

Chapter 12

Al idolatrie, and whatfoeuer apperteineth therto muft be deftroyed. 5. Sacrifices, tithes, and donaries muft be offered in the fpecial place. 15. Eating flesh they muft not eate the bloud. 29. In no cafe to imitate the idolatrie of gentiles.

These are the preceptes and iudgements, that you muft do in the Land, which the Lord God of thy fathers wil geue thee, to poffeffe it al the daies, that thou shalt goe vpon the earth. ² Subuert al places, wherein the nations, which you shal poffeffe, worshipped their goddes vpon the high mountaines, and hilles, and vnder euerie tree ful of leaues. ³ Ouerthrow their altares, and breake their ftatues, their groues burne with fire, and their Idols hewe al to peeces: deftroy their names out of thofe places. ⁴ You shal not doe fo to the Lord your God: ⁵ but ^a)to the place, which the Lord your God hath chofen of al your tribes, to put his name there and to dwel in it, shal you come: ⁶ and shal offer in that place your holocaustes and victimes, the tithes and firft fruites of your handes, and your vowes and donaries, the firft borne of your oxen and sheepe. ⁷ And you shal eate there in the fight of the Lord your God: and you shal reioyce in al thinges, whereunto you shal put your hand, you and your houle, wherein the Lord your God hath bleffed you. ⁸ You shal not doe there the thinges, that we doe here this day ^b)euerie man that which seemeth good to him felf. ⁹ For vntil this prefent time you are not come to reft, and to the poffeffion, which the Lord your God wil geue you. ¹⁰ You shal paffe ouer Iordan, and shal dwel in the Land, which the Lord your God wil geue you, that you may haue reft from al enemies round about: and may dwel without al feare, ¹¹ in the place,

^a Peculiar place appropriate to Gods feruice.

^b In the defert they could not obferue the ceremonies of the Law: but comming to reft they were bound to kepe al one fette forme of holie rites.

which the Lord your God shal choofe, that his name may be therein. Thither shal you bring al the thinges, that I command you, holocaustes, and hoftes, and tithes, and the first frutes of your handes: and whatfoeuer is the principal in the giftes, that you shal vowe to our Lord. ¹² There shal you feaste before the Lord your God, you and your fannes and daughters, men seruantes and women seruantes, and the Leuite, that dwelleth in your cities, for he hath no other part and possession among you. ¹³ Beware thou offer not thy holocaustes in euery place, that thou shalt fee: ¹⁴ but in that, which our Lord shal choofe, in one of thy tribes shalt thou offer hoftes, and shalt doe what thinges foeuer I command thee. ¹⁵ But if thou wilt eate, and the eating of flesh delight thee, kill, and eate according to the blessing of the Lord thy God, which he hath geuen thee in thy cities: whether it be vncleane, that is to say, blemished and feeble: or cleane, that is to say, found and without blemish, such as is lawful to be offered, as the doe and the hart, shalt thou eate it, ¹⁶ only without eating of the blood, which thou shalt pour out vpon the earth as water. ¹⁷ Thou canst not eate in thy townes the tithe of thy corne, and wine, and oyle, the first borne of thy herdes and cattel, and all thinges that thou vowest, and that thou wilt offer voluntarily, and the first frutes of thy handes: ¹⁸ but before the Lord thy God shalt thou eate them in the place, which the Lord thy God shal choofe, thou and thy fanne and thy daughter, and man seruant, and woman seruant, and the Leuite, that dwelleth in thy cities: and thou shalt reioyce and be refreshed before the Lord thy God in all thinges, whereunto thou shalt extend thy hand. ¹⁹ Take heed thou forsake not the Leuite all the time that thou liuest in the land. ²⁰ When the Lord thy God shal haue dilated thy borders, as he hath spoken to thee, and thou wilt eate the flesh, that thy foule desireth: ²¹ and if the place be farre off, which the Lord thy God shal choofe, that his name may be there, thou shalt kill of the herdes and cattel, which thou hast as I haue commanded thee, and shalt eate in thy townes, as it pleaseth thee. ²² As the doe is eaten and the hart, so

shalt thou eate them: both the cleane and vncleane shal eate in common. ²³ This onlie beware, that thou eate not the bloud, for their bloud is for the foule: and therefore thou muft not eate the foule with the flesh: ²⁴ but vpon the earth thou shalt power it as water, ²⁵ that it may be wel with thee and thy children after thee, when thou shalt doe that which pleafeth in the fight of our Lord. ²⁶ But the thinges which thou haft fanctified, and vowed to our Lord, thou shalt take vp, and shalt come to the place, which our Lord shal choofe: ²⁷ and shalt offer thy oblations the flesh and the bloud vpon the altar of the Lord thy God: the bloud of thy hoftes thou shalt power on the altar: and the flesh thy felf shalt eate. ²⁸ Obferue and heare al thinges that I command thee, that it may be wel with thee and thy children after thee for euer, when thou shalt doe that which is good and pleafing in the fight of the Lord thy God. ²⁹ When the Lord thy God shal haue deftroyed before thy face the nations, that thou entreft in to poffeffe, and thou shalt poffeffe them, and dwel in their land: ³⁰ beware left thou imitate them, after they be fubuerted at thy entring in, and thou require their ceremonies, faying: As thefe nations haue worshipped their goddes, fo wil I alfo worshippe. ³¹ Thou shalt not doe in like maner to the Lord thy God. For al the abominations, that our Lord doeth abhorre, haue they done to their goddes, offering their fonnes and daughters, and burning them with fyre. ³² What I command thee, that onlie doe to our Lord: neither adde any thing, nor diminish.

ANNOTATIONS

³² That only do to our Lord.) VVheras the Gentiles offered their fonnes and daughters (*v. 31.*) and other abominable facrifices to Idols, God commandeth his people to offer thofe things only, which are prefcribed by the law, and neither to imolate anie other thing, nor exclude anie thing appointed by the fame law for facrifice. As for other preceptes, it is likewise forbid to adde or diminish anie thing that may corrupt the law: but was euer lawful for Superiours, to adde more preceptes agreeable, and not contrarie to the former. So King Dauid eftabliſhed a new law that fuch as

No hoftes lawful in facrifice but fuch as the law appointed.

New preceptes may be added, not contrarie to the former.

ftaues with the baggage, should haue like portion of the praye,
with those that fought in battel. *1. Reg. 30.* And our Sauour by
his prefence (*Ioan 10.*) approued the feast of dedication, intituted
long after Moyse law. *1. Machab. 4.*