada taking courage, *4. Reg. 11.* tooke the centurions, to witte, Azarias the fonne of Ieroham, and Ifmahel the fonne of Iohanan, Azarias alfo the fonne of Obed, and Maafias the fonne of Adaias, and Elifaphat the fonne of Zechri: and made a couenant with them. ² Who going about Iuda, gathered together the Leuites out of al the cities of Iuda, and the princes of the families of Ifrael, and they came into Ierufalem. ³ Therefore al the multitude made a couenant with the king in the houfe of God: and Ioiada fayd to them: Behold the kinges fonne fhall reigne, as our Lord hath fpoken, vpon the fonnes of Dauid. ⁴ This ^a)therefore is the thing which you fhall doe. ⁵ The third part of you that come to the Sabbath of the Prieftes, and of Leuites, and of porters fhall be in the gates: and a third part at the kinges houfe: and a third at the gate, which is called of the Foundation: but let al the reft of the common people be in the courtes of the houfe of our Lord. ⁶ Neither let anie other enter into the houfe of our Lord, but the Prieftes, and they that minifter of the Leuites: let them onlie goe in, becaufe they are fanctified and let al the reft of the multitude obferue the watches of our Lord. ⁷ And let the Leuites enuiron the king, hauing euerie one their weapons: (and if anie other fhall enter into the temple, let him be flayne) and let them be with the king both coming in, and going out. ⁸ The Leuites therefore, & al Iuda did according to al thinges, which ^b)Ioiada the high Prieft had commanded;

The vweekelie vvatch.

^a Gods promife being abfolute and certayne, yet humane meanes were neuertheles required.

^b In cafe of right and neceffitie we fee here what the high Prieft could do and did by his authoritie: who otherwife intermedled not in the kings affayres. *ch. 19. v. 11.*

and they tooke euerie one the men that were vnder them, and came by the order of the Sabbath, with them that had fulfilled the Sabbath, and were to goe forth. For Ioiada the high Priest permitted not the companies to depart, which were accustomed to succede one an other euerie weeke. ⁹ And Ioiada the Priest gaue to the centurions the speares, and the shieldes, and targattes of king Dauid, which he had consecrated in the house of our Lord. ¹⁰ And he appoynted al the people of them that held weapons on the right side of the temple, vnto the left syde of the temple, before the altar, and the temple, round about the king. ¹¹ And they brought forth the kinges sonne, and put the crowne vpon him, and the testimony, and gaue the law to be in his hand, & they made him king: Ioiada also the high Priest, and his sonnes annoynted him: and they wished him wel, and said: God saue the king. ¹² Which thing when Athalia had heard, to witte, the voice of them that ranne and prayed the king, she went in vnto the people, into the temple of our Lord. ¹³ And when she had seene the king standing vpon the steppe in the entrance, and the princes, and the companies about him, and al the people of the land reioyng, and founding with trumpettes, and playing on instrumentes of diuerse kind, and the voice of them that prayed, she rent her garmentes, and sayd: Treason, treason. ¹⁴ And Ioiada the high Priest going forth to the centurions, and captaines of the armie, sayd to them: Bring her forth without the precinct of the temple, and let her be killed with the sword without. And the Priest commanded that she should not be killed in the house of our Lord. ¹⁵ And they layd handes vpon her necke: and when she was entred within the gate of the horses of the kinges house, they killed her there. ¹⁶ And Ioiada made a couenant between himself, and al the people, and the king, that they would be the people of our Lord. ¹⁷ Al the people therefore entred into the house of Baal, and destroyed it: and they brake his

altars and ^ahis images: Mathan also the priest of Baal *fimulacra.* they flew before the altars. ¹⁸ And Ioiada appointed overseers in the house of our Lord, under the hands of the Priests, & the Levites, which David distributed in the house of our Lord: that they should offer holocausts to our Lord, as it is written in the law of Moyses, in joy and songs, according to the disposition of David. ¹⁹ He appointed also porters in the gates of the house of our Lord, that the unclean in any thing should not enter in. ²⁰ And he took the centurions, and the most valiant men and princes of the people, and all the common people of the land, and they made the king to go down from the house of our Lord, & to enter by the middle of the upper gate into the king's house, and placed him in the royal throne. ²¹ And all the people of the land rejoiced, & the city was quiet: moreover Athalia was slain with the sword.

Chapter 24

Ioas reigning piously, so long as Ioiada liueth, causeth the Temple to be repayed, 14. and new sacred vessels to be made. 15. Ioiada an hundred thirtie yeares old dieth. 17. Ioas falleth to idolatrie: 20. causeth Zacharias to be slain in the court of the Temple. 23. A few Syrians kill the chief men about the king, and carie away great prizes. 25. Ioas is slain by his owne men, and his son Amasias reigneth.

Seven yeares old was Ioas when he began to reigne: and he reigned forty yeares in Ierusalem, the name of his mother was Sebia of Berfabee. ² And he did that which is good before our Lord all the dayes of Ioiada the Priest. ³ And Ioiada took for him two wives, of whom he begat sons & daughters. ⁴ After which things it pleased Ioas to repayre the house of our Lord.

^a They are wilfully blind that will not see difference between images of Baal & of Christ or of Saints.

And he affembled the Prieftes, and the Leuites, and fayd to them: Goe ye forth to the cities of Iuda, and gather of al Ifrael money for the reparation of the temple of your God, yeare by yeare, and doe this in haft: moreouer the Leuites did negligently. ⁵ And the king called Ioiada the prince, and fayd to him: Why haft thou had no care to conftrayne the Leuites to bring in out of Iuda and Ierufalem the money, that was ^a)appointed of Moyfes the feruant of our Lord, that al the multitude of Ifrael fhould bring it in into the tabernacle of teftimonie? ⁶ For the moft impious Athalia, and her children haue deftroied the houle of God, and of al thinges that had bene fanctified in the temple of our Lord, they adorned the temple of Baalim. ⁷ The king therfore commanded and they made a cheft: and fet it by the gate of our Lord on the out fide. ⁸ And it was proclaymed in Iuda and Ierufalem, that euerie man should bring the price to our Lord, which Moyfes the feruant of God appoynted ouer al Ifrael, in the defert. ⁹ And al the princes reioyfed, and al the people: and going in they contributed into the cheft of our Lord, and caft in fo that it was filled. ¹⁰ And when it was time that they should bring the cheft before the king by the handes of Leuites (for they faw much money) the kinges Scribe went in, and he whom the high priefte had appoynted: & they powred out the money that was in the cheft, & recaried it to his place: and fo did they from day to day, and there was gathered infinite money. ¹¹ Which the king and Ioiada gaue to them, that ouerfaw the workes of the houle of our Lord: but they hired with it hewers of ftones, and artificers of al workes, to repayre the houle of our Lord: fmithes alfo of yron and braffe, that that which began to fal, might be vpholden. ¹² And they that wrought did induftrioufly, and the breach of the walles was clofed by their handes, and they rayfed the houle of our Lord into the old ftate, and made it ftand firmly. ¹³ And when they had accomplished al the workes, they brought the reft of the money before

^a By the law euerie one payed yearly halfe a ficle, towards the repaying of the tabernacle and fo afterwarde of the temple. *Ex.* 30.

the king and Ioiada: of the which were made veffels of the temple to the minifterie, and for holocaustes, phials alfo, and other veffels of gold and filuer: and holocaustes were offered in the houle of our Lord continually al the daies of Ioiada. ¹⁴ But Ioiada became old being ful of dayes, and died when he was an hundred and thirtie yeares old. ¹⁵ And they buried him in the citie of Daud with the kinges, becaufe he had done good with Ifrael, and with his houle. ¹⁶ And after that Ioiada was dead, the princes of Iuda went in, and adored the king, who being altered by their feruiceableneffe, agreed to them. ¹⁷ And they forlooke the temple of our Lord the God of their fathers, and ferued groues, and fculptilles, and there came wrath agaynft Iuda, and Ierufalem for this finne. ¹⁸ And he fent them prophetes, that they fhould returne to our Lord, whom protefting they would not heare. ¹⁹ The fpirit of God therfore inuefted Zacharias the fonne of Ioiada the Prieft, & he ftood in the fight of the people, and fayd to them: Thus fayth our Lord God: Why tranfgrefse you the precept of our Lord, which thing fhall not profit you, & haue forfaken our Lord, that he fhould forfake you? ²⁰ Who being gathered agaynft him, they threw ftones according to the kinges commandement, in the court of the houle of our Lord. ²¹ And Ioas the king did not remember the mercie, that Ioiada his father had done with him, but he killed his fonne. Who when he died, fayd: Our Lord fee, and requite it. ²² And when a yeare was come about, the armie of Syria came vp againft him: & it came into Iuda & Ierufalem, & flewe al the princes of the people, and al the pray they fent to the king into Damafcus. ²³ And wheras there was come a very fmal number of the Syrians, our Lord deliuered into their handes an infinit multitude, for that they had forfaken our Lord the God of their fathers: on Ioas alfo they exercifed ignomious iudgementes. ²⁴ And departing they left him in great difeafes: and his feruantes rofe agaynft him, ^afor reuenge of the bloud of the fonne of Ioiada the prieft, & they flewe him in his bed, & he

Mat. 23.

^a He that killed his fpiritual father was flaine by his owne feruantes.

died: and they buried him in the Citie of Dauid, but not in the kinges sepulchres. ²⁵ And there conspired against him Zabad the sonne of Semmaath an Ammoniteffe, & Iozabad the sonne of Semarith a Moabiteffe. ²⁶ Moreover his children, and the summe of money, which was gathered vnder him, & the repaying of the house of God are written more diligently in the Booke of kinges: and Amasias his sonne reigned for him.

Chapter 25

Amasias killeth those that fled his father. 5. Besides his owne people, he slew soldiers of Israel, but by advice of a Prophet he dismissed them, 11. and with his owne overthroweth the Idumeans, whose idols taken in battle (13. the dismissed soldiers in the meane time spoiling his country) he adoreth. 15. Contemning admonition, 17. and provoking the king of Israel to warre, 22. is taken in battle and spoiled. 27. Fearing treason in Ierusalem fleeth, and is slain in Lachis.

4. Reg. 14.

Four and twentie yeares old was Amasias when he began to reigne, and he reigned nine and twentie yeares in Ierusalem, the name of his mother was Loaden of Ierusalem. ² And he did good in the sight of our Lord: but yet not in a perfect hart. ³ And when he saw his kingdom strengthened, he put to death the seruantes, that had slain the king his father, ⁴ but their children he slew not, as it is written in the Booke of the law of Moyse, where our Lord commanded, saying:

Deut. 24.

The fathers shal not be slain for the children, nor the children for their fathers, but euery one shal die in his owne sinne. ⁵ Amasias therefore gathered together Iuda, and appointed them by families, and tribunes, and centurions in al Iuda, and Benjamin: and he numbered from twentie yeares vpward, and found three hundred thousand of yong men that went forth to battle, and held speare and shield. ⁶ He hired also for wages of Israel an hundred thousand strong men, for an hundred

talentes of filuer. ⁷ But a man of God came to him, and fayd: O king, let not the hoft of Ifrael goe forth with thee, for our Lord is not with Ifrael, and al the children of Ephraim: ⁸ and if thou thinke that battels confift in the force of an armie, God wil make thee to be ouercome of the enemies: for it perteyneth to God both to helpe, and to put to flight. ⁹ And Amafias fayd to the man of God: What fhall become then of the hundred talentes, which I haue geuen the fouldiars of Ifrael? And the man of God answered him: Our Lord hath wherby he is able to geue thee much more then this. ¹⁰ Amafias therfore feperated the hoft, that came to him out of Ephraim, that they fhould returne into their place: but they being wrath exceedingly agaynft Iuda, returned into their countrie. ¹¹ Moreouer Amafias brought forth his people confidently, and went into the Vale of falt pittes, and ftroke the children of Seir, ten thoufand. ¹² And other ten thoufand men did the children of Iuda take, and bring to the fteepe of a certaine rocke, and caft them down headlong from the toppe, who burft in funder euerie one. ¹³ But that armie which Amafias had fent backe, from going with him to battel, was fpred in the cities of Iuda, from Samaria vnto Bethhoron, & killing three thoufand tooke away a great praye. ¹⁴ But Amafias after the flaughter of the Idumeans, fette vp the goddes of the children of Seir, which he had brought thence, for his goddes, and adored them, and burnt incenfe to them. ¹⁵ For which thing our Lord being angrie againft Amafias, fent a prophete vnto him, which fhould fay to him: Why haft thou adored goddes, that haue not deliuered their owne people out of thy hand? ¹⁶ And when he fpake thefe thinges, he answered him: Art thou the kinges counfeler? be quiet, left I kil thee. And the prophet departing, fayd: I know that God is minded to kil thee, becaufe thou haft done this euil, and besides haft not agreed to my counfel. ¹⁷ Therefore Amafias the king of Iuda taking verie il counfel, fent to Ioas the fonne of Ioachaz the fonne of Iehu, the king of Ifrael, faying: Come, let vs fee one an other. ¹⁸ But he fent backe the meffengers, faying: A thiftle that is in Libanus fent to a

