

Chapter 25

Nabuchodonosor king of Babylon befeiging Ierufalem two yeares, the fouldiars puffed with famine flee away. King Sedecias also fleeth, 5. is taken and brought before Nabuchodonosor. 7. Al his sonnes are flaine in his fight: his eyes are put out, and he is caried into Babylon: the Temple, the kinges palace, and other houfes burned; the walles destroyed, the people caried captiue 12. except poore husbandmen. 13. Al vessel of brafse, filuer, and gold broken and transported. 18. Saraias high priest, and other principal men are flaine. 22. Godolias made gouernour, 25. is flaine by Ifmael. 27. Ioachin is deliuered from prifon, and exalted by a new king of Babylon.

And it came to paffe in the ninthe yeare of his reigne, the tenth moneth, the tenth day of the moneth, came Nabuchodonosor the king of Babylon, himfelfe and al his armie vnto Ierufalem, and they befette it: and built rampires round about it. ² And the citie was fhut vp & trenched about vntil the eleuenth yeare of king Sedecias, ³ the ninth day of the moneth: and there was a fore famine in the citie, neither was there bread for the people of the land. ⁴ And a breach was made into the citie: and al the men of warre fled in the night by the way of the gate, which is betwen the duple wal toward the kinges garden (moreouer the Chaldees befieged the citie round about.) Sedecias therefore fled by the way, that leadeth to the champayne of the wildernes. ⁵ And the armie of the Chaldees purfewed the king, and ouertooke him in the plaine of Iericho: and al the warriors, that were with him, were difperfed, and forfooke him. ⁶ They therefore hauing taken the king, brought him to the king of Babylon into Reblatha, who fpake iudgement with him. ⁷ And he flewe the sonnes of

Sedecias before his face, and he ^{a)}put out his eyes, and bound him with cheynes, and ^{b)}brought him into Babylon. ⁸ The fifth moneth, the feuenth day of the moneth, that is, the ninetenth yeare of the king of Babylon, came Nabuzardan the General of the armie, the feruant of the king of Babylon into Ierufalem. ⁹ And he burnt the houfe of our Lord, the kings houfe, and the houfes of Ierufalem, & euerie houfe he burnt with fyre. ¹⁰ And al the armie of the Chaldees, which was with the General of the fouldiars, deftroied the walles of Ierufalem round about. ¹¹ And Nabuzardan the General of the armie, tranfported the remnant of the people that remained in the citie, and the fugitiues, that were fled to the king of Babylon, and the reft of the comon people. ¹² And of the poore of the land he leift dreffers of vineyardes and hufbandmen. ¹³ And the brafen pillers, that were in the temple of our Lord, and the feete, and the fea of braffe, which was in the houfe of our Lord, the Chaldees brake, and tranfported al the braffe into Babylon. ¹⁴ The pottes alfo of braffe, and mafars, and forkes with three teeth, and cuppes, and litle mortars, and al the veffel of braffe, in the which they miniftred, they tooke away. ¹⁵ Moreouer alfo the cenfars, and phials: thofe that were of gold: and that were of filuer the General of the warfare tooke, ¹⁶ that is, two pillers, one fea, and the feete which Salomon had made in the temple of our Lord: there was ^{c)}no weight of the braffe of al the veffels. ¹⁷ One piller had eightene cubites in height: and the litle head of braffe vpon it was three cubites in height: and the nette, and the pomegranates vpon

^a Certaine falfe prophetes perfwaded the king and the people not to beleue the prophetes, which forwarned them of thefe calamities, becaufe (fayd they) they contradicte one an other, Ieremie faying (*ch. 32. & 34.*) *the eyes of Sedecias should fee the eyes of Nabuchodonofor, and should be led into Babylon:* and Ezechiel faying (*c. 12. v. 13.*) *that he should not fee Babylon.*

^b Both faying moft truly: for he was caried thither after his eyes were put out. *Iofephus li. 10. Antiq. c. 10.*

^c There was fo exceding much, that they wel could not, or did not weigh it.

the litle head of the piller, al of braffe: the fecond alfo had the like adorning. ¹⁸ Alfo the general of the armie tooke Saraias the chiefe prieft, and Sophonias the fecond prieft, and three porters. ¹⁹ And of the citie one Eunuch, which was captayne ouer the men of warre: and fiue men of them, that wayted before the king, whom he found in the citie, and Sopher the captaine of the armie who proued the yong fouldiars of the people of the land: and threecore men of the common people, which were found in the citie. ²⁰ Whom Nabuzardan the General of the armie taking, brought them to the king of Babylon into Reblatha. ²¹ And the king of Babylon ftroke them, and flew them in Reblatha in the land of Emath: and Iuda was tranfported out of their land. ²² And he made Godolias the fonne of Ahicam the fonne of Saphan Gouvernour ouer the people, that was leift in the land of Iuda, which Nabuchodonofor the king of Babylon had leift. ²³ Which when al the captaynes of the fouldiars had heard, they and the men that were with them, to witte, that the king of Babylon had appoynted Godolias, there came to Godolias into Mafpha Ifmael the fonne of Mathanias, and Iohanan the fonne of Caree, and Saraia the fonne of Thanehumeth a Netophathite, and Iezonias the fonne of Maachathi, they and their felowes. ²⁴ And Godolias fware to them and to their companions, faying: Be not afrayd to ferue the Caldees: tarie in the countrie, and ferue the king of Babylon, and it shal be wel with you. ²⁵ But it came to paffe in the feuenth moneth, there came Ifmahel the fonne of Nathanias, the fonne of Elifama of the kinges feede, and ten men with him: and ftroke Godolias, who alfo died: yea the Iewes alfo & the Chaldees, that were with him in Mafpha. ²⁶ And al the people ryfing vp from litle to great, & the captaynes of the fouldiars, came into Ægypt fearing the Caldees. ²⁷ But it came to paffe in the feuen and thirteth yeare of the Tranfmigration of Ioachin the king of Iuda, in the twelfth moneth, the feuen and twentieth day of the moneth: Euilmerodach the king of Babylon, in the yeare,

that he began to reigne, ^a)lifted vp the head of Ioachin the king of Iuda out of prifon. ²⁸ And he fpake vnto him courteoufly: and he fette his throne aboue the throne of the kinges, that were with him in Babylon. ²⁹ And he changed his garmentes, which he had in the prifon, and he did eate bread alwayes in his fight, al the dayes of his life. ³⁰ A certayne prouifion alfo he appointed for him without intermiffion, which was alfo geuen him of the king day by day, al the daies of his life.

^a By Gods fppecial prouidence king Ioachin (otherwife called Iechonias *2. Par. 3. & Mat. 1.*) is exalted, and fet ouer al the Iewes; vnto whom others fuccede in like authoritie, and fo is fulfilled the prophecie of Iacob. *Gen. 49. The fcepter shal not be taken from Iuda, nor a duke of his thiegh til he come that is to be fent.*