

Chapter 17

Michas and his mother caufe a grauen, and a molten idol to be made of filuer. 5. He maketh one of his fonnes prieft for the idol, 10. and for the fame purpofe hyreth alfo a Leuite.

The third part. Of certaine accidents which happened in the time of the Iudges.

There was at that time a certaine man of mount Ephraim named Michas, ² who faid to his mother: The thoufand and hundred filuer peeces, which thou hadft feperated to thy felfe, and concerning the which thou didft fweare in my hearing, behold I haue, and they are with me. To whom she faid: Bleffed be my fonne to the Lord. ³ He therfore rendred them to his mother, who had faid to him: I haue confecrated and vowed this filuer to the Lord, that my fonne may receiue it of my hand, and make ^aa grauen and a molten (god) and now I deliuer that to thee. ⁴ He rendred them therfore to his mother: who tooke two hundred filuer peeces and gaue them to the filuerfmith, that he might make of them a grauen and a molten (god) which was in the houfe of Michas. ⁵ Who feperated alfo therein a litle houfe to the god, and made an Ephod, and Theraphim, that is to fay, a prietlie veltiment, and idoles: and he ^bfilled the hand of one of his fonnes, and he became his prieft. ⁶ In thofe daies there was not a king in Ifrael, but euerie one did that, which femed right to him felf. ⁷ There was alfo an other yong man of Bethlehem Iuda, of the kinred therof: and he was a Leuite, and dwelt

^a In hebrew *pefel vmaffecah*, in Latin *sculptile & conflatile*, a *grauen & molten thing*, an image or forme made in mettle for a god, and fo called, *v. 5.* was in dede an idol of Gentilitie, and nothing at al againft facred Images of Chrift and his Sainctes in the Catholique Church. Wherof more is noted, *Gen. 31. Exo. 20.*

^b Anointed his hâdes with oyle, as was prefcribed. *Exo. 29. Leu. 8.* But fuch an apifh imitation was of no value, where was neither true vocation in the annointed (for he defcended not of Aaron, but of Moyfes, *chap. 18. v. 30.*) nor authoritie in him that vfed this ceremony.

there. ⁸ And going forth out of the citie of Bethle-
hem, he would feiourne wherefoeuer he should find it
comodious for him. And when he was come into mount
Ephraim, making his iourney, and had turned aside a
litle into the houle of Michas, ⁹ he was demanded of him
whence he came. Who answered: I am a Leuite of Beth-
lehem Iuda, and I goe to dwel where I shal be able, and
shal perceiue it to be profitable for me. ¹⁰ And Michas
said: Abide with me, and be to me a father and a priest,
and I wil geue thee euerie yeare tenne filuer peeces, and
duble liuerie, and the thinges that be necessarie for vict-
ual. ¹¹ He was content, and abode with the man, and
was vnto him as one of his sonnes. ¹² And Michas filled
his hand, and had the yong man for a priest with him,
saying: ¹³ Now I know that God wil do me good ^a)hauing
a priest of the Leuitical kinde.

^a An Apostata Leuite was accounted more sufficient then an idola-
trical priest to serue an idol. So he that is a Priest or a Deacon
once catholically consecrated, is a sufficient (yea too sufficient) a
minister with protestantes.