

Chapter 21

For the enormous impietie of Manaffes, 10. God threatneth destruction of the kingdom. 16. He spilleth innocent blood, 18. dieth, and his sonne Amon reigneth also wickedly: 23. is slaine by his seruantes, and his sonne Iofias reigneth.

Twelue yeares old was Manaffes, when he began to reigne, & he reigned fiue and fiftie yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Haphfiba. ² And he did euil in the fight of our Lord, according to the idols of the Nations, which our Lord destroyed from the face of the children of Ifrael. ³ And he was turned, and built the excelses, which Ezechias his father had destroyed: and he sette vp altars to Baal, and made groues, as Achab the king of Ifrael had done: and he adored al the hoft of heauen, and worshipped it. ⁴ And he built altars in the houle of our Lord, of the which our Lord sayd: In Ierufalem I wil put my name. ⁵ And he built altars to al the hoft of heauen in the two courtes of the temple of our Lord. ⁶ And he made his sonne passe through fyre: and he vsed footefaying, and obserued diuinations, and made pithones, and multiplied inchanters, to doe euil before our Lord, and to prouoke him. ⁷ He sette also the idol of the groue, which he had made in the temple of our Lord: concerning the which our Lord spake to Daud, and to Salomon his sonne: In this temple, and in Ierufalem, which I haue chosen out of al the tribes of Ifrael, I wil put my name for euer. ⁸ And I wil noe more make the foote of Ifrael to be moued out of the land, which I gaue to their fathers: yet so if in worke they shal keepe al things, that I haue commanded them, al the law which my seruant Moyfes commanded them. ⁹ But they heard not: but were seduced by Manaffes, to doe euil ^aabout the Nations, which our

^a The Iewes finned more greuoufly reuolting from the Law of God and contemning the admonitions of holie prophetes, then the nations that had neither law nor prophetes to infruct them.

Lord destroyed before the face of the children of Ifrael.
¹⁰ And our Lord spake in the hand of his seruantes, the
 prophetes, saying: ¹¹ Because Manaffes the king of Iuda
 hath done these most wicked abominations, passing al
 things that the Amorrheites did before him, and hath
 made Iuda also to sinne in his filthes: ¹² therefore thus
 sayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: Behold I wil bring
 in euils vpon Ierufalem and Iuda: that whofoeuer shal
 heare it, both his eares shal tingle. ¹³ And I wil stretch
 out vpon Ierufalem the corde of Samaria, and the weight
 of the house of Achab: and I wil wipe out Ierufalem,
 as tablets are wont to be wiped out, and wiping out I
 wil turne it, and draw often the pencil vpon the face
 therof. ¹⁴ ^{a)} But I wil leaue remnantes of mine inher-
 itance, and wil deliuer them into the handes of their
 enemies: and they shal be vnto waste, and vnto spoile to
 al their aduerfaries: ¹⁵ because they haue done euil be-
 fore me, and haue continewed prouoking me, from the
 day that their fathers came out of Ægypt, vntil this day.
¹⁶ Moreouer Manaffes shed also innocent blood exceding
 much til he filled Ierufalem euen to the mouth: beside his
 finnes, wherein he made Iuda to sinne, to doe euil before
 our Lord. ¹⁷ But the rest of the wordes of Manaffes, and
 al that he did, and his sinne, which he sinned, are not
 these things written in the Booke of the wordes of the
 dayes of the kinges of Iuda? ¹⁸ And Manaffes slept with
 his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his house,
 in the garden of Oza: and Amon his sonne reigned for
 him. ¹⁹ Two and twentie yeares old was Amon when he
 began to reigne: two yeares also he reigned in Ierufalem:
 the name of his mother was Meffalemeth the daughter
 of Ieteba. ²⁰ And he did euil in the sight of our Lord, as
 Manaffes his father had done. ²¹ And he walked in al the
 way, by the which his father had walked: and he ferued
 the filthes, which his father had ferued, and he adored

^a God ftill preferred some in true religion, though they also suffered
 tribulations with the wicked for the general finnes of the king and
 people. *Pfal.* 88. *v.* 35. Yea this king Manaffes in captiuitie
 became vertuous and recouered his kingdom. 2. *Paralip.* 33.

them, ²² and forfooke our Lord the God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of our Lord. ²³ And his feruantes lay in wayte agaynft him, and flewe the king in his houfe. ²⁴ But the people of the land ftroke al them, that had confpired agaynft king Amon: and made Iofias his fonne their king for him. ²⁵ But the reft of the wordes of Amon which he did, are not thefe writen in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Iuda? ²⁶ And they buried him in his fepulchre, in the garden of Oza: and Iofias his fonne reigned for him.