

Chapter 6

In the yeare foure hundred and foure score after the Iſraelites came from Ægypt, Salomon, the fourth yeare of his reigne, begineth to build the Temple. 2. The principal partes with the greatnes, forme, and ornamentes therof are deſcribed. 38. It is in building feuen yeares.

And it came to paſſe in the foure hundred and foure ſcore yeare of the coming forth of the children of Iſrael out of the Land of Ægypt, in the fourth yeare, the moneth Zio (that is the ſecond moneth) of the reigne of Salomon ouer Iſrael, he began to build a houſe to our Lord. ² And the houſe, which king Salomon built to our Lord, had three ſcore cubites in length, and twentie cubites in bredth, and thirtie cubites in height. ³ And there was a porche before the temple of twentie cubites of length, according to the meafure of the bredth of the temple: and it had ten cubites of bredth before the face of the temple. ⁴ And he made in the temple oblique windowes. ⁵ And he built vpon the wal of the temple loftes round about, ⁶ in the walles of the houſe round about the temple, and the oracle, and he made fides round about. ⁷ The loft that was vnderneath, had five cubites of bredth, & the middle loft was of fix cubites in bredth, and the third loft had feuen cubites of bredth. And he put beames in the houſe round about on the outſide, that they might not cleaue to the walles of the temple. ⁸ And the houſe when it was built, was built of ſtones hewed and perfected: and hammer, and hatchet, and al the tooles of yron were ^a)not heard in the houſe when it was built. ⁹ The doore of the middle fide was in the wal of the houſe on the right hand: and by wynding ſtaires they went vp into the middle rowme, and from the middle into the third. ¹⁰ And he built the houſe, and finiſhed it: he couered alſo the houſe with feelings of cedre trees. ¹¹ And he built a loft ouer al the

Narovv
vwithout &
broad vvithin.

^a In perfect people is neither noiſe of murmur in aduerſitie, nor of boaiſting in proſperitie, but patience and humilitie with ſilence.

houfe five cubites of height, and he couered the houfe with cedre timber. ¹² And the word of our Lord came to Salomon, faying: ¹³ This houfe, which thou buildeft, if thou wilt walke in my preceptes, and doe my iudgements, and keepe al my commandementes, going in them, I wil eftablish my word to thee, which I fpake to Dauid thy father. ¹⁴ And I wil dwel in the middes of the children of Ifrael, and wil not forfake my people Ifrael. ¹⁵ Salomon therfore built the houfe and finished it. ¹⁶ And he built the walles of the houfe on the infide, with cedre loftes, from the pauement of the houfe to the toppe of the walles, and to the roofes, he couered it with cedre trees on the infide: and he couered the floore of the houfe with boordes of firre. ¹⁷ And he built loftes of cedre timber of twentie cubites at the hinder part of the temple, from the pauement to the higher partes: and he made the inner houfe of the oracle to be ^{a)}*Sanctum Sanctorum*. ¹⁸ Moreouer the temple it felf was fourtie cubites before the doores of the oracle. ¹⁹ And al the houfe was couered within with ceder, hauing roundels, and the ioyntes therof coningly wrought and the engraunges ftanding out: al thinges were couered with bordes: ^{b)}neither could there a ftone appeare in the wal at al. ²⁰ And he made the oracle in the middes of the houfe, in the inner part, that he might put the arke of couenant of our Lord there. ²¹ Moreouer the oracle had twentie cubites in length, and twentie cubites of bredth, and twentie cubites in height. And he couered and feeled it with moft pure gold. And the altar alfo he decked with ceder. ²² The houfe alfo before the oracle he couered with moft pure gold, and faftened on plates with nailes of gold. ²³ And there was nothing in the temple that was not couered with gold: yea and al the altar of the oracle

^a *Holie of holies* or moft holie place.

^b Stones in buildinges, and bones in liuing bodies represent the ftate of religious perfones: who being hidde in their Monafteries and celles, fo much the more fortifie the