

Chapter 20

Ezechias being sick is told by Ifaias that he shal die: but praying to God obtayneth fiftene yeares longer life, 8. and in confirmation therof receiueth a signe in Achaz dial, returning back tenne lines. 12. To the Affyrians bringing him presents, he sheweth al his treasures. 16. Which Ifaias reprobuing prophecieth the captiuitie of Iuda. 20. Ezechias dieth, and his sonne Manasses reigneth.

In those dayes Ezechias was sick euen to death: and Ifaie the sonne of Amos the prophete, came and sayd to him: Thus sayth our Lord God: Take order with thy house, for thou shalt die, and shalt not liue. ² Who turned his face to the wal, and prayed our Lord, saying: ³ I beseech thee Lord, remember I pray thee how I haue walked before thee in truth, and in a perfect hart, and haue done that which is liked before thee. Ezechias therefore wept with great weeping. ⁴ And before Ifaie was gone out of the middes of the court, the word of our Lord came to him, saying: ⁵ Returne, and tel Ezechias the prince of my people: Thus sayth our Lord the God of Dauid thy father: I haue heard thy prayer, and seene thy teares: and behold I haue healed thee, the third day thou shalt goe vp to the temple of the Lord. ⁶ And I will adde to thy daies fiftene yeares: yea & out of the hand of the king of Affyrians I will deliuer thee, and this citie, & I will protect this citie for my sake, and for Dauid my seruant. ⁷ And Ifaie said: Fetch me a bunch of figges. Which when they had brought, and had layd it vpon his fore, he was cured. ⁸ And Ezechias had sayd to Ifaie: What signe shal there be, that our Lord wil heale me, and that I shal goe vp the third day to the temple of our Lord? ⁹ To whom Ifaie sayd: This shal be the signe from our Lord, that our Lord wil doe the word, which he hath spoken: Wilt thou that the shadow goe forward ten lines, or that it goe backe so many degrees. ¹⁰ And Ezechias sayd: It is an easie matter for the shadow to goe forward ten lines, neither wil I that this be done, but that it returne

back ten degrees. ¹¹ Ifaie therfore the prophet inuocated our Lord, and brought backe the shadow by ^a)the lines, by the which it was now gone downe in the dial of Achaz, backward ten degrees. ¹² In that time Berodach Baladan, the sonne of Baladan, the king of the Babilonians sent letters and giftes to Ezechias: for he had heard that Ezechias had bene sicke. ¹³ And Ezechias reioyfed in their coming, and he shewed them the house of aromaticall spices, and gold and filuer, and diuerse precious, odours, oyntementes also, and the house of his vessels, and al that he had in his treasures. There was not any thing which Ezechias shewed them not in his house, and in al his powre. ¹⁴ And Ifaie the prophete came to king Ezechias, and sayd to him: What sayd these men? or from whence came they to thee? To whom Ezechias said: From a far countrie they came to me out of Babylon. ¹⁵ But he answered: What saw they in thy house? Ezechias sayd: They saw al things whatsoever are in my house: there is nothing that I haue not shewed them in my treasures. ¹⁶ Ifaie therfore said to Ezechias, heare the word of our Lord: ¹⁷ Behold the daies shal come, & al things shal be taken away, that are in thy house, and that thy fathers haue layd vp vntil this day, into Babylon: there shal not anie thing remayne, sayth our Lord. ¹⁸ Yea of the children also that come forth of thee, whom thou shalt beget shal be taken away, and they shal be eunuches in the palace of the king of Babylon. ¹⁹ Ezechias said to Ifaie: The word of our Lord which thou hast spoken is good: be there peace and truth in my daies. ²⁰ But the rest of the wordes of Ezechias, and al his strength, and how he made a poole, and a conduite, and brought waters in to the citie, are not these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the daies

^a If these tenne lines importe so manie houres, then the dial going forwardes againe, by like degrees, this day was increased by twentie houres, and soe was longer then that in which Iosue procured stay of the sunne the space of one day, to witte of twelue houres. *Iosue. 10.* as S. Dyonise thinketh. *Epist. ad Policarp.* See *Glossa ord. in Iosue.*

of the kinges of Iuda? ²¹ And Ezechias flept with his fathers, and Manaffes his sonne reigned for him.