

Chapter 3

Ioram king of Ifrael accompanied with the kinges of Iuda & Edom, fighteth againft the king of Moab, for not paying tribute according to their league. 9. Wanting waters, 16. Elifeus procureth fufficient without raine: and prophecieth victorie. 21. The king of Moab deceiued by a vifion is ouerthrowne in the fielde, 26. then being befiged immolateth his firft begotten fonne: and the Ifraelites leaue the fiege.

And Ioram the fonne of Achab reigned ouer Ifrael in Samaria the eighteenth yeare of Iofaphat the king of Iuda. And he reigned twelue yeares. ² And he did euil before our Lord, but not as his father and mother: for he tooke away the ftatues of Baal, which his father had made. ³ Neuertheles in the finnes of Ieroboam the fonne of Nabat, who made Ifrael to finne, he ftucke faft, and departed not from them. ⁴ Moreouer Mefa the king of Moab, nourifhed manie sheepe, and he payed to the king of Ifrael an hundred thoufand lambes, and a hundred thoufand rammes with their fleeces. ⁵ And when Achab was dead, he brake the league, which he had made with the king of Ifrael. ⁶ Therefore king Ioram went forth that day out of Samaria, and muftered al Ifrael. ⁷ And he fent to Iofaphat the king of Iuda, faying: The king of Moab is reuolted from me, come with me againft him to battel. Who answered: I wil come vp: he that is mine, is thine: my people, thy people: & my horfes thy horfes. ⁸ And he faid: What way shal we goe vp? but he answered: By the defert of Idumea. ⁹ Therefore the king of Ifrael, and the king of Iuda, and the king of Edom went forward, and compaffed feuen daies iourney, neither was there water for the armie, and the beaftes, that folowed them. ¹⁰ And the king of Ifrael faid: Alas alas alas, our Lord hath gathered vs three kinges together, that he might deliuer vs into the handes of Moab. ¹¹ And Iofaphat faid: Is there not here a prophet of our Lord, that we may befech our Lord by him? And one of the

feruantes of the king of Ifrael answered: Here is Elifeus
 the fonne of Saphat, which powred water vpon the han-
 des of Elias. ¹² And Iofaphat fayd: The word of our Lord
 is with him. And the king of Ifrael went downe to him,
 and Iofaphat the king of Iuda, and the king of Edom.
¹³ And Elifeus faid to the king of Ifrael: What is to me
 and thee? goe to the prophetes of thy father, and thy
 mother. And the king of Ifrael faid to him: Why hath
 our Lord gathered together thefe three kinges, that he
 might deliuer them into the handes of Moab? ¹⁴ And
 Elifeus faid to him: The Lord of hoftes liueth, in whofe
 fight I ftand, If I did not reuerence the face of Iofaphat
 the king of Iuda, I would not certes haue harkened to
 thee, nor looked on thee. ¹⁵ But now bring me hither a
 plaier on instrumentes. And when the player fang, the
 hand of our Lord came vpon him, and he faid: ¹⁶ Thus
 faith our Lord: Make the chanel of this torrent diches
 and diches. ¹⁷ For thus faith our Lord: You shal not
 fee winde, nor raine: and this chanel shal be filled with
 waters, & you shal drinke, and your families, & your
 beaftes. ¹⁸ And this is a fmal thing in the fight of our
 Lord: moreouer he wil deliuer alfo Moab into your han-
 des. ¹⁹ And you fhall ftrike euerie fenced citie, and euerie
 principal citie, and ^ashal cut downe al fruiteful trees,
 and shal ftoppe vp al fountaines of waters, and euerie
 goodlie field you shal couer with ftones. ²⁰ It came to
 paffe therefore in the morning, when they vfed to offer the
 facrifice, and behold, water came by the way of Edom,
 and the ground was filled with waters. ²¹ But al the
 Moabites hearing that the kinges were come vp to fight
 againft them, they called together al that were girded
 with a belt vpon them, and they ftoode in the borders.
²² And ryfing early in the morning, and the funne being
 now rifen ouer againft the waters, the Moabites faw the
 waters ouer againft them red, as it were bloud, ²³ and

^a It was forbid *Deut. 20.* to cut downe fruct trees in the land of
 Chanaan, which the Ifraelite fhould poffeffe, but the land of Moab
 perteyned not to them, and fo it was not prohibited to anoy that
 countrie vpon iuft offence.

faid: It is the bloud of the fword: the kinges haue fought among them felues, and are flaine one of an other: now goe on forward to the pray, Moab. ²⁴ And they went forward into the campe of Ifrael: Moreouer Ifrael ryfing vp, ftroke Moab: but they fled before them. They therefore that had ouercome, came and ftroke Moab, ²⁵ and deftroied the cities: & euerie principal field they filled euerie man cafting ftones: and they ftopt vp al the fountaines of waters: and cut downe al trees that bare fruite, fo that there remained onlie brike walles: and the citie was befette of the flingers, and for a great part therof was ftrooken. ²⁶ Which when the king of Moab had feene, to witte, that the enemies had preuayled, he tooke with him feuen hundred men that drew fword, to breake in vpon the king of Edom: and they could not. ²⁷ And taking his firft begotten fonne, that should haue reigned for him, he offered him an holocauft vpon the wal: and there was great indignation in Ifrael, and forthwith they retyred from him, and returned into their countrie.