

## Chapter 3

*The people affociating them felues with Gentiles, againft whom they ought to fight, 8. are inuaded by forraine kinges: 9. but repenting are deliuered by Othoniel. 12. Falling againe, afflicted, and repenting, 15. are deliuered by Aod, 21. fecretely killing Eglon their enemy. 31. After him Samgar defendeth Ifrael againft the Philifhimes.*

The fecond part. Of the common peoples often falling to idolatrie, their repentance, and deliuerie.

**T**hefe are the Nations, which our Lord left, that in them he might inſtruct Ifrael, and al that had not known the warres of the Chananeites: <sup>2</sup> that afterward their children might lerne to fight with their enemies, and to be accuſtomed to warre: <sup>3</sup> the five princes of the Philifhimes, and the Chananeite, and Sidonian, and Heueite, that dwelt in mount Libanus, from mount Baal Hermon to the entring into Emath. <sup>4</sup> And he left them, that in them he might trie Ifrael, whether they would heare the commandementes of our Lord, which he had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moyſes, or not. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the children of Ifrael dwelt in the middes of the Chananeite, and Hetheite, and Amorrheite, and Pherezeite, and Heueite, and Iebuſeite: <sup>6</sup> and they tooke their daughters to wiues, and them felues gaue their owne daughters to their fonnes, & ferued their goddes. <sup>7</sup> And they did euil in the fight of our Lord, and forgat their God, feruing Baalim and Aftaroth. <sup>8</sup> And our Lord being wrath againft Ifrael, deliuered them into the handes of Chufan Rafathaim the king of Mefopotamia, and they ferued him eight yeares. <sup>9</sup> And they cried to our Lord: who rayſed them vp <sup>a</sup>a fauiour, and deliuered them, to witte: Othoniel the ſonne of Cenez, the yonger brother of Caleb: <sup>10</sup> and the Spirit of our Lord was in him, and he iudged Ifrael. And he went forth to fight, and our Lord deliuered into his handes Chufan Rafathaim the king of Syria, and oppreſſed him. <sup>11</sup> And

<sup>a</sup> In manie places we ſee the worde *fauiour*, and like titles geuen to men, as the ſeruantes and officers of God, who is the proper and principal Sauour of al. *S. Aug. q. 18. in Iudic.*

the land rested <sup>a)</sup>fourtie yeares, and Othoniel the sonne of Cenez died. <sup>12</sup> And the children of Ifrael added to doe euil in the fight of our Lord: who strengthned againft them Eglon the king of Moab: becaufe they did euil in his fight. <sup>13</sup> And he ioyned to him the children of Ammon, and Amalec: and he went and ftroke Ifrael, and poffeffed the Citie of palmes. <sup>14</sup> And the children of Ifrael ferued Eglon the king of Moab eightene yeares: <sup>15</sup> and afterward they cried to our Lord: who rayfed vp vnto them a fauour called Aod, the sonne of Gera, the sonne of Iemini, who vfed both handes for the right. And the children of Ifrael fent by him presentes to Eglon the king of Moab. <sup>16</sup> Who made him felf a two edged fword, hauing in the middes a hafte in length the palme of a hand, and was girded therwith vnder his caffocke on the right thigh. <sup>17</sup> And he prefented the giftes to Eglon the king of Moab. And Eglon was exceeding groffe. <sup>18</sup> And when he had prefented the giftes vnto him, he brought his felowes on the way that came with him. <sup>19</sup> And returning from Galgal, where the Idols were, he faid to the King: I haue a fecrete meffage to thee, ô king. And he commanded filence: and al being gone forth, that were about him, <sup>20</sup> Aod went in to him: and he fate in a fommer chamber alone, and he faid: <sup>b)</sup>A word from God I haue to thee. Who forthwith rofe out of his throne. <sup>21</sup> And Aod put forth his left hand, and tooke the dagger from his right thigh, and faftened it into his bellie <sup>22</sup> fo mightely that the haft folowed the blade in the wound, and was clofed vp faft with the moft fatte greafe. Neither did he plucke out the dagger, but as he had ftriken fo leift it in the bodie: and forthwith by the fecrete partes of nature the ordure of the bellie came forth. <sup>23</sup> But Aod shutting the doores of the chamber very diligently, and locking

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<sup>a</sup> In thefe 40. yeares are included the eight yeares of their feruitude, *v. 8.* & fo in the reft of this hiftorie. Otherwife the number of yeres agreeth not with the count *3. Reg. 6. v. 1.*

<sup>b</sup> Aod hauing fpecial infpiration from God to do this fact, (as S. Auguftin noteth vpon thefe wordes *q. 20. in Iudic.*) is not to be imitated by priuat men. See *Num. 25. v. 21.*

them fure, <sup>24</sup> went out by a pofterne doore. And the kinges feruantes going in, faw the doores of the chamber shut, and they faid: Peraduenture he purgeth his bellie in the fommer chamber. <sup>25</sup> And expecting long til they were afhamed, and feeing that no man did open, they tooke a key: and opening they found their lord on the earth lying dead. <sup>26</sup> But Aod, whiles they were trubled, efaped, and paffed by the Place of Idols, whence he had returned. And he came into Seirath: <sup>27</sup> and forthwith the trumpet founded in the mount of Ephraim: and the children of Ifrael went downe with him, him felf going in the front. <sup>28</sup> Who faid to them: Folow me: for our Lord hath deliuered our enemies the Moabites into our handes. And they went downe after him, and occupied the fordes of Iordan, which bring ouer into Moab: and they fuffered no man to paffe: <sup>29</sup> but they ftroke the Moabites at that time, about ten thoufand, al ftoute and ftrong men, none of them could efcape. <sup>30</sup> And Moab was humbled that day vnder the hand of Ifrael: and the Land refted eightie yeares. <sup>31</sup> After him was Samgar the fonne of Anath, who ftroke, of the Philifhimes fix hundred men with the culter of a ploughe: and he alfo defended Ifrael.