

Chapter 18

The charge and burden of Priestes within the tabernacle, and of Leuites about the same. 8. First fruites, and oblations are due to the Priestes; 21. the tithes to the Leuites; 26. who of the same pay tithes to the Priestes.

And our Lord said to Aaron: Thou, and thy sonnes, and the house of thy father with thee shall beare the iniquitie of the Sanctuary: both thou & thy sonnes together shall beare the finnes of your priesthood. ² But thy brethren also of the tribe of Levi, and the scepter of thy father take with thee, and let them be ready at hand, and minister to thee: but thou and thy sonnes shall minister in the tabernacle of testimony. ³ And the Leuites shall watch upon thy preceptes, and upon all the workes of the tabernacle: so notwithstanding, that they approach not to the vessels of the Sanctuary and to the altar, lest both they die, and you perish withal. ⁴ But let them be with thee, and watch in the custodies of the tabernacle, and in all the ceremonies thereof. A stranger shall not ioyne with you. ⁵ Watch in the custodie of the Sanctuary, and in the ministration of the altar: lest indignation rise upon the children of Israel. ⁶ I have given you your brethren the Leuites out of the middes of the children of Israel, and have delivered them a gift to the Lord, to serve in the ministreries of his tabernacle. ⁷ And thou and thy sonnes looke to your priesthood: and all things that pertain to the service of the altar, and that are within the veil, shall be executed by the priests. If any stranger approach, ^ahe shall be slain. ⁸ And our Lord spake to Aaron: Behold I have given thee the custodie of my first fruites. All things that are sanctified of the children of Israel, have I delivered to thee and to thy sonnes for the priestly office, as everlasting ordinances. ⁹ These things therefore shalt thou take of those, that are sanctified, and are offered to

^a Oza was slain for touching the ark. 2. Reg. 6.

the Lord. Al oblation, and sacrifice, and whatfoeuer is rendred to me for finne and offence, & becometh Holie of holies, shal be thine, and thy sonnes. ¹⁰ In the Sanctuarie shalt thou eate it: males onlie shal eate therof, because it is to thee a cōsecrated thing. ¹¹ But the first fruites, which the children of Ifrael shal vow and offer, I haue geuen thee, and thy sonnes, and thy daughters for a perpetual right: he that is cleane in thy house, shal eate them. ¹² Al the best of oile, and wine, and corne, whatfoeuer first fruites they offer to the Lord, I haue geuen them to thee. ¹³ Of fruites al the first, that the ground bringeth forth, and are brought to the Lord, shal turne to thy vses: he that is cleane in thy house, shal eate them. ¹⁴ Euerie thing that the children of Ifrael render by vow, shal be thine. ¹⁵ Whatfoeuer first breaketh forth from the matrice of al flesh, which they offer to the Lord, whether it be of men, or of beastes, shal be thy right: yet so, that for the first borne of man thou take a price, and euerie beast that is vncleane thou cause to be redemed, ¹⁶ whose redemption shal be after one moneth, for five sicles of siluer, by the weight of the Sanctuarie. A sicle hath twentie oboles. ¹⁷ But the first borne of beefe and sheepe and goate thou shalt not cause to be redemed, because they are sanctified to the Lord. Onlie the blood of them thou shalt powre vpon the altar, and the fatte thou shalt burne for a most sweete odour to the Lord. ¹⁸ But the flesh shal turne to thy vse, as the consecrated breft, and the right shoulder, shal be thine. ¹⁹ Al the first fruites of the Sanctuarie which the children of Ifrael offer to the Lord, haue I geuen thee and thy sonnes, and daughters for a perpetual right. ^a) A couenant of salt is it for euer before the Lord, to thee and to thy sonnes. ²⁰ And our Lord said to Aaron: In their land you shal possesse nothing, neither shal you haue a portion among them: I am thy portion and inheritance in the middes of the children of Ifrael. ²¹ And to the sonnes of Leui I haue geuen al the tithes of Ifrael

^a This couenant of first fruites and other rights geuen to the Priests shal be perpetual, as salt is in euerie sacrifice. *Leuit. 2.*

in poffeffion for the minifterie wherwith they ferue me in the tabernacle of couenant: ²² that the children of Ifrael approach not any more to the tabernacle, nor committe ^a)deadlie finne, ²³ onlie the fonnes of Leui feruing me in the tabernacle, and bearing the finnes of the people. It shal be an euerlafting ordinance in your generations. No other thing shal they poffeffe, ²⁴ being content with the oblation of tithes, which I haue feparated for their vfes and neceffaries. ²⁵ And our Lord fpake to Moyfes, fay- ing: ²⁶ Command the Levites, and denounce vnto them: When you fhall receiue of the children of Ifrael the tithes, which I haue geuen you, offer firft fruites of them to the Lord, that is to fay, the tenth part of the tenth: ²⁷ that it may be reputed to you for an oblation of firft fruites, as wel of the barne floores as of the preffes, ²⁸ and of al thinges wherof you receiue tithes, the firft fruites offer to the Lord, and geue them to Aaron the priest. ²⁹ Al thinges that you fhall offer of the tithes, and fhall feparate for the giftes of the Lord, they shal be of the beft and chofen thinges. ³⁰ And thou fhalt fay to them: If you offer al the goodlie and the better thinges of the tithes, it fhall be reputed to you as if you had geuen firft fruites of the barne floore and the preffe: ³¹ and you shal eate them in al your places, as wel you as your families: be- caufe it is the reward for the minifterie, wherwith you ferue in the tabernacle of teftimonie. ³² And you shal not finne in this point, referuing the principal and fatte thinges to your felues left you pollute the oblations of the children of Ifrael, and die.

^a Punifhable with death.