

Chapter 21

In cafe of necefsitie Achimelech the prieft geueth halowed bread to Daid, 8. alfo the fword which he had taken from Goliath. 10. Then Daid going to Achis king of Geth, is forced to faine himfelf madde.

And Daid came into Nobe to Achimelech the prieft: & Achimelech was aſtonyed, becauſe Daid was come. And he ſaid to him: Why thou alone, and none is with thee? ² And Daid ſaid to Achimelech the prieft: The king hath commanded me a word and ſaid: Let no man know the thing, for which thou art ſent by me, and what maner precepts I haue geuen thee, for my ſeruantes alſo I haue appointed into ſuch and ſuch a place. ³ Now therfore if thou haue any thing at hand, yea if but five loaues, geue me, or whatſoeuer thou ſhalt finde. ⁴ And the prieft answered Daid, ſaying: I haue no ^a)lay breads at hand, but only holy bread, if the ſeruants be cleane, eſpecially from women? ⁵ And Daid answered the prieft, and ſaid to him: And truly, if the matter be concerning women, we haue refrained our ſelues from yeſterday and the day before, when we came forth, and the veſſels of the ſeruants were holie. Moreouer this way is polluted, but it alſo ſhall be ſanctified this day in the veſſels. ⁶ The prieft therefore gaue him halowed bread; for neither was anie bread there, but only the loaues of propoſition, which had bene taken away from the face of our Lord, that hoate loaues might be fette downe. ⁷ And there was there a certaine man of the ſeruantes of Saul that day, within the tabernacle of our Lord: and his name was Doeg an Idumeite, the mightieſt of Saules paſtours. ⁸ And Daid ſaid to Achimelech: Haſt thou here at hand a ſpeare, or a ſword? becauſe myn owne ſword, and myne owne weapons I tooke not with me. For the kings word haſtened forward. ⁹ And the prieft ſaid: Loe here the

^a Diſtinction of common & holie bread. Alſo an example of diſpenſation in cafe of neceſſitie.

fword of Goliath the Philiftian, whom thou flewest in
 the Valley of terebinth, is wrapped vp in a mantel be-
 hind the Ephod: if thou wilt take this, take it. For
 neither is here any other befide that. And Daud faid:
 There is none other like to that, geue me it. ¹⁰ Daud
 therefore arofe, and fled that day from the face of Saul:
 and came to Achis the king of Geth, ¹¹ and the feruantes
 of Achis faid to him, when they had feene Daud: Is not
 this Daud the king of the land? Did they not fing in
 dances to this man faying: Saul ftroke a thoufand, and
 Daud ten thoufand? ¹² But Daud put thefe wordes in
 his hart, and feared exceedingly at the face of Achis the
 king of Geth. ¹³ And he ^a)changed his countenance be-
 fore them, and flipt downe between their handes: and he
 ftumbled at the doores of the gate, & his fpittle ranne
 downe vpon his bearde. ¹⁴ And Achis faid to his feru-
 antes: You haue feene the man madde: why haue you
 brought him to me? ¹⁵ Doe we lack madde men, that
 you haue brought in this felowe, to play the madde man
 in my prefence? fhall this man enter into my houle?

^a Daud moft wifely in fuch diftreffe fained himfelf to be a foole.
 By which the Holie Ghoft myftically fignified that Chrift fhould
 do fuch things not of feare but of diuine wifdom, as he fhould be
 couëted a foole. *Mar. 3. v. 21. Luc. 23. v. 11. 1. Cor. 1. v. 23.*
S. Beda. Queft. in 1. Reg. c. 14.