

Chapter 2

Nabuchodonofor fendeth Holofernes his General to waift al countries of the weft, 7. with a great armie, and abundant munition. 11. They fubdue manie places, and others are ftrooken with great feare.

In the thirtieth yeare of king Nabuchodonofor, the two and twentieth day of the firft moneth, the word was geuen out in the houle of Nabuchodonofor the king of the Affyrians, that he would reuenge him felfe. ² And he called al the ancientes, and al the captaynes, and his men of warre, and communicated with them the fecrete of his counfel: ³ and he faid that his cogitation was vpon that, to fubdew al the earth to his empire. ⁴ Which faying when it had pleafed them al, Nabuchodonofor the king called Holofernes the General of his warres, ⁵ and faid to him: Goe forth againft euerie kingdom of the weft, & againft them efpecially, that contemned my commandment. ⁶ ^{a)}Thyne eie fhall fpare no kingdom, and euerie fenced citie thou fhalt fubdew to me. ⁷ Then Holofernes called the captaynes, & magiftrates of the powre of the Affyrians: and he muftered men for the expedition, as the king commanded him, an hundred twentieth thoufand fighting men on foote, and twelue thoufand archers horfemen. ⁸ And he made al his expedition to goe before in a multitude of innumerable camels, with thofe thinges that might fuffice the armies abundantly, heardes of oxen alfo, and flockes of sheepe, which had no number. ⁹ He appoynted corne to be prepared out of al Syria in his paffage. ¹⁰ But gold and filuer he tooke out of the kings houle exceding much. ¹¹ And he went forth and al his armie with the chariotes, & horfemen, and the archers, which couered the face of the earth, as locuftes. ¹² And when he had paffed through the coaftes of the Affyrians, he came to the great mountaines of Ange, which are on the left

^a This cruel cōmandment was as cruelly put in execution by Holofernes. *ch. 3. v. 11.*

hand of Cilicia: and he went vp into al their casteles, and wonne euerie fortreffe. ¹³ And he brake downe the renowmed citie of Melothus, and fpoyled al the children of Therfis, and the children of Ifmael, which were againft the face of the defert, and on the fouth of the land of Cellon. ¹⁴ And he paffed ouer Euphrates, and came into Mefopotamia: and he brake al the high cities, that were there, from the torrent of Membre, til ye come to the fea: ¹⁵ and he tooke the borders therof, from Cilicia vnto the coaftes of Iapheth, which are toward the fouth. ¹⁶ And he caried away al the children of Madian, and fpoyled al their riches, and al that refifted him he flew in the edge of the fword. ¹⁷ And after thefe thinges he went downe into the fieldes of Damafcus in the daies of harueft, and he fet al the corne on fire, and he made al the trees and vineyardes to be cut downe; ¹⁸ and the feare of him fel vpon al the inhabitantes of the land.