

## 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 enemie. 31. After him Samgar defendeth Ifrael againft the Philifthimes.*

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 knownen 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 Philifthimes, 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> Therfore 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 againſt 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 *ſauiour*, 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 strengthened against them Eglon the king of Moab: because they did euil in his fight. <sup>13</sup> And he ioyned to him the children of Ammon, and Amalec: and he went and stroke Ifrael, and possessed the Citie of palmes. <sup>14</sup> And the children of Ifrael serued 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 vsed both handes for the right. And the children of Ifrael sent by him presentes to Eglon the king of Moab. <sup>16</sup> Who made him self a two edged sword, hauing in the middes a hafte in length the palme of a hand, and was girded therewith vnder his cassocke on the right thigh. <sup>17</sup> And he presented the giftes to Eglon the king of Moab. And Eglon was exceeding grosse. <sup>18</sup> And when he had presented 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 said to the King: I haue a secrete meffage to thee, ô king. And he commanded silence: and al being gone forth, that were about him, <sup>20</sup> Aod went in to him: and he fate in a sommer chamber alone, and he said: <sup>b)</sup>A word from God I haue to thee. Who forthwith rose out of his throne. <sup>21</sup> And Aod put forth his left hand, and tooke the dagger from his right thigh, and fastened it into his bellie <sup>22</sup> so mightely that the haft folowed the blade in the wound, and was clofed vp fast with the most fatte greafe. Neither did he plucke out the dagger, but as he had striken so leift it in the bodie: and forthwith by the secrete partes of nature the ordure of the bellie came forth. <sup>23</sup> But Aod shutting the doores of the chamber very diligently,

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<sup>a</sup> In these 40. yeares are included the eight yeares of their seruitude, *v. 8.* & so in the rest of this historie. Otherwise the number of yeres agreeth not with the count *3. Reg. 6. v. 1.*

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

and locking 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 Sangar the fonne of Anath, who ftroke, of the Philifthines fix hundred men with the culter of a ploughe: and he alfo defended Ifrael.