Chapter 8

Baldad chargeth lob to have fpoken, vniuftly exhorting him to turne to God, and fo he shal profper better then heretofore. 13. Shewing that hypocrites shal not profper, 20. inferreth (falfly) that God afflicteth not the fincere, nor helpeth the malignant.

The fecond conflict.

ut Baldad the Suhite anfwering, fayd: ² a)How long wilt thou fpeake fuch thinges, and shal the fpirit of the word of thy mouth be multiplied? ³ Why doth God fupplant iudgement? or doth the Omnipotent fubuert that which is iuft? 4 Although thy children haue finned to him, and he hath leaft them in the hand of their iniquitie: ⁵ Yet if thou wilt arife early to God, and wilt befech the Omnipotent: ⁶ If thou wilt walke cleane & vpright, he wil forthwith awake vnto thee, and wil make the habitation of thy iuftice peaceable: ⁷ In fo much, that if thy former thinges have been litle, thy later thinges may be multiplied exceedingly. ⁸ For aske the old generation, and fearch diligently the memorie of the fathers. (9 For we are but as yefterday, and are ignorant ^{b)}that our daies vpon the earth are as a shadow.) ¹⁰ And they shal teach thee: they shal fpeake to thee, and from their hart shal vtter wordes. ¹¹ Can the rush be greene without movfture? or a feggie place grow without water? ¹² When it is yet in his flowre, and is not plucked with the hand, it withereth before al hearbes: ¹³ Euen fo the waies of al, that forget God, and the hope of the hypocrite shal perish: ¹⁴ His folie shal not pleafe him, and his confidence as the fpiders webbe. ¹⁵ He shal leane vpon his houfe, and it shal not ftand:

^a This fecond diffuter charged lob to be obftinate who in dede was conftant in a true fetled iudgement.

^b Euen thus heretikes imagine Catholikes to be ignorant, and therfore fil their mouthes and bookes with thinges that are not denied, and yet inferre much falfhood fophiftically applying one truth againft an other being them felues ignorat how to reconcile difficulties.

He shal ftay it vp, and it shal not rife: ¹⁶ He femeth moyftened before the funne come, and in his rifing his bloffome shal goe forth. ¹⁷ Vpon a heape of rockes his rootes shal be thicke, and among ftones he shal abide. ¹⁸ If he fwallow him vp out of his place, he wil denie him, & wil fay: I know thee not. ¹⁹ For this is the ioy of his way, that others may fpring againe of the earth. ²⁰ God wil not reject the fimple, nor reach his hand to the malignant. ²¹ Vntil thy mouth be filled with laughter, and thy lippes with iubilation. ²² They that hate thee, shal be clothed with confufion: and the tabernacle of the impious shal not ftand.