

Chapter 9

Saul by occasion of seeking his fathers affes 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 Israel better then he: from the shoulder and upward he appeared aboue al the people. ³ And the affes 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 affes. 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 affes, 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 shall 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 Israel so 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 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 afcent 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 therefore goe vp, becaufe this day you fhall finde him. ¹⁴ And they went vp into the citie. And when they walked in the middes 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 ^btheir 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 houfe of the Seer? ¹⁹ And Samuel anfwered 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 houfe? ²¹ And Saul anfwering, fayd: Am not I the fonne of Iemini of the leaft tribe of Ifrael, and my

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

^b Oppreffion of innocentes crieth to heauen.

kindred the laft among al the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why therfore haft thou fpoken this word to me? 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 shouldeft 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: becaufe of purpofe it was kept for thee, when I called the people. And Saul did eate with Samuel that day. ²⁵ And they defcended from the excelfe into the towne, and he fpake with Saul in the toppe of the houfe: 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.