

Chapter 30

If the children of Iſrael, offending and falling into the forſaide curſes ſhal repent, God wil reſtore them to his bleſſings againe: 11. leauing it in their powre to ſerue him if they wil, 17. and therefore warneth them that the impenitent ſhal affuredly periſh, becauſe hauing life and death, bleſſing and curſing propoſed, they chooſe the worſe.

Therfore when al theſe wordes ſhal be come vpon thee, the bleſſing or curſing, which I haue ſette forth before thee: & thou be touched with repentance of thy hart in al nations, into which our Lord thy God diſperſed thee, ² and ſhalt returne to him, and obey his commandmentes, as I this day command thee, with thy children, in al thy hart, and in al thy foule: ³ our Lord thy God wil bring thee againe from thy captiuitie, and haue mercie vpon thee, and gather thee againe out of al the peoples, into which he diſperſed thee before. ⁴ If thou be diſperſed as farre as the poles of heauen, thence wil our Lord thy God draw thee backe, ⁵ and wil take thee to him, and bring thee into the Land, which thy fathers poſſeſſed, and thou ſhalt obteyne it: and bleſſing thee, wil make thee to be ^a)of a greater number, then were thy fathers. ⁶ Our Lord thy ^d)God wil circumciſe thy hart, and the hart of thy feede: that thou mayeſt loue our Lord thy God in al thy hart, and in al thy foule, that thou mayeſt liue. ⁷ And al theſe curſes he wil turne vpon thine enemies, and them that hate and perfecute thee. ⁸ But thou ſhalt returne, and heare the voice of our Lord thy God, and ſhalt doe al the commandmentes which I command thee this day: ⁹ and our Lord wil make thee abound in al the workes of thy handes, in the iſſue of thy wombe, and in the fruite of thy cattel, in the fertilitie of thy ground, and in the plentie of al thinges. For our Lord wil returne to reioyce vpon

^a Some finners through great repentance become more vertuous, and are more rewarded then ſome that offended leſſe.

thee in al riches, as he reioyced in thy fathers: ¹⁰ yet fo, if thou heare the voice of our Lord thy God, and keepe his preceptes and ceremonies, which are written in this law: and returne to our Lord thy God in al thy hart, and in al thy foule. ¹¹ This commandment, that I command thee this daie, ^ais not aboute thee, nor fo farre of, ¹² nor fituated in heauen that thou maieft fay: Which of vs is able to ascend vnto heauen to bring it to vs, that we may heare and fulfil it in worke? ¹³ Nor placed beyond the fea: that thou mayest pretend, and fay: Which of vs can passe ouer the fea, and bring it euen vnto vs: that we may heare, and doe that which is commanded? ¹⁴ But the word is very neere thee, in thy mouth and in thy hart, to doe it. ¹⁵ Confider that I haue ^bset before thee this day life and good, and contrariewise death and euil: ¹⁶ that thou mayest loue our Lord thy God, and walke in his waies, and keepe his commandmentes and ceremonies and iudgementes: and thou mayest liue, and he multiplie thee, and bleffe thee in the Land, which thou shalt enter to possesse. ¹⁷ But if thy hart be auerted, and thou wilt not heare, and deceaued with error thou adore strange goddes, and serue them: ¹⁸ I foretel thee this day that thou shalt perish, and abide a litle time in the Land, which passing ouer Iordan, thou shalt enter to possesse. ¹⁹ ^cI cal for witnesse this day heauen and earth, that I haue propofed to you life and death, blessing and cursing. ^aChoofe therefore life, that both thou mayest liue, and thy feede: ²⁰ and mayest loue our Lord thy God, and obey his voice, and cleaue to him (for he is thy life, and the length of thy daies) that thou mayest liue in the Land, for the which our Lord fware to thy fathers, Abraham, Ifaac, and Iacob, that he would geue it them.

^a God gaue man libertie to choofe, what he would folow. *S. Amb. in Pfal. 40. v. 10.*

ANNOTATIONS

6 God vvil circuncife thy hart.) Moft true it is, that of our felues, without Gods grace none can kepe or fulfil the commandmentes. But he, whose hart God doth circuncife, is thereby made able to loue God with al his hart, and with al his foule. And except fome hartes were thus circuncifed, and fo made able to loue God aboue al, and confequently their neighbours, God fhould not performe his promife, that he wil circuncife the hart of fome.

By grace men are made able to kepe Gods cōmandments.

S. Aug. donat. et grat. c. 69. et q. 54 in Deut. Theod. q. 38. in Deut. S. Cyri. li. 3. c. 52. ad Quir. S. Amb. in Pfal. 40.

11 Is not aboue thee.) VVhen thou art ftirred vp, affifted, and indued with Gods grace, the commandment of God *is not* (then) *aboue thee*, nor farre of from thee, but very nere thee, in thy mouth, (to confesse God, and his truth) and in thy hart, to do it. But you wil aske: How then cometh it to paffe, that manie hauing receiued fufficient grace, yet do not kepe Gods commandmentes? God him felf anfwereth: That he hath

So the commandmentes are not impoffible.

15 fet before thee life and good, and contrariuwife death and euil;) he inuiteth and helpeth, yet forceth thee not: he geueth thee powre & abilitie, helping and not deftroying thy freewil, that thou maieft loue our Lord thy God, walke in his wayes, and kepe his commandments. But if thy hart be auerted and (*v. 17.*) *thou vvil not heare*, thou fhalt perifh. Againe God inculcateth:

Freewil.

19 I cal for vvitneffes heauen and earth,) that I haue *propofed* to you life and death, bleffing and curfing. *Choofe* therefore life &c. VVhat Doctor can teach more plainly the poffibilitie of keeping Gods commandmentes: and frewil in man, then this text of holie Scripture?