4. Reg. 8.

cedar of Libanus, faying: Geue thy daughter to my sonne to wife: & behold the beastes that were in the wood of Libanus passed, and trode downe the thistle. ¹⁹ Thou hast sayd: I haue stricken Edom, and therefore thy hart is extolled into pryde, fitte in thy house, why dost thou prouoke euil against thee, that both thou mayest fall, and Iuda with thee. ²⁰ Amasias would not heare, because it was our Lordes wil, that he should be deliuered into the handes of the enemies ^afor the goddes of Edom. ²¹ Ioas therefore the king of Ifrael went vp, and they gaue themselues one the fight of the other: and Amasias the king of Iuda was in Bethfames of Iuda: ²² And Iuda fell before Ifrael, and fled into their tabernacles. ²³ Moreouer Ioas the king of Ifrael in Bethfames tooke Amasias the king of Iuda, the sonne of Ioas, the sonne of Ioachaz, & brought him into Ierusalem: and destroyed the wal therof from the gate of Ephraim, to the gate of the corner, four hundred cubites. ²⁴ All the gold also, and siluer, and all the vessels, that he found in the house of God, and with Obbedom in the treasures also of the kinges house, moreouer he brought backe the sonnes of the hostages into Samaria. ²⁵ And Amasias the sonne of Ioas the king of Iuda liued, after that Ioas died the sonne of Ioachaz the king of Ifrael, fiftene yeares. ²⁶ But the rest of the wordes of Amasias the first and the last are written in the Booke of the kinges of Iuda and Ifrael. ²⁷ Who after he reuolted from our Lord, they lay in waite agaynst him in Ierusalem. And when he had fled into Lachis, they sent, and flew him there. ²⁸ And carying him backe vpon horses, buried him with his fathers in the Citie of Dauid.

Chapter 26

Ozias seruing God, 6. preuaileth in battel against the Philistines, Arabians, and Ammonites: 9. prospereth in honour and wealth. 16. Then waxing proud offereth incense on the altar, is stricken with leprosie, expelled out of

^a Obduration of hart for former sinne.

the Temple, and citie: 20. and his sonne Ioathan ruleth the kingdom.

And al the people of Iuda made his sonne Ozias sixtene yeares old, king for Amafias his father. ² He built Ailath, and restored it to the dominion of Iuda, after that the king slept with his fathers. ³ Sixtene yeares old was Ozias when he began to reigne, and he reigned two and fiftie yeares in Ierufalem, the name of his mother was Iechelia of Ierufalem. ⁴ And he did that which was right in the eyes of our Lord, according to al thinges, which Amafias his father had done. ⁵ And he fought our Lord in the daies of Zacharias that vnderstood and saw God: and when he fought our Lord, ^ahe directed him in al thinges. ⁶ Moreover he went forth, and fought against the Philistijms, and destroyed the wal of Geth, and the wal of Iabania, and the wal of Azotus: he built also townes in Azotus, and among the Philistijms. ⁷ And God did helpe him against the Philistijms, and against the Arabians, that dwelt in Garbaal, and against the Ammonites. ⁸ And the Ammonites gaue giftes to Ozias: and his name was renowned vnto the entrance of Ægypt for his often victories. ⁹ And Ozias built towers in Ierufalem ouer the gate of the corner, and ouer the gate of the valley, and the rest, in the same side of the wal, and strengthened them. ¹⁰ He built towers also in the wilderneffe, and digged manie cefternes, becaufe he had much cattel as wel in the champaine, as in the vastitie of the desert: he had also vineyardes & dreffers of vines in the mountaynes, and in Carmel: for he was a man geuen to husbandrie. ¹¹ And the host of his warriors, which went forth to battels, was vnder the hand of Iehiel the scribe, & Maafias the doctor, and vnder the hand of Hananias, who was of the kinges dukes. ¹² And al the number of the princes

^a So long as this king obserued the ordinance of God to be directed by the high priest *Nu. 27. v. 21.* he prospered in his affayres.

by families of valiant men, was two thousand fix hundred. ¹³ And vnder them al the hoft of three hundred & feuen thousand fiue hundred: which were apt to battels, and fought for the king againft the aduerfaries. ¹⁴ Ozias alfo prepared for them, that is to fay, for al the armie, fhildes, and fpeares, and helmettes, and coates of mayle, and bowes, and flinges to caft ftones. ¹⁵ And he made in Ierufalem engines of diuerfe kind, which he placed in the towers, and in the corners of the walles, to shoote arrowes, and great ftones: and his name went forth farre, for that our Lord did ayde him, and had ftrenghthned him. ¹⁶ But when he was ftrenghthned, his hart was eleuated to his deftruction, and he neglected our Lord his God: and entering into the temple of our Lord: he would burne ^aincenfe vpon the altar of incenfe. ¹⁷ And incontinent Azarias the Prieft going in after him, & with him the Prieftes of our Lord eightie, moft valiant men, ¹⁸ they refifted the king, and fayd: It is not thy office Ozias, to burne incenfe to our Lord, but of the Prieftes, that is, of the children of Aaron, which are confecrated to this kind of minifterie: goe out of the Sanctuarie, contemne not: becaufe this thing fhall not be reputed to thee for glorie of our Lord God. ¹⁹ And Ozias being angrie, and holding in his hand the cenfar to burne incenfe, threatned the Prieftes. And forthwith there rofe a leprofie in his forehead before the Prieftes, in the houle of our Lord vpon the altar of incenfe. ²⁰ And when Azarias the high Prieft had beheld him, and al the reft of the Prieftes, they faw the leprofie in his forehead, and in haft they thruft him out. Yea and him felf being fore afrayd, made haft to goe out, becaufe he felt by and by the plague of our Lord. ²¹ Ozias therfore the king was a leper vntil the day of his death, and he dwelt in a houle apart

^a For vfurping fpiritual authority which pertayned not to him, the high prieft with his affiftantes oppofed themfelues againft the king: and God confirmed their fentence, by ftriking the fame king with leprofie. And fo he was not only caft out of the temple, but alfo out of his kingdom, and common conuerfation with other men, & forced to dwel in a feparet houle without the citie according to the law. *Leuit. 13. v. 46.*

ful of the leprofie, for the which he had bene caſt out of the houſe of our Lord. Moreouer Ioathan his ſonne governed the kinges houſe, and iudged the people of the land. ²² But the reſt of the wordes of Ozias the firſt and the laſt wrote Ifaias the ſonne of Amos, the prophet. ²³ And Ozias flept with his fathers, and they buried him in the ^a)kinges ſepulchres field, becauſe he was a leper: and Ioathan his ſonne reigned for him.

Chapter 27

Ioathan a godlie king, 5. preuaileth in battel againſt the Ammonites, 7. dieth, and his ſonne Achaz ſuccedeth.

Fiue and twentie yeares old was Ioathan when he began to reigne, and he reigned fixtene yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Ierufa the daughter of Sadoc. ² And he did that which was right before our Lord, according to al thinges, which Ozias his father had done, fauing that he entered not into the temple of our Lord, and as yet the people did finne. ³ He built the high gate of the houſe of our Lord, and in the wal of Ophel he built manie thinges. ⁴ Cities alſo he built in the mountaynes of Iuda, and caſtelles and towres in the forreſtes. ⁵ He fought agaynſt the king of the children of Ammon, and ouercame them, and the children of Ammon gaue him at that time an hundred talentes of filuer, and tenne thouſand cores of wheate, and as manie cores of barley: the children of Ammon gaue him theſe thinges in the ſecond and third yeare. ⁶ And Ioathan was ſtrengthened, becauſe he had directed his waies before our Lord his God. ⁷ But the reſt of the wordes of Ioathan, and al his battels, and workes, are written in the Booke of the kinges of Ifrael and Iuda. ⁸ He was fiue and twentie yeares old when he began to reigne, and he reigned fixtene yeares in Ierufalem. ⁹ And Ioathan flept ^{4. Reg. 15.}

^a Neither could he be buried in the proper ſepulchres of the kinges.

with his fathers, and they buried him in the Citie of Daud: and Achaz his fonne reigned for him.

Chapter 28

For his great wickednes, Achaz is taken in battel, his countrie fpoyled, and manie flayne by the kinges of Syria, and Ifrael. 9. Yet God fuffereth not the kingdom to be fubdued. 16. Then requiring helpe of the Afsyrians, 17. is fpoyled by the Idumeans, Philifthians, and Afsyrians. 22. After al which plagues he committeth more idolatrie, 26. dieth, and his fonne Ezechias reigneth.

4. Reg. 16.

Twentie yeares old was Achaz when he began to reigne, & he reigned fixtene yeares in Ierufalem: he did not right in the fight of our Lord as Daud his father: ² but walked in the wayes of the kinges of Ifrael, moreouer alfo he did caft ftatues to Baalim. ³ He it is that burnt incense to the Valebenennom, and he confecrated his fonnes in fire according to the rite of the nations, which our Lord flewe in the coming of the children of Ifrael. ⁴ He facrificed alfo, & burnt incense in the excelfes, & on hilles, and vnder euerie tree ful of grene leaues. ⁵ And our Lord his God deliuered him into the handes of the king of Syria, who ftroke him, and tooke a great praye out of his kingdom, & brought into Damafcus: to the handes alfo of the king of Ifrael was he deliuered, and stricken with a great plague. ⁶ And Phacee the fonne of Romelia flewe of Iuda an hundred twentie thoufand in one day, al men of warre: for that they had forfaken our Lord the God of their fathers. ⁷ At that time Zechri a mightie man of Ephraim, flewe Maafias the kinges fonne, and Ezricam the gouernour of his houle, Elcana alfo fecond from the king. ⁸ And the children of Ifrael tooke of their brethren two hundred thoufand of wemen, of boyes, and of wenches, and an infinite praye: and they brought it into Samaria. ⁹ At that time there was a Prophete of our Lord, named Oded: who going forth to meete the armie

coming into Samaria, sayd to them: Behold our Lord the God of your fathers being angrie againſt Iuda, hath deliuered them into your handes, and you haue ſlayne them cruelly, ſo that your crueltie did reach to heauen. ¹⁰ Moreouer the children of Iuda and Ieruſalem you wil ſubdue vnto you for bondmen and bondwomen, which nedeth not to be done: for you haue finned hereupon to our Lord your God. ¹¹ But heare ye my counſel, and carie backe the captiues, that you haue brought of your brethren, becauſe the great furie of our Lord hangeth ouer you. ¹² There ſtood therfore princes of the children of Ephraim, Azarias the ſonne of Iohanen, Barachias the ſonne of Moſollomoth, Ezechias the ſonne of Sellum, and Amaſa the ſonne of Hadali, againſt them that came out of the battel, ¹³ and they ſayd to them: You ſhal not bring in the captiues hither, leſt we finne to our Lord. Why wil you adde vpon our finnes, and heape vp old offences? for it is a great finne, and the anger of the furie of our Lord hangeth ouer Iſrael. ¹⁴ And the men of warre diſmiſt the pray, & al the thinges that they had taken, before the princes and al the multitude. ¹⁵ And the men, whom we mentioned aboue, ſtood and taking the captiues, and al that were naked they clothed and ſhod them, with the ſpoiles: and when they had clothed and reſreſhed them with meate and drinke, and annoynted them becauſe of their labour, and had looked carefully to them: as manie as could not walke, and were of a weake bodie, they ſet on beaſtes, and brought them to Iericho the Citie of palme trees to their brethren, and themſelues returned into Samaria. ¹⁶ At that time king Achaz ſent to the king of the Affyrians asking helpe. And the Idumeans came and ſtrooke manie of Iuda, and tooke a great praye. ¹⁷ The Philifthijms alſo were ſpred abroad by the cities of the champayne, and toward the South of Iuda: and they tooke Bethſames, & Aialon, and Gaderoth, Socho alſo, & Thamnan, and Gamzo, with their villages, and dwelt in them. ¹⁸ For our Lord had humbled Iuda becauſe of Achaz the king of Iuda, for that he had made it naked of helpe, and had contemned our Lord. ¹⁹ And he brought agaynſt him Theglathphalnafar

the king of the Affyrians, who also afflicted him, and spoyled him no man resisting. ²⁰ Therefore Achaz spoyling the house of our Lord, and the house of the kings, and of the princes gave gifts to the king of the Affyrians, and yet it did nothing profite him. ²¹ Moreover also in the time of his distress he increased contempte against our Lord, king Achaz himself by himself, ²² immolated victims to the goddess of Damascus that stroke him, and said: The goddess of the kings of Syria doe helpe them, whom I will pacifie with hostes, and they will ayde me, ^a whereas on the contrarie part they were his ruine, and all Israels. ²³ Achaz therefore having spoyled all the vessels of the house of God, and broken them shut the gates of the temple of God, and made him altars in all the corners of Ierusalem. ²⁴ In all the cities also of Iuda he built altars to burne frankincense, and he provoked to wrath our Lord the God of his fathers. ²⁵ But the rest of his wordes, all his workes the first and the last are written in the Booke of the kings of Iuda and Israel. ²⁶ And Achaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the Citie of Ierusalem: for they received him not into the sepulchres of the kings of Israel. And Ezechias his sonne reigned for him.

