

## THE ARGVMENT OF THE BOOKE OF NVMERI.

*Epift. ad  
Paulum.*

*qq. in Num.*

In this booke called *Numeri*, are contained (faith S. Hierom) *the Myfteries of al Arithmetike*, or numbering, of *the Prophecie of Balaam*, and of *the fourtie two Manfions* of the Ifraelites, *in the defert*. VVhich myftical fenfe the fame great Doctor, as alfo S. Auguftin and other Fathers do gather of the literal, written by Moyfes. VVho here profecuteth the facred hiftorie after Genefis and Exodus (Leuiticus alfo containing one moneth) from the fecond moneth of the fecond yeare, after the deliuerie of the Ifraelites out of Ægypt, nere 39. yeares, to the laft of Moyfes life. Firft therefore he reporteth how al the men of twelue tribes, of the age of twentie yeares and vpward, were numbered. Likewife the tribe of Leui was numbered and imployed partly in priestly function, the reft to afift the priests. He defcribeth alfo the order of marching and encamping, the Leuites alwayes next and round about the Tabernacle: the other twelue tribes in circuite of them on al fides. He moreouer recordeth certaine notable murmurings, tumults, fchifmes, and rebellions with the euent therof, and miferable endes of chief feducers. VVhose great iniuries Moyfes mekely fuftained with fingular patience, ftill executing his owne function with heroical fortitude. Among which, diuers precepts and lawes are partly repeated, partly added, as wel concerning Religion and Gods feruice, as godlie policie and ciuil gouernment of the people, with chaftiment of offenders. How alfo their enemies endeououred to annoy them, Balac king of Moab procuring Balaam the forcerer, fo much as in him lay, to curfe them, but al in vaine. Yet by carnal fornication manie were drawn to fpiritual. Both which being punished God againe prospered his people, in diuers encounters and battailes againft Infidels. Finally the promifed Land of Chanaan on both fides Iordaine is defcribed by limites, which they shal parte amongft them by lot, the Leuites mingled in euerie tribe, with their appointed cities and commoditie for habitation, and the tithes, firft fruites, oblations and abundant prouifion for their maintenance. Cities alfo

Myfteries  
cõteined in  
theſe hiftories.

The contents  
according to the  
letter.

VVicked life  
draweth to Idol-  
atrie.

of refuge are defigned for cafual manflayers; and a law eftablished that al shal marie within their owne tribes, to auoide confufion of inheritances. So this booke may be diuided into three partes. In the firft the principal and moft perfect fort of the people are numbered, and difpofed in order according to diuers ftates and offices, before they depart from the defert of Sinai. In the nine firft chapters. Then are related fundrie thinges, which happened vnto them in the reft of their iourney, efpecially manie and great impediments. Through al which God punishing fome, brought the refidue to enioy the promifed land. From the 10. chap. to the end of the 33. Laftly the countrie of Chanaan is againe promifed, with order fo to poffeffe and enioy it, that euerie tribe may haue and keepe their feveral partes. In the three laft chapters.

Three partes of  
this booke.