

Chapter 9

Saul not content to perfecute fo cruelly in Hierufalem, 3. is in the way to Damafcus told by our Lord IESVS of his vaine attempt, and miraculouffly conuerted to be an Apoftle: and after great penance, reftored to his fight by Ananias, and baptized. 20. And prefently he dealeth mightily againft the Iewes, prouing IESVS to be Chrift to their great admiration. 23. But fuch is their obftinancie, that they lay al Damafcus to kil him. 26. From thence he goeth to Hierufalem, & there ioyneth with the Apoftles, and againe by the obftinate Iewes his death is fought. 31. The Church being now growen ouer al Iewrie, Galilee, and Samaria, Peter vifiteth al: and in his vifitation, 33. healing a lame man, 36. and raifing a dead woman conuerteth very many.

*Act. 22, 4.
Gal. 1, 13.*

And Saul as yet breathing forth threatnings and flaugther againft the Difciples of our Lord, came to the high Prieft, ² and asked letters of him vnto Damafcus to the Synagogues that if he had found any men and women of this way, he might bring them bound vnto Hierufalem. ³ And as he went on his journey, it chanced that he drew nigh to Damafcus: and fodenly a light from Heauen fhined round about him. ⁴ And falling on the ground, he heard a voice faying to him ^a)Saul, Saul why perfecutest thou me? ⁵ Who faid: Who art thou Lord? And he: I am IESVS whom thou doeft perfecute. It is hard for thee to kicke againft the pricke. ⁶ And trembling and being aftonifhed he faid: Lord, what wilt thou haue me to doe? ⁷ And our Lord to him: Arife and goe into the citie, & it fhall be told thee what thou muft doe. But the men that went in companie with him, ftood amafed, hearing the voice, but feeing no man. ⁸ And Saul rofe vp from the ground, and his

1. Cor. 15, 8.

^a The heretikes that conclude Chrift fo in heauen that he can be no where els til the day of Iudgemēt, fhall hardly refolue a mā that would know where CHRIST was when he appeared here in the way, & fpake thefe words to Saul.

eyes being opened, he saw nothing. And they drawing him by the hands, brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And he was there three daies not seeing, and he did neither eate nor drinke.

¹⁰ And there was a certaine Disciple at Damascus, named Ananias: and our Lord said to him in a vision, Ananias. But he said, Loe, here I am Lord. ¹¹ And our Lord to him: Arise, and goe into the streete that is called Straight; and seeke in the house of Iudas, one named Saul of Tarsus. For behold he praieth. (¹² And he saw a man named Ananias, comming in and imposing hands vpon him for to receiue his sight.) ¹³ But Ananias answered: Lord, I haue heard by many of this man, how much euil he hath done to thy Saintes in Hierusalem: ¹⁴ and here he hath authoritie from the cheefe Priests to bind al that inuocate thy name. ¹⁵ And our Lord said to him: Goe, for a vessel of election is this man vnto me, to carie my name before the Gentils, and Kings, and the children of Ifraël. ¹⁶ For I wil shew him how great things he must suffer for my name.

¹⁷ And Ananias went, and entred into the house: and imposing hands vpon him, he said: Brother Saul, our Lord IESVS hath sent me, he that appeared to thee in the way that thou camest; that thou maiest see and be filled with the Holy Ghost. ¹⁸ And forthwith there fell from his eyes as it were scales, and he receiued sight: and rising he was ^a)baptized. ¹⁹ And when he had taken meate, he was strengthened.

in the Syn-
agogues he

And he was with the Disciples that were at Damascus, for certaine daies. ²⁰ And incontinent 'entring into the Synagogues, he' preached IESVS, that this is the Sonne of God. ²¹ And al that heard, were astonished, and said: Is not this he that expunged in Hierusalem those that inuocated this name; and came hither to this purpose that he might bring them bound to the cheefe Priests?

^a Paul also himself, though with the diuine and heauenly voice prostrated and instructed, yet was sent to a man to receiue the Sacraments, & to be ioyned to the Church. *August. de doct. Chr. lib. 1. in proœm.*

2. Cor. 11, 32.

²² But Saul waxed mightie much more and confounded the Iewes that dwelt at Damafcus, affirming that this is CHRIST. ²³ And when many daies were paffed, the Iewes confulted that they might kil him. ²⁴ But their confpiracie came to Sauls knowledge. And they kept the gates alfo day and night, that they might kil him. ²⁵ But the Difciples taking him in the night, conueied him away by the wal, letting him downe in a basket.

²⁶ And when he was come into Hierufalem, he affaied to ioyne himfelf to the Difciples, & al feared him, not beleeuing that he was a Difciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas tooke him & brought him to the Apoftles, and told them how in the way he had feen our Lord, and that he fpake vnto him, & how in Damafcus he dealt confidently in the name of IESVS. ²⁸ And he was with them going in & going out in Hierufalē, & dealing confidently in the name of our Lord. ²⁹ He fpake alfo to the Gentils, & difputed with the Greekes: but they fought to kil him. ³⁰ Which when the Brethren had knowen, they brought him downe to Cafarea, & fent him away to Tarfus.

³¹ The ^a)CHVRCH truely through al Iewrie & Galilee and Samaria had peace, & was edified, walking in the feare of our Lord and was replenifhed with the confolation of the Holy Ghoft.

³² And it came to paffe, that Peter as he paffed through al, came to the Saints that dwelt at Lydda. ³³ And he found there a certaine man named Æneas, lying in his bed from eight yeares before, who had the palfey. ³⁴ And Peter faid to him: Æneas, our Lord IESVS healeth CHRIST 'heale' thee: arife, and make thy bed. And incontinent he arofe. ³⁵ And al that dwelt at Lydda and Saróna, faw him: who conuerted to our Lord.

³⁶ And in Ioppe there was a certaine Difciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas. This woman was ful of ^b)good workes & almes-deedes which

^a The Church vifibly proceedeth ftill with much cōfort and manifold increafe euen by perfecution.

^b Behold good workes and almes-deeds, and the force therof reaching euen to the next life.

she did. ³⁷ And it came to passe in those daies, that she was sicke and died. Whom when they had washed they laid her in an vpper chamber. ³⁸ And whereas Lydda was nigh to Ioppe, the Disciples hearing that Peter was in it, they sent two men vnto him, desiring him: Be not loth to come so farre as to vs. ³⁹ And Peter rising vp came with them. And when he was come, they brought him into the vpper chamber: and al the widowes stood about him weeping, ^a)and shewing him the coates and garments which Dorcas made them. ⁴⁰ And al being put forth, Peter falling on his knees praied, and turning to the body he said: Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and seeing Peter, she saide vp. ⁴¹ And giuing her his hand, he lifted her vp. And when he had called the Saints and the widowes, he presented her aliue. ⁴² And it was made knowne throughout al Ioppe: and many beleued in our Lord. ⁴³ And it came to passe that he abode many daies in Ioppe, with one Simon a tanner.

^a The praies of our Almes folke & beadmyn may doe vs great good euen after our departure. For if they procured her temporal life, much more may they help vs to Gods mercie and to releafe of punishment in Purgatorie.