Chapter 29

Ezechias repayreth the Temple, and diuine seruice. 5. Zeloufly exhorteth offenders to repentance. 12. The Temple is purified in fixtene daies. 18. The king and nobles offer hostes, which the Priestes immolate, 25. with solemne musick (ordained by king Dauid) and great ioy of all the people.

4. Reg. 18.

Therfore Ezechias began to reigne, when he was five and twentie yeares old, and he reigned nine and twentie yeares in Ierusalem: the name of his mother was Abia, the daughter of Zacharias. ² And

^a VVicked policie auaieth nothing, but hurteth much

he did that which was pleafing in the fight of our Lord,
 according to al thinges that Dauid his father had done.
³ He in the firft yeare and moneth of his reigne opened
 the doores of the houfe of our Lord, and repayred them.
⁴ And he brought the Prieftes and the Leuites, and affem-
 bled them in the Eaft ftreate. ⁵ And he fayd to them:
 Heare me ye Leuites, and be fanctified, cleane the houfe
 of our Lord the God of your fathers, and take away al vn-
 cleannes out of the Sanctuarie. ⁶ Our fathers haue finned
 and done euil in the fight of our Lord God, forfaking
 him: they haue turned away their faces from the taber-
 nacle of our Lord, and geuen the backe. ⁷ They haue
 fhut the doores, that were in the porch, and put out the
 lampes, and haue not burnt incenfe, and haue not of-
 fered holocaustes in the Sanctuarie of the God of Ifrael.
⁸ Therefore was the furie of our Lord ftirred vp vpon Iuda
 and Ierufalem, and he hath deliuered them into commo-
 tion, and into deftruction, & to be hiffed at, as your
 felues fee with your eyes. ⁹ Behold, our fathers haue
 fallen by the fwordes, our fonnes, and our daughters,
 and wiues are led captiue for this wickedneffe. ¹⁰ Now
 therfore it pleafeth me that we make a couenant with
 our Lord the God of Ifrael, and he wil turne away the
 furie of his wrath from vs. ¹¹ My children be not negli-
 gent: our Lord hath chofen you to ftand before him, and
 to minifter to him, and to worfhipe him, and to burne
 incenfe to him. ¹² The Leuites therfore arofe: Mahath
 the fonne of Amafai, and Ioel the fonne of Azarias, of
 the children of Caath: moreouer the children of Mer-
 ari, Cis the fonne of Abdi, and Azarias the fonne of
 Ialaleel. And of the children of Gerfon, Ioah the fonne
 of Zemma, and Eden the fonne of Ioah. ¹³ But of the
 children of Elifaphan, Samri, and Iahiel. Alfo of the chil-
 dren of Afaph, Zacharias, and Mathanias. ¹⁴ Moreouer
 alfo of the children of Heman, Iahiel, & Semei: yea and
 of the children of Idithun, Semeias, and Oziel. ¹⁵ And
 they gathered together their brethren, and were fancti-
 fied, and went in according to the commandment of the
 king, and the precept of our Lord, to purge the houfe of
 God. ¹⁶ The Prieftes alfo going into the Temple of our

Lord to fanctifie it, brought out al vncleannes, which they found within the entrance of the houle of our Lord, which the Leuites tooke, and caried to the Torrent cedron without. ¹⁷ And they began to clenfe it the first day of the first moneth, and in the eight day of the fame moneth they entred into the porche of the temple of our Lord, and they purged the temple in eight dayes, and in the fixtenth day of the fame moneth, they accomplished that which they began. ¹⁸ They entered in also to Ezechias the king, and sayd to him: We haue fanctified al the houle of our Lord, and the altar of holocaust, and the veffels therof, moreouer also the table of propofition with al the veffels therof, ¹⁹ and al the furniture of the temple, which king Achaz in his reigne had polluted, after that he tranfgreffed; and behold al thinges are fet forth before the altar of our Lord. ²⁰ And Ezechias the king riling early, affembled al the princes of the citie, and went vp into the houle of our Lord: ²¹ and they offered together feuen oxen, and feuen rammes, feuen lambes, and feuen buckgoates for finne, for the kingdom, for the fanctuarie, for Iuda, and he sayd to the Prieftes the children of Aaron, that they fould offer them vpon the altar of our Lord. ²² They killed therefore the oxen, and the Prieftes tooke the bloud, and powred it vpon the altar, they killed also the rammes, and their bloud they powred also vpon the altar, and they immolated the lambes, and powred the bloud vpon the altar. ²³ They brought the buckgoates for finne before the king, and the whole multitude, and they put their handes vpon them: ²⁴ and the Prieftes immolated them, and fprinkled their bloud on the altar for an expiation of al Ifrael: for the king had commanded for al Ifrael, that holocaust fould be made, and for finne. ²⁵ He appoynted also the Leuites in the houle of our Lord with cymbals, and pfalteries, and harpes according to the difpofition of Dauid the king, and of Gad the Seer, and of Nathan the Prophete: for it was the precept of our Lord by the hand of his prophetes. ²⁶ And the Leuites ftoode, holding the inftumentes of Dauid, and the Prieftes trumpettes. ²⁷ And Ezechias commanded that they should

offer holocaustes vpon the altar: and when holocaustes were offered, they began to sing prayes to our Lord, and to sound with trumpettes, and on diuerse instruments, which Dauid the king of Ifrael had prepared for to sound. ²⁸ And al the multitude adoring, the singing men, and they that held the trumpettes, were in their office, whiles the holocaust was accomplished. ²⁹ And when the oblation was ended, the king bowed, and al that were with him, and adored. ³⁰ And Ezechias, and the princes commanded the Levites, that they should praye our Lord in the wordes of Dauid, and Afaph the Seer: who prayfed him with great ioy, and bowing the knee adored. ³¹ But Ezechias added thefe wordes alfo: You haue filled your handes to our Lord, come, and offer victimes, and prayes in the houle of our Lord. Al the multitude therfore offered hostes, and prayes, and holocaustes with a deuout minde. ³² Moreouer the number of the holocaustes, which the multitude offered, was this, oxen feuentie, rammes an hundred, lambes two hundred. ³³ And they sanctified to our Lord fix hundred, & sheepe three thoufand. ³⁴ But the Prieftes were few, neither could they fuffice to draw of the fkinnes of the holocaustes: wherfore the Levites alfo their brethren holpe them, til the worke was accomplished, and the Prieftes were sanctified, for the Levites are sanctified with an eafier rite, then the Prieftes. ³⁵ There were holocaustes therfore verie many, the fatte of pacifiques, and the libamentes of the holocaustes: and the feruice of the houle of our Lord was accomplished. ³⁶ And Ezechias reioyfed, and al the people, becaufe the minifterie of our Lord was accomplished. For it pleased them that the thing should be done of a foden.

Chapter 30

Ezechias by meffengers and letters exhorteth the people both of Iuda and Ifrael, to make Pafch in Ierufalem. 11. Which fome of Ifrael, and al Iuda performe, 18. the fourteenth day of the fecond moneth, though al could not be purified according to the law. 23. They make an

other feaft of Azimes feuen dayes more, the king and princes geuing hoftes to the people.

Ezechias alfo fent to al Ifrael and Iuda: and he wrote letters to Ephraim and Manaffes, that they fhould come to the houfe of our Lord in Ierufalem, and should make a Phafe to our Lord the God of Ifrael. ² Counfel therefore being taken of the king and the princes, and of al the affembly of Ierufalem, they decreed to make the Phafe the fecond moneth. ³ For they could not make it in his time: becaufe the Prieftes that might fuffice, had not bene fanctified, and the people had not as yet bene gathered into Ierufalem. ⁴ And the word pleased the king, and al the multitude. ⁵ And they decreed to fend meffengers into al Ifrael from Berfabee vnto Dan, that they should come, and make the Phafe of our Lord the God of Ifrael in Ierufalem: for manie had not made it as is prefcribed by the law. ⁶ And the poftes went forth with letters of commandement from the king, and his princes, into al Ifrael and Iuda, according to that, which the king had commanded, proclaiming: Children of Ifrael returne ye to our Lord the God of Abraham, and Ifaac, and Ifrael: and he wil returne to the remnant, that hath efaped the hand of the king of the Affyrians. ⁷ Become not as your fathers, and brethren, which haue reuolted from our Lord the God of their fathers, who hath deliuered them into deftruction, as your felues fee. ⁸ Harden not your neckes, as your fathers: geue handes to our Lord, and come to his Sanctuarie, which he hath fanctified for euer: ferue our Lord the God of your fathers, and the wrath of his furie fhall be turned away from you. ⁹ For if you fhall returne to our Lord: your brethren, and children fhall haue mercie before their Lordes, that haue led them captiue, and they fhall returne into this land: for our Lord your God is merciful, and wil not turne away his face from you, if you fhall returne to him. ¹⁰ Therefore the poftes went forward fpedely from citie to citie, through the land of Ephraim, and of Manaffes, as farre as Zabulon, they

mocking and florning them. ¹¹ Neuertheleffe certayne men of Afer, and Manaffes, and Zabulon, condescending to the counfel, came to Ierufalem. ¹² But the hand of God was in Iuda, to geue them one hart to doe the word of our Lord, according to the precept of the king and of the princes. ¹³ And much people was gathered into Ierufalem to make the folemnie of Azimes in the fecond moneth: ¹⁴ And rifing they deftroyed the altars that were in Ierufalem, and ouerthrowing al thinges wherin incenfe was burnt to idols, they threw it into the Torrent cedron. ¹⁵ And they immolated the Phafe the fourteenth day of the fecond moneth. The Prieftes alfo and the Leuites at length being fanctified offered holocaustes in the houle of our Lord. And they ftoode in their order according to the difpofition, & law of Moyfes the man of God: but the Prieftes receiued the bloud to be powred out of the handes of the Leuites, ¹⁶ becaufe a great multitude was not fanctified: & therfore the Leuites immolated the Phafe for them, that came not in time to be fanctified to our Lord. ¹⁷ For a great part of the people of Ephraim, and Manaffes, and Iffachar, and Zabulon, that had not bene fanctified, did eate the Phafe, not according to that which is writen: and Ezechias prayed for them, faying: Our good Lord wil be merciful, ¹⁸ to al them, ^athat in al their hart feeke our Lord the God of their fathers: and wil not impute it to them that they are not fanctified. ¹⁹ Whom our Lord heard, and was pacified to the people. ²⁰ And the children of Ifrael, that were found in Ierufalem, made the folemnie of Azimes feuen daies in great ioy, prayfing our Lord euerie day. The Leuites alfo and the Prieftes by instrumentes, that agreed to their office. ²¹ And Ezechias fpake to the hart of al the Leuites, that had good vnderftanding concerning our Lord: and they did eate during the feuen daies of the folemnie, immolating victimes of

^a Being penitēt in hart for their finnes, Gods difpenfation might be fupposed for legal purification in cafe of neceffitie, which otherwife was ftrictly commanded. *Leuit. 5. et feq. Deut. 27. &c.*

pacifiques, and prayfing our Lord the God of their fathers. ²² And it pleased the whole multitude to celebrate it ^a)other feuen daies: which also they did with great ioy. ²³ For Ezechias the king of Iuda had geuen the multitude a thoufand oxen, and feuen thoufand fheepe: but the princes had geuen the people oxen a thoufand, & fheepe ten thoufand: there was fanctified therfore a verie great multitude of Prieftes. ²⁴ And al the multitude of Iuda was ful of mirth, as wel of the Prieftes and Leuites, as of al the affembly, that came out of Ifrael; of the profelites also of the land of Ifrael, and them that dwelt in Iuda. ²⁵ And there was made a great folemnie in Ierufalem, fuch as had not bene in that citie from the dayes of Salomon the fonne of Daud the king of Ifrael. ²⁶ And the Prieftes & the Leuites rofe vp bleffing the people: & their voice was heard: and their prayer came into the holie habitation of heauen.

