Chapter 22

Being licenfed by the Tribune to fpeake to the people, he sheweth them that he was once as earneft on that fide as they now be: 6. and how ftrange and miraculous his conuerfion was. 17. They heare him quietly vntil he began to make mention of a vifion that fent him away from them to the Gentils. 22. Then they crie out vpon him fo, 23. that for their crying the Tribune commandeth him to be fcourged. 25. Which yet by his wifedom he efcapeth.

en Brethren and Fathers, heare what account I doe render now vnto vou. ² (And when they had heard that he fpake to them in the Hebrew tongue, they did the more keep filence. ³ And he faith:) I am a man a Iewe, borne at Tarfus Act. 21, 39. in Cilicia, but brought vp in this citie, at the feet of Gamaliel inftructed according to the veritie of the law of the Fathers, an emulatour of the Law as alfo al you are this day: 4 who perfecuted this way vnto death, bind-Act. 8, 3. ing & deliuering into cuftodies men & women, ⁵ as the high Prieft doth giue me teftimonie, and al the Ancients. ⁶ Of whom receiving letters also to the Brethren, I went Act. 9, 1. to Damafcus, that I might bring them thence bound to Hierufalem, to be punifhed. ⁷ And it came to paffe as I was going, and drawing nigh to Damafcus at mid-day, fodenly from Heauen there fhone round about me much light: ⁸ and falling on the ground, I heard a voice faying to me: Saul, Saul, why perfecuteft thou me? ⁹ And I anfwered: Who art thou Lord? And he faid to me: I am IESVS of Nazareth, whom thou perfecuteft. ¹⁰ And they that were with me, faw the light indeed, but the voice they heard not of him that fpake with me. ¹¹ And I faid: What fhal I doe Lord? And our Lord faid to me: Arife and goe to Damafcus; and there it fhal be told thee of al things that thou muft doe. ¹² And whereas I did not fee for the brightneffe of that light, being led of my companions by the hand, I came to Damafcus.

¹³ And one Ananias, a man according to the Law, hauing teftimonie of al the Iewes inhabitants, ¹⁴ comming to me, and ftanding by me, faid to me: Brother Saul, looke vp. And I the felf-fame houre looked vpon him. ¹⁵ But he faid: The God of our Fathers hath preordained thee, that thou fhould ft know his wil, and fee the luft one, and heare a voice from his mouth: ¹⁶ becaufe thou fhalt be his witnes to al men, of those things which thou hast feen and heard. ¹⁷ And now what tarieft thou? Rife vp, and be baptized, and ^a)wafh way thy finnes inuocating his name. ¹⁸ And it befel me returning into Hierufalem, and praying in the Temple, that I was in a trance, ¹⁹ and faw him faying vnto me: Make haft, and depart quickely out of Hierufalem: becaufe they wil not receiue thy teftimonie of me. ²⁰ And I faid: Lord, they know that I did caft into prifon and beat in euery Synagogue them that beleeued in thee. ²¹ And when the bloud of Steuen thy Witnes was fhed, b)I ftood by and confented, and kept the garments of them that killed him. ²² And he faid to me: Goe, for into the Gentils a farre wil I fend thee.

μάρτυρός Act. 7, 38.

> ²³ And they heard him vntil this word, and they lifted vp their voice, faying: Away with fuch an one from the earth: for it is not meet he fhould liue. ²⁴ And when they cried out, and threw of their garments, and caft duft into the aire, ²⁵ the Tribune commanded him to be caried into the caftel, and to be beaten with whips, & that he fhould be tormented: to know for what caufe they did fo crie at him. ²⁶ And when they had bound

^a The Sacrament of Baptifme doth it felf wash away finnes as here is plaine, & therfore doth not only fignifie (as the Heretikes affirme) that our finnes be forgiuen before, or otherwife by faith only remitted. Wherby the Churches doctrine is proued to be fully agreable to the Scriptures, that the Sacraments giue grace ex opere operato, that is, by the force & vertue of the worke and word, done & faid in the Sacrament.

^b Not only the Principals, but al that confent to the death or vexation of Chriftian men for the Catholike faith, doe highly offend: which the Apoftle confeffeth here, that Gods mercie may be more notorioufly glorified in him hereby.

him very ftraight with thongs, Paul faith to the Centurion ftanding by him: Is it lawful for you to whip a man that is a Roman and vncondemned? ²⁷ Which the Centurion hearing, went to the Tribune, and told him, faying: What wilt thou doe? for this man is a citizen of Rome.²⁸ And the Tribune comming, faid to him: Tel me, art thou a Romane? But he faid: Yea. ²⁹ And the Tribune anfwered: I obtained this citie with a great fumme. And Paul faid: But I was alfo borne to it. ³⁰ Immediatly therfore they departed from him that were to torment him. The Tribune alfo feared after he vnderftood that he was a citizen of Rome, and becaufe he had bound him. ³¹ But the next day meaning to know more diligently for what caufe he was accufed of the Iewes, he loofed him, and commanded the Priefts to come together and al the Councel: & bringing forth Paul, he fet him among them.

ἀρχιερεῖς