

Chapter 11

Workes of mercie are necessarie, whiles we haue time, 3. because after death none can merite: 4. neither muft we differ to beginne, nor ceafe from good dedes, 8. but ftill mindful of death and iudgement: 10. auoiding wrath and malice.

The 3. part.
An exhortation to beginne quickly, and perfeuere in Gods feruice.

Caft thy bread vpon the paffing waters: ^a)because after much time thou shalt finde it. ² Geue a portion ^b)to feuen, and alfo to eight: because thou knoweft not what euil ſhal be vpon the earth. ³ If the cloudes be ful, they wil powre out raine vpon the earth. If the tree ſhal fal to the South, or to the North, in what place foeuer it ſhal fal: ^c)there ſhal it be. ⁴ He that obferueth the winde, ſoweth not: and he that confidereth the cloudes, ſhal neuer reape. ⁵ As thou art ignorant which is the way of the ſprite, & how the bones are framed together in the wombe of her that conceiueth childe: ſo thou knoweft not the workes of God, who is the maker of al. ⁶ In ^d)the morning ſow thy feede, and in the euening let not thy hand ceafe: for thou knoweft not which may rather ſpring, this or that: and if both together, it ſhal be the better. ⁷ The light is ſweete: and it is delectable for the eyes to ſee the funne. ⁸ If a man ſhal liue manie yeares, and ſhal haue reioyced in them al, he muft remember the darkeſome time, and manie dayes: which when they ſhal come, the thinges paſt ſhal be reprobued of vanitie. ⁹ Reioyce therfore yongman in thy youth, and let thy hart be in good, in the dayes of thy youth, and walke in the wayes of thy hart, and in the fight of thyne eyes: and know that for al theſe God wil bring thee into iudgement. ¹⁰ Take away anger from

^a Of al vertues, the workes of mercie, corporal and ſpiritual, moſt auaille for obtaining eternal felicitie: *Mat. 25.*

^b So the ſame be grounded in true faith, beleuing al that is written in the old and new teſtament ſignified by feuen & eight.

^c After death none can either merite or demerite.

^d Both in youth and old age do good workes.

thy hart, and remoue malice from thy flesh. For youth
and pleafure are vaine.