

## Chapter 13

*The people fal againe to idolatrie and are afflicted by the Philifthims. 3. An Angel fortelleth Manue his wife, that she shal haue a fonne, and that he shal be a Nazareite from his birth, 11. confirmeth the fame to Manue. 16. They offer facrifice to God. 24. The childe is borne, called Samfon, and bleffed of God.*

**A**nd againe the children of Ifrael did euil in the fight of our Lord: who deliuered them into the handes of the Philiftines fourtie yeares. <sup>2</sup> And there was a certaine man of Saraa, and of the ftocke of Dan, named Manue, hauing a wife barren. <sup>3</sup> To whom an Angel of our Lord appeared, and faid to her: Thou art barren and without children: but thou fhalt conceiue & beare a fonne: <sup>4</sup> beware therfore that thou <sup>a</sup>drinke not wine & ficer, nor eate any vn-cleane thing: <sup>5</sup> becaufe thou fhalt conceiue and beare a fonne, whose head the rafer fhall not touch: for he fhall be a Nazareite of God, <sup>b</sup>from his infancie, and from his mothers wombe, and he fhall beginne to deliuer Ifrael from the handes of the Philiftijmes. <sup>6</sup> Who when fhe was come to her hufband, faid to him: A man of God came to me, hauing an Angelical contenance, exceeding terrible. Whom when I had asked, who he was, and whence he came, and by what name he was called, he would not tel me: <sup>7</sup> but this he answered: Behold thou shalt conceiue and beare a fonne: beware thou drinke not wine, nor ficer, and that thou eate not any vn-cleane thing: for the child fhall be the Nazareite of God from his infancie, and from his mothers wombe vntil the day of his death. <sup>8</sup> Manue therfore prayed to our Lord, and

---

<sup>a</sup> Abftinence not only from thinges vn-cleane by the law but alfo from wine and fider was a preparation to the childe, who fhould abftaine from them al his life.

<sup>b</sup> Other Nazarites obferued a prefcripte rule of abftinence for a time only. *Num. 6.* But Samfon al his life; as a more perfect figure of Chrift.

said: I beseech thee ô Lord, that the man of God, whom  
 thou didst send, may come againe, and teach vs what we  
 ought to doe concerning the child, that shal be borne.  
<sup>9</sup> And our Lord heard Manue praying, and the Angel of  
 our Lord appeared againe to his wife sitting in the field.  
 But Manue her husband was not with her. Who when  
 she had seene the Angel, <sup>10</sup> hastened, and ranne to her  
 husband: and she told him, saying: Behold the man  
 hath appeared to me, whom I saw before. <sup>11</sup> Who rose,  
 and followed his wife: and coming to the man, said to  
 him: Art thou he that didst speake to the woman? And  
 he answered: I am. <sup>12</sup> To whom, Manue, when, said  
 he: Thy word shal be fulfilled, what wilt thou that the  
 child doe? or from what shal he keepe him self? <sup>13</sup> And  
 the Angel of our Lord said to Manue: From all things,  
 which I haue spoken to thy wife, let him refrain himself:  
<sup>14</sup> and whatsoever groweth of the vineyard, let him not  
 eate: wine and ficer let him not drinke, let him not eate  
 any vncleane thing: and whatsoever I haue commanded  
 her, let him fulfil and keepe. <sup>15</sup> And Manue said to the  
 Angel of our Lord: I beseech thee that thou condescend to  
 my petitions, and let vs <sup>a</sup>make to thee a kidde of goates.  
<sup>16</sup> To whom the Angel answered: If thou constrain me,  
 I wil not eate thy breade: but if thou wilt make holo-  
 caust, offer it to our Lord. And Manue knew not that it  
 was an Angel of our Lord. <sup>17</sup> And he said to him: What  
 is thy name, that, if thy word shal be fulfilled, we may  
 honour thee? <sup>18</sup> To whom he answered: Why askest thou  
 my name, which is merueilous? <sup>19</sup> Manue therefore tooke  
 a kidde of the goates, and the libamentes, and put them  
 vpon a rocke, offering to our Lord, who doeth meru-  
 elous thinges: and he and his wife looked on. <sup>20</sup> And  
 when the flame of the altar ascended into heauen, the  
 Angel of our Lord ascended together in the flame. Which

---

<sup>a</sup> Manue taking the Angel for a holie prophete iustly thought he  
 would not admitte, nor command anie thing but that was law-  
 ful. And so did as the Angel appointed him, though he was  
 no priest, nor the place proper to sacrifice, but by extraordinarie  
 dispensation.

when Manue and his wife had feene, they fel flatte on the ground, <sup>21</sup> and the Angel of our Lord appeared to them no more. And forthwith Manue vnderstood that it was an Angel of our Lord, <sup>22</sup> and he faid to his wife: Dying we fhall die, becaufe we haue feene <sup>a</sup>)God. <sup>23</sup> To whom his wife answered: If our Lord would haue killed vs, he would not haue taken of our handes holocaustes and libamentes, neither would he haue shewed vs al thefe thinges, nor haue told vs thefe thinges that are to come. <sup>24</sup> She therefore bare a fonne, and called his name Samfon. And the child grewe, and our Lord bleffed him. <sup>25</sup> And the Spirit of our Lord beganne to be with him in the campe of Dan betwixt Saraa and Efthaol.

## ANNOTATIONS

10 The man hath appeared.) Al ancient fathers and Catholique writers fay, this was an Angel, which appeared in the forme of a man, and it is plaine by the text. Yet fome protestantes wil haue this perfon to be Chrif, *the eternal vvord of God*. VVho afterwards became man. And neuertheles where by & by (*v. 16.*) he admonifheth Manue to offer facrifice to God, they note that *he fought not his ovvne honour but Gods, vvhoſe meſſenger he vv*as: either plainly contradicting themſelues, or els teaching Arrianifme, as though the Sonne of God were not God; or inferiour to God the Father.

*Bible 1603.* Protestantes either contradict themſelues, or teach Arrianifme.

<sup>a</sup> Though Manue ſaw not God in his owne perfon, yet ſeing him in his meſſenger feared death. *S. Aug. q. 54. in Iudic.*