Chapter 31

Idoles being deftroyed in al Iuda and part of Ifrael, Prieftes and Leuites freely execute their functions. 4. Tithes and firft fruictes are payed in fuch abundance, 15. that they are put in ftore houfes, and diftributed by officers.

And when thefe thinges had bene ritely celebrated, al Ifrael that was found in the cities of Iuda, went forth, and they brake the idols, and cut downe the groues, ouerthrew the excelfes, and deftroyed the altars, not onlie out of al Iuda and Beniamin, but out of Ephraim also and Manaffes, til they vtterly deftroyed them: and al the children of Ifrael returned into their poffeffions and cities. ² And Ezechias appoynted companies of Prieftes, and of Leuites, by their diuifions, euerie man in his owne office, to witte, as wel of the Prieftes, as of the Leuites, for the holocaustes, and

^a Voluntarie workes of fupererogation, more then was commanded.

pacifiques, that they should minister, and ^a)confesse, and sing in the gates of the campe of our Lord. ³ And the kinges part was, that of his proper substance holocaust should be offered, morning alwaies and euening, in the Sabbathes also, and the Calendes and in other solemnities, as it is written in the law of Moyfes. ⁴ He commanded also the people that dwelt in Ierusalem, to geue portions to the Priestes, and the Leuites, that they might attend the law of our Lord. ⁵ Which when it was noyed in the eares of the multitude, the children of Israel offered very manie first fruites of corne, of wine, and of oyle, of honie also: and of al thinges, which the ground bringeth forth, they offered tithes. ⁶ Yea and the children of Israel and Iuda, that dwelt in the cities of Iuda, offered tithes of oxen, and sheepe, and tithes of sanctified thinges, which they had vowed to our Lord their God: and carying them al, made manie heapes. ⁷ The third moneth they began to lay the foundations of the heapes, and in the feuenth moneth they finished them. ⁸ And when Ezechias, and his princes came in, they saw the heapes, and blessed our Lord, and the people of Israel. ⁹ And Ezechias asked the Priestes and the Leuites, why the heapes lay so: ¹⁰ Azarias the high Priest of the stocke of Sadoc answered him, saying: Since first fruites began to be offered in the house of our Lord, we haue eaten, and haue bene full, and very much hath remayned, because our Lord hath blessed his people: and of the remaynes this is the abundance, which thou seest. ¹¹ Ezechias therefore commanded that storehouses should be prepared in the house of our Lord. Which when they had done, ¹² they brought in as well the first fruites, as the tithes, and whatsover they had vowed, faithfully. And the overseer of them was Chonenias a Leuite, and Semei his brother the second, ¹³ after whom Iahiel, and Azarias, and Nahath, and Afael, and Ierimoth, Iofabad also, and Eliel, and Iefmachias, and Mahath, and Banaias, overseers vnder the hand of Chonenias, and Semei his brother, by the commandment of

^a Besides confession of finnes there is also confession of Gods excellencie & goodnes.

Ezechias the king, and Azarias the high Priest of the house of God, to whom all things apperteyned. ¹⁴ But Core the sonne of Iemna a Leuite, and porter of the east gate, was ouerfeer of those things, which were voluntarily offered to our Lord, and of the first fruites and the things consecrated for *Sancta sanctorum*. ¹⁵ And vnder his charge Eden, and Beniamin, Iesue, and Se-meias, Amarias also, and Sechenias, in the cities of the Priestes, that they should faithfully distribute to their brethren portions, to the lesser and greater: ¹⁶ saving the men children from three yeares and aboue, to all that entered into the temple of our Lord, and whatsoever day by day was profitable in the ministration, and the obseruances according to their diuisions, ¹⁷ to the Priestes by families, and to the Leuites from the twentieth yeare and upward, by the orders and companies, ¹⁸ and to all the multitude, as well their wives, as their children of both sex, meates were given faithfully of these things, that had bene sanctified. ¹⁹ Yea and of the children of Aaron by the fildes and the suburbs of euery citie, there were men ordayned, that should distribute portions, to all the male sexe, of the Priestes and the Leuites. ²⁰ Ezechias therefore did all things which we haue sayd in all Iuda: and wrought good and right, and truth before our Lord his God, ²¹ in all the seruice of the ministration of the house of our Lord, according to the law and the ceremonies, willing to seeke his God in all his hart, and he did it and prospered.

Chapter 32

Sennacherib king of Assyria invading Iuda, king Ezechias encourageth the people, and provideth to defend the countrey. 9. The Assyrians threaten the people, and blaspheme God. 20. Ezechias and Ifaias pray. 21. An Angel destroyeth the Assyrians armie, so their king retiring home, is slayne in his idols temple, by his owne finnes. 22. Ezechias reigneth in peace, 24. falleth into deadly sickness, but

miraculouſly recouereth, offendeth in pryde, and repenteth: 27. is exceeding rich, which he imprudently ſheweth to ſtrangers: 32. dieth, and Manaffes ſuccedeth.

After which thinges, and this maner of truth, came Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians, and entering into Iuda, beſieged the fenced cities, deſirous to take them. ² Which when Ezechias had ſene, to witte, that Sennacherib was come, and the whole force of the battel to be turned agaynſt Ieruſalem, ³ taking counſel with the princes, and the moſt valiant men, to ſtoppe vp the heades of the fountaynes, that were without the citie: and the ſentence of them al decreing this, ⁴ he gathered a very great multitude, & they ſtopped vp al the fountaynes, and the riuer, that ranne in the middes of the land, ſaying: Left the kinges of the Affyrians come, and finde abundance of waters. ⁵ He built alſo doing induſtriouſly euerie wall that had bene deſtroyed, and built towers vpon them, and an other wall without: and he repayred Mello in the citie of Dauid, and made armour and fhildes of al fortes: ⁶ And he appointed princes of warryers in the armie: and he called them al together in the ftreate of the gate of the citie, and ſpake to their hart, ſaying: ⁷ Doe manfully, and take courage: feare not, neither dread ye the king of the Affyrians, and al the multitude, that is with him: for there are manie moe with vs, then with him. ⁸ For with him is an arme of fleſh: with vs the Lord our God, which is our helper, and fighteth for vs. And the people was encouraged with theſe maner of wordes of Ezechias the king of Iuda. ⁹ Which thinges after they were done, Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians ſent his ſeruantes to Ieruſalem (for himſelf with al his armie beſieged Lachis) to Ezechias the king of Iuda, & to al the people, that was in the citie, ſaying: ¹⁰ Thus ſayth Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians: In whom hauing affiance, doe you fitte beſieged in Ieruſalem? ¹¹ Hath Ezechias deceiued you, to deliuer you to death in hunger and thirſt, affirming that the Lord your God can deliuer you from the hand of the

4. Reg. 18. Iſaie. 36.

king of the Affyrians? ¹² Why, is not this Ezechias, that hath deftroyed his excelfes, and altars, and hath commanded Iuda & Ierufalem, faying: Before one altar you fhall adore, and on it you fhall burne incenfe? ¹³ Are you ignorant what thinges I haue done, and my fathers to all the peoples of the landes? haue the goddes of nations, and of all landes bene able to deliuer their cuntry out of my hand? ¹⁴ Who is there of all the goddes of the nations, which my fathers wafted, that could deliuer his people out of my hand, that your God alfo can deliuer you out of this hand? ¹⁵ Let not therefore Ezechias deceiue you, nor delude you with vayne perfuafion, neither beleue ye him. For if no god of all nations and kingdomes, could deliuer his people out of my hand, and out of the hand of my fathers, confequently neither fhall your God be able to deliuer you out of my hand. ¹⁶ Yea and manie other thinges did his feruantes fpeake, agaynft our Lord God, and agaynft Ezechias his feruant. ¹⁷ Letters alfo he wrote full of blafphemie againft our Lord the God of Ifrael, and he fpake agaynft him: as the goddes of their nations could not deliuer their people out of my hand, fo the God alfo of Ezechias can not deliuer his people out of this hand. ¹⁸ Moreouer alfo with a lowd crie, in the Iewes tongue, he founded againft the people, that fate on the walles of Ierufalem, that he might terrifie them, and take the citie. ¹⁹ And he fpake agaynft the God of Ierufalem, as agaynft the goddes of the peoples of the earth, the workes of mens handes. ²⁰ Ezechias therefore the king, and Ifaias the prophet the fonne of Amos, prayed agaynft this blafphemie, and cried out euen to heauen. ²¹ And our Lord fent an Angel, which ftooke euery ftrong man, and warryer, and prince of the armie of the king of the Affyrians: and he returned with ignominie into his cuntry. And when he was entered into the houfe of his god, his fonnes that were come forth of his wombe, flew him with the fword. ²² And our Lord faued Ezechias and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, out of the hand of Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians, and out of the hand of all, & gaue them reft round about. ²³ Manie alfo brought hoftes, and facrifices to our Lord

into Ierufalem, and giftes to Ezechias the king of Iuda: who was exalted after thefe thinges before al nations. ²⁴ In thofe daies Ezechias was fick euen to death, and he prayed our Lord: and he heard him, and gaue him a figne. ²⁵ But not according to the benefites, which he receiued, did he recompense, ^a) becaufe his hart was eleuated: and wrath came agaynft him, and agaynft Iuda and Ierufalem. ²⁶ And he was humbled afterward, becaufe his hart had bene exalted, both he and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem: and therfore the wrath of our Lord came not vpon them in the daies of Ezechias. ²⁷ And Ezechias was rich, and glorious excedingly and gathered to himfelf great treafures of filuer and of gold, and of pretious ftone, of fpices, and of armour of al kinde, and of veffels of great price. ²⁸ Storehoufes alfo of corne, of wyne, and of oyle, and ftalles of al beaftes, and foldes of cattel, ²⁹ and fix cities he built to him felf: for he had flockes of fheepe, and of heardees innumerable, becaufe our Lord had geuen him fubftance exceding much. ³⁰ The fame is Ezechias, that ftopped the vpper fountaine of the waters of Gihon, and turned them away vnderneath toward the Weft of the Citie of Daud: in al his workes he did prosperoufly what he would. ³¹ But yet in the embaffie of the princes of Babylon, that were fent to him, to aske of the wonder, that had chanced vpon the earth, God leift him that he might be tempted, and al thinges might be made knowen, that were in his hart. ³² But the reft of the wordes of Ezechias, and of his mercies are writen in the vifion of Ifaias the fonne of Amos the prophete, and in the booke of the kinges of Iuda & Ifrael. ³³ And Ezechias flept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefe fepulchres of the children of Daud: and al Iuda celebrated his funeralles, & al the inhabitantes of Ierufalem: and Manaffes his fonne reigned for him.

^a More danger of pride in proſperitie, then in aduerſitie.

Chapter 33

Manaffes for his manifold wickednes is led captiue into Babylon: 12. repenteth in prifon, is reftored to his kingdom, and deftroyeth idolatrie: 18. dieth, 23. & Amon fucceding, 24. is flayne by his feruantes, and Iofias reigneth.

