

Chapter 2

Dauid geueth godlie preceptes to Salomon. 5. Willeth him to punish certaine offenders: 10. and dieth. 12. Salomon reigneth. 13. Adonias, by intercefsion of Bethfabee, requesteth to haue Abifag to wife: 22. but is put to death for demanding her. 26. Abiathar the prieft is banished, and depofed, for confpiring with Adonias. 28. Ioab alfo for the fame caufe, and former crimes is flaine. 36. Semei is confined in Ierufalem, 40. & for tranfgrefsing his limites together with old faultes is likewife flaine.

And the dayes of Dauid approched that he should die, and he commanded his fonne Salomon, faying: ² I enter into the way of al flesh: take courage, and play the man. ³ And obserue the watches of our Lord thy God, that thou walke in his waies, and keepe his ceremonies, and his preceptes, and iudgementes, and teftimonies, as is written in the law of Moyfes: that thou mayft vnderftand al thinges which thou doeft, and whitherfoeuer thou shalt turne thy felfe: ⁴ that our Lord may confirme his wordes, which he hath fpoken of me, faying: If thy children fhall keepe their waies, and fhall walke before me in truth, in al their hart, and in al their foul, there shall not altogether be taken from thee a man out of the throne of Ifrael. ⁵ Thou knoweft alfo what Ioab the fonne of Saruia hath done to me, what he did to the two princes of the armie of Ifrael, to Abner the fonne of Ner, and Amafa the fonne of Iether: whom he flewe, & shed the bloud of warre in peace, & put the bloud of battel in his belt, which was about his loynes, and in his shoe, which was on his feete. ⁶ Thou shalt doe therefore according to thy wifdom, and shalt not bring his hoare head peaceably vnto hel. ⁷ But to the fonnes alfo of Berzellai the Galaadite thou shalt render kindnes, and they shall eate on thy table: for they mette me when I fled from the face of Abfalom thy brother. ⁸ Thou haft alfo with thee Semei the fonne of Gera the fonne of Iemini of Bahurim, who curfed me with a wicked curfe, when I went to the Campe; but

because he came downe to meete me when I passed Iordan, and I swore to him by our Lord, saying: I will not kill thee with the sword: ⁹ doe not thou suffer him to be guiltles. But thou art a wife man, so that thou knowest what thou shalt doe to him. And thou shalt bring his hoare heere with blood vnto hel. ¹⁰ Dauid therefore slept with his fathers, and was buried in the citie of Dauid. ¹¹ And the daies that Dauid reigned in Israell, are fourtie yeares: in Hebron he reigned seven yeares, in Ierusalem thirtie three.

¹² And Salomon sat vpon the throne of Dauid his father, and his kingdome was confirmed exceedingly. ¹³ And Adonias the sonne of Haggith entered in to Bethfabee the mother of Salomon. Who said to him: Is thy coming peaceable? Who answered: Peaceable. ¹⁴ And he added: I haue a word to speake with thee. To whom she said: Speake. And he: ¹⁵ Thou knowest, quoth he, that the kingdom was mine, and all Israell had purposed to make me ouer them to be their king: but the kingdom is transferred, & is made my brothers: for it was appointed him of our Lord. ¹⁶ Now therefore I desire one petition of thee; Confound not my face. Who said to him: Speake. ¹⁷ And he said: I pray speake to Salomon the king (for he can not denie thee any thing) that he geue me Abifag the Sunamite to wife. ¹⁸ And Bethfabee said: Wel, I will speake for thee to the king. ¹⁹ Bethfabee therefore came to king Salomon, to speake vnto him for Adonias: and the king arose to meete her, and adored her, and sat downe vpon his throne: and a throne was sette for the kinges mother, who sat on his right hand. ²⁰ And she said to him: One litle petition I desire of thee, confound not my face. And the king said to her: My mother aske: for ^a)it behoueth not that I turne away thy face. ²¹ Who said: Let Abifag the Sunamite be geuen to Adonias thy brother to wife. ²² And king Salomon answered, and said to his mother: Why doest thou aske Abifag the Sunamite for Adonias? aske for him also the kingdom: for he is my brother elder

The second part. Of Salomons reigne, and actes good and bad.

