

Chapter 28

Diuers blessings are promised to the obseruers of Gods commandmentes, 15. and curfes threatned to transgressors.

But if thou wilt heare the voice of our Lord thy God, that thou doe and keepe al his commandmentes, which I command thee this day, our Lord thy God wil make thee higher then al nations, that be on the earth. ² And ^{a)}al these bleffinges shal come vpon thee, and ouertake thee: yet so if thou heare his preceptes. ³ Bleffed shalt thou be in the citie, and bleffed in the field. ⁴ Bleffed shal be the fruite of thy wombe, and the fruite of thy ground, and the fruite of thy cattel, the troupes of thy heardes, & the foldes of thy sheepe. ⁵ Bleffed shal thy barnes be, and bleffed ^{b)}thy remaines. ⁶ Bleffed shalt thou be comming in and going out. ⁷ Our Lord wil geue thyne enemies, that rife vp againft thee, to fal downe in thy fight: one way they shal comme againft thee, and feuen wayes they shal flee from thy face. ⁸ Our Lord wil fend forth bleffing vpon thy cellars, and vpon al the workes of thy handes: and wil bleffe thee in the land, that thou shalt receiue. ⁹ Our Lord wil rayfe thee vp vnto him self to be a holie people, as he fware to thee: If thou keepe the commandmentes of our Lord thy God, and walke in his waies. ¹⁰ And al the people of the earth shal see that the name of our Lord is inuocated vpon thee, and they shal feare thee. ¹¹ Our Lord wil make thee abound with al goodes, with the fruite of thy wombe, and the fruite of thy cattel, with the fruite of thy land, which our Lord fware to thy fathers that he would geue thee. ¹² Our Lord wil open his most excellent treafure, the heauen, that it may geue rayne to thy land in due feason: and wil bleffe al the workes of thy handes. And thou shalt lend to many nations, and thy self shalt

^a Temporal bleffings belonged to fenfual people of the old teftament: now the poore in spirite are bleffed, that mourne, and suffer perfecution for truth and iuftice.

^b The poore beig releued of thy superfluitie shal bleffe thee.

take lone of no man. ¹³ And our Lord fhall make thee
a)the heade, and not the taile: and thou shalt be alwaies
aboute, and not vnder: b)yet fo, if thou wilt heare the
commandmentes of our Lord thy God which I command
thee this day, and keepe and doe them, ¹⁴ and decline
not from them neither to the right hand, nor to the left,
nor folow ftrange goddes, nor ferue them. ¹⁵ But if thou
wilt not heare the voice of our Lord thy God, to keepe,
and doe al his commandmentes and ceremonies, which I
command thee this day, c)al thefe curfes shal come vpon
thee, and ouertake thee. ¹⁶ Curfed shalt thou be in the
citie, curfed in the field. ¹⁷ Curfed shal thy barne be,
and curfed thy remaines. ¹⁸ Curfed shal be the fruite of
thy wombe, and the fruite of thy ground, the heardes of
thy oxen, and the flockes of thy sheepe. ¹⁹ Curfed shalt
thou be comming in, and curfed going out. ²⁰ Our Lord
shal fend vpon thee famine & hunger, and rebuke vpon
al the workes, which thou shalt doe: vntil he confume,
and deftroy thee quickly, for thy moft wicked inuentions,
wherein thou haft forfaken me. ²¹ Our Lord fette the
peftilence vpon thee, vntil he confume thee out of the
land, which thou shalt enter in to poffeffe. ²² Our Lord
ftriue thee with pouertie, with the feuer and cold, with
burning and heate, and with corrupt ayre and blafting,
and purfew thee til thou perish. ²³ Be the heauen, that is
ouer thee, of braffe: and the ground, that thou treadeft,
of yron. ²⁴ Our Lord geue duft for rayne vpon thy land,
and ashes defcend from heauen vpon thee, til thou be
confumed. ²⁵ Our Lord deliuer thee to fal downe before
thyne enemies. One way goe thou forth againft them,
and flee feuen, and be thou difperfed through out al the
kingdomes of the earth. ²⁶ And be thy carcaffe meate
to al the fowles of the ayre, and beaftes of the earth,
and be there none to driue them away. ²⁷ Our Lord

^a Thou fhalt rule ouer others & none ouer thee.