4. Reg. 21.

Twelue yeares old was Manaffes when he began to reigne, and he reigned fiftie fiue yeares in Ierufalem. ² And he did euil before our Lord, according to al the abominations of the nations, which our Lord ouerthrew before the children of Ifrael: ³ and being turned, he reedified the excelfes which Ezechias his father had deftroyed: and he built altars to Baalim, and made groues, and he adored al the hoft of heauen, and worffhipped it. ⁴ He built alfo altars in the houle of our Lord, wherof our Lord had fayd: In Ierufalem fhall my name be for euer. ⁵ And he built them to al the hoft of heauen in the two courtes of the houle of our Lord. ⁶ And he made his fonnes to paffe through fyre, to the Valebenennom: he obferued dreames, folowed fouthfayings, gaue him felf to magike artes, he had with him magicians, & inchaunters: and he wrought manie euils before our Lord, to prouoke him. ⁷ Alfo a grauen, and a molten figne he put in the houle of God, wherof our Lord fpake to Dauid, and to Salomon his fonne, faying: In this houle, and in Ierufalem, which I haue chofen of al the tribes of Ifrael, wil I put my name for euer. ⁸ And I wil not make the foote of Ifrael to moue out of the land, which I haue deliuered to their fathers: yet fo if they fhall obferue to doe that I haue commanded them, and al the law, and the ceremonies, and iudgements by the hand of Moyfes. ⁹ Manaffes therfore feduced Iuda, and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, that they did euil aboue al the nations, which our Lord had ouerthrowen before the face of the children of Ifrael. ¹⁰ And our Lord fpake to him, and to his people, and they would not attend. ¹¹ Therefore he brought vpon them the princes of the hoft of the king of the Affyrians: and they tooke Manaffes,

& led him bound with chaynes, and fetters into Babylon. ¹² Who after that he was in diftreffe, prayed our Lord his God: and did penance exceedingly before the God of his fathers. ¹³ And he desired him, and befought him earnestly: ^a)and he heard his prayer, and brought him agayne to Ierufalem into his kingdom, and Manaffes knew that our Lord he was God. ¹⁴ After these thinges he built a wal without the citie of Daud, on the west of Gihon in the valley, from the entrance of the fifth gate round about vnto Ophel, and rayfed it exceedingly: and he appoynted princes of the hoft in al the fenced cities of Iuda: ¹⁵ and he tooke away ftrange goddes, and the idol out of the houle of our Lord: the altars also which he had made in the mount of the houle of our Lord, and in Ierufalem, and he threw al without the citie. ¹⁶ Moreouer he reedified the altar of our Lord, and immolated vpon it victimes, and pacifiques, and prayse: and he commanded Iuda to serue our Lord the God of Ifrael. ¹⁷ Neuertheleffe as yet the people immolated in the excelses to our Lord their God. ¹⁸ But the rest of the actes of Manaffes: and his obsecration to his God: the wordes also of the Seers, that spake to him in the name of our Lord the God of Ifrael, are conteyned in the wordes of the kinges of Ifrael. ¹⁹ His ^b)prayer also, and his obtayning, and al his finnes, and contempt, the places also wherein he built excelses, and made groues, and ftatues before he did penance, are written in the wordes of Hozai. ²⁰ Manaffes therefore flept with his fathers, and they buried him in his houle: & his sonne Amon reigned for him. ²¹ Ammon was two and twentie yeares old when he began to reigne, and he reigned two yeares in Ierufalem. ²² And he did euil in the fight of our Lord, as Manaffes his father had done: and he immolated to al the idols, which Manaffes his father had made, and serued them. ²³ And he did not reuerence the face of our Lord, as Manaffes his father did reuerence it,

^a A pregnant example of the effect of harty repentance.

^b This prayer is not extant in the Hebrew but in Greke & Latin, as yet neither receiued for canonical, by the Church nor refused.

and he committed farre greater finnes. ²⁴ And when his seruantes had confpired agaynst him, they flewe him in his owne houle. ²⁵ Moreouer the rest of the multitude of the people, hauing flaine them that stroke Amon, made Iofias his sonne king for him.

Chapter 34

Iofias destroyeth idolatrie, 8. repaireth the Temple. 14. The booke of the law found in the Temple is redde before him. 19. Wherby vnderstanding the finnes of the people, 23. a prophete foresheweth their punishment, 26. but not in his daies. 29. He reneweth the couenant betwen God and the people.

4. Reg. 22.

Eight yeares old was Iofias when he began to reigne, & he reigned thirtie and one yeares in Ierufalem. ² And he did that which was right in the sight of our Lord, and walked in the waies of Dauid his father: he declined not neither to the right hand, nor to the left. ³ And in the eight yeare of his reigne, when he was yet a child, he began to seeke the God of his father Dauid: and the twelfth yeare after he began to reigne, he cleansed Iuda and Ierufalem from excelses, and groues, and idols, & sculptils. ⁴ And they destroyed before him the altars of Baalim, and the idols, that had bene set vpon them, they destroyed: the groues also and sculptils he cut downe and brake in peeces: and ouer their tombes, that were accustomed to immolate vnto them, he strowed the fragmentes. ⁵ Moreouer the bones of the Priestes he burnt on the altars of the idols, and he clenfed Iuda and Ierufalem. ⁶ Yea and in the cities of Manaffes, and of Ephraim, and of Simeon, vnto Nephthali he ouerthrew al. ⁷ And when he had destroyed the altars, and the groues, and had broken the idols into peces, and had ouerthrowen al profane temples out of al the land of Ifrael, he returned into Ierufalem. ⁸ Therefore in the eighteenth yeare of his reigne, the land now clenfed, and the temple of our Lord, he sent Saphan the

3. Reg. 12.

fonne of Efelias, and Maafias the gouernour of the citie, and Ioha the fonne of Ioachaz Commenter, that they fhould repayre the houle of our Lord his God. ⁹ Who came to Helcias the high prieft: and taking of him the money, which had bene brought into the houle of our Lord, and which the Leuites and porters had gathered together of Manaffes, and Ephraim, and of al the remnant of Ifrael, of al Iuda alfo, and Beniamin, and the inhabitants of Ierufalem, ¹⁰ they deliuered in their handes, that ouerfaw the workemen in the houle of our Lord, that they fhould repayre the temple, and mend al weake partes. ¹¹ But they gaue it to the artificers, and to the mafons, that they fhould bye ftones out of the quarries, and timber for the ioyntures of the building, and for making the roofe of the houle, which the kinges of Iuda had deftroyed. ¹² Who did al thinges faithfully. And the ouerfeers of the workemen were Iahath & Abdias of the children of Merari, Zacharias and Mofollam of the children of Caath, which vrged the worke: al Leuites fkilful to fing on inftumentes. ¹³ But ouer them, that caried burdens to diuerfe vfes, were fcribes, and mafters of the Leuites, and porters. ¹⁴ And when they caried forth the money, that had bene brought into the temple of our Lord, Helcias the Prieft found the Booke of the law of our Lord, ^aby the hand of Moyfes. ¹⁵ And he fayd to Saphan the Scribe: I haue found the booke of the law in the houle of our Lord: and deliuered it to him. ¹⁶ But he brought in the volume to the king, and told him, faying: Al thinges, which thou gaueft into the hand of thy feruantes, loe are accomplished. ¹⁷ The filuer that was found in the houle of our Lord, they haue gathered into a maffe: and it was geuen to the ouerfeers of the artificers, and of them that make diuerfe workes. ¹⁸ Moreouer Helcias the Prieft deliuered me this booke. Which when he had read in the kinges prefence, ¹⁹ and he had heard the wordes of the law, he rent his garmentes: ²⁰ and he commanded Helcias, and Ahicam the fonne of Saphan, and Abdon the fonne of Micha, Saphan alfo

^a Geuen by the hand of Moyfes.

the scribe, and Afaa the kinges seruant, saying: ²¹ Goe, and pray our Lord for me, and for the remnant of Ifrael, and Iuda, concerning al the wordes of this Booke, which is found: for the great furie of our Lord hath diftilled vpon vs, for that our fathers haue not kept the wordes of our Lord, to doe al thinges, that are writen in this volume. ²² Helcias therfore went, and they that were sent together by the king, to Olda a propheteffe, the wife of Sellum the fonne of Thecuath, the fonne of Hafra keeper of the garmentes: who dwelt in Ierufalem in the second part: and they fpake to her the wordes, which we haue aboue mentioned. ²³ But she answered them: Thus sayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: Tel the man, that sent you to me: ²⁴ Thus sayth our Lord: Behold I wil bring euils vpon this place, and vpon the inhabitantes therof, and al the curfes, that are writen in this Booke, which they redde before the king of Iuda. ²⁵ Because they haue forsaken me, and haue facrificed to ftrange goddes, that they might prouoke me to wrath in al the workes of their handes, therfore fhall my furie droppe vpon this place, & fhall not be extinguished. ²⁶ But to the king of Iuda that sent you to befeche our Lord, thus fpeake ye: Thus sayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: Because thou haft heard the wordes of this volume, ²⁷ and thy hart is mollified, and thou art humbled in the fight of our Lord for these thinges, which are fpoken againft this place, and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, and reuerencing my face, haft rent thy garmentes, and wept before me: I also haue heard thee, sayth our Lord. ²⁸ ^a)For now wil I gather thee to thy fathers, and thou fhalt be brought into thy graue in peace: neither shal thyne eies see al the euil that I wil bring in vpon this place, and vpon the inhabitantes therof. They therfore reported to the king al thinges that she had sayd. ²⁹ But he calling together al the ancientes of Iuda and Ierufalem, ³⁰ went vp into the houle of our Lord, and al the men of Iuda, and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, Priestes and Leuites, and al the

^a It is a benefite to be taken out of this world, before general miferie come vpon the people.

people from the least to the greatest. In whose hearing in the house of our Lord, the king read all the words of the volume. ³¹ And standing on his tribunal seat, he made a covenant before our Lord, that he would walk after him, and keep his precepts, and testimonies, and justifications in all his heart, and in all his soul, and would do the things that were written in that volume, which he had read. ³² He adjured also upon this all that were found in Jerusalem, and Benjamin: and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant, of our Lord the God of their fathers. ³³ Josias therefore took away all abominations of all the countries of the children of Israel: and made all, that were left in Israel, to serve our Lord their God. All his days they revolted not from our Lord the God of their fathers.

Chapter 35

Josias celebrateth a most Solemne Pasch. 20. Is flaine by the king of Ægypt, all Iuda lamenting him, 25. most specially Ieremias.

And Josias made in Jerusalem ^aa Pasch to our Lord, which was immolated the fourteenth day of the first month. ² And he appointed the Priests in their offices, and exhorted them that they would minister in the house of our Lord. ³ To the Levites also, at whose instruction all Israel was sanctified to our Lord, he spake: Put the Arke in the Sanctuarie of the temple, which Salomon built the sonne of David the king of Israel, for you shall carry it no more: but now minister to our Lord your God, and to his people Israel. ⁴ And prepare your selves by your houses, and kindreds in the divisions of euerie one, as David the king of Israel commanded, and Salomon his sonne described. ⁵ And

4. Reg. 16.

^a This Pasch, or Pasch, made by Josias is famous, partly for that this feast had bene omitted some yeares, but specially for the great and extraordinarie solemnitie made at this time.

minifter ye in the Sanctuarie by families and Leuitical companies, ⁶ and being fanctified immolate the Phafe, prepare alfo your brethren, that they may doe according to the wordes, which our Lord fpake in the hand of Moyfes. ⁷ Moreouer Iofias gaue to al the people, that was found there in the folemnie of the Phafe, lambes and kiddes of the flockes, and of the reft of the cattel thirtie thoufand, of oxen alfo three thoufand, al thefe thinges of the kinges fubftance. ⁸ His dukes alfo voluntarily offered that which they vowed, as wel to the people, as to the Prieftes and the Leuites. Moreouer Helcias, and Zacharias, and Iahiel princes of the houle of our Lord, gaue to the Prieftes to make the Phafe cattel one with an other two thoufand fix hundred, and oxen three hundred. ⁹ And Chonenias, and Semeias, alfo Nathanael, his brethren, moreouer Hafabias, and Iehiel, and Iozabad princes of the Leuites, gaue to the reft of the Leuites to celebrate the Phafe fiue thoufand sheepe, and oxen fiue hundred. ¹⁰ And the minifterie was prepared, and the Prieftes ftood in their office: the Leuites alfo in companies, according to the kinges commandement. ¹¹ And the Phafe was immolated: and Prieftes fprinkled the blood with their hand, and the Leuites drew of the skinnes of the holocaustes: ¹² and they feperated them to geue them by the houfes and families of euerie one, and to be offered to our Lord, as it is wrien in the Booke of Moyfes, of oxen alfo they did in like maner. ¹³ And they rofted the Phafe vpon fyre, according to that which is wrien in the law: but the pacifique hoftes they boyled in caudrons, and kettles, and pottes, and in haft they diftributed it to al the people. ¹⁴ And for themfelues, and for the Prieftes they prepared afterward: for in oblation of holocaustes and of fatte the Prieftes were occupied vntil night: wherefore the Leuites prepared for themfelues, and for the Prieftes the children of Aaron laft. ¹⁵ Moreouer the finging men the children of Afaph ftood in their order, according to the precept of Daud, and Afaph, and Heman, and Idithun the prophetes of the king: and the porters watched at euerie gate, fo that they departed not a moment from the

minifterie: for the which caufe alfo their brethren the Levites prepared meates for them. ¹⁶ Therefore al the feruice of our Lord was ritely accomplifhed that day, fo that they made the Phafe, and offered holocaufes vpon the altar of our Lord, according to the precept of king Iofias. ¹⁷ And the children of Ifrael that were found there, made the Phafe at that time, and the folemnie of Azymes feuen daies. ¹⁸ There was not a Phafe like to this in Ifrael, from the daies of Samuel the prophete: neither did anie of al the kinges of Ifrael make a Phafe as Iofias, to the Prieftes, and the Levites, and to al Iuda, and Ifrael that was found, and to the inhabitantes of Ierufalem. ¹⁹ In the eighteenth yeare of the kingdom of Iofias was this Phafe celebrated. ²⁰ After that Iofias had repayred the temple, came vp Nechao the king of Ægypt to fight in Charcamis befide Euphrates: and Iofias went forth to meete him. ²¹ But he fending meffengers vnto him, fayd: What haue I to doe with thee king of Iuda? I come not agaynft thee this day, but I fight agaynft an other houle, to the which God hath commanded me to goe in haft: leaue to doe agaynft God, who is with me, left he kil thee. ²² ^{a)}Iofias would not returne, but prepared battel agaynft him, neither did he agree to the wordes of Nechao from the mouth of God, but went forward to fight in the felde of Mageddo. ²³ And there being wounded of the Archers, he fayd to his feruantes: Carie me out of the battel, becaufe I am fore wounded. ²⁴ Who remoued him from one chariote into an other chariote, that folowed him after the maner of kinges, and they caried him away into Ierufalem, & he died, and was buried in the monument of his fathers, and al Iuda and Ierufalem ^{b)}mourned for him. ²⁵ Ieremie moft of al: whose lamentations al the finging men and finging women repeate vntil this prefent day vpon Iofias, and it is growen as it were a law in Ifrael. Behold it is fayd

^a Iofias thought that the king of Ægypt intended to inuade his kingdom. And it was Gods wil he fhould be flaine, and not fee the euiles that fhould happen to the people.

