

Chapter 9

Saul by occasion of seeking his fathers asses cometh to Samuel. 15. Who had a reuelation of his coming, and a commandment to annoint him. 22. He is entertained and lodged with Samuel.

The second
part.
The election,
annointing, &
gouernement of
King Saul.

And there was a man of Beniamin named Cis, the sonne of Abiel, the sonne of Seor, the sonne of Bechorath, the sonne of Aphia, the sonne of a man of Iemini, valiant in strength. ² And he had a sonne called Saul, chosen & good: and there was not a man of the children of Ifrael better then he: from the shoulder and vppward he appeared aboue al the people. ³ And the asses of Cis the father of Saul were lost: and Cis said to Saul his sonne: Take one of the seruants with thee, and rising goe, and seeke the asses. Who when they had passed by mount Ephraim, ⁴ and by the land of Salifa, and had not found, they passed also through the land of Salim, and they were not: yea and by the Land of Iemini, and found them not. ⁵ And when they were come into the Land of Suph, Saul said to the seruant that was with him: Come let vs returne, left perhaps my father hath let alone the asses, and be careful for vs. ⁶ Who sayd to him: Behold a man of God is in this citie, a famous man: al that he speaketh, cometh to passe without doubt. Now therefore let vs goe thither, if perhaps he may tel vs of our way, for which we are come. ⁷ And Saul sayd to his seruant: Loe we wil goe: what shal we carie to the man of God? The bread is spent in our males: and present we haue none to geue vnto the man of God, nor anything els. ⁸ Agayne the seruant answered Saul, and sayd: Behold there is found in my hand the fourth part of a ficle of filuer, let vs geue it to the man of God, that he may tel vs our way. ⁹ (For in time past in Ifrael fo euery man spake, going to consult God: Come, and let vs goe to the Seer. For he that at this day is called a Prophete, in time past was called ^aa Seer.) ¹⁰ And Saul

^a One that by diuine inspiration foretelleth thinges too come.

fayd to his feruant: Thy word is very good, come let vs
 goe. And they went into the citie, wherein the man of
 God was. ¹¹ And when they went vp the ascent of the
 citie, they found maides coming forth to draw water, and
 fayd to them: Is the Seer here? ¹² Who anfwering fayd
 to them: Here he is. Loe before thee, make haft now:
 for this day he came into the citie, becaufe this day there
 is a facrifice of the people in the excelfe. ¹³ Entring into
 the citie immediatly you fhall find him, before he goe vp
 into the excelfe to eate. For the people wil not eate til
 he come: becaufe he wil bleffe the Hofte, and afterward
 they fhall eate that are inuited. Now therfore goe vp,
 becaufe this day you fhall finde him. ¹⁴ And they went
 vp into the citie. And when they walked in the mid-
 des of the citie, Samuel appeared coming forth againft
 them, to goe vp into the excelfe. ¹⁵ And our Lord had
 reueled the eare of Samuel one day before Saul came,
 faying: ¹⁶ This very houre, that now is, to morrow wil I
 fend to thee a man of the Land of Beniamin, and thou
 fhalt annoint him ruler ouer my people of Ifrael: and he
 fhall faue my people from the hand of the Philiftijms:
 becaufe I haue refpected my people, for ^atheir crie is
 come to me. ¹⁷ And when Samuel had beheld Saul, our
 Lord fayde to him: Behold the man, of whom I told thee,
 this man fhall rule ouer my people. ¹⁸ And Saul came to
 Samuel in the middes of the gate, and fayd: Shew me, I
 pray thee, where is the houle of the Seer? ¹⁹ And Samuel
 answered Saul, faying: I am the Seer, goe vp before me
 into the excelfe, that you may eate with me to day, and
 I wil dimiffe thee in the morning: and al thinges that
 are in thy hart, wil I tel thee. ²⁰ And concerning the
 affes, which thou didft lofe three dayes agone, be not
 careful, becaufe they are found. And whose fhall be al
 the beft thinges of Ifrael? not to thee and to al thy
 fathers houle? ²¹ And Saul anfwering, fayd: Am not I
 the fonne of Iemini of the leaft tribe of Ifrael, and my
 kindred the laft among al the families of the tribe of Be-
 niamin? Why therfore haft thou fpoken this word to me?

^a Oppreffion of innocentes crieth to heauen.

²² Samuel therfore taking Saul and his feruant, brought them into the parlour, and gaue them a place in the chiefe rowme of them that were inuited, for there were about thirtie men. ²³ And Samuel fayd to the cooke: Geue the portion, which I gaue thee, and commanded that thou shouldest lay it vp apart with thee. ²⁴ And the cooke lifted vp a shoulder, and fette it before Saul. And Samuel faid: Behold that which hath remayned, fette it before thee, and eate: because of purpofe it was kept for thee, when I called the people. And Saul did eate with Samuel that day. ²⁵ And they descended from the excelfe into the towne, and he fpake with Saul in the toppe of the houle: and he prepared a bed for Saul in the higheft rowme, & he flept. ²⁶ And when they were rifen in the morning, and it beganne now to be light, Samuel called Saul in the high chãber, faying: Arife that I may difmiffe thee. And Saul arofe: and they went both forth: to witte, he and Samuel. ²⁷ And when they came downe in the vttermoft part of the citie, Samuel faid to Saul: Speake to the feruant that he goe before vs, and paffe: but ftay thou a litle while, that I may tel thee the word of our Lord.