

Chapter 39

God Almightye profecuteth his difcourfe, shewing his admirable power and prouidence in liuing creatures. 34. Wherupon Iob acknowledgeth his owne ouerfight in fome light words.

Haft ^{a)}thou knowen the time when the ^{b)}wild goats bring forth yong among the rocks, or haft thou obserued the ^{c)}hynds when they fawne? ² Haft thou numbred the months of their conceiuing, and knowen the time of their bearing? ³ They bow downe themfelues to bring forth yong, and they caft them, and make roarings. ⁴ Their yong are feparated, and goe to feed: they goe forth, and returne not to them. ⁵ Who hath difmift the ^{d)}wilde affe free, and who hath loofed his bonds? ⁶ To whom I haue giuen a houle in the wildernes, and his tabernacles in the land of faltnesse. ⁷ He contemneth the multitude of the citie, the crie of the exactour he heareth not. ⁸ He looketh about the mountaines of his pafuture, and feeketh out al green places. ⁹ Wil the ^{e)}Rhinoceros ferue thee, and wil he tarie at thy ftal? ¹⁰ Shalt thou tie the Rhinoceros with thy collar to plough, or wil he breake the cloddes of the valleys after thee? ¹¹ Shalt thou haue confidence in his great ftrengh, and leaue thy labours vnto him? ¹² Wilt thou credit him that he wil render thee the feed, and gather together thy barne floore? ¹³ The wing of the ^{f)}Oft rich is like to the wings of the ^{g)}Herodius, and of the hawke. ¹⁴ When fhe leaueth her egges on the earth, thou perhaps wilt heate them in the duft. ¹⁵ She forgetteth that foot may tread vpon them, or beaft of the

^a By Gods meruelous prouidence appearing in the natural inftinct of other creatures, man may confider that the fame is greater towards him. And therefore God here propofeth the examples of

^b Wild goats,

^c Hynds,

^d Wilde affes,

^e Vnicornes,

^f Oftriches,

^g Faulcons, or Ierfaulcons, & other hauks.

field breake them. ¹⁶ She is hardned toward her yong, as though they were not hers, she hath laboured in vaine, no feare compelling her. ¹⁷ For God hath depriued her of wifedome, neither hath he giuen her vnderstanding. ¹⁸ When time shal be, she fetteth vp the wings on high: she skorneth the horfe and his rider. ¹⁹ Shalt thou giue strength to the ^ahorfe, or put neyng about his necke? ²⁰ Shalt thou raise him vp as Locusts? the glorie of his nofthrels is terrour. ²¹ He diggeth the earth with his houe, he prawnfeth boldly, he goeth forward to meet the armed men. ²² He contemneth feare, neither yealdeth he to the fword. ²³ Vpon him shal the quiuer found, the speare shal glifter and the shilde. ²⁴ Feruent and foming he suppeth the earth, neither doth he make account when the noyse of the trumpet foundeth. ²⁵ When he shal heare the trumpet he sayth: Vah, he smelleth battel far of, the exhortation of the captaines, and the crie of the armie. ²⁶ Doth the ^bhawke waxe fethered by thy wifedom, fpreding her winges to the South? ²⁷ Shal the ^ceagle mount at thy commandment, and put her nest in high places? ²⁸ She abideth in rockes, and tarieth among cragged flintes, and stonie hilles where is no acceffe. ²⁹ Thence she beholdeth the praye, and her eyes see a far of. ³⁰ Her yong ones shal licke bloud: & wherfoeuer the carcaffes shal be, she is present by and by. ³¹ And our Lord added, and spake to Iob: ³² He that contendeth with God is he quieted so easily? Verely he that reproveth God, ought to answer him. ³³ But Iob answering our Lord, sayd: ³⁴ I that haue spoken ^dlightly what can I answer? I wil put my hand vpon my mouth. ³⁵ One thing I haue spoken, which I would I had not sayd: and an other, to the which thinges I wil adde no more.

^a Horses are of singular great courage.

^b Haukes wherof Ariftotle faith there be ten kindes: Plinie fixtēne.

^c Eagles, of most strong fight.

^d If we discusse al Iobs wordes (*faith S. Gregorie*) we shal find nothing wickedly spoken, but only female speeche of pride in speaking too much of his owne afflictio and too litle of Gods goodnes towards him. *li. 23. c. 1.*