

Chapter 4

Distinct offices are assigned to the families of Aaron, 15. of the other sonnes of Caath, 21. of Gerfon, 29. and of Merari. 34. Who are al numbred from the age of thirtie yeares to fiftie, and so imployed to their offices and burdens.

And our Lord spake to Moyfes, and Aaron, saying: ² Take the summe of the sonnes of Caath out of the middes of the Leuites, by their houses and families, ³ from the thirtieth yeare & upward, vnto the fiftieth yeare, of al that goe in to stand and to minister in the tabernacle of couenant. ⁴ This is the seruice of the sonnes of Caath: ⁵ when the campe is to remoue, Aaron and his sonnes shal enter into the tabernacle of couenant, and ^a)Sanctum fanctorum, and shal take downe the veile that hangeth before the dore, and shal wrappe in it the arke of testimonie, ⁶ and shal couer it agayne with a couer of Ianthine skines, and shal spread ouer it a cloth al of hyacinth, and shal draw in the barres. ⁷ The tabel also of propofition they shal wrappe in a cloth of hiacinth, and shal put with it the censers and litle morters, the goblettes and cuppes to powre the libaments: the breades shal be alwayes on it: ⁸ and they shal spread ouer it a cloth of scarlet, which againe they shal couer with a veile of ianthine skines, and shal put in the barres. ⁹ They shal take also a cloth of hiacinth wherwith they shal couer the candlestick with the lampes and tongs therof and snuffers and al the vessels of oyle, which are necessarie for the dreffing of the lampes: ¹⁰ and ouer al they shal put a couer of ianthine skines, and put in the barres. ¹¹ Moreouer the golden altar also they shal wrappe in a cloth of hyacinth, and shal spreade ouer it a couer of ianthine skines, and put in the barres.

^a In this case it was necessarie for the priests to enter in, where otherwife none entered but the high Priest, and that but once in the yeare. And al being fouled vp, others also entered to carie it away. *v. 15.*

¹² Al the veffel wherwith the miniftration is done in the Sanctuarie, they shal wrappe in a cloth of hiacinth and shal fspread ouer it a couer of ianthine skinnnes, and put in the barres. ¹³ But the altar alfo they shal make cleane from the afhes, and shal wrappe it in a purple cloth, ¹⁴ and shal put with it al the veffel, that they vfe in the minifterie therof, that is to fay, fire pannes, fleshhookes and forkes, pothookes and shouels. Al the veffel of the altar together they shal couer with a veile of ianthine skinnnes, and shal put in the barres. ¹⁵ And when Aaron & his fonnes haue wrapped vp the Sanctuarie and the veffel therof in the remouing of the campe, then shal the fonnes of Caath enter in to carie the thinges wrapped vp: and they shal not touch the veffel of the Sanctuarie, left they die. Thefe are the burdens of the fonnes of Caath in the tabernacle of couenant: ¹⁶ ouer whom shal be Eleazar the fonne of Aaron the priest, to whose charge perteyneth the oyle to drefse the lampes, and the incense of compofition, and the facrifice, that is alwayes offered, and the oyle of vnction, and whatfoeuer perteyneth to the feruice of the tabernacle, and of al the veffel, that are in the Sanctuarie. ¹⁷ And our Lord fpake vnto Moyfes and Aaron, faying: ¹⁸ ^a)Defstroy not the people of Caath out of the middes of the Leuites: ¹⁹ but doe this to them, that they may liue, and not die, if they touch Sancta fanctorum. Aaron and his fonnes shal enter, and they shal difpofe the charges of euerie one, and shal diuide what euerie one muft carie. ²⁰ Let others by no curiofitie fee the thinges that are in the Sanctuarie before they be wrapped vp, otherwife they shal die. ²¹ And our Lord fpake to Moyfes, faying: ²² Take the fumme of the fonnes of Gerfon alfo by their houfes and families and kinredes, ²³ from thirtie yeares and vpward, vnto fiftie yeares. Number them al that goe in and minifter in the tabernacle of couenant. ²⁴ This is the office of the familie of the Gerfonites, ²⁵ for to carie the curtines of the tabernacle, and the rooffe of the couenant the other couer, and ouer

^a See that by your negligence thofe that are next vnto you incurre not offence, for fo none shal be excufed.

al the ianthine couer, and the hanging that hangeth in the entrie of the tabernacle of couenant, ²⁶ the curtines of the court, and the veile in the entrie that is before the tabernacle. Al thinges that pertayne to the altar, the cordes, and veffel of the minifterie, ²⁷ shal the fonnes of Gerfon carie, by the commandment of Aaron & his fonnes: and euerie one shal know to what burden they muft be affigned. ²⁸ This is the feruice of the familie of the Gerfonites in the tabernacle of couenant, and they shal be vnder the hand of Ithamar the fonne of Aaron the priest. ²⁹ The fonnes of Merari alfo by the families and houfes of their fathers thou shalt reckon, ³⁰ from thirtie yeares and vpward, vntil fiftie yeares, al that enter in to the office of their minifterie, and to the feruice of the couenant of testimonie. ³¹ Thefe are their burdens: They shal carie the bordes of the tabernacle and the barres therof, the pillers and the feete of them, ³² the pillers alfo of the court round about, with their feete and pinnes and cordes. Al the veffel and implementes they shal receiue by account, and fo shal carie them. ³³ This is the office of the familie of the Merarites, and their minifterie in the tabernacle of couenant: and they shal be vnder the hand of Ithamar the fonne of Aaron the priest. Moyfes therfore and Aaron and the princes of the fynagogue reckened the fonnes of Caath, by their kinredes and houfes of their fathers, ³⁴ from thirtie yeares and vpward, vnto the fiftith yeare, al that enter in to the minifterie of the tabernacle of couenant: ³⁵ and they were found two thoufand feuen hundred fiftie. ³⁶ This is the number of the people of Caath that enter into the tabernacle of couenant: thefe did Moyfes and Aaron number according to the word of our Lord by the hand of Moyfes. ³⁷ The fonnes of Gerfon alfo were numbered by the kinredes and houfes of their fathers, ³⁸ from thirtie yeares and vpward, vnto the fiftith yeare, al that enter in to minifter in the tabernacle of couenant: ³⁹ and they were found two thoufand fix hundred thirtie. ⁴⁰ This is the people of the Gerfonites, whom Moyfes and Aaron numbered according to the word of our Lord. ⁴¹ The fonnes of Merari alfo were numbered by the kinredes

and houfes of their fathers, ⁴² from thirtie yeares and vpward, vnto the fiftith yeare, al that enter in to accomplifh the rites of the tabernacle of couenant: ⁴³ and they were found three thoufand two hundred. ⁴⁴ This is the number of the fonnes of Merari, whom Moyfes, and Aaron reckened according to the commandment of our Lord by the hand of Moyfes. ⁴⁵ Al that were reckened of the Levites, and whom Moyfes and Aaron and the princes of Ifrael tooke by name, by the kinredes and houfes of their fathers, ⁴⁶ from thirtie yeares and vpward, vnto the fiftith yeare, entring in to the minifterie of the tabernacle, and to carie the burdens, ⁴⁷ were in al eight thoufand fiue hundred eightie. ⁴⁸ According to the word of our Lord did Moyfes reckon them, euerie one according to their office and burdens, as our Lord had commanded him.