

Chapter 13

Falſe Prophets muſt be flaine, 6. how nere foeuer they be in kinred, or freindſhipe. 12. The whole citie that ſhal permite falſe doctrin muſt be vtterly deſtroyed, men, beaſtes, and al moueables, and neuer be built againe.

If there riſe in the middes of thee a prophete, or one that ſaieth he hath ſeene a dreame, and foretel a ſigne and a wonder, ² and it come to paſſe which he ſpake, and he ſay to thee: ^a)Let vs goe, and folow ſtrange goddes, which thou knoweſt not, and let vs ſerue them: ³ thou ſhalt not heare the wordes of that prophete or dreamer: for the Lord your God tempteth you, that it may appeare whether you loue him or no, with al your hart, and with al your ſoule. ⁴ Folow the Lord your God, and feare him, and keepe his commandentes, and heare his voice: him you ſhal ſerue, and to him you ſhal cleaue. ⁵ And that prophete or forger of dreames ſhal be flaine: becauſe he ſpake that he might auert you from the Lord your God, which brought you out of the Land of Ægypt, and redemed you from the houſe of ſeruitude: that he might make thee to erre from the way, that the Lord thy God commanded thee: and thou ſhalt take away the euil out of the middes of thee. ⁶ If thy brother the ſonne of thy mother, or thy ſonne or daughter, or thy wife that is in thy boſome, or thy freind, whom thou loueſt as thy ſoule, wil perfwade thee ſecretly, ſaying: Let vs goe, and ſerue ſtrange goddes, which thou knoweſt not, nor thy fathers, ⁷ of al nations round about, that be nigh or farre, from the beginning vnto the end of the earth, ⁸ conſent not to him, nor heare him, neither let thyne eie ſpare him to pitie and hide him, ⁹ but ^b)forthwith thou ſhalt kil him. Let thy hand be firſt vpon him, and after thee al the people lay hand

^a Noueltie in Religion is a marke of idolatrie or hereſie.

^b Euerie priuat man is not commanded, nor warrented by this to kil: but euerie one is bound to informe the Magiftrate, and ſo by order of iuſtice to procede againſt the wicked.

on him. ¹⁰ With ftones shal he be ftoned to death: be-
cause he would haue withdrawen thee from the Lord thy
God, which brought thee out of the Land of Ægypt, from
the houfe of feruitude: ¹¹ that al Ifrael hearing may feare,
and may doe no more any thing like to this. ¹² If in one
of thy cities, which the Lord thy God shal geue thee to
inhabite, thou heare fome fay: ¹³ There are gone forth
^a)children of Belial out of the middes of thee, and haue
auerted the inhabitants of their citie, and haue faid: Let
vs goe, and ferue ftrange goddes which you know not:
¹⁴ inquire carefully, and diligently, the truth of the thing
being looked into, if thou finde it certaine that is faid,
and that this abomination is in act committed, ¹⁵ thou
shalt forthwith ftrike the inhabitantes of that citie in the
edge of the fworde, and shalt deftroy it and al thinges
that are in it, vnto the very beaftes. ¹⁶ What ftuffe alfo
foeuer there is, thou shalt gather together in the mid-
des of the ftreates therof, and shalt burne it with the
citie it felfe, fo that thou confume al thinges to the Lord
thy God, and it be a heape for euer: it shal be built no
more, ¹⁷ and there shal nothing fticke in thy hand of that
anathema: that our Lord may be turned from the wrath
of his furie, and may haue mercie on thee, and multiplie
thee as he fware to thy fathers, ¹⁸ when thou shalt heare
the voice of the Lord thy God, keeping al his preceptes,
which I command thee this day, that thou mayeft doe
that which is pleafing in the fight of the Lord thy God.

^a Such as wil not indure difcipline are called *children of Belial*, that
is *vvithout yoke*.