^b Solemne exequies with lamentations and mufike.

to be written in the lamentations. ²⁶ But the rest of the wordes of Iofias & of his mercies: which are commanded by the law of our Lord: ²⁷ his workes also the first and the last, are written in the Booke of the kinges of Iuda and Ifrael.

Chapter 36

Ioachaz reigneth three monethes. 4. His brother Eliakim (named Ioakim) eleuen yeares, 9. his sonne Ioachin three monethes, 11. his vncle Sedecias eleuen yeares. 14. Moft Priestes, and people contemning the admonitions of Prophetes, 17. manie are flaine by the Chaldees, the Temple and Ierufalem spoiled and burnt. 20. The fayd kinges successiuely, and people are caryed captiue into Babylon. 22. After feuentie yeares Cyrus king of Perfia, releafeth the captiuitie, and geueth leaue to reedifie the Temple.

The people therfore of the land tooke Ioachaz the sonne of Iofias, and made him king for his father in Ierufalem. ² Three and twentie yeares old was Ioachaz, when he began to reigne, and he reigned three monethes in Ierufalem. ³ And the king of Ægypt when he came into Ierufalem, depofed him, and condemned the land in an hundred talentes of filuer, and a talent of gold. ⁴ And he made Eliakim ^ahis brother king for him, ouer Iuda and Ierufalem: and he turned his name Ioakim: but he tooke Ioachaz himself with him, and caried him away into Ægypt. ⁵ Fiue and twentie yeares old was Ioakim when he began to reigne, and he reigned eleuen yeares in Ierufalem: and he did euil before our Lord his God. ⁶ Agaynft him came vp Nabuchodonofor the king of the Chaldees, and brought him bound in chaynes into Babylon. ⁷ Whither he tranfported also the veffels of our Lord, and put them in his temple. ⁸ But the rest of the wordes of Ioakim, and

^a Hitherto from K. Dauids death the sonne had euer succeded to his father.

of his abominations, which he wrought, and the thinges that were found in him, are conteyned in the Booke of the kinges of Iuda and Ifrael. And Ioachin his sonne reigned for him. ⁹ Eight yeares old was Ioachin when he began to reigne, and he reigned three monethes and ten dayes in Ierufalem, and he did euil in the sight of our Lord. ¹⁰ And when the compasse of a yeare was come about, Nabuchodonosor the king sent some, that brought him in to Babylon, the most precious vessels of the house of our Lord being caried away withal: But he made Sedecias his vncle king ouer Iuda and Ierufalem. ¹¹ One & twentie yeares old was Sedecias when he began to reigne: & he reigned eleuen yeares in Ierufalem. ¹² And he did euil in the eyes of our Lord his God, neither did he reuerence the face of Ieremie the prophet speaking to him from the mouth of our Lord. ¹³ He reuolted also from king Nabuchodonosor, who had adiuured him by God: & he hardened his necke & his hart, that he would not returne to our Lord the God of Ifrael. ¹⁴ Yea & al the chiefe of the Priestes, and the people transgressed vnlawfully according to al the abominations of the Gentiles: and they polluted the house of our Lord, which he had sanctified to him in Ierufalem. ¹⁵ And our Lord the God of their fathers sent to them, by the hand of his messengers, ryfing by night, and daily admonishing them: for that he spared his people and his habitation. ¹⁶ But they mocked the messengers of God, and little esteemed his wordes, and scorned the prophetes, vntil the furie of our Lord ascended vpon his people, and there was no amendment. ¹⁷ For he brought vpon them the king of the Chaldees, and flewe their yong men with the sword in the house of his sanctuary, he pitied not yong man, and virgin, and old man, no neither him that stouped for age, but he deliured al into his handes. ¹⁸ And al the vessels of the house of our Lord, as wel greater as lesser, and the treasures of the temple, and of the king, and the princes he transported into Babylon. ¹⁹ The enemies set fyre on the house of God, and destroyed the wal of Ierufalem, al the towres they burnt, and what soeuer was pretious,

they deftroyed. ²⁰ If anie man efcaped the fword, being led into Babylon he ferued the king and his fonnes, til the king of the Perfians reigned. ²¹ That the word of our Lord by the mouth of Ieremie might be accomplished, and the land might celebrate their Sabbathes:

Iere. 25. For al the daies of the defolation fhe kept a Sabbath: til the feuentie yeares were expyred. ²² But in ^a)the firft yeare of Cyrus king of Perfians, to fulfil the word of our Lord, which he had fpoken by the mouth of Ieremie, our Lord rayfed vp the fpirit of Cyrus king of the Perfians: who commanded to be proclaymed in al his kingdom, yea by writing, faying: ²³ Thus fayth Cyrus king of the Perfians: Al kingdomes of the earth hath the Lord the God of heauen geuen me, and he hath commanded me that I fhould build him a houle in Ierufalem, which is in Iewrie: who of you is there in al his people? The Lord his God be with him, and let him goe vp.

The end of the fifth age.

^a It is like that Efdras added this cōclufion when he reftored the holie Scriptures that were loft: for he beginneth his owne booke with the fame wordes.

THE CONTINVANCE OF THE CHVRCH AND RELIGION IN THE FIFTH AGE: From the fundation of the Temple, to the captiuitie in Babylon. The space of 430. yeares.

Albeit there were greater Schifmes, Heresies, and more reuoltes from Gods law and seruice in this fifth age, then in the former: Yet the true Church and Religion continued ftill, and were no leffe conspicuous then before. VVhich being clere and euident, touching manie principal Articles, we wil here only remitte the reader to some fpecial places, for confirmation therof: neither wil we be prolix, in declaring other pointes denied, or called into controuerfie at this time, by the impugnors of Catholique Religion.

The Church ftill vifible, and the fame faith as before.

Beleeve in one God appeareth plainly in building, adorning, & dedicating the Temple with fo great folemnitie of the Prieftes, Leuites, and al the Tribes, and particularly by king Salomons prayer. *3. Reg. 7. & 8. 2. Paral. 2. &c.* Alfo *Prouerb. 8. Eccle. 12. Ifaie. 41. 44. 45.* The Myfterie of the *B. Trinitie, Prouer. 12. Ifaie. 6. 48. 49. Ofe. 11. Ioel. 2. Of Chrift our Redemer. Ifaie. 7. 8. 9. 28. 53. Ierem. 23. 30. 33. Ezech. 17. 34. 37. Dan. 7. 9. Ofee. 6. 11. 14. Ioel. 2. Sophon. 2. Aggai. 2. Zachar. 2. &c.* *Sacrifices, Sacramentes, & other Rites* the fame as before.

One God.

Three Perfons. Chrift.

But more frequent Prophecies, that they *fhould be changed into better, and perfecter by Chrift. Prou. 9. Ifai. 12. 52. 55. 61.* In the meane time for more fignification of the *fingular vertue of Chrifts Sacramentes*, the effect of *penitential workes* is often recorded. For example, wicked Achab by *hairecloth, fasting, and other humiliation* efcafed part of his deferued punifhment. *3. Reg. 21. Manaffes recovered Gods fauoure, and his temporal kingdom. 2. Par. 33.* VVho yet was punished in his pofteritie. *4. Reg. 23.* And the Niniuites by fuch penance *auoided deftruction. Ione. 3.* Yea nothing is more frequent in the Prophetes then preaching of penance. *Ifa. 1. 2. 3. 30. Iere. 3. 18. &c.* and

Sacrifices, Sacramentes to be changed by Chrift.

Fruict of penance.

others, al ascribing the cause of plagues, and afflictions to the want of repentance. And *false Prophetes* condemned of error and false doctrine, for promising the people peace, and securitie in their finnes. *Ierem. 14.*

Abstinence. *Lamen. 2.* Besides *abstinence* from diuers sortes of meates,

Fastes. counted vncleane (*Ifaiæ. 66.*) and *ordinarie fastes*, according to the law, *other fastes* were appointed sometimes, vpon occasions requiring, not only to subdue, and mortifie the flesh, but also to obtaine mercie at Gods handes in special distresses. *2. Par. 20. Ioel. 1. 2. Ione. 3. Elias fasting fourtie dayes, 3. Reg. 19.* prefigured *Christs fast*. VVhich the Church imitateth in *Lent of fourtie daies*, according to the humane habilitie, for the fastes of Christ, Elias, and Moyse were miraculous.

Feastes. To the Feastes instituted before, was added the *Dedication of the Temple. 3. Reg. 7. 2. Par. 3.* Which was built in Mount Moria, *2. Par. 3.* the special place designed long before for this purpose, when Abraham was directed thither by God, & was there readie to sacrifice his sonne Isaac, *Gen. 22.* where Dauid also offered sacrifice. *2. Reg. 24. 1. Par. 21.*

Place of the Temple
designed long before.

This being the *onlie ordinarie place for Sacrifice*, there were for other uses of daylie prayer reading, preaching, and hearing the word of God other *Synagogues built* (as it were Parish churches) in great number: in Ierusalem it self foure hundred and foure score, and manie more in the whole kingdom, as the Hebrew Traditions testify. Of al which places, especially *of the Temple*,

Synagogues.

Sanctuarie.

there was *venerable respect* had. For which cause when Ioiada the High Priest gaue order to kil Athalia, he suffered it not to be done in the Temple, but commanded first to draw her forth. *4. Reg. 11. 2. Par. 23.* And as peculiar places, so *special Psalmes*, and *Hymnes* were appointed for diuers purposes and occasions. *2. Par. 20.*

Sette forme
of prayers.

Ministerie of Angeles.

The *ministerie of Angeles* was very vsual in this time. One was sent to comforte and direct *Elias* the prophet in his afflictions. *3. Reg. 19. 4. Reg. 1.* An Angel stroke the Affyrians whole campe, *4. Reg. 19. 2. Par. 32.* Also the *Intercession of Angels* is so euident, *Tobiæ 12.* *Raphael offering Tobias prayer to God*, that Protestants

haue no other refuge to auoide this point of faith, but by denying the Booke to be Canonical Scripture.

Honour of other Sainctes, and their Interceffion is proued a *Maiori*. For fo much as honour was religiously exhibited to fpiritual power and excellencie, in men yet liuing in this world. So a *Noble man adored Elias* the Prophet, being farre greater then he in ciuil, and worldlie refpectes. *3. Reg. 18. Elifeus* alfo was *adored by his difciples*, not for anie worldlie authoritie or eminence, but for his *fpiritual power and fuperioritie* amongft them. *4. Reg. 2.* Likewise al *Prophetes*, and *Prieftes* were *religiously honored for their holie and fpiritual functions*. *3. Reg. 13.* Much more Sainctes are rightly honored being immortal, and in eternal glorie. It appeareth alfo that *Elias*, *feuen yeares after* that he was *tranflated* from humane conuerfation (when Elifeus was chiefe Prophet *4. Reg. 3.* which was in or before the eighteenth yeare of Iofaphat, who reigned fiue and twentie, *3. Reg. 22.*) *had care of Ioram*, and his kingdom, *admonifhing him by letters* of Gods wrath, againft him and his people for their finnes. *2. Par. 21.* And the Scripture faieith often, that *God fpared and protected Ierufalem, and the kingdom of Iuda for Dauids fake*. *3. Reg. 11. 15. 4. Reg. 8. 19. 20. 2. Par. 6. 21. Ifa. 37.* We haue alfo example of *Sainctes Reliques* in the *cloke of Elias*, *4. Reg. 2.* in *Elifeus bones*, *4. Reg. 13.* and in *an other Prophetes bodie buried* in Bethel. VWhich Iofias would not fuffer to be touched. *4. Reg. 23.* *Images* were conferred in the Temple, *3. Reg. 7.* as before in the Tabernacle: when idolatrie was moft deftroyed. *3. Reg. 15. 4. Reg. 23.* Yea an abufe rifing of the *brafen ferpēt*, for which Ezechias *defstroyed it* *4. Reg. 18.* yet he touched not the images of Cherubins in the Temple. VWhich none but Infideles fought to deftroy. And Ofee the Prophet (*ch. 3.*) bewayleth the want of *Theraphim* or *Images*, amongft other facred thinges, Sacrifice, Altar, and Ephod. VVherby the ancient Rabbins proue very wel, that *Images of Angels* (and the fame of other Sainctes) are *not contrarie to the Decalogue*, but the images of Idoles. *Good workes* were rewarded,

Honour and
Interceffion of
Sainctes.

