

Chapter 7

For the finne of Achan, referuing fecretly to himfelf certaine money, and other precious thinges, the Ifraelites are beaten in battel. 13. But the offender being found out, and ftoned to death, Gods wrath is turned from them.

But the children of Ifrael tranfgreffed the commandment, & vfurped of the anathema. For Achan the fonne of Charmi, the fonne of Zabdi, the fonne of Zare of the tribe of Iuda, tooke fomewhat of the anathema: and our Lord was angrie againft the children of Ifrael. ² And when Iofue fent from Iericho men againft Hai, which is befide Bethauen, at the Eaft fide of the towne of Bethel, he faid to them: Goe vp, and view the Land: who accomplifhing his commandmentes, viewed Hai. ³ And returning they faid to him: Let not al the people goe vp, but let two or three thoufand men goe, and deftroy the citie: why fhall al the people be vexed in vaine againft verie few enemies? ⁴ There went vp therfore three thoufand fighting men. Who immediatly turning their backes, ⁵ were ftrooken of the men of the citie of Hai, and there fel of them afix and thirtie men: and the aduerfaries purfewed them from the gate as farre as Sabarim, and they ftricke them flying away by the defcent: and the hart of the people was much afrayd, and melted like vnto water. ⁶ But Iofue rent his garmentes, and fel flatte on the ground before the arke of our Lord vntil euening, as wel he as al the ancientes of Ifrael: and they caft duft vpon their heades, ⁷ and Iofue faid: Alas ô Lord God, why wouldeft thou bring this people ouer the riuer of Iordan, to deliuer vs into the handes of the Amorrhite, and to deftroy vs? Would God as we beganne, we had taried beyond Iordan. ⁸ My Lord God what fhall I fay, feeing Ifrael turning their

^a So God tempered his punifhment that but few were flaine, and afterwards gaue the towne to the Ifraelites without loffe of any of their men.

backes to their enemies? ⁹ The Chananeites shal heare of it, and al the inhabitantes of the Land, and being gathered together in a plumpe shal compaffe vs about, & shal defstroy our name from the earth: and what wilt thou doe to thy greate name? ¹⁰ And our Lord said to Iofue: Arife, ^{a)}why lieft thou flatte on the ground? ¹¹ Ifrael hath finned, and tranfgreffed my couenant: and they haue taken of the anathema, and haue ftolen and lyed, and haue hid it among their veffel. ¹² Neither can Ifrael ftand before his enemies, and he shal flee them: becaufe he is polluted with the anathema. I wil be no more with you, til you difpatch him, that is guiltie of this wicked fact. ¹³ Arife, sanctifie the people, and fay to them: Be sanctified againft to morrow: for thus faith our Lord God of Ifrael: There is anathema in the middes of thee ô Ifrael: thou canft not ftand before thyne enemies, til he be defstroyed out of thee that is contaminated with this wicked fact. ¹⁴ And you shal come in the morning euerie one by your tribes: and what tribe foeuer the lote shal finde, it shal come by the kindredes therof, the kinred by the houfes, and the houfe by the men. ¹⁵ And whofoeuer he be that shal be taken in this fact, he fhall be burnt in the fyre with al his fubftance, becaufe he hath tranfgreffed the couenãt of our Lord, and hath done abomination in Ifrael. ¹⁶ Iofue therefore ryfing in the morning, made Ifrael to come by their tribes, and it was found the tribe of Iuda. ¹⁷ Which being prefented by the families therof, it was found the familie of Zare. Prefenting that alfo by the houfes, he found it Zabdi: ¹⁸ whose houfe diuiding into euerie man, he found Achan the fonne of Charmi, the fonne of Zabdi: the fonne of Zare of the tribe of Iuda. ¹⁹ And Iofue said to Achan: My fonne, geue glorie to our Lord God of Ifrael, and confeffe, and tel me what thou haft done, hide it not. ²⁰ And Achan answered Iofue, and said to him: In deede I haue finned to our Lord the God of Ifrael, and thus and thus haue I done. ²¹ For I faw among the fpoiles a cloke of fcarlet verie good, and two hundred ficles of

^a Prayer wil not auaille til iuftice be firft donne.

filuer, and a golden rule of fiftie ficles: and coueting I tooke it away, and hid it in the ground againft the middes of my tabernacle, and the filuer I couered with the earth digged vp. ²² Iofue therfore fent minifters: who running to his tabernacle, found al thinges hid in the fame place, and the filuer withal. ²³ And taking it away out of the tent, brought it to Iofue, and to al the children of Ifrael, and threw it before our Lord. ²⁴ Iofue therfore taking Achan the fonne of Zare, and the filuer and the cloke, and the golden rule, his fonnes alfo and daughters, his oxen and affes, and fheepe, and the tabernacle it felf, and al the ftuffe: (and al Ifrael with him) they brought them to the valley of Achor: ²⁵ where Iofue faid: Becaufe thou haft difturbed vs, our Lord difturbe thee in this day. And al Ifrael ftoned him: and al thinges that were his, were confumed with fyre. ²⁶ And gathered together vpon him a greate heape of ftones, which remaineth vntil this prefent day. And the furie of our Lord was auerted from them. And the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, vntil this day.