

Chapter 1

Ochozias King of Ifrael confulting Beelzebub, for his ficknes, is blamed by Elias, and fortold, that he shal die. 9. Fire from heauen deuoureth two capitaines with ech of them fiftie men. 13. The third by his more modestie escapeth the like danger. 15. With him Elias cometh to the King. 17. The fame King dieth, and his brother Ioram succedeth.

The first part. Of thinges donne in both kingdomes, with the declination and ruine of Ifrael.

And Moab moued warre agaynst Ifrael, after that Achab was dead. ² And Ochozias fel through the ftanchions of his vpper chamber which he had in Samaria, and was ficke: and he fent meffengers, faying to them: Goe, confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron, whether I may liue of this my infirmitie. ³ And an Angel of our Lord fpake to Elias the Thefbite, faying: Arife, and goe vp to meete the meffengers of the king of Samaria, and thou shal fay to them: What is there not a God in Ifrael, that ye goe to confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron? ⁴ Wherefore thus faith our Lord: From the bed on which thou art ascended, thou shalt not goe downe, but dying thou shalt die. And Elias went away. ⁵ And the meffengers returned to Ochozias. Who faid to them: Why are you returned? ⁶ But they answered him: A man mette vs: and fayd to vs: Goe, and returne to the king, that fent you, and you shal fay to him: Thus faith our Lord: Doeft thou therefore fent to confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron, becaufe there was not God in Ifrael? Therefore from the bed, which thou art vpon, thou shalt not goe downe, but dying thou shalt dye. ⁷ Who faid to them: What shape and habite had that man, which mette you, and fpake these wordes? ⁸ But they faid: A hearie man, and girded about his raines with a girdle of lether: Who faid: ^a)It is Elias the Thefbite. ⁹ And he fent vnto him a capitaine of fiftie men, and the fiftie that were vnder him.

^a Elias was knowne by his much hayre, and diftinct habite, from ordinary men.

Who went vp and fayd to him fitting in the toppe of the mount: Man of God, the king hath commanded that thou come downe. ¹⁰ And Elias anfwering, fayd to the captaine of fiftie men: If I be a man of God, ^alet fyre come downe from heauen, and deuoure thee, and thy fiftie. Fyre therefore came downe from heauen, and deuoured him and the fiftie men that were with him. ¹¹ And he fent againe vnto him an other captaine of fiftie men, and his fiftie with him. Who fpake to him: Man of God, Thus faith the king: Make haft, come downe. ¹² Elias anfwering faid: If I be a man of God, let fyre come downe from heauen, and deuoure thee, and thy fiftie. Fyre therefore came downe from heauen, and deuoured him, and his fiftie. ¹³ Agayne he fent a third captaine of fiftie men, and the fiftie that were with him. Who when he was come, bowed his knees toward Elias, and prayed him and fayd: Man of God despife not my life and the liues of thy feruantes that are with me. ¹⁴ Behold fyre came downe from heauen, and hath deuoured the two firft captaynes of fiftie men, and the fifties, that were with them: but now I befech thee that thou haue mercie on my life. ¹⁵ And an Angel of our Lord fpake to Elias, faying: Goe downe with him, feare not. He therefore arofe, and went downe with him to the king, ¹⁶ and fpake to him: Thus faith our Lord: Because thou haft fent meffengers to confult Beelzebub the god of Accaron, as though there were not a God in Ifrael, of whom thou mighteft aske the word, therefore from the bed, which thou art afcended vpon, thou shalt not defcend, but dying thou shalt die. ¹⁷ He died therefore according to the word of our Lord which Elias fpake, & Ioram his brother reigned for him, in the fecond yeare of Ioram the fonne of Iofaphat the king of Iuda: for he had no fonne. ¹⁸ But the reft of the wordes of Ochozias, which he wrought,

^a In zeale of iuftice Elias procured fire from heauen to burne thefe proud capitaines and their men, as he procured fire to burne the holocaust, and then flew the falſprophetes. *3. Reg. 18. apud. Aug. li. 2. c. 20. di mirabil. S. Script.*

are not thefe written in the Booke of the wordes of the
daies of the kinges of Ifrael?