

Chapter 25

The law of the feuenth yeare, 8. and fiftith yeare, which is the Iubilee, 13. when al enheritance fold returneth to the former owner (24. as alfo it may in the meane time be redeemed.) 35. Vfurie prohibited, 39. and feruitude among the Ifraelites, only they may be hyred til the Iubilee yeare, 47. and may be redeemed from feruitude of ftrangers: 54. at leaft they shal be free in the yeare of Iubilee.

And our Lord fpake to Moyfes in the mount Sinai, faying: ²Speake to the children of Ifrael, and thou shalt fay to them: When you shall be entred to the land which I wil geue you, thou shalt fabbatize the fabbath to the Lord. ³Six yeares thou shalt fowe thy field, and fix yeares thou fhalt cut thy vineyard, and fhalt gather the fruites therof: ⁴but in the feuenth yeare a fabbath shal be to the earth, of the refting of the Lord: the field thou shalt not fowe, and the vineyard thou shalt not cut. ⁵The thinges that the ground shal bring forth of it felf, thou shalt not reape: and the grapes of thy firft fruites thou shalt not gather as a vintage: for it is a yeare of the refting of the earth: ⁶but they fhall be vnto you for meate, to thee and thy manferuant, to thy woman feruant and hyreling, and to the ftranger that feiourneth with thee: ⁷to thy beaftes and cattel al thinges that grow shal giue meate. ⁸Thou shalt number thee alfo feuen weekes of yeares, that is to fay, feuen times feuen, which together make fourtie nine, yeares: ⁹and thou ^ashalt found with the trumpet the feuenth moneth, the tenth day of the moneth, in the time of propitiation in al your land. ¹⁰Thou shalt

^a Of founding with trūpets, which is pleafant & ioyful, cometh the name of Iubilee: the effect of it is remiffion of al bondes, reftauration of former libertie, and recouerie of enheritāce. In the old Teftament of tēporal things, in the new of fpiritual, præfigured therby: as remiffiō of finne; deliuerie frō bondage therof; recouerie of grace; and preparation to eternal glorie.

sanctifie the fifteth yeare, and shalt proclaime remission to al the inhabitantes of thy land: for it is the yeare of Iubilee. Euerie man shal returne to his possession, and euerie one shal goe backe to his old familie: ¹¹ because it is the Iubilee and the fifteth yeare. You shal not sowe nor reape the thinges that growe in the field of their owne accord, and the first frutes of vintage you shal not gather, ¹² because of the sanctification of the Iubilee, but forthwith as they grow you shal eat them. ¹³ In the yeare of Iubilee al shal returne to their possessions. ¹⁴ When thou shalt sell anie thing to thy neighbour, or shalt buy of him, presse not thy brother, but according to the number of the yeares of Iubilee thou shalt buy of him, ¹⁵ and according to the computation of the frutes he shal sell to thee. ¹⁶ The more yeares remaine after the Iubilee, so much more shal the price increase: and the lesse time that thou shalt account, so much the lesse shal the purchase be valued, for the time of the frutes he shal sell to thee. ¹⁷ Doe not afflict your contrimen, but let euerie one feare his God, because I the Lord your God. ¹⁸ Do my preceptes, and keepe my iudgements, and fulfill them: that you may dwell in the land without anie feare, ¹⁹ and the ground may yeld you her frutes, which you may eat vnto your fil, fearing no mans inuasion. ²⁰ But if you say: What shal we eat the seventh yeare, if we sowe not, nor gather our frutes? ²¹ I wil geue you my benediction the sixth yeare, and it shal yeld the frutes of three yeares: ²² and the eighth yeare you shal sowe, and shal eat of the old frutes, vntil the ninth yeare: til new be growne, you shal eat the old. ²³ The land also shal not be fould for euer: because it is mine, and you are my strangers and sojourners. ²⁴ For the which cause al the countrie of you possession shal be fould vnder the condition of redemption. ²⁵ If thy brother impouershed sell his litle possession, and his kinsman wil, he may redeme that which he had fould. ²⁶ But if he haue no kinsman, and him self can finde the price to redeme it: ²⁷ the frutes shal be accounted from that time when he fould it: and the residue he shal restore to the buyer, and so he shal receiue his possession againe. ²⁸ But if his

