

# THE ARGVMENT OF THE FOVRTH BOOKE OF KINGES.

This fourth booke profecuteth the hiftorie of the two Kingdomes of Iuda and Ifrael, to the feveral captiuities of them both. Shewing manie fpecial vertues and heroidal actes of good Kinges, Prophetes, and other godlie perfons: and diuers crimes of the wicked. For in Iuda were fome good kinges, highly commended; fome euil, whom God fpared in this world for Dauids fake. So that in both fortes King Dauids feede continued in his throne, and royal ftate (firft in the twelue tribes, afterward in two) nere foure hundred fourfcore yeares. And after the captiuitie (as wil appeare in the age enfuing) it was conferued in honour and eftimation, til Chrift our Sauour. But in the Kingdome of Ifrael (or tenne tribes) which ftood about two hundred fiftie yeares, was great change, by rayfing and extirpating royal families. Al their kinges were bad, yet partly were fet vp by God himfelf, partly fuffered to reigne; and in both Kingdomes, were true and falfe prophetes, God vſing the miniſterie of al, to his owne glorie, the good of his Church, and puniſhment of others, and fometimes of themfelues. So this booke may be diuided into two partes. In the feuentene former chapters, are recorded ioyntly and mixtly the principal thinges donne in both kingdomes, til the captiuitie of the tenne tribes. The other eight chapters containe other thinges donne in Iuda, vntil their captiuitie in Babylon.

The kingdom of Iuda conferued in Dauids feede.

Many royal families begūne and deftroied in the kingdom of Ifrael.

This booke diuided into two partes.