Reliques.

Images.

Good workes
meritorious.

Euangelical
counfelles prefigured.

Chafteitie of clergie
men, & reli-
gious orders.

Solemne Exe-
quies for the dead.

Refurrection.

Iudgement.
Eternal glo-
rie or paine.

and *bad punifhed*, 3. *Reg.* 9. and the whole hiftorie of this age teftifieth the fame. VVhere by the way may be obferued, that fome *iuft men fel from their iuftice*, as Salomon 1. *Par.* 28. 3. *Reg.* 11. *Ioas.* 4. *Reg.* 12. 2. *Par.* 24. *Ozias.* 2. *Paral.* 26. Others from wickednes returned to *pietie*, as Manaffes 4. *Reg.* 23. 2. *Par.* 33. the multitude of the people very often much folowing the difpofition of their kinges. *Special State of life* not commanded by the law, was *voluntarily professed*, and obferued by fome Prophetes, and their difciples, called *the children of Prophetes*: Keping *particular Rules*, and wearing *diftnct habite*. 4. *Reg.* 1. 2. 4. The orders of *Nazarites*, and *Rechabites* intituted before, *continued* ftill. *Amos.* 2. *Ierem.* 35. Al which were very examplar *figures of Religious State, and Orders in the new Teftament*, and perpetual chafteitie of clergie men embraced by fuch, as folow *Euangelical counfailes* propofed, and not commanded by our Sauour. To which S. Paul likewife exhorteth, though there be no precept therof to anie, before they bind themfelues.

Exequies for the dead were continually kept, as the facred hiftorie witneffeth, recording where and with what folemnitie the kinges were buried, which would be ouerlong, & nedeles to recite: the like is alfo writen of fome Prophetes. 3. *Reg.* 13. 4. *Reg.* 23. Holie Tobias by example, and fatherlie admonition exhorted his fonne, to *do workes of mercie*, not only to the liuing, but alfo *to the dead*. *Put thy bread, and thy wine vpon the fepulchre of the iuft*, c. 4. *Ifaias.* ch. 57. as the Iewes both vnderftood and practifed, *prayed, that peace be geuen to the iuft, in his couch*, or refting place after his death.

Of the general Refurrection, Elias tranflation is a figure, who yet liuing sheweth, that God can and wil reftore al men to life againe in their bodies, after death, as he conferueth him, and Enoch in their mortal bodies without corruption. Ezechiel alfo *prophecieth of the Refurrection* of the dead, applying it myftically to fpiritual refurrection, and reftauration of Ifrael to former ftate. ch. 37. Of the *laft Iudgement*, and *eternal glorie to the good*, and euerlafting *paine to the wicked*, Salomon

Mat. 19. 1. *Cor.* 7.
Act. 5. 1. *Tim.* 5.

Gen. 5.

agreeably to the doctrin of other Prophetes, discourfeth in his booke of Ecclefiaftes, namely *ch. 3. 11.* and in *the laft* concludeth that. *Let vs al together heare the end of fpeaking: Feare God, and obferue his commandmentes: for this is euerie man* (or, to this end man is created) *and God wil bring into Iudgement al thinges, that are done, for euerie error* (or obfcure thing) *whether it be good or euil.*

Neither were thefe and other *pointes of Faith and Religion* interrupted, but *ftil beleued and professed* in the *Church alwaies vifible and incontaminate*, notwithstanding *some boughes* and branches became vnfruitful, and rotten: others *brake of* and were *feperated* from this vine. For when *Salomon falling* to luxurie, multiplying manie wiues and concubines, was by them feduced and brought to *fpiritual fornication*, and idolatrie, *making altars, & offering facrifices to Idoles, the Prieftes, Prophetes, and people generally perfeuered in Gods law & feruice. 3. Reg. 11.* After whose death *Ieroboam* his feruant, of the tribe of Ephraim, *poffeffing Tenne Tribes* (called the kingdom of Ifrael) to maintaine his new ftate, fearing that if the people reforted to Ierufalem, for religions fake, they would depart from him, and returne to the right heyres of Daud and Salomon, *made an egregious Schifme; fetting vp two golden calues in Bethel, and Dan, 3. Reg. 12. made temples, altares, and prieftes* to ferue them, al oppofite to Gods ordinance. But not only the other *Two Tribes*, called the kingdom of Iuda, but alfo *the greateft part of Ifrael*, efpecially *Prieftes, Leuites, and deuouteft people, repayred ftill to Ierufalem, not yelding to that fchifme* and idolatrie. *2. Par. 11.* Moreouer God raifed vp and *fent fpecial Prophetes*, to confirme the weake and recal the feduced.

Church without interruption.

Ieraboams wicked policie.

4. Reg. 23. For Ieroboam had no fowner fette vp his new altar in Bethel, and begunne to offer incenfe vpon it, but a *Prophet came out of Iuda, in the word of our Lord:* and cried againft that altar, foretelling that wheras for that prefent, they burnt frankincenfe vpon it, the time should come, when the falfe prieftes should be burned there, confirming by prefent *miracles* that which he auerred in

Prophets inspired by God to refist Schifme and Herefie.

The often change
of Kinges, and
euil fuccesse in the
kingdō of Ifrael.

The firft fam-
ilie reigned
but 24. yeares.

The fecond
newe familie 26.

The third but
7. daies.

The fourth,
48. yeares.

wordes, *the kings hand fuddanly withering, & reftored againe by the prophets prayer, and the new altar cleuing in funder, that the ashes fel out. 3. Reg. 13.* Further an other Prophet called *Ahias forefhewed the deftruction and vtter extirpation of Ieroboams familie*, for his enormous wickednes, and namely, (which is moft often inculcate) *for making Ifrael to finne*, by deuifing and fetting abroch a new religion, *3. Reg. 14.* which ruine happened very shortly. For himfelf reigning twentie two yeares (*3. Reg. 14.*) one of his fonnes died prefently *according to the Prophets word. v. 18.* An other called *Nadab* fucceding to his father, reigned only two yeares, and vvas *flaine together with their whole race and kindred*, by *Baafa* of the tribe of Ifsachar. *3. Reg. 15.* Likewife *Baafa* folowing the bad fteppes of Ieroboam was forewarned by *Iehu a Prophet*, that his houfe should alfo be deftroyed. And accordingly when he had reigned foure and twentie yeares, his fonne *Ela* reigning but two yeares, was *flaine* by his feruant *Zambri*, and al his kinred deftroyed. VVhich *Zambri* reigned but feuen dayes. For being forthwith befieged by *Amri*, of the tribe of Beniamin, he defperatly burned him felf together with the kinges palace. Neither did *Amri* then poffeffe the kingdome with peace. For he being chofen king by the armie only, whereof he was general, an other part of the people chofe & folowed *Thebni*. *Wherof arofe ciuil warre between the Antikinges, continuing three yeares: til Thebni died, and fo Amri reigned alone, but wickedly as his predecefsors, twelue yeares in al. Then fucceeded his fonne Achab moft wicked. Who married Iezabel a Sydonian, & by her was perfwaded to worfhippe Baal. 3. Reg. 16.* To him notwithstanding God fent manie admonitions by fundrie Prophetes, and beftovved great benefites vpon him, wherupon he did fome notorious penitential workes; but not perfeuering in anie good thing, returned to his wickednes. *3. Reg. 20.* And finally *beleuing falle prophetes*, and perfecuting *Michaas* for prophecyng the truth, was *flaine in battel* when he thought him felf moft fecure, *3. Reg. 22.* hauing reigned twentie two yeares. *3. Reg. 16.* His fonne *Ochozias*

reigning but two yeares fel through a window, and died of the hurt. *4. Reg. 1.* His other fonne *Ioram*, after twelue yeares was flaine by *Iehu* of an other familie: who then difpatched *Iezabel*, and leauing her in the ftreete, the dogges did eate her carcaffe. He alfo caufed feuentie fonnes of *Ioram* to be flaine, and vtterly deftroyed al *Achabs* houfe. *4. Reg. 10.* For which feruice he was eftablished in the kingdome, for foure generations, *v. 30.* So himfelfe reigning twentie eight yeares, *3. Reg. 10.* after him reigned fuccefsiuely his fonne *Ioachaz* feuenetene yeares, his fonne *Ioas*, fixtene yeares, *4. Reg. 13.* his fonne *Ieroboam* one and fourtie yeares. Laftlie his fonne *Zacharias*, vvhom his feruant *Sellum* of an other race, killed when he had reigned but fix monethes. *4. Reg. 15.*

The fifth 103.

And after one moneth *Sellum* vvas flaine by *Manahen* of an other progenie. VVho reigned tenne yeares. Then his fonne *Phaceia* reigning two yeares, was flaine by *Phacee* of an other generation. He reigning twentie yeares, manie of his people were *carried captiue into Affiria*, and himfelfe was flaine by *Ofee* of an other kindred. *4. Reg. 15.* Finallie the *Affirians* taking *Samaria* by three yeares fiege, in the ninth yeare of *Ofee* *poffeffed the kingdome of Ifrael, and led al the principal perfons captiues* into *Afsiria*: about two hundred fourtie two yeares after that *Ieroboam* firft reigned ouer the Ten Tribes. Thus there were in al *ninetene kinges. Befides Thebni*, who onlie reigned in part againft an other. Of which the firft *Ieroboam*, and *Iehu* were aduanced by Gods ordinance, for punishment of others. *Amri* was chofen by the armie, the reft of the people chofing *Thebni*. Six inuaded by mere force, killing their predecefsors. The reft fucceeded, by fuch titles as their fathers had. And though fome were better fome worfe then others, al were wicked, and at laft ouerthrowen.

The fixth, one moneth.
The feuenth, 12. yeares.
The eight 20. yeares.

The ninth nine yeares.
Then ouerthrowen and the kingdom neuer reftored.

Contrariwife *in the kingdome of Iuda* ftanding after the feperation of tenne tribes about foure hundred yeares, though fome kinges were wicked, yet fome were good; and in them al *God preferued Dauids feede, by the line of Salomon*, in this direct fuccefsion: *Roboam, Abias, Afa, Iofaphat, Ioram, Ochozias, Ioas*, (in whole

The kingdom of Iuda for Dauids fake conferued in his fede.

infancie, his grandmother *Athalie* vsurped the kingdome fix yeares) *Amarias, Ozias, Ioathan, Achaz, Ezechias, Manaffes, Amon, Iofias, Ioachaz* (hitherto the sonne euer succeeding his father) then *Ioakim* (brother of Ioachaz) Ioachin otherwife called *Iechonias*, sonne of Ioachaz. And finallie his vnkle *Sedecias*; who was carried captiue into Babilon. But *Iechonias* by Gods special prouidence, was fauored and exalted by a new king of Babilon. Whither he was led captiue before. *In whose line Davids offspring continued* though not with title of kinges, yet in eminent ftate, and eftimation. As refeth to be noted in the fixth age of the world.

Succeffion of
Prieftes continued.

The *progenie* alfo of Aaron continued in their office and function of Priefthood, with *fucceffion of High Prieftes*; as before from Aaron to Sadoc, partly in the line of Eleazar, partlie of Ithamar, both Aarons fonnnes; fo from Sadoc, by the like fucceffion of both families. For of Eleazar is recorded this *Genealogie 1. Paral. 6. Sadoc, Achimaas, Azarias, Iohanan, Azarias, Amarias, Achitob, Sadoc, Sellum, Helcias, Azarias, Zariaas, and Iofedech*. VVho vvas High Prieft in the captiuitie, (*v. 15.*) being caried into Babilon in the firft tranfmigration vvith king Iechonias, before the general captiuitie of al, as it feemeth *4. Reg. 24.* his father *Zariaas* yet liuing, vvho vvas flaine nine yeares after by Nabuchadonofor, *4. Reg. 25.* And amongft thefe there vv ere fome *High Priefts of Ithamars line*. To witte, *Ioram, Ioiada (4. Reg. 11. 2. Par. 23.) Ioathan, Vrias, (4. Reg. 16.)* and fome others; or els fome of the aboue mentioned, had other names, recited by Iofephus, *lib. 10. cap. 11. Antiq.* and Nicephorus *lib. 2. cap. 4. Hift. Ecclef.*

Extraordinary
miffion of Prophetes.