hand finde not to repay the price, the buier shal haue that he bought, vntil the yeare of Iubilee. For in it al sale shal returne to the owner, and to the old possessor. ²⁹ He that selleth a house within the walles of a citie, shal haue licence to redeme it, vntil one yeare be expired, ³⁰ if he redeme it not, and the compassse of the yeare be fully out, the buier shal possesse it, and his posteritie for euer, and it can not be redemed, no not in the Iubilee. ³¹ But if the house be in a village, that hath not walles, it shal be sold according to the law of fieldes. If it be not redemed before, in the Iubilee it shal returne to the owner. ³² The houses of Leuites, which are in cities, may alwaies be redemed: ³³ if they be not redemed, in the Iubilee they shal returne to the owners, because the houses of the cities of the Leuites are for possessions among the children of Israel. ³⁴ But let not their suburbs be sold, because it is a perpetual possession. ³⁵ If thy brother be empouered, and weake of hand, and thou receiue him as a stranger and sojourner, and he liue with thee, ³⁶ take not vsuries ^aof him, nor more then thou gauest. Feare thy God, that thy brother may liue with thee. ³⁷ Thou shalt not geue him thy money to vsurie, and an ouer plus of the fruites thou shalt not exact of him. ³⁸ I the Lord your God, that brought you out of the Land of Ægypt, that I might geue you the Land of Chanaan, and might be your God. ³⁹ If thy brother constrained by pouertie, sel him self to thee, thou shalt not oppresse him with the seruitude of seruants, ⁴⁰ but he shal be as an hireling, and a sojourner: vntil the yeare of Iubilee he shal worke with thee, ⁴¹ and afterward he shal goe out with his children, and shal returne to his kinred and to the possession of his fathers, ⁴² for they are my seruantes, and I brought them out of the Land of Ægypt. Let them not be sold by the condition of seruants: ⁴³ afflict him not by might, but feare thy God. ⁴⁴ Let your man seruant, and woman seruant, be of the nations

^a Iewes for their aduantage hold it lawful to take vsurie of strangers, not obseruing that it is also commanded often in scripture, *not to afflict, but to loue strangers. Exod. 22. 23. Leuit. 19.*

that are round about you. ⁴⁵ And of the strangers, that feiourne with you, or that were borne of them in your land, these you shall haue for seruantes: ⁴⁶ and by right of inheritance shall leaue them to your posteritie, and shall possesse them for euer. But your brethren the children of Ifrael doe ye not oppresse by might. ⁴⁷ If the hand of a stranger or feiourner grow strong among you, and thy brother empouered sell him self to him, or to any of his stocke: ⁴⁸ after the sale he may be redeemed. He that wil of his brethren shall redeme him, ⁴⁹ both the vnckle by father, and the vnckles sonne, and the kinsman, and the allied. But and if him self be able also, he shall redeme him selfe, ⁵⁰ accounting onlie the yeares from the time of his selling vnto the yeare of Iubilee: and accounting the money, that he was fould for, according to the number of the yeares and the reckning of an hyreling. ⁵¹ If they be more yeares that remaine vntil the Iubilee, according to these also shall he repay the price. ⁵² If few, he shall make the reckning with him according to the number of the yeares, and shall repay to the buyer for that which remaineth of the yeares, ⁵³ his wages being allowed for the which he serued before: he shall not afflict him violently in thy fight. ⁵⁴ And if by these meanes he can not be redeemed, in the yeare of Iubilee he shall goe out with his children. ⁵⁵ For the children of Ifrael are my seruantes, whom I brought forth out of the Land of Ægypt.