

Chapter 1

Moyfes beginneth, the first day of the eleuenth moneth and fourth year after the children of Ifrael parted from Ægypt, to repete and explicate the Law; 6. first putting them in mind of Gods munifence, his owne and other superiors care ouer them, their ingratitude, incredulitie, murmuring, 34. and punishment for the fame.

These are the wordes, which Moyfes spake to al Ifrael beyond Iordan, in the champion wildernes, against the Red sea, betwen Pharan and Thophel and Laban and Haferoth, where there is verie much gold: ² eleuen daies from Horeb by the way of mount Seir to Cadesbarne. ³ The fourth year, the eleuenth moneth, the first day of the moneth Moyfes spake to the children of Ifrael al things that our Lord had commanded him to fay vnto them: ⁴ after that he had stroke Sehon king of the Amorrheites, which dwelt in Hefebon: and Og the king of Bafan which abode in Aferoth, and in Edrai, ⁵ beyond Iordan in the Land of Moab. And Moyfes began to expound the law, and to fay: ⁶ The Lord our God spake to vs in Horeb, saying: It is sufficient for you that you haue stayed in this mountaine: ⁷ returne, and come to the mountaine of the Amorrheites, and to the rest that are next to it champion and hillie and lower places against the South, and beside the shore of the sea, the Land of the Chananeites, and of Libanus vnto the greate riuer Euphrates. ⁸ Behold (quoth he) I haue deliuered it to you: enter in and possesse it, vpon the which our Lord fware to your fathers Abraham, Ifaac, and Iacob, that he would geue it to them, and to their feede after them. ⁹ And I said to you at that time: ¹⁰ I alone can not fufteyne you: because the Lord your God hath multiplied you, and you are this day as the starres of heauen, verie manie. ¹¹ (The Lord God of your fathers adde to this number manie thoufandes, and bleffe you as he hath spoken.) ¹² I alone am not able to fufteyne your bufineffes, and the charge of you and your quareles. ¹³ Geue from among you wife and skilful men, and

The first part.
A repetition of
Gods benefites,
the peoples in-
gratitude, and
punishment.

fuch whose conuerfation is approved in your tribes, that I may appoint them your princes. ¹⁴ Then you answered me: The thing is good which thou meanest to do. ¹⁵ And I tooke of your tribes men wise and noble, and appointed them princes, tribunes, and centurions, and quinquagenarians, and deanes, that might teach you all things. ¹⁶ And I commanded them, saying: Heare them, and iudge that which is iust: whether he be the same countrey man, or a stranger. ¹⁷ There shall be no difference of persons, so shall you heare the little as the great: neither shall you accept any mans person, because it is the iudgement of God. And if any thing seeme hard to you, referre it to me, and I will heare it. ¹⁸ And I commanded all things that you ought to do. ¹⁹ And departing from Horeb, we passed through the terrible and huge wilderness, which you saw, by the way of the mountaine of the Amorrite, as the Lord our God had commanded vs. And when we were come into Cadibbarne, ²⁰ I said to you: You are come to the mountaine of the Amorrite, which the Lord our God will give to vs. ²¹ See the Land which the Lord thy God giveth thee: goe up and possess it, as the Lord our God hath spoken to thy fathers: feare not, neither dread you any thing. ²² And you came all unto me, and said: Let us send men that may view the Land: and may bring us word what way we shall ascend, and to what cities to goe. ²³ And because the saying pleased me, I sent of you twelve men, one of every tribe. ²⁴ Who when they had gone, and were ascended into the mountaines, they came as farre as the Valley of cluster: and the Land being viewed, ²⁵ taking of the fruites thereof, to shew the fruitfulness, they brought unto us, and said: The Land is good, which the Lord our God will give us. ²⁶ And you would not goe up, but being incredulous at the word of the Lord our God, ²⁷ you murmured in your tabernacles, and said: Our Lord hateth us, and therefore hath brought us out of the Land of Egypt, that he might deliver us into the hand of the Amorrite, and destroy us. ²⁸ Whither shall we goe up? the messengers have feared our heart, saying: The multitude is verie great, and taller of stature than we: the

cities greate, and fenfed euen vnto heauen, the fonnes of the Enacims we haue feene there. ²⁹ And I faid to you: ^a)Feare not, neither be ye afrayed of them: ³⁰ Our Lord God, which is your conductour, him felf wil fight for you, as he did in Ægypt in the fight of al. ³¹ And in the wilderneffe (thy felfe hafte feene) the Lord thy God hath caried thee, as a man is wont to beare his litle fonne, al the way, that you haue walked, vntil you came to this place. ³² And neither fo did you beleue the Lord your God, ³³ who went before you in the way, and marked out the place wherein you fhould pitch your tentes, in the night fhewing you the way by fyre, and in the day by the pillar of a clowde. ³⁴ And when our Lord had heard the voice of your wordes, being wrath he fware and faid: ³⁵ There shal not any of the men of this wicked generation fee the good Land, which by oath I promifed to your fathers: ³⁶ befide Caleb the fonne of Iephone. For he shal fee it, and to him I wil geue the Land, that he hath troden, and to his children, becaufe he hath folowed the Lord. ³⁷ Neither is ^b)his indignation againft the people to be merueiled at, wheras our Lord being ^c)angrie with me alfo for you, faid: Neither shalt thou enter in thither. ³⁸ But Iofue the fonne of Nun thy minifter, he shal enter for thee: exhort and ftrenghen him, and he shal by lotte diuide the Land to Ifrael. ³⁹ Your litle ones, of whom you faid that they should be ledde captiues, and your fonnes that this day know not the difference of good and euil, they shal enter in: and to them I wil geue the Land, and they shal poffeffe it. ⁴⁰ But returne you and goe into the wilderneffe by the way of the Redde fea. ⁴¹ And you answered me: We haue finned to our Lord: we wil goe vp and fight, as the Lord our God hath commanded. ⁴² And when you readie armed went vnto the mountaine, ⁴³ our Lord faid to me:

^a God fo helpeth his feruantes, that they alfo muft cooperate. *S. Aug. q. 1. in Deut.*

^b Difference of finnes.

^c God is alfo angrie with his good feruantes, and punifheth thē temporally, for fmal finnes. *S. Aug. q. 1. in Iofue.*

Say to them: Goe not vp, and fight not, for I am not with you: lest you fall before your enemies. ⁴⁴ I spake, and you heard not: but resisting the commandment of our Lord, and swelling with pride you went vp into the mountaine. ⁴⁵ Therefore the Amorrhites that dwelt in the mountaines issuing forth, and coming to meete you, persecuted you, as bees are wont to persecute: and smote you from Seir as farre as Horma. ⁴⁶ And when returning you wept before our Lord, he heard you not, neither would he condescend to your voice. ⁴⁷ You abode therefore in Cadisbarne a great time.