

Chapter 16

Samuel by Gods commandment annointeth Dauid King. 14. Gods spirite parteth from Saul, and a wicked spirite vexeth him. 16. The vexation is mitigated by Dauids playing on a harpe.

The third part. Dauids annointing, his vertues, and perfection.

And our Lord said to Samuel: How long dost thou mourne Saul, whom I haue reiected that he rule not ouer Ifrael? Fill thy horne with oyle, and come, that I may fend thee to Ifai the Bethlehemite: for I haue provided me a king among his sonnes. ² And Samuel said: How shall I goe? for Saul wil heare of it, and wil kil me. And our Lord said: A calfe of the heard shalt thou take in thy hand, and shalt say: I am come to immolate vnto our Lord. ³ And thou shalt call Ifai to the victime, and I wil shew thee what thou must doe, and thou shalt annointe whomsoever I shall shew to thee. ⁴ Samuel therefore did as our Lord spake to him. And he came into Bethlehem, and the ancients of the citie merueled, meeting him, and they said: Is thy entrance peaceable? ⁵ And he said: Peaceable: I am come to immolate vnto our Lord, be ye sanctified, and come with me that I may immolate. He therefore sanctified Ifai and his sonnes, and called them to the sacrifice. ⁶ And when they were entered in, he saw Eliab, and said: Is there before our Lord his Christ? ⁷ And our Lord said to Samuel: Respect not his countenance, nor the talnes of his stature: because I haue reiected him, neither doe I iudge according to the looke of man: for man seeth those things which appeare, but our Lord beholdeth the hart. ⁸ And Ifai called Aminadab, and brought him before Samuel. Who said: Neither this hath our Lord chosen. ⁹ And Ifai brought Samma, of whom he said: This also hath not our Lord chosen. ¹⁰ Ifai therefore brought his seauen sonnes before Samuel: and Samuel said to Ifai: Our Lord hath not chosen of these. ¹¹ And Samuel said to Ifai: Are all thy sonnes now fully come? Who answered: Yet there is left a litle one, and he feedeth sheepe. And Samuel said to Ifai: Send, and

bring him: for neither wil we fitte downe til he come hither. ¹² He fent therefore, and brought him. And he was reade and beautiful to behold, and of a comelie face. And our Lord faid: Arife, and annoint him, for he it is. ¹³ Samuel therefore tooke the horne of oile, and annointed him in the middes of his brethren: and the Spirit of our Lord from that day, and fo forward was directed vpon Daud: and Samuel rifing went into Ramatha. ¹⁴ And the Spirit of our Lord departed from Saul, and a wicked fpirit vexed him, ^a)from our Lord. ¹⁵ And the feruantes of Saul faid to him: Behold an euil fpirit of God vexeth thee. ¹⁶ Let our Lord command, and thy feruantes which are before thee, wil feeke a man skilful to ^b)play on the harpe, that when the euil fpirit of our Lord fhall take thee, he may play with his hand, and thou beare it more eafily. ¹⁷ And Saul fayd to his feruantes: Prouid me therefore fome man that playeth wel, and bring him to me. ¹⁸ And one of the feruantes anfwering, fayd: Behold I haue feene the fonne of Ifai the Bethlehemite skilful to play, and very valiant in ftrength, and a warlike man, and wife in his wordes, and a beautiful man: and our Lord is with him. ¹⁹ Saul therefore fent meffengers to Ifai, faying: Send vnto me Daud thy fonne, which is in the pafures. ²⁰ Ifai therefore tooke an affe loaden with loaues, and a flagon of wine, and one kidde of the goates, and fent it by the hand of Daud his fonne to Saul. ²¹ And Daud came to Saul, and ftoode before him: but he loued him exceedingly, & was made his efquier. ²² And Saul fent to Ifai, faying: Let Daud ftand in my fight: for he hath found grace in myn eies. ²³ Therefore whenfoeuer the euil fpirit of our Lord caught

^a By Gods permiffion. *S. Aug. li. 2. q. 1. ad Simplician. S. Beda. qq. in 1. Reg. c. 5.*

^b Naturally (as thefe men truly iudged) mufique helpeth fome il difpofition of humores, and draweth alfo the mind from fo vehement apprehenfion of afflictions: but here it femeth more probable, that God fupernaturally reliued Saul by Dauids playing on the harpe, together with his fincere deuotion, for more manifelt condemnation of the one, and iuftification of the other. *Glof. ordin. S. Greg.*

Saul, Daudid tooke his harpe, & ftrooke with his hand, and Saul was refreshed, and waxed better. For the euil fpirit departed from him.

ANNOTATIONS

7 Beholdeth the hart.) It is proper to God to see the secreete cogitations of mens hartes, of himselfe and by his owne powre. And glorified Sainctes know our cogitations by seeing God, in whom al things appeare, that pertaine to their ftate, and for the profite of others. *S. Aug. li. de cura pro mortuis, c. 15. S. Greg. li. 12. c. 13. Moral.* Prophetes being yet mortal, by inspiration do also see secreete cogitations. *1. Reg. 9. 3. Reg. 14. &c.*

How Sainctes and Prophetes know mens thoughtes.