

Chapter 2

Anna geueth thanks in a Canticle. 11. The fonnes of Heli greuoufly finning are reprehended, but not duly corected, by their father. 21. Anna beareth three fonnes more, and two daughters. 27. Heli is threatned, 34. and the death of his two fonnes fortold.

My hart hath reioyced in our Lord, and my horne is exalted in my God: my mouth is dilated vpon myn enemies: because I haue ioyed in thy faluation.

² There is none holie as our Lord is: for neither is there an other beside thee, and there is none so ftrong as our God.

³ Doe not multiplie to speake high thinges, boasting: ^a)let old matters depart from your mouth: because our Lord is a God of al knowlege, and to him cogitations are prepared.

⁴ The bow of the ftrong men is ouercome, and the weake are girded with ftrength.

⁵ They that before were filled haue hyred out them felues for bread: and the hungrie are filled, vntil ^b)the barren woman bare verie manie: and ^c)she that had manie children, was weakened.

⁶ Our Lord mortifieth and quickeneth, bringeth downe to hel and fetcheth backe agayne.

⁷ Our Lord maketh poore and enricheth, humbleth and lifteth vp.

⁸ He rayfeth the needie man from the duft, and from the dung he lifteth vp the poore: that he may fitte with princes, and hold the throne of glorie. For the poles of the earth are our Lords, and vpon them he hath fette the world.

^a Leauē of to praife idoles, as ye haue accuftomed to doe.

^b The Church of Gentiles.

^c The Synagogue of the Iewes. *S. Aug. li. 17. c. 4. ciuit.*

⁹ The feete of his Saintes he wil keepe, and the impious shal be filent in darknes: becaufe in his owne force man shal not be ftrenghned.

¹⁰ Our Lord shal his aduerfaries feare: and vpon them shal he thunder in the heauens: our Lord shal iudge the endes of ^a)the Earth, and shal geue empire to his king, and shal exalt the horne of his Chrif.

¹¹ And Elcana went into Ramatha, vnto his houfe: but the childe miniftered in the fight of our Lord before the face of Heli the priest. ¹² Moreouer the fonnes of Heli, were the fonnes of Belial, not knowing our Lord, ¹³ nor the office of priestes to the people: but whofoeuer had immolated a victime, the feruant of the priest came, whiles the flesh was in boyling, and had a flesh hooke with three teeth in his hand, ¹⁴ and thruft it into the kettle, or into the caudron, or into the potte, or into the panne: and al, that the flesh hooke brought vp, the priest tooke to him felfe. So did they to al Ifrael that came into Silo. ¹⁵ Yea before they burnt the fatte, the feruant of the priest came, and fayd to him that immolated: Geue me flesh, that I may boyle it for the priest: for I wil not take flesh of thee fodde, but raw. ¹⁶ And he that immolated fayd to him: Let the fatte firft be burnt to day according to the maner, and take vnto thee how much foeuer thy foule defireth. Who anfwering faid to him: Not fo: for thou shalt geue it now, or els I wil take it away by force. ¹⁷ Therefore the finne of the yong men was exceding great before our Lord: becaufe men detracted from the facrifice of our Lord. ¹⁸ But Samuel miniftred before the face of our Lord: a child, girded with an ephod of linnen. ¹⁹ And his mother made him a litle tunike, which she brought vpon the ordinarie daies, going vp with her husband, to immolate the folemne hoft. ²⁰ And Heli bleffed Elcana and his wife: and he faied to him: Our Lord render thee feede of this woman, for the vfurie that thou haft geuen our Lord. And they went

^a Neither Daud nor Salomon, much leffe anie other King, poffeffed or iudged the endes of the earth: but Chrifts enheritance reacheth to the endes of the earth. *Pfal. 2. v. 18.*

into their place. ²¹ Our Lord therefore visited Anna, and she conceived, and bare three sonnes, and two daughters: and the childe Samuel was magnified before our Lord. ²² And Heli was very old, and heard al thinges which his sonnes did to al Ifrael: and how they flect with the wemen that wayted at the doore of the tabernacle: ²³ and he sayd to them: Why doe you these kinde of thinges, which I heare, very naughtie thinges, of al the people? ²⁴ Doe not so my sonnes: for it is not a good report, which I doe heare, that you make the people of our Lord to transgreffe. ²⁵ If man shal finne against man, God may be pacified toward him: but if a man shal finne against our Lord ^{a)}who shal pray for him? And they heard not the voice of their father, ^{b)}because our Lord would kil them. ²⁶ But the childe Samuel prospered, and grew, and pleased both our Lord and men. ²⁷ And there came a man of God to Heli, and said to him: Thus sayth our Lord: Was not I openly reueled to thy fathers house, when they were in Ægypt in the house of Pharaos? ²⁸ And I chose him of al the tribes of Ifrael for my priest, that he might ascend to my altar, and burne to me incense, and might carie the ephod before me: and I gaue to thy fathers house al thinges of the sacrifices of the children of Ifrael. ²⁹ Why haue you with your heele reiected my victime, and my giftes which I commanded to be offered in the temple: and hast rather honoured thy sonnes then me, that you would eate the first frutes of euerie sacrifice of Ifrael my people? ³⁰ Therefore sayeth our Lord the God of Ifrael: Speaking I speake that thy house, and the house of thy father should minister in my sight, for euer. But now sayeth our Lord: Be this farre from me: but whofoeuer shal glorifie me I wil glorifie him: and they that contemne me, shal be base. ³¹ Behold the daies

^a Sinnes directly against God, and that hinder his seruice, are more hardly remitted: but none at al are irremissible before death, because during life euerie one may truly repent, if he wil: and to al true penitētes God promiffeth remission of finnes. *Ezech. 33.*

^b Gods determination to punish tooke not away their freewil, but for their obstinacie he left them to them selues, without his grace, and so iustly punished them. See *S. Aug. li. 5. cont. Iulian. c. 3.*

come: and I wil cut of thy arme, and the arme of thy fathers houle, that there may not be an old man in thy houle. ³² And thou shalt see ^a)whom thou enuieft in the temple, in al prosperities of Ifrael and there shalt not be an old man in thy houle for euer. ³³ Notwithstanding I wil not altogether take away a man of thee from myn altar: but that thyne eyes may fayle, and thy foule melt: and a great part of thy houle shalt die when it is come to mans age. ³⁴ And this shall be a signe to thee, which shall come vpon thy two sonnes, Ophni, and Phinees: In one day they shall both die. ³⁵ And I wil rayse vp vnto me a faithful priest, which shall doe according to my hart, and my foule: and I wil build him a faithful houle, and the same shall walke before my Chrif al daies. ³⁶ And it shall come to passe, that whofoeuer shall remayne in thy houle, shall come that he may be prayed for, and shall offer a peece of filuer, and a manchet of bread, and shall say: Leau me I beseech thee to one priestly part, that I may eate a morfel of bread.

^a This was fulfilled as in the figure in Samuel, not wholly, for priesthood still remained in the line of Aaron, as appeareth in Achias, Abiathar, & Sadoc. *ch. 14. 22. 2. Reg. 8.* but perfectly in Chrif. *S. Beda. qq. in 1. Reg. c. 2.*