

Chapter 16

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

The third part.
Dauids annoint-
ing, his vertues,
and perfecution.

And our Lord faid to Samuel: How long doeft thou mourne Saul, whom I haue reiected that he rule not ouer Ifrael? Fil thy horne with oile, and come, that I may fend thee to Ifai the Bethlehemitte: for I haue provided me a king among his fonnes. ² And Samuel faid: How fhall I goe? for Saul wil heare of it, and wil kil me. And our Lord faid: A calfe of the heard fhalt thou take in thy hand, and fhalt fay: I am come to immolate vnto our Lord. ³ And thou fhalt call Ifai to the victime, and I wil fhew thee what thou muft doe, and thou fhalt annointe whomfoeuer I fhall fhew to thee. ⁴ Samuel therefore did as our Lord fpake to him. And he came into Bethlehem, and the ancientes of the citie merueled, meeting him, and they faid: Is thy entrance peaceable? ⁵ And he faid: Peaceable: I am come to immolate vnto our Lord, be ye fanctified, and come with me that I may immolate. He therefore fanctified Ifai and his fonnes, and called them to the facrifice. ⁶ And when they were entered in, he faw Eliab, and faid: Is there before our Lord his Chrif? ⁷ And our Lord faid to Samuel: Refpect not his countenance, nor the talnes of his ftature: becaufe I haue reiected him, neither doe I iudge according to the looke of man: for man feeth thofe thinges which appeare, but our Lord beholdeth the hart. ⁸ And Ifai called Aminadab, and brought him before Samuel. Who faid: Neither this hath our Lord chofen. ⁹ And Ifai brought Samma, of whom he fayd: This alfo hath not our Lord chofen. ¹⁰ Ifai therefore brought his feauen fonnes before Samuel: and Samuel fayd to Ifai: Our Lord hath not chofen of thefe. ¹¹ And Samuel fayd to Ifai: Are al thy fonnes now fully come? Who answered: Yet there is left a litle one, and he feedeth sheepe. And Samuel fayd 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 rifting 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 ftrengh, 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 paftures. 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

^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 manifefte condemnation of the one, and iuftification of the other. *Glof. ordin. S. Greg.*

Lord caught Saul, Daud 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 fee the fecrete cogitations of mens hartes, of himfelfe and by his owne powre. And glorified Sainctes know our cogitations by feing 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 infpiration do alfo fee fecrete cogitations. *1. Reg. 9. 3. Reg. 14. Ec.*

How Saintes and Prophetes know mens thoughtes.