

Chapter 14

Sacrifices for clenfing leprofie in men, 33. the maner of viewing whether leprofie be in a houfe or no, 40. and of clenfing it.

And our Lord fpake to Moyfes, faying: ² This is the rite of a lepre, when he is to be cleanfed. ³ He shal be brought to the priest: who going out of the campe, when he shal finde that the leprofie is cleanfed, ⁴ he shal command him, that is purified, that he ^a)offer for him felfe two liue sparowes, which it is lawfull to eate, and cedar wood, and fcarlet & hyffope, ⁵ and he shal command that one of the sparowes be immolated in an earthen veffel ouer liuing water: ⁶ but the other being aliue with the cedar wood, and fcarlet and the hyffope he shal dippe in the bloud of the sparowe that is immolated, ⁷ wherwith he shal fprinckle him, that is to be cleanfed, feuen times, that he may be rightly purged: and he shal let goe the liue sparow, that it flie into the field. ⁸ And when the man hath washed his clothes, he shal fhaue al the heare of his bodie, and shal be washed with water: and being purified he shal enter into the campe, yet fo for al that, that he tarie without his owne tent feuen daies, ⁹ and the feuenth day he shal shaue the heare of his head, and his beard and eye browes, and the heare of his whole bodie. And hauing washed againe his clothes, and his bodie, ¹⁰ the eight day he fhall take two lambes without fpotte, and an ewe of a yeare old without fpotte, and three tenths of floure tempered with oyle for a facrifice, and a sextarie of oyle apart. ¹¹ And when the priest that purifieth the man, hath fet him, and al thefe things before the Lord in the dore of the tabernacle of teftimonie, ¹² he fhall take a lambe,

Of vvel or riuer, not of a celterne poole, or marrish.

^a This gift & facrifice were commanded (faith S. Auguftin) becaufe the Sacrifice of Chrifts bodie was not yet ordained, which now ferueth for al other facrifices. *li. 1. ca. 19. et 20. cont. aduerfar. leg. et prophet.*

and offer it for offence, & the sextarie of oyle, and hauing offered al before the Lord, ¹³ he shal immolate the lambe, where the hofte for finne is wont to be immolated, and the holocaust, that is, in a holie place. For as for finne, fo also the hofte for offence pertaineth to the priest: it is Holie of holies. ¹⁴ And the priest taking of the bloud of the hofte, that was immolated for offence, shal put it vpon the tippe of the right eare of him that is cleansed, and vpon the thumbes of his right hand and foote: ¹⁵ and of the sextarie of oile he shal poure into his owne left hand, ¹⁶ and shal dippe his right finger in it and shal sprinckle before the Lord feuen times. ¹⁷ And the residue of the oile in his left hand, he shal poure vpon the tippe of the right eare of him that is cleansed, and vpon the thumbes of his right hand and foote, and vpon the bloud that was shed for offence, ¹⁸ and vpon his head. ¹⁹ And he shal pray for him before the Lord, and shal make the sacrifice for finne. Then shal he immolate the holocaust, ²⁰ and put it on the altar with the libaments therof, and the man shal orderly be cleansed. ²¹ But if he be poore, and his hand can not finde the thinges aforefaid, for offence he shal take a lambe for an oblation, that the priest may pray for him, and a tenth part of floure tempered with oile for a sacrifice, and of oile a sextarie, ²² and two turtles or two young pigeons, of the which let one be for finne, and the other for an holocaust: ²³ and he shal offer them the eight day of his purification to the priest, at the dore of the tabernacle of testimony before the Lord: ²⁴ who receiuing the lambe for offence, and the sextarie of oile, shal eleuate them together: ²⁵ and the lambe being immolated, of the bloud therof he shal put vpon the tippe of the right eare of him that is cleansed, and vpon the thumbes of his right hand and foote: ²⁶ but part of the oile he shal poure into his owne left hand, ²⁷ wherin dipping the finger of his right hand, he shal sprinckle it feuen times before the Lord: ²⁸ and he shal touch the tippe of the right eare of him that is cleansed, and the thumbes of his right hand & foote, in the place of the bloud that was shed for offence: ²⁹ and the other part of the oyle, that is in his

left hand, he shal poure vpon the head of the purified perfon, that he may propitiate the Lord for him: ³⁰ and a turtle, or yong pigeon he shal offer, ³¹ one for offence, and the other for an holocaust, with their libaments. ³² This is the sacrifice of a lepre, that is not able to haue al thinges for the cleauning of him self. ³³ And our Lord spake to Moyfes and Aaron, saying: ³⁴ When you shal be entred into the Land of Chanaan, which I wil geue you in possession, if there be the plague of leprosie in a house, ³⁵ he whose house it is, shal goe & tel the priest, saying: It semeth to me, that there is as it were the plague of leprosie in my house. ³⁶ But he shal command, that they carie forth al thinges out of the house, before he goe into it, and see whether it haue the leprosie, left al thinges become vnclene that are in the house. And afterward he shal goe in to consider the leprosie of the house: ³⁷ & if he see in the walles therof as it were litle dintes, diffigured with paleneffe or redneffe, and lower then al the rest, ³⁸ he shal goe out of the dore of the house, and forthwith shut it seuen daies. ³⁹ And returning the seuenth day, he shal consider it. If he finde that the leprosie is growne, ⁴⁰ he shal command, the stones wherein the leprosie is, to be plucked out, and to be throwen without the cite into an vnclene place: ⁴¹ & the house it self to be scraped on the inside round about, and the duft of the scraping to be disperfed without the cite into an vnclene place, ⁴² and other stones to be laid in their places, that were taken away, and the house to be playftered with other mortar. ⁴³ But if after the stones be plucked out, & the duft scraped of, and it playftered with other earth, ⁴⁴ the priest going in perceiue that the leprosie is returned, and the walles full of spots, it is a lasting leprosie, and the house vnclene: ⁴⁵ the which forthwith they shal destroy, and the stones and timber therof, and al the duft they shal cast without the towne into an vnclene place. ⁴⁶ He that entred into the house when it is shut, shal be vnclene vntil euen: ⁴⁷ and he that sleepeth in it, and eateth any thing, shal wash his clothes. ⁴⁸ But if the priest going in perceiue that the leprosie is not growne farder in the house, after it was

playftred againe, he shal purifie it being made whole againe: ⁴⁹ and for the purification therof he shal take two sparowes, and cedrewood, and scarlet and hyffope: ⁵⁰ and when one sparrow is immolated in an earthen veffel ouer liuing waters, ⁵¹ he shal take the cedar wood, and the hyffope, and the scarlet, and the liue sparowe, and shal dippe al in the blood of the sparowe that is immolated, and in the liuing water, and he shal sprinckle the house feuen times, ⁵² and shal purifie it as wel with the blood of the sparrow, as with the liuing water and with the liue sparrow, and with the cedrewoode and the hyffope and the scarlet. ⁵³ And when he hath let goe the sparrow to flie freely away into the field, he shal pray for the house, and it shal be rightly cleansed. ⁵⁴ This is the law of al leprofie and percuffion, ⁵⁵ of the leprofie of garments and houses, ⁵⁶ of a scarre and of blisters breaking forth, of a shining spotte, and when the colours are changed into diuers kindes, ⁵⁷ that it may be knowen at what time anie thing is cleane, or vncleane.