

Chapter 7

Job explicateth diuers calamities of mans life, and namely of his owne. 6. Supposing it not likelie that he shal returne to former prosperous ftate, 15. defireth to dye.

The life of man vpon earth is a ^{a)}warfare, & his daies, as the daies of an hyred man. ² As a feruant defireth the shadow, & as the hired man taryeth for the end of his worke: ³ So I also haue had vayne monethes, and haue numbred to myself laborious nightes. ⁴ If I fleepe, I shal fay: When shal I arife? And agayne I shal expect the euening, and shal be replenished with forowes euen vntil darkenes. ⁵ My flesh is clothed with rotteneffe and filth of duft, my skinne is withered, & drawn together. ⁶ My daies haue paffed more fwiftly, then the webbe is cut of the weauer, and are confumed without anie hope. ⁷ Remember that my life is a winde, and myne eie shal not returne to see good thinges. ⁸ Neither shal the fight of man behold me: thine eies vpon me, and I shal not ftand. ⁹ As a clowde is confumed, and paffeth away: fo he that shal defcend *Seol.* to hel shal not ascend. ¹⁰ Neither shal he returne anie more into his house, neither shal his place know him anie more. ¹¹ Wherefore I also wil not spare my mouth, I wil speake in the tribulation of my spirit: I wil talke with the bitterneffe of my foule. ¹² Why, am I a fea, or a whale, that thou haft compaffed me with a prifon? ¹³ If I fay: My litle bed shal comfort me, and I shal be releued fpeaking with myself in my couch: ¹⁴ Thou wilt terrefie me by dreames, and by vifions shake me with horreur. ¹⁵ For the which thing my foule hath chofen hanging, and my bones death. ¹⁶ I haue defpayred. I

^a A fouldiar muft be alwayes readie to indure trauel, to be promptly obedient, content to be beaten by his fuperior with out al refiftance, vpon paine of his life, he is alwayes fubiect to cares, and to danger of death, and therefore muft euer be readie to dye.

shal now liue no longer: ^{a)}Spare me, for my daies are nothing. ¹⁷ What is man that thou magnifiest him? or why fettest thou thy hart toward him? ¹⁸ Thou doest visit him early, and suddenly thou prouest him. ¹⁹ How long doest thou not spare me, nor suffer me that I swallow my spittle? ²⁰ I haue sinned, what shal I doe to thee ô keeper of men? why hast thou fetted me contrarie to thee, and I am become burdalous to my self? ²¹ Why doest thou not take away my sinne, and why doest thou not take away mine iniquitie? Behold now I shal sleepe in the dust: and if thou seeke me in the morning, I shal not be.

^a Iust Iob supposing he was at the point of death, prayed God to spare or *cease to* punish him more, and to accept of that affliction which he had already suffered. So the Church in behalf of foules departed in state of grace prayeth God to spare and cease from further punishing them, and to geue them eternal rest.