^a In all convenient fuites it behoueth the sonne to heare his mother.

then I, & hath Abiathar the priefte, & Ioab the fonne of Saruia. ²³ Therefore king Salomon fware by our Lord, faying: Thefe thinges doe God to me, and thefe adde he, becaufe Adonias hath fpoken this word againft his life. ²⁴ And now, our Lord liueth which hath eftablifhed me, and placed me vpon the throne of Daud my father, and which hath made me a houfe, as he fpake, this day fhall Adonias be flaine. ²⁵ And king Salomon fent by the hand of Banaias the fonne of Ioiada, who flewe him, and he died. ²⁶ To Abiathar alfo the priefte the king faid: Goe into Anathoth to thy field, and thou in deede art a man of death: but to day I wil not kil thee, becaufe thou didft carie the arke of our Lord God before Daud my father, & haft fufteyned labour in al thinges, wherein my father laboured. ²⁷ Salomon therefore ^acaft out Abiathar, that he fhould not be the priefte of our Lord, that the word of our Lord might be fulfilled, which he fpake concerning the houfe of Heli in Silo. ²⁸ And then a meffenger came to Ioab for that Ioab had turned after Adonias, and after Salomon had not turned: Ioab therefore fled into the tabernacle of our Lord, & caught the horne of the altar. ²⁹ And it was told king Salomon, that Ioab was fled into the tabernacle of our Lord, and was befide the altar: & Salomon fent Banaias the fonne of Ioiada, faying: Goe, kil him. ³⁰ And Banaias came to the tabernacle of our Lord, and faid to him: Thus fayeth the king: Come forth. Who faid: I wil not come forth, but here wil I die. Banaias reported his word to the king, faying: Thus fpake Ioab, and thus he answered me. ³¹ And the king faid to him: Doe as he hath fpoken: and kil him, & burie him, and thou fhalt remoue the innocent bloud, which hath beene fhed of Ioab, from me, and from the houfe of my father. ³² And our Lord fhall render his bloud vpon his head, becaufe he murdered two iuft men,

^a By fpecial infinct Salomon did this extraordinarie fact as a prophet & minifter of God, executing his fentence geuen before againft the houfe of Heli for the finnes of his children, *1. Reg. 2. v. 31.* and for Abiathars proper fault ioyning with Adonias againft Salomon. *3. Reg. 1.*

& better then him self: and flew them with his sword, my father Dauid not knowing, Abner the sonne of Ner general of the warfare of Israel, and Amasa the sonne of Iether general of the armie of Iuda: ³³ and their blood shal returne vpon the head of Ioab, and vpon the head of his feede for euer. But to Dauid and his feede and his house, and to his throne be peace for euer from our Lord. ³⁴ Banaias therefore the sonne of Ioiada went vp, and setting vpon him flew him: and he was buried in his house in the desert. ³⁵ And the king appoynted Banaias the sonne of Ioiada for him ouer the armie, and Sadoc the priest he ^a)placed for Abiathar. ³⁶ The king also sent, and called Semei, and said to him: Build thee a house in Ierusalem, and dwel there: and thou shalt not goe out thence hither and thither. ³⁷ But what day soeuer thou shalt goe out, and shalt passe the Torrent Cedron know that thou art to be flaine: thy blood shal be vpon thy head. ³⁸ And Semei said to the king: The saying is good: as my lord the king hath spoken, so wil thy seruant doe. Semei therefore dwelt in Ierusalem, manie dayes. ³⁹ And it came to passe after three yeares, that the seruantes of Semei fled to Achis the sonne of Maacha the king of Geth: and it was told Semei that his seruantes were gone into Geth. ⁴⁰ And Semei arose, and faded his affe, and went to Achis into Geth to require his seruantes, and he brought them out of Geth. ⁴¹ And it was told Salomon that Semei went into Geth out of Ierusalem, and was returned. ⁴² And sending he called him, and said to him: Did I not teftifie to thee by our Lord, and told thee before: What day soeuer thou going out shalt passe hither & thither, know that thou shalt die? And thou didst answer me: The saying is good, which I haue heard. ⁴³ Why then hast thou not kept the oath of our Lord, and the precept that I commanded thee? ⁴⁴ And the king said to Semei: Thou knowest al the euil, wherof

^a Salomon was not only a kīg but also a prophet. Moreouer some secular princes doe nominate spiritual superiours, and instal them in their seates, yet their iurisdiction is not depending on the prince: but the prince to be directed by them. *Num. 27. v. 21.*

thy hart is priuy to thy felfe, which thou didft to Daud
my father: our Lord hath rendred thy malice vpon thy
head: ⁴⁵ And king Salomon be bleffed, and the throne
of Daud shal be ftable before our Lord for euer. ⁴⁶ The
king therefore commanded Banaias the fonne of Ioiada:
who going out, ftroke him, and he died.