^b Yet alwaies with this condition: if thou ferue God.

^c Thus moft cōmonly finners were curfed in the old Teftament, but
fuch as now ferue not God rightly, and yet prosper in this world,
shal in a moment defcend into hel. *Iob. 21.*

fstrike thee with the boile of Ægypt, and the part of thy bodie, by the which dung is caft out, with fcabbe alfo and itche: fo that thou canft not be cured. ²⁸ Our Lord fstrike thee with madnes & blindnes and furie of minde, ²⁹ and grope thou at midday as the blinded is wont to grope in the darke, and direct not thy wayes. And at al times fufteyne thou wrong, and be thou oppreffed with violence, neither haue thou any to deliuer thee. ³⁰ Take thou a wife, and an other fleepe with her. Build thou a houfe, and dwel not therin. Plant thou a vineyard, and take not the vintage there of. ³¹ Be thy oxe imolated before thee, and thou not eate therof. Be thy affe taken away in thy fight, and not reftored to thee. Be thy sheepe geuen to thyne enemies, and be there none to helpe thee. ³² Be thy fonnes and thy daughters deliuered to an other people, thyne eies feing, and dafeling at the fight of them al the day, and be there no ftrength in thy hand. ³³ The fruites of thy land, and al thy laboures let a people eate, which thou knoweft not: and be thou alwaies fufteyning calumnie, and oppreffed al dayes, ³⁴ and aftonished at the terrour of thofe thinges, which thyne eies shal fee. ³⁵ Our Lord fstrike thee with a verie fore botche in the knees and shankes, and be thou vncurable from the fole of the foote vnto the toppe of thy head. ³⁶ Our Lord shal bring thee, and thy King, whom thou shalt appoint ouer thee, vnto a nation, which thou and thy fathers know not: and there thou shalt ferue ftrange goddes, wood and ftone. ³⁷ And thou shalt be deftroyed for a prouerbe and fable to al peoples, vnto whom our Lord shal bring thee in. ³⁸ Thou shalt caft much feede into the ground, and gather litle: becaufe the locuftes shal deuoure al thinges. ³⁹ Thou shalt plant a vineyard, and digge, and the wine thou shalt not drinke, nor gather any thing therof: becaufe it shal be wafted with wormes. ⁴⁰ Thou shalt haue oliues in al thy borders, and shalt not be anointed with the oyle: becaufe they shal droppe away & perish. ⁴¹ Thou shalt begette fonnes and daughters, and shalt not enioy them: becaufe they shal be ledde into captiuitie. ⁴² Al thy trees and the fruites of

