

Chapter 1

Nabuchodonofor king of Afsyrians ouercometh Arphaxad king of the Medes: 7. fummoneth manie other nations to submitte themfelues to his Empyre: 11. which they refufing he threatneth reuenge.

The firft part.
The occafion
of the Iewes
perfection at
this time.

Arphaxad ^{a)}therfore king of the Medes had fubdued manie nations to his empire, & he built a moft mightie citie, which he called Ecbatanis, ² of ftone fquared and hewed: he made walles therof in height feuentie cubites, and in breadth thirtie cubites, and the towers therof he made in height an hundred cubites. ³ But each fide of them was in foure fquare twentie foote long, and he made the gates therof according to the height of the towers: ⁴ and he ^{b)}gloried as mightie in the force of his armie, and in the glorie of his chariotes. ⁵ In the twelfth yeare of his reigne: Nabuchodonofor the king of the Affyrians, who reigned in Niniue the greate citie, fought againft Arphaxad, and ouercame him ⁶ in the great field, which is called Ragau, about Euphrates, and Tigris, and Iadafon in the field of Erioch the king of the Elicians. ⁷ Then was the kingdom of Nabuchodonofor exalted, and his hart was eleuated: and he fent to al, that dwelt in Cilicia and Damafcus, and Libanus, ⁸ and to the nations, that are in Carmelus, and Cedar, and the inhabitantes of Galilee in the great field of Efdrelon, ⁹ and to al that were in Samaria, and beyond the riuier Jordan euen to Ierufalem, and al the land of Ieffe til you come to the borders of Æthiopia. ¹⁰ To al thefe Nabuchodonofor king of the Affyrians fent meffengers: ¹¹ who al with one minde faid nay, & fent them backe empitie, and reiected them without honour. ¹² Then Nabuchodonofor the king taking indignation againft al that

^a The author being refolued to write this hiftorie, ioyneth his narration to his internal purpofe, faying: *Arphaxad therfore &c. S. Greg. ho. 2, in Ezech.*

^b Thou foole this night they fhall take thy life from thee, & thefe things whofe fhall they be? *Luc. 12. v. 20.*

defenderet fe. land, fwore by his throne and kingdom that he would
reuenge him felfe of al thofe countries.