

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 therefore 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 therefore 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 veftiment, 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 cite of Bethelhem, 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 houfe of Michas, ⁹ he was demanded of him whence he came. Who answered: I am a Leuite of Bethelhem 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 duple lierie, and the thinges that be neccessarie for victual. ¹¹ He was content, and abode with the man, and was vnto him as one of his fonnes. ¹² And Michas filled his hand, and had the yong man for a priest with him, faying: 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 idolatrical priest to ferue an idol. So he that is a Priest or a Deacon once catholically consecrated, is a sufficient (yea too sufficient) a minister with protestantes.