

Chapter 8

By ftratageme of an ambushment the citie of Hai is taken and burned, and al the inhabitantes flaine. 29. The king hanged. 30. An Altar built, Sacrifice offered, 32. the law written in ftones, the people bleffed, and the bleffinges and curfinges read before them al.

And our Lord faid to Iofue: Feare not, neither doe thou dread: take with thee al the multitude of fighting men, and ryfing goe vp vnto the towne of Hai. Behold I haue deliuered into thy hand the King therof, & the people, and the citie and the land. ² And thou shalt do to the citie of Hai, and to the King therof, as thou haft done to Iericho, and to the King therof: but the praye and al the cattel you shal fpoyle for your felues: ^alay ambushmentes to the citie behind it. ³ And Iofue arofe, and al the hofte of the men of warre with him, to goe vp into Hai: and thirtie thoufand chofen valiant men he fent in the night, ⁴ and commanded them, faying: Lay ambushmentes behinde the citie: neither retyre you farre of: and you shal al be readie. ⁵ But I and the reft of the multitude, which is with me, wil goe vp on the contrarie fide againft the citie. And when they shal iffue out againft vs, as we did before, we wil flee, and turne our backes: ⁶ til purfewing they be drawen forward farre from the citie: for they wil thinck that we flee as before. ⁷ We therfore fleeing, and they purfewing, you shal rife out of the ambushmentes, and shal waift the citie: and our Lord your God wil deliuer it into your handes. ⁸ And when you shal take it, burne it, and you shal doe al thinges fo, as I haue commanded. ⁹ And he difmiffed them away, and they went on to the place of the ambushment, and fate between Bethel and Hai, at the Weft fide of the citie of Hai. But Iofue that night ftayed in the middes of the people, ¹⁰ and ryfing

^a Deceiptes & ftratagemes are lawful in iuft warre; but not fallhood, nor breach of promife. *S. Aug. q. 10. in Iofue.*

early he mustered his foldiars, and went vp with the ancientes in the fronte of the hofte, enuironed with the ayde of the fighting men. ¹¹ And when they were come, and were gone vp directly againft the citie, they ftoode on the North fide of the citie, betwen which and them was a valley in the middes. ¹² And ^{a)}fiue thoufand men had he chofen, and fette in the embushmentes betwen Bethel and Hai on the Weft fide of the fame citie: ¹³ but al the reft of the hofte went in battel aray on the North fide, fo that the laft of the multitude did reach to the Weft fide of the citie. Iofue therfore went that night, and ftoode in the middes of the valley. ¹⁴ Which when the King of Hai had feene, he made haft in the mourning, and iffued forth with al the hofte of the citie, and bent his armie toward the defert, being ignorant that there lay embushmentes fecretly behind his backe. ¹⁵ But Iofue, and al Ifrael gaue backe, feyning feare, and fleeing by the way of the wildernes. ¹⁶ But they cried alowde together, and encouraging one an other, purfewed them. And when they were gone from the citie, ¹⁷ and ^{b)}not one remained in the citie of Hai and Bether, that purfewed not Ifrael (euen as they had rushed out leauing the townes open,) ¹⁸ our Lord faid to Iofue: ^{c)}Lift vp the shield, that is in thy hand, againft the citie of Hai, for I wil deliuer it to thee. ¹⁹ And when he had lifted vp his shield againft the citie, the embushmentes, that lay hidde, rofe vp immediatly: and going to the citie, tooke and burnt it. ²⁰ And the men of the citie, that purfewed Iofue, looking backe and feeing the fmoke of the citie rife vp euen to heauen, they could no more flee hither and thither: efpecially whereas they, that had feyned running away, and went toward the wildernes, moft valiantly refifted againft the purfewers. ²¹ And Iofue and al Ifrael feeing that the citie

^a Thefe fiue thoufād were of the thirtie thoufand, which were firft sent. *v. 3.* The other 25000. ioyned with Iofues troupe, & entered into the citie.

^b Not one fitte to beare armes was left.

^c He lift his fhield vpon a long pike or lance, that it might be fene farre of.

was taken, and the fmoke of the citie rofe vp, returning he ftroke the men of Hai. ²² For they alfo that had taken and burnt the citie, iffuing out of the citie againft their owne men, beganne to ftrike the enemies in the mid-des of them. When the aduerfaries therfore were flaine on both fides, fo that none of fo great a multitude was faued, ²³ they tooke the King of the citie of Hai alieue, and prefented him to Iofue. ²⁴ Therfore al being flaine, that had purfewed Ifrael fleeing to the defertes, and falling by the fword in the fame place, the children of Ifrael returning ftroke the citie. ²⁵ And there were that fel that fame day from man vnto woman, twelue thoufand men, al of the citie of Hai. ²⁶ But Iofue plucked not in his hand, which he had ftretched forth on high, holding the fhield til al the inhabitantes of Hai were flaine. ²⁷ And the cattel and the praye of the citie the children of Ifrael diuided among them, as our Lord had commanded Iofue. ²⁸ Who burnt the citie, and made it a heape for euer: ²⁹ the king alfo therof he hong on a gibbet vntil euening and the going downe of the funne. And he commanded, and they tooke downe his corps from the gibbet: and threw it in the verie entring of the citie, heaping vpon it a great heape of ftones, which remaineth vntil this prefent day. ³⁰ Then Iofue built an altar to our Lord the God of Ifrael in mount Hebal, ³¹ as Moyfes the feruant of our Lord had commanded the children of Ifrael, and it is written in the volume of the law of Moyfes: an Altar of vnheued ftones which yron hath not touched; and he offered vpon it holocaustes to our Lord, and immolated pacifique victimes. ³² And he wrote vpon ftones the Deuteronomie of the law of Moyfes, which he had ordered before the children of Ifrael. ³³ And al the people, and the ancientes, and the princes and iudges ftoode on both fides of the arke, in the fight of the prieftes that caried the arke of the couenant of our Lord, as wel the ftranger as alfo the man of the fame countrie. The half part of them befide mount Garizim, and halfe befide

Deut. 27.

commanded. And firft in deede he ^ableffed the people of Ifrael. ³⁴ After this he reade al the wordes of the bleffing & the curfing, and al thinges that were written in the volume of the law. ³⁵ Nothing of thofe thinges, which Moyfes had commanded, did he leaue vntouched, but he repeated al thinges before al the multitude of Ifrael, the wemen and children and ftrangers, that dwelt among them.

^a Al fuperiors may bleffe their fubiectes, Princes their peoples and parentes their children.