

Chapter 33

Jacob feing Efau come with a great troupe of men, feareth harme, but is moft curteoufly entertained by him. 10. He hardly perfwadeth Efau to take giftes, 13. and to returne home. 17. So Iacob coming by Socoth to Salem, there byeth a field, pitcheth his tents, and erecteth an Altar.

And Iacob lifting vp his eyes, faw Efau coming, and with him foure hundred men: and he diuided the children of Lia and of Rachel, and of the two handmaidens: ²and he put both the handmaidens & their children foremost: and Lia, and her children in the fecond place: and Rachel, and Iofeph laft. ³ And himfelfe going foreward adored prostrate to the grownd feuen times, vntil his brother came nere. ⁴ Efau therefore running to mete his brother, embraced him: and clafping him faft about the necke, and kiffing him wept. ⁵ And cafting vp his eyes, he faw the women and their litle ones, and faid: What meane thefe? And do they perteyne to thee? He answered: They are the litle ones which God hath geuen to me thy feruant. ⁶ And the handmaidens and their children coming nere, bowed themfelues. ⁷ Lia alfo with her children came nere: and when they had adored in like maner, laft Iofeph and Rachel adored. ⁸ And Efau faid: What are the troupes that I did mete? He answered: That I might find grace before my lord. ⁹ But he faid: I haue plentie, my brother, be thy things to thy felfe. ¹⁰ And Iacob faid: Do not fo I befech thee, but if I haue found grace in thin eyes, take a litle prefent at my hands: for fo haue I feene thy face, as if I fhould haue feene ^athe countenance of God: be gracious to me, ¹¹ and take the bleffing, which I haue brought thee, and which God hath geuen me, who geueth al thinges. Scarfe at his brothers great inftance, taking it, ¹² he faid: Let vs march on together, and I wil accompanie thee in thy

^a Iacob feing Gods hand in this change of his brothers mind, not of flaterie, but fincerly acknowledged his benignitie, as Gods countenance towards him.

journey. ¹³ And Iacob faid: My lord thou knowest that I haue with me litle ones, and fheepe, and kine with young: which if I caufe to ouerlaboure themfelues in going, in one day al the flockes wil die. ¹⁴ It may please my lord to goe before his feruant: and I wil folow softly after him, as I fhall see my litle ones to be able, vntil I come to my lord in Seir. ¹⁵ Efau answered: I befech thee, that of my people at the leaftwife, which is with me, there may remaine fome to accompanie thee in the way. It is not needful, faid he, this only I haue nede of, that I may finde grace (my lord) in thy fight. ¹⁶ Efau therefore returned that day the fame way, that he came into Seir. ¹⁷ And Iacob cometh into Socoth: where hauing built a houfe, and pitched his tents, he called the name of that place Socoth, that is, Tabernacles. ¹⁸ And he paffed into Salem a citie of the Sichimites, which is in the land of Chanaan, after he returned from Mefopotamia of Siria: and he dwelt befide the towne. ¹⁹ And he bought that part of the field, wherin he had pitched his tents, of the children of Hemor, the father of Sichem for an hundred lambes. ²⁰ And erecting an altar there, on it he called vpon the moft mightie God of Ifrael.