

Chapter 19

The king of Ammon euil intreating king Dauids men, whom he had curteoufly fent to condole the death of his father, is ouerthrowen in battel, 16. with the Afsyrians his hyred confederates.

2. Reg. 10.

And it chanced that Naas the king of the children of Ammon died, and his fonne reigned for him. ² And Dauid fayd: I wil do mercie with Hanon the fonne of Naas: for his father hath done me pleafure. And Dauid fent meffengers to confort him vpon the death of his father. Who when they were come into the land of the children of Ammon, to confort Hanon, ³ the princes of the children of Ammon fayd to Hanon: Thou thinkeft perhaps, that Dauid for honour fake toward thy father hath fent fome that fhould comfort thee: neither markeft thou, that his feruantes are come to thee to efpie, and feeke out, and fearche thy land. ⁴ Therefore Hanon made the feruantes of Dauid balde, and fhaued them, and cut away their cotes from the buttockes to the feete, and fent them away. ⁵ Who when they were gone, and had fent word to Dauid, he fent to meete them (for they had fufteyned great reproch) and commanded them to tarie in Iericho, til their beard grewe, and then they fhould returne. ⁶ And the children of Ammon feing, that they had done iniurie to Dauid, as wel Hanon as the reft of the people, they fent a thoufand talents of filuer, to hyre them chariotes and horfemen out of Mefopotamia, and from Siria Maacha, and from Soba. ⁷ And they hyred two and thirtie thoufand chariotes, and king Maacha with his people. Who when they were come, camped ouer agaynft Medaba. The children of Ammon alfo being gathered together out of their cities, came to the battel. ⁸ Which when Dauid had heard, he fent Ioab, and al the hoft of valiant men: ⁹ and the children of Ammon iffuing forth, put their armie in aray befide the gate of the citie: and the kinges, that were come to ayde him, ftood apart in the field. ¹⁰ Ioab therefore vnderftanding that battel

was made agaynst him before and behind, chose the most valiant men of al Ifrael, and marched on against the Syrian. ¹¹ And the rest of the people he gaue vnder the hand of Abifai his brother: and they went forth agaynst the children of Ammon. ¹² And he sayd: If the Syrian shal ouercome me, thou shalt ayde me: and if the children of Ammon shal ouercome thee, I wil ayde thee. ¹³ Take courage, and let vs play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and our Lord wil doe that which is good in his fight. ¹⁴ Ioab therefore marched on, and the people that were with him, agaynst the Syrian to battle: and he put them to flight. ¹⁵ Moreouer the children of Ammon feing that the Syrian was fled, themselues also fled from Abifai his brother, and went into the citie: and Ioab also returned into Ierusalem. ¹⁶ But the Syrian feing that he was fallen before Ifrael, sent messengers, and brought the Syrian, that was beyond the riuer: and Sophach the General of Adarezer warre, was their captain. ¹⁷ Which when it was told Daud, he gathered together al Ifrael, and passed Iordan, and fell vpon them, and directed his armie agaynst him, they fighting on the contrarie part. ¹⁸ And the Syrian fled from Ifrael: and Daud slewe of the Syrians seven thousand chariotes, and fourtie thousand footemen, and Sophach General of the armie. ¹⁹ And the seruantes of Adarezer feing themselues to be ouercome of Ifrael, fled to Daud, & serued him: and Syria would no more giue ayde to the children of Ammon.