

THE ARGVMENT OF THE PROVERBES.

The first booke called *Prouerbes*, that is, *common & vfuall pithie fentences*, shorte in wordes, ample in fenfe; and *Parables*, fignifying likenes or *fimilitudes*, wherby more important thinges are vnderftood then expreffed; instructeth and exhorteth new beginners, to lerne, and practife al fortes of vertues, the only right way to true Wifdome and eternal happines. It may be diuided into foure partes. In the first nine chapters the auctor interposing certaine general preceptes, produceth wifdom her felfe inuiting al men to feeke her, for the fpiritual profite, they shal therby enioy. From thence to the 25. chap. he geueth fundrie more particular precepts, as wel for embracing vertues, as shunning of vices. In the next fiue chapters, more like precepts of the fame auctor, are added by the care of King Ezechias. In the two laft chapters, either an other Auctor, or rather the fame vnder an other title, commendeth to al men certaine moft excellent precepts, receiued of his mother; wherto he adioyneth the praife of a right wife woman: prophetically the Catholique Church.

VWhy this booke is called Prouerbes and Parables.

The contents. Diuided into foure partes.