

Chapter 17

Salmanazar king of Afsyrians maketh Ofee king of Ifrael tributarie, and perceuing his endeouour to be deliuered therof, imprifoneth him; after three yeares fiege taketh Samaria, and carieth the people captiue into Afsyria. 7. Al which God permitteth for diuers great finnes here recited. 25. The new inhabitantes of the countrie not knowing God, are deuoured by lions. VVherupon a true priest is fent to instruct them. 29. But they lerning the rites of true religion do mixe the fame with idolatrie.

In the twelfth yeare of Achaz king of Iuda, reigned Ofee the fonne of Ela in Samaria ouer Ifrael nine yeares. ² And he did euil before our Lord: but not as the kinges of Ifrael that had bene before him. ³ Againft him came vp Salmanafar king of the Affyrians, and Ofee was made feruant to him, and payd him tributes. ⁴ And when the king of the Affyrians had found, that Ofee endeouoring to rebel had fent meffengers to Sua the king of Ægypt, that he might not pay tributes to the king of the Affyrians, as euery yeare he was accuftomed, he befieged him, and caft him bound into prifon. ⁵ And he ranged through al the land: and going vp to Samaria, he befieged it three yeares. ⁶ And in the ninth yeare of Ofee, the king of Affyrians tooke Samaria, and transferred Ifrael vnto the Affyrians: and he put them in Hala, and in Habor befide the riuer of Gozan, in the cities of the Medes. ⁷ For it came to paffe, when the children of Ifrael had finned to our Lord their God, which brought them out of the land of Ægypt, and out of the hand of Pharao the king of Ægypt, they worfhipped ftrange goddes. ⁸ And they walked according to the rite of the Gentiles, which our Lord had confumed in the fight of the children of Ifrael, and of the kinges of Ifrael: becaufe they had done in like maner. ⁹ And the children of Ifrael offended our Lord their God with wordes not right: & built them excelfes in al their cities from the Towre of watchmen vnto the fenfed citie. ¹⁰ And they

made them ftatues & groues on euerie high hil, and vn-
der euerie thicke wooddie tree: ¹¹ and burnt there incenfe
vpon the altars after the maner of the Gentiles, which
our Lord remoued from their face: and they did wicked
things, prouoking our Lord. ¹² And they worshipped the
filthes, wherof our Lord commanded them, that they
fould not doe this thing. ¹³ And our Lord teftified in
Ifrael and in Iuda by the hand of al the Prophetes and
Seers, faying: Returne from your moft wicked wayes,
and keepe my precepts, and ceremonies according to al
the law, which I commanded your fathers: and as I haue
fent to you in the hand of my feruantes the Prophetes.
¹⁴ Who heard not, but hardened their necke according
to the necke of their fathers, who would not obey our
Lord their God. ¹⁵ And they caft away his ordinances,
and the couenant that he made with their fathers, and
the teftifications, wherwith he contefted them: and they
folowed vanities, and did vaynly: and they folowed the
Gentiles, that were round about them, concerning which
our Lord had commanded them, that they fould not
doe as they did. ¹⁶ And they forfooke al the preceptes
of our Lord their God: and made to them felues two
molten calues, and groues, and adored al the hoftes of
heauen: and they ferued Baal, ¹⁷ and confecrated their
fonnes, and their daughters through fyre: and they gaue
themfelues to deuinations, and foothfayings: and they
deliuered vp themfelues to doe euil before our Lord,
^a)that they might prouoke him. ¹⁸ And our Lord was
wrath with Ifrael vehemently, and tooke them away from
his fight, and there remayned but the tribe of Iuda on-
lie. ¹⁹ But neither Iuda it felf kept the commandementes
of our Lord their God: but walked in the errours of
Ifrael, which it had wrought. ²⁰ And our Lord reiected al
the feede of Ifrael, and afflicted them, & deliuered them
into the hand of the fpoylers, til he threwe them away
from his face: ²¹ euen now from that time, when Ifrael
was rent from the houfe of Daud, and made Ieroboam
the fonne of Nabat their king: for Ieroboam feperated

^a That is, confequently they did prouoke him. As *3. Reg. 14. v. 9.*

Ifrael from our Lord, and made them finne a great finne.
 22 And the children of Ifrael walked in al the finnes of
 Ieroboam, which he had done: and they departed not
 from them, 23 vntil our Lord tooke away Ifrael from his
 face, as he had fpoken in the hand of al his feruantes the
 Prophetes: and Ifrael was tranfported out of their land
 vnto the Affyrians, vntil this day. 24 And the king of
 the Affyrians brought from Babylon, and from Cutha,
 and from Auah, and from Emath, and from Sepharu-
 aim: and placed them in the cities of Samaria for the
 children of Ifrael: who poffeffed Samaria, and dwelt in
 the cities therof. 25 And when they began to dwel there,
 they feared not our Lord: and our Lord fent lions vpon
 them, which killed them. 26 And it was told the king of
 the Affyrians, and fayd: The nations, which thou haft
 transferred, and made to dwel in the cities of Samaria,
 know not the ordinances of the God of the land: and
 the Lord hath fent lions vpon them: and behold they kil
 them, for that they know not the rite of the God of the
 land. 27 And the king of the Affyrians commanded, fay-
 ing: Bring thither one of the prieftes, which you brought
 thence captiue, and let him goe, and dwel with them:
 and let him teach them the ordinances of the God of
 the land. 28 Therefore when one of thofe priefts, which
 were led captiue from Samaria, was come, he dwelt in
 Bethel, and taught them how they fhould worship our
 Lord. 29 And euerie Nation framed their owne god, and
 put them in the highe temples, which the Samaritanes
 had made, Nation and Nation in their cities, where they
 dwelt. 30 For the men of Babylon made Socothbenoth:
 and the Cutheites made Nergel: and the men of Emath
 made Afima. 31 Moreouer the Heueites made Neba-
 haz & Tharthac. And they that were of Sepharuaim
 burnt their children in fyre, to Adramelech, and Anam-
 elech the goddes of Sepharuaim. 32 And neuertheles they
 a)worfhipped our Lord. And they made to themfelues
 of the vileft perfones prieftes of the excelfes, and they

^a Not truly worfhipped but made fhew to worfhippe. For true
 worfhip of God admitteth not worfhip of anie falfe god. *v. 34.*

placed them in the highe temples. ³³ And when they worshipped our Lord, they serued also their owne goddes according to the cuftome of the Nations out of the which they were tranported to Samaria: ³⁴ vntil this present day they folow the old maner: they feare not our Lord, neither keepe they his ceremonies, and iudgements, and law, and the commandment, which our Lord commanded the children of Iacob, whom he furnamed Irael: ³⁵ and he had made a couenant with them, & had commanded them, saying: Feare not ftrange goddes, and adore them not, neither worfhip them, and immolate not to them. ³⁶ But the Lord your God, which brought you out of the Land of Ægypt in great ftrength, and a ftretched out arme, him feare ye, and him adore, and to him doe ye immolate. ³⁷ The ceremonies also, and iudgementes, and law, and the commandment, that he wrote you, kepe ye, that you may doe them alwaies: and feare not ftrange goddes. ³⁸ And the couenant, that he made with you, forget not: neither doe ye worfhip ftrange goddes, ³⁹ but feare our Lord your God, and he wil deliuer you out of the hand of al your enemies. ⁴⁰ But they heard not, but did according to their old cuftome. ⁴¹ Thefe Nations therefore were fearing of our Lord but neuertheleffe feruing their idols also: for both their children and nephewes, as their fathers did, foe doe they vntil this present day.