thy ground the blaſting ſhal confume. ⁴³ ^{a)}The ſtranger that lieth with thee in the Land, ſhal aſcend ouer thee, and ſhal be higher: and thou ſhalt deſcend downward, and be inferior. ⁴⁴ He ſhal lend thee, and thou ſhalt not lend him. He ſhal be as the head, and thou ſhalt be the tayle. ⁴⁵ And al theſe curſes ſhal come vpon thee, and purſewing ſhal ouertake thee, til thou periſh: becauſe thou heard not the voice of our Lord thy God, nor kept his commandmentes and ceremonies which he commanded thee. ⁴⁶ And they ſhal be in thee as ſignes and wonders, and in thy feede for euer: ⁴⁷ becauſe thou didſt not ferue our Lord thy God in ioy, and gladnes of hart, for the abundance of al thinges. ⁴⁸ Thou ſhalt ferue thine enemy, whom our Lord wil fend vpon thee, in hunger, and thirſt, and nakednes, and al penurie: and he ſhal put an yron yoke vpon thy necke, til he confume thee. ⁴⁹ Our Lord wil bring vpon thee a Nation from a farre, and from the vttermoſt endes of the earth, in likenes of an eagle that flieth with vehemencie: whoſe tongue thou canſt not vnderſtand: ⁵⁰ a verie malapert Nation, that wil attribute nothing to the ancient, nor haue pitie on the litle one, ⁵¹ and wil deuoure the fruite of thy cattel, and the fruites of thy Land: vntil thou periſh, and wil not leaue thee wheate, wine, and oyle, heardes of oxen, and flockes of ſheepe vntil it deſtroy thee, ⁵² and confume thee in al thy cities, and thy ſtrong and highe walles be deſtroyed, wherin that hadſt confidence in al thy Land. Thou ſhalt be beſieged within thy gates in al thy Land, which our Lord thy God wil geue thee: ⁵³ and thou ſhalt eate the fruite of thy wombe, and the fleſh of thy ſonnes and of thy daughters, which our Lord thy God ſhal geue thee, in the diſtreſſe and vaſtation wherewith thine enemy ſhal oppreſſe thee. ⁵⁴ The man that is delicate in thee, and very riotious, ſhal much enuie his owne brother, and his wife, that lieth in his boſome,

^a After manie other plagues and puniſhments, at laſt the Iewes reſuſing and perfecutig Chriſt, were reiected, and Gentiles called into the Church, and aduanced aboute them. *Theod. q. 34. in Deut.*

⁵⁵ fo that he shal not geue them of the flesh of his children, which he wil eate: becaufe he hath nothing els in the siege and penurie, wherwith thine enemies shal wafte thee within al thy gates. ⁵⁶ The tender and delicate woman, that could not goe vpon the ground, nor fette downe her foote for ouer much nicenes and tendernes, wil enuie her husband, that lyeth in her bofome, vpon the flesh of her fonne, and daughter, ⁵⁷ and the filthines of the after birthes, that come forth from the middes of her thighes, and vpon the children that are borne of the same howre. For they shal eate them secretely becaufe of the penurie of al thinges, in the siege and vastation, wherwith thine enemies shal oppresse thee within thy gates. ⁵⁸ Vnlesse thou keepe, and doe al the wordes of this law, that be written in this volume, and feare his name glorious and terrible, that is. Our Lord thy God: ⁵⁹ our Lord shal increafe thy plagues, and the plagues of thy feede, greate plagues and continuing, fore infirmities and perpetual. ⁶⁰ And he shal turne vpon thee al the afflictions of Ægypt, which thou didst feare, and they shal cleaue to thee. ⁶¹ Moreouer also al the diseafes, and plagues, that be not written in the volume of this law, our Lord wil bring vpon thee, til he confume thee: ⁶² and you shal remaine few in number, which before was as the starres of heauen for multitude, becaufe thou heardst not the voice of our Lord thy God. ⁶³ And as before our Lord reioyced vpon you, doing good to you, and multiplying you: fo he shal reioyce deftroying and fubuerting you, fo that you may be taken away from the Land, which thou shalt enter to poffesse. ⁶⁴ Our Lord shal disperse thee into al peoples, from the farthest partes of the earth to the endes therof: and there thou shalt ferue ftrange goddes, which thou art ignorant of and thy fathers, woode and ftone. ⁶⁵ In those nations also thou shalt not be quiet, neither shal there be resting for the steppe of thy foote. For our Lord wil geue thee a feareful hart, and dafeling eies, and a foule confumed with penifenes: ⁶⁶ and thy life shal be as it were hanging before thee. Thou shalt feare night and day, and thou shalt not trust in thy life. ⁶⁷ In the morning thou shalt fay: Who wil graunt

me euening? and at euening: Who wil grant me morning? for the fearefulnes of thy hart, wherwith thou shalt be terrified, and for those thinges, which thou shalt see with thine eies. ⁶⁸ Our Lord shal bring thee againe with shippes into Ægypt by the way, wherof he said to thee that thou shouldest see it no more. There shalt thou be sold to thine enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shal buye you.