

## Chapter 31

*Moyfes fubftituteth Iofue his fucceffour in temporal gouernment, 9. deliuereth the law to the Prieftes. 16. God fortelleth that the people wil often forfake him, and that he wil punish them. 19. Commandeth Moyfes to write a canticle, (an abrigement of the Law) eafie to be remembered, 25. and in further teftimonie againft them, the Leuites muft put this booke in the arke of couenant.*

**M**oyfes therefore went, and fpake al thefe wordes to al Ifrael, <sup>2</sup> and faid to them: I am this day a hundred and twentie yeares old, I can not <sup>a</sup>goe out and come in any longer, efpecially wheras our Lord alfo hath faid to me: Thou fhalt not paffe ouer this Iordan. <sup>3</sup> Our Lord therefore thy God wil paffe ouer before thee: he wil deftroy al thefe nations in thy fight, and thou fhalt poffeffe them: and this Iofue fhall paffe ouer before thee, as our Lord hath fpoken. <sup>4</sup> And our Lord fhall doe to them as he did to Sehon and Og the kinges of the Ammorheites, and to their land, and fhall deftroy them. <sup>5</sup> Therefore when our Lord fhall haue deliuered thefe alfo to you, you fhall doe in like manner to them as I haue commanded you. <sup>6</sup> Doe manfully, and be ftrengthened: feare not, neither tremble ye at their fight: becaufe our Lord thy God him felfe is thy conductor, and wil not leaue, nor forfake thee. <sup>7</sup> And Moyfes called Iofue, and faid to him before al Ifrael: Take courage, and be ftrong: for thou fhalt bring in this people into the Land, which our Lord fwore that he would geue to their fathers, and thou fhalt diuide it by lotte. <sup>8</sup> And our Lord that is your conductor, him felfe wil be with thee: he wil not leaue, nor forfake thee: feare not, neither dread thou. <sup>9</sup> Moyfes therefore wrote this law, and deliuered it to the prieftes the fonnes of Leui, which caried the arke of the couenant of our Lord, and to al the ancientes of Ifrael. <sup>10</sup> And he commanded them,

The fourth part.

An exhortation to ferue God, with predictiō of their often finnes and punifhmentes.

<sup>a</sup> He meaneth that he cā not exercife the office of a captaine general, and bring the people into the promifed land.

faying: After feuen yeares, in the yeare of remiffion, in the folemnie of tabernacles, <sup>11</sup> when al come together out of Ifrael, to appeare in the fight of our Lord thy God in the place, which our Lord fhall choofe, thou shalt read the wordes of this law before al Ifrael, they hearing, <sup>12</sup> and the people being affembled together, as wel men as wemen, children, and ftrangers, that are within thy gates: that hearing they may learne, and feare our Lord your God, and keepe, and fulfil al the wordes of this law. <sup>13</sup> Their children alfo who now are ignorant, that they may heare, and feare our Lord their God, al the daies that they liue in the Land, which paffing ouer Iordan you goe to obteyne. <sup>14</sup> And our Lord faid to Moyfes: Behold the daies of thy death are nigh: call Iofue, and ftand ye in the tabernacle of teftimonie, that I may command him. Moyfes therfore and Iofue went, and ftoode in the tabernacle of teftimonie, <sup>15</sup> and our Lord appeared there in the pillar of a cloude: which ftood in the entring of the tabernacle. <sup>16</sup> And our Lord faid to Moyfes: Behold thou fhalt fleepe with thy fathers, and this people ryfing vp wil fornicate after ftrange goddes in the Land, to the which it entreth to dwel therein: there wil they forfake me, and wil make the couenant, which I haue made with them, of none effect. <sup>17</sup> And my furie fhall be wrath againft them in that day: and I wil forfake them, and wil hide my face from them, and they fhall be deuoured: al euils and afflictions fhall finde them, fo that they fhall fay in that day: In truth becaufe God is not with me, thefe euils haue found me. <sup>18</sup> But I wil hide, and keepe clofe my face in that day, for al the euils, which they haue done, becaufe they haue folowed ftrange goddes. <sup>19</sup> Now therfore write vnto you <sup>a</sup>)this canticle, and teach the children of Ifrael: that they know it by hart, and fing it by mouth, and this fong be vnto me for <sup>b</sup>)a teftimonie among the children of Ifrael. <sup>20</sup> For I wil bring them into

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<sup>a</sup> Meeter is more eafily kept in memorie then profe.

<sup>b</sup> And fo by this Canticle they are conuincid that they were abundantly forwarned, not to breake couenāt with God.

the Land, for the which I fware to their fathers, flowing with milke and honie. And when they haue eaten, and are ful, and fatte, they wil turne away to ftrange goddes, and ferue them: and wil detract from me, and make my couenant of none effect. <sup>21</sup> After that manie euils and afflictions shal haue found them, this canticle shal anwser them for a teftimonie, which no obliuion shal take away out of the mouth of their feede. For I know their cogitations, what thinges they are about to doe this day, before that I bring them into the Land, which I haue promifed them. <sup>22</sup> Moyfes therfore wrote the canticle, and taught it the children of Ifrael. <sup>23</sup> And our Lord commanded Iofue the fonne of Nun, and faid: Take courage, and be ftrong: for thou shalt bring the children of Ifrael into the Land, which I haue promifed, and I wil be with thee. <sup>24</sup> Therefore after that Moyfes wrote the wordes of this law in a volume, and finished it: <sup>25</sup> he commanded the Leuites, that caried the arke of the couenant of our Lord, faying: <sup>26</sup> Take this booke, and put it in the fide of the arke of the couenant of our Lord your God: that it may be for a teftimonie againft thee. <sup>27</sup> For I know thy contention, and thy moft ftiffe necke. Whiles I yet liue and goe in with you, you haue done alwayes contencioufly againft our Lord: how much more when I shal be dead? <sup>28</sup> Gather to me al the ancientes by your tribes, and your doctors, and I wil fpeake thefe wordes in their hearing, and wil inuocate againft them heauen and earth. <sup>29</sup> For I know that after my death you wil doe wickedly, and wil decline quickly from the way, that I haue commanded you: and euils fhall come vpon you in the later times, when you fhall doe euil in the fight of our Lord, to prouoke him by the workes of your handes. <sup>30</sup> Moyfes therfore fpake, in the hearing of the whole affembly of Ifrael, the wordes of this fong, and finished it euen to the end.