

Chapter 26

Firft fruites muft be offered in fpecial place afsigned to Gods feruice, profeffing of gratitude for the land poffeffed according to Gods promife. 12. Likewife tithes of the third yeare, 16. with conclufion, that the people promife to obserue al the preceptes of God, and fo doing he wil protect and profper them.

And when thou art entred into the Land, which our Lord thy God wil geue thee to poffeffe, and haft obteyned it, and dwelleft in it: ² thou fhalt take firft of al thy fruites, and put them in a maunde, and fhalt goe to the place, which our Lord thy God fhall choofe, that his name may be inuocated there: ³ and thou fhalt goe to the priefte, that fhall be in thofe daies, and fay to him: I profeffe this day before our Lord thy God, that I am entred into the Land, for the which he fwore to our fathers, that he would geue it vs. ⁴ And the priefte taking the maund at his hand, fhall fet it before the altar of our Lord thy God: ⁵ and thou fhalt fpeake in the fight of our Lord God: ^a)The Syrian perfecuted my father, who defcended into Ægypt, and feiourned there in a verie fmale number and grew into a nation greate and ftrong and of an infinite multitude. ⁶ And the Ægyptians afflicted vs, and perfecuted vs laying on moft grieuous burdens: ⁷ and we cried to our Lord the God of our fathers: who heard vs, and refpected our affliction, and labour, and diftreffe: ⁸ and brought vs out of Ægypt in a ftrong hand, a fretched out arme, in great terrour, in fignes and wonders: ⁹ and brought vs into this place, and deliuered to vs this Land flowing with milke and honie. ¹⁰ And therefore now I offer firft fruites of the Land, which our Lord hath geuen me. And thou fhalt leaue them in the fight of our Lord thy God, adoring our Lord thy God. ¹¹ And thou fhalt feaft in al the good thinges, which our Lord thy God

^a Laban purfued Iacob, when he parted from Mefopothamia of Syria. *Gen. 27.*

hath geuen to thee, and thy houfe, thou and the Leuite, and the ftranger that is with thee. ¹² When thou haft finifhed the tith of al thy fruites, in ^a)the third yeare of tithes thou shalt geue to the Leuite, and the ftranger, and the pupil, and the widow, that they may eate within thy gates, and be filled: ¹³ and thou fhalt fpeake in the fight of our Lord thy God: I haue brought that which is fanctified out of my houfe, and haue geuen it to the Leuite and the ftranger, and the pupil and the widow, as thou haft commanded me: I haue not tranfgreffed thy commandements nor forgotten thy preceptes. ¹⁴ I haue not eaten of them in my mourning, nor feparated them in any vncleannes, nor fpent of them any thing in funerals. I haue obeyed the voice of our Lord my God, and haue done al thinges as thou didft command me. ¹⁵ Looke from thy fanctuarie, and thy high habitation of heauen, and bleffe thy people Ifrael, and the Land, which thou haft geuen vs, as thou fwareft to our fathers, a land flowing with milke and honie. ¹⁶ This day our Lord thy God hath commanded thee to doe thefe commandmentes and iudgementes: that thou keepe and fulfil them with al thy hart, and with al thy foule. ¹⁷ ^b)Thou haft chofen our Lord this day, to be thy God, and to walke in his waies, and keepe his ceremonies, and preceptes and iudgementes, and obey his commandement. ¹⁸ And our Lord hath chofen thee this day, that thou shouldeft be his peculiar people, as he hath fpoken to thee, and thou shouldeft keepe al his commandementes: ¹⁹ and make thee higher then al nations which he created, to his prayfe, and name, and glorie: that thou mayeft be a holie people of our Lord thy God, as he hath fpoken.

^a The people payed euerie yeare two tithes: firft to the Leuites: the fecond for entertaining trauelers to & from Ierufalē & euerie third yeare, a third tith for relief of the poore inhabitantes.

^b Mutual pact betwen God & his people; that they feruing him, he wil reward them.