Chapter 21

For the enormious impletie of Manaffes, 10. God threatneth deftruction of the kingdom. 16. He fpilleth innocent bloud, 18. dieth, and his fonne Amon reigneth alfo wickedly: 23. is flaine by his feruantes, and his fonne Iofias reigneth.

welue years 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 deftroved from the face of the children of Ifrael. ³ And he was turned, and built the excelfes, which Ezechias his father had deftroyed: and he fette 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 houfe of our Lord, of the which our Lord fayd: 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 fonne paffe through fyre: and he vfed foothfaying, and obferued divinations, and made pithones, and multiplied inchanters, to doe euil before our Lord, and to prouoke him. ⁷ He fette alfo the idol of the groue, which he had made in the temple of our Lord: concerning the which our Lord fpake to Dauid, and to Salomon his fonne: In this temple, and in Ierufalem, which I have chofen 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 fo if in worke they fhal keepe al things, that I have commanded them, al the law which my feruant Moyfes commanded them. ⁹ But they heard not: but were feduced by Manaffes, to doe euil ^a)aboue 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 inftruct them.

Lord deftroyed before the face of the children of Ifrael. ¹⁰ And our Lord fpake in the hand of his feruantes, the prophetes, faying: ¹¹ Becaufe Manaffes the king of Iuda hath done there most wicked abominations, paffing al thinges that the Amorrheites did before him, and hath made Iuda alfo to finne in his filthes: ¹² therfore thus fayth 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 ftretch out vpon Ierufalem the corde of Samaria, and the weight of the houfe of Achab: and I wil wipe out Ierufalem, as tablets are wont to be wiped out, and wyping out I wil turne it, and draw often the pencil vpon the face therof. ¹⁴ a)But I wil leaue remnantes of mine inheritance, and wil deliver them into the handes of their enemies: and they fhal be vnto wafte, and vnto fpoile to al their aduerfaries: ¹⁵ becaufe they have done euil before me, and have continewed prouoking me, from the day that their fathers came out of Ægypt, vntil this day. ¹⁶ Moreouer Manaffes shed alfo innocent bloud exceding much til he filled Ierufalem euen to the mouth: befide his finnes, wherin he made Iuda to finne, to doe euil before our Lord. ¹⁷ But the reft of the wordes of Manaffes, and al that he did, and his finne, which he finned, are not thefe thinges written in the Booke of the wordes of the dayes of the kinges of Iuda? ¹⁸ And Manaffes flept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his houfe, in the garden of Oza: and Amon his fonne reigned for him. ¹⁹ Two and twentie years old was Amon when he began to reigne: two years also he reigned in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Meffalemeth the daughter of Ieteba. ²⁰ And he did euil in the fight 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 ftil preferued fome in true religion, though they alfo fuffered tribulations with the wicked for the general finnes of the king and people. *Pfal. 88. v. 35.* Yea this king Manaffes in captinitie became vertuous and recoursed 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.