Moreouer beides this ordinarie fucceffion of Prieftes, there vvas an *extraordinarie miffion of Prophetes*: to fupply more fullie the office of preaching the truth, and admonishing offenders. And thefe God *infpired* and fent, moft efpeciallie *when and where errors fprong, and finnes moft abounded*: geuing them *extraordinarie grace* and moft excellent vertues, to conterpoife the enormities of vvicked men. Such vv ere in the times of Achab and

Iezabel, in the kingdome of Ifrael, befides manie others, the *two famous great Prophets Elias, & Elifeus*. VVhofe admirable liues and holie conuerfation vv ere a mirrour to the vvorld, and great terrour to the vvicked. VVhofe vvorkes and miracles merueloufflie confirmed the vv el difpofed, encouraged the weake, conuerted manie tranfgreffors, confounded falfe Prophets, iuftified their ovvne preaching, and much glorified God. *Elias 1. Shutte the heauen, that it rayned not in three yeares. 2. Was fedde by rauens. 3. Multiplied a poore vv idovves meale & oile. 4. Raifed her dead fonne to life. (3. Reg. 17.) 5. Brought fire from heauen, to burne his facrifice: thereby confounding foure hundred and fifty falfe prophets of Baal. 6. By prayer procured rayne. (3. Reg. 18.) 7. Fafted vv ithout eating or drincking fourtie daies and nightes together. (3. Reg. 19.) 8. Procured fire from heauen, which deuoured two infolent captaines, and their hundred men. (4. Reg. 1.) 9. Diuided the riuer of Iordan vv ith his cloke, that himfelfe and Elifeus paffed ouer the drie chanel. 10. VVas affumpted in a firie chariote into fome place, vv here he yet liueth. And parting a vvay obtained of God, the like duple fpirit (of prophecie and miracles) to Elifeus. In like manner Elifeus 1. Diuided Iordan againe by Elias cloke, and fo returned to his difciples. 2. Amended the bitternes of certaine waters, by cafting in falte. 3. Boies being curfed by him, for deriding him, were forthvv ith torne by beares. (4. Reg. 2.) 4. He procured water vv ithout rayne, for three kinges in the campe. (4. Reg. 3.) 5. Multiplied a poore vv idovves oile. 6. By his prayers a barren woman became frutefull. 7. He raifed her fonne from death. 8. Made the bitter broth of his difciples fweete. 9. Fedde manie vv ith few loaues. (4. Reg. 4.) 10. Cured Naaman of leprofie. 11. Stroke Giezi vv ith the fame. (4. Reg. 5.) 12. Made yron to fwimme. 13. Knewe the fecret counfels of the Syrian king. 14. Made one fee horfemen, and firie chariotes, vv hich to others vv ere inuifible. 15. Made the Syriannes blinde, that vv ere fent to apprehend him, and fo ledde them into Samaria. 16. Forfhewed vv unexpected plentie of corne the next day, vv ith the death of a great*

Great effectes of their preaching and miracles.

Elias his miracles.

Elifeus his miracles.

man, that would not beleue it. (4. Reg. 7.) 17. And after his death an other mans dead bodie, touching his bones reuiued. 4. Reg. 13.

Religion not wholly
destroyed in the
kingdom of Ifrael.

Other Prophets vvrought alfo miracles, but thefe for example may fuffice to shevve, that *God preferued religion alfo in the kingdome of Ifrael.* VVhich himfelfe further teftified, euen in moft defolate times, vvhen Elias lamented that he vvvas leift alone. (*3. Reg. 19.*) For God anfvvered, *that feuen thoufand* (meaning therby a great multitude) *had not bowed their knees to Baal*, not fo much as in outvvvard shevve conformed themfelues to infidelitie, or idolatrie. *Iehu* in his time, destroyed all the worshippinges of Baal. (*4. Reg. 10.*) But none at anie time could wholly destroy true Ifraelites. For God would not fuffer it. *4. Reg. 14. v. 27.*

Herefies in the
kingdom of Ifrael.
Ieroboamites.

Yea not vvithftanding diuers notorious herefies vvvere preached, & folovved *in that kingdome of the Tenne tribes*, yet al did not fall, nor embrace them. *Ieroboam* not onlie made and fet vp golden calues, but alfo taught, that they vvvere gods, faying: *Behold thy goddes, O Ifrael, which brought thee out of the land of Ægypt. 3. Reg. 12. making temples, altars, and imaginarie prieftes, which were not of the children of Leui.* Alfo a feaft the fifteenth day of the moneth, after the fimilitude of the folemnitie, that was celebrated in Iuda. Al which the holie Scripture faith: *He fcourged of his owne hart.* The very propertie of Archeretickes. But the true Prieftes, *Leuites, and manie others, that had geuen their hart to feke our Lord, went into Ierufalem, to immolate their victimes before our Lord the God of their fathers. 2. Par. 11.* Yea Naaman a ftranger of Syria, and a Neophite in religion, taught by his example, *that none may yeld conformitie, nor otherwife communicate with Infideles, then Gods Priefts, or Prophetes approue for lawful. 4. Reg. 5.*

Manie conftant
in true religion.

Iezabelites.

Vnto this herefie of Ieroboam Achab, by Iezabels perfwafion, added the worshipping of Baal, as God, *3. Reg. 16.* making both temple and altar to him in Samaria. Ieroboams priefts feruing fitly this purpofe. Though al the former heretikes no more agreed to this new herefie,

then Lutherans now admitte of Caluinifme. For *Iehu a Ieroboamite deftroyed al Iezabelits* that he could by a ftratageme gette together. *4. Reg. 10. v. 28. 29.* Much leffe did al Ifrael ferue Baal.

Againe after that Salmanazar king of Afsyria had taken Samaria, and placed there a new people, *4. Reg. 17.* they learning the *rites of the Ifraelits religion*, mixed their *Paganifme* there with, and made a new herefie, or rather manie new herefies. For being diuers nations they had in feveral conuenticles, their particular goddes, and fo manie diuers Sects. The *Babylonians*, *Cutheites*, *Emathites*, *Heueites*, and *Sapharuaimites*. *4. Reg. 17.* But as the Prieftes, which taught them rites of true religion, allowed not of this mixture, fo doubtles fome people harkened to their admonitions, and kept religion fimply and fincerely. And at this very time of the Tenne tribes captiuitie, *holie Tobias* who was carried captiue with the reft, *neither before nor after the captiuitie*, leift the law of God. But went to *Ierufalem* (when others ferued Ieroboams golden calues) to the Temple of our Lord, and there adored the Lord God of Ifrael. And in captiuitie beftowed himfelfe in workes of mercie, to-wardes the liuing and dead of his nation. *Tob. 1.*

Samaritanites diuided into manie Sectes.

Tobias neuer yelded to Schifme.

As for the kingdom of Iuda, it was more free from herefies. For very few or none of thofe kinges that fell to other groffe enormities, yea to manifeft idolatrie, became heretikes, as is probablie collected by that Ifaias the Prophet being fent to Achaz, admonished him, conuerfed and dealt with him, as with one that beleued wholly and folely true religion: affuring him that God would protect Ierufalem, bidding him not to feare the two fmoking firebrandes, in the wrath of Rafin king of Syria, and of Phacee king of Ifrael. *Ifa. 7.* Further bidding him aske a figne of God, he answered, though frovvardlie, yet not as an infidel: *I wil not aske: and I wil not tempt our Lord.* Yea though Vrias the High Prieft by commandment of the fame king (*4. Reg. 16.*) made a new altar in place of Gods Altar, yet he erred not in faith, nor in doctrine, as teaching in Moyfes chayre, but in fact onlie, and of frailtie for feare of the king, as the

The kingdom of Iuda more free from herefie.

King Achaz.

Vrias high prieft.

King Ioram and others committing idolatry in fact, manie others ftill professed true Religion.

king offended in his external act, to flatter the king of Syria. And in this case God sent Ifaias to admonish the king, which Vrias neglected, or durst not do. Likewise *Ioram* (4. Reg. 8. 2. Par. 21.) *Ochozias* (2. Par. 22.) *Ioas* in the latter part of his life, 2. Par. 24. *Manasses* in the former part of his reigne (4. Reg. 2. 2. Par. 33.) and some other kinges of Iuda committing idolatry, and making others to fall with them, either were *not wholie peruerterd*, or at least *drew not al with them*. For not onlie *Prophets*, in whose hand (or ministration) God spake, and reprobued these finnes, but manie others kept their zeale of true religion, as appeared in their promptnes to serue God, when by good kinges Aza, Iosaphat, Ezechias, Iosias and others, they were exhorted, or admitted so to do. 4. Reg. 18. 23. 2. Par. 15. 17. 29. 30. 31. 33. 34. &c.

Authoritie depending vpon diuine ordinance, is not changed by factes or practise.

Finally whereas diuers good princes disposed, things belonging to Diuine seruice in the temple, correcting faultes, and punishing offenders in that behalfe, (3. Reg. 15. 4. Reg. 18. 23. they did the same without preiudice of the High Priestes supremacie in spirituall causes, and their godlie actes make nothing for the English Paradox of Laiheadshippe. For superior authoritie, and ordinarie powre is not proued by factes good or euil, but rather by Gods ordinance and institution. For as the factes of vsurpers make no lawfull prescription; so neither the factes of good men, do change Gods general ordinance and law: But are done either by waie of execution, or sometimes by dispensation. Often also by commission and special inspiration of God. As king Dauid by dispensation did eate the holie bread, which was ordained for Priests onlie. 1. Reg. 21. He disposed of Priests and Leuites offices about the Arke of God 1. Par. 15. 19. by way of execution according to the law. And of the like offices in the Temple (when it should be built) 1. Par. 23. 24. 25. 26. by diuine inspiration. And Salomon by commission from God deposed Abiathar the High Priest, from his office and put Sadoc in his place. 3. Reg. 2. Wherefore

Mat. 12.

Good kinges defended and promoted religion not as chiefe in spirituall causes, but by way of execution, dispensation, or commission.

albeit good kinges did excellentlie well in calling together the Priestes, and disposing them in their offices, for execution of Gods seruice, yea in commanding what they should do *4. Reg. 18. 19. 22.* and in punishing Priestes (*4. reg. 23.*) yet they did such thinges as Gods *Commissiioners*, not as ordinarie Superiors in *spiritual causes*, and still the ordinarie subordination made by the law, *Deut. 17. Num. 27.* stood firme and inuio-
lable, the *High Priest supreme Iudge* of all doubtles in faith, causes, and quarels in religion, when other subordinate inferior Iudges varied in their iudgements. Of which offices Malachias the Prophet (*cap. 2.*) admonished Priestes in his time, that whereas they were negligent, not performing their dutie, their finne was the greater, for that their authoritie still remained, and the perpetual Rule of the law, that *the lippes of the Priest shall kepe knowlege, and they* (other men generally) *shall require the law of his mouth, because he is the Angel of the Lord of hostes.* And al Princes & others were to receiue the law at the priestes hand of the Leuitical Tribe.

Priestes by their negligēce do finne but lose not their authoritie.

This was the vvarant of stabilitie in truth of the Synagogue in the old Testament. Much more the Church and Spouse of Christ, whose excellencie and singular priuileges Salomon describeth in his cantic of canticles, hath such vvarant. Of this spouse al the Prophets write, & that more plainlie then of Christ himselfe, *forfeing more aduersaries bending their forces against her*, as S. Augustine obserueth, *then against Christ* her head. And the same holie father in manie places teacheth, that she neither perisheth, nor loseth her beutie, for the mixture of euil members, in respect of whom she is blacke, but fayre in respect of the good, *Cantic. 1.* Notwithstanding therefore finners remaining within the Church, schismatikes and heretickes breaking from the Church, still she remaineth the *pillar and firmament of truth, the virgin daughter of Sion.*

The Church of the old Testament conferred in truth. Much more the Church of Christ.

Deut. 17. v. 18.

*in Psal. 30.
conc. 2.*

*li. 3. c. 32. de
doctrin Christ.*

1. Tim. 3.

4. Reg. 19.

