

Chapter 19

Ezechias in affliction requesteth the prayers of Ifaias the prophet, 6. who affureth him of Gods helpe. 8. The king of the Afsyrians ftit threatneth and blasphemeth. 15. Ezechias praieth, 20. and God hearing the prayers of the one, and blasphemies of the other, 28. promifeth to protect Ierufalem. 35. An Angel in one night killeth an hundred fourfcore and five thousand of the Afsyrians campe, their king returneth to Niniue, is there flaine by two of his owne fonnes, and an other fonne reigneth in his place.

V Which thinges when Ezechias the king had heard, he rent his garmentes, and was couered with sackcloth, and entered into the houle of our Lord. ² And he fent Eliacim the gouernour of the houle, and Sobna the scribe, and the ancientes of the priestes couered with sackclothes, to Ifaias the prophete the fonne of Amos. ³ Who fayd to him: Thus faith Ezechias: This day is a day of tribulation, and rebuke, and of blasphemie: the children are come to the birth, and the woman in trauel hath not ftrength. ⁴ If perhaps our Lord thy God wil heare al the wordes of Rabfaces, whom the king of the Affyrians his maifter hath sent to vpbrayd the liuing God, and reprove with wordes, which our Lord thy God hath heard: and make thou prayer for the remnantes that are found. ⁵ The feruantes therefore of king Ezechias came to Ifaie. ⁶ And Ifaie fayd to them: Thus shal you fay to your maifter: Thus fayth our Lord: Feare not for the wordes which thou haft heard, with which the feruantes of the king of the Affyrians haue blasphemed me. ⁷ Behold I wil fend into him a fpirit, and he shal here a meffage, and fhal returne into his country, and I wil ouerthrow him with the fword in his country. ⁸ Rabfaces therefore returned, and found the king of the Affyrians expugning Lobna: for he heard that he was departed from Lachis. ⁹ And when he had heard of Tharaca the king of Æthiopia, faying: Behold, he is come forth to fight agaynft thee: and went agaynft

him, he sent messengers to Ezechias, saying: ¹⁰ Say this to Ezechias the king of Iuda: Let not thy God seduce thee, in whom thou hast confidence: neither say thou: Ierusalem shall not be deliuered into the hands of the king of the Assyrians. ¹¹ For thou thyself hast heard what the kings of the Assyrians haue done to all the countries, how they haue spoiled them: canst thou therefore onlie be deliuered? ¹² Why haue the goddesses of the Nations deliuered all those, whom my fathers haue destroyed, to witte, Gozan, & Haran, and Reseph, and the children of Eden, which were in Thelaffar? ¹³ Where is the king of Emath, and the king of Arphad, and the king of the citie of Sepharuaim, of Ana and Aua? ¹⁴ Therefore when Ezechias had received the letters of the hand of messengers, & had read them, he went vp into the house of our Lord, & layd them open ^a)before our Lord, ¹⁵ & prayd in his sight, saying: Lord God of Israel, which fittest vpon the cherubins, thou art the only God of all the kings of the earth: thou madest heauen and earth: ¹⁶ Incline thine eare, and heare: open Lord thine eyes, and see: and heare all the wordes of Sennacherib, who hath sent to vpbraid vnto vs the liuing God. ¹⁷ In verie deede Lord, the kings of the Assyrians haue destroyed Nations, and the countries of all. ¹⁸ And they haue cast their goddesses into fire: for they were not goddesses, but the workes of mens hands of wood and stone, and they destroyed them. ¹⁹ Now therefore O Lord our God, saue vs from his hand, that all the kingdomes of the earth may know, that thou art the Lord the onlie God. ²⁰ And Ifaie the sonne of Amos sent to Ezechias, saying: Thus faith our Lord the God of Israel: That which thou hast befought me concerning Sennacherib the king of the Assyrians, I haue heard. ²¹ This is the word, that our Lord hath spoken of him: The ^b)virgine daughter of Sion hath

^a Before the Arke & Propitiatorie being the special place of prayer.

^b Though manie in the kingdom of Iuda fell to idolatrie, yet in respect of the rest publicly professing true faith and religion the Church is still called a virgine and despiseth idolaters, blasphemers, and false goddesses.

despised thee, and scorned thee: Behinde thy backe hath
 the daughter of Ierusalem wagged her head. ²² Whom
 hast thou vpbayded, and whom hast thou blasphemed?
 against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted
 vp thine eyes in high? against the holie one of Israel.
²³ By the hand of thy seruantes thou hast vpbayded our
 Lord, and hast sayd: In the multitude of my chariotes
 haue I climed the height of mountaynes, in the toppe of
 Libanus, and haue cut downe high cedars therof, and the
 chofen firretrees of it. And I haue entered into the bor-
 ders therof, & the forrest of the ^acarmel therof ²⁴ haue
 I cut downe. And I haue drunke strange waters, and
 haue dried vp with the steppes of my feete al the waters
 inclosed. ²⁵ Why, hast thou not heard what I haue done
 from the begining? From ancient daies I haue made
 that thing, and now I haue brought it to effect: and
 fenced cities shal be into ruine of litle hilles bickering to-
 gether. ²⁶ And they that fitte in them, weake of hand,
 they haue trembled and are confounded, they became as
 the graffe of the field, and the greene herbe of the roofes
 of houfes, which withered before it came to ripeness.
²⁷ Thy habitation, and thy going out, and thy coming
 in, and thy waye I haue knowen before, & thy furie
 against me. ²⁸ Thou hast bene madde against me, & thy
 pride hath ascended into myn eares: I therefore wil put
 a ring in thy nostrils, and a bitte in thy lippes, and wil
 bring thee back into the way, by the which thou camest.
²⁹ And to thee Ezechias this shal be a signe: Eate this
 yeare what thou shalt finde: & in the second yeare, the
 things that growe of themselves: moreouer in the third
 yeare sawe ye and reape: plant ye vineyardes, and eate
 the fruite of them. ³⁰ And whatsoever shal be leaft of
 the house of Iuda, shal take roote downward, and beare
 fruit vpward. ³¹ For out of Ierusalem there shal rem-
 nantes goe forth, and that which is to be saved from the
 mounte of Sion: the zeale of the Lord of hostes shal doe
 this. ³² Wherefore thus sayth our Lord of the king of the
 Affyrians: He shal not enter into this citie, nor shoote

^a A pleafant hill in the forest.

arrowe into it, neither fhall fhield occupie it, nor munition compaffe it. ³³ By the way that he came, he fhall returne: and into this citie he fhall not enter, fayth our Lord. ³⁴ And I wil protect this citie, and wil faue it for my felf, and for Dauid my feruant. ³⁵ It came to paffe therefore in that night, an Angel of our Lord came, and ftroke in the campe of the Affyrians an hundred eightie fiue thoufand. And when he was rifen early, he fawe al the bodies of the dead, ³⁶ and Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians departing went away, and taried in Niniue. ³⁷ And when he adored in the temple of Nefroch his god, Adramelech and Sarafar his fonnes ftroke him with the fword, and they fled into the land of the Armenians, and Afarhaddon his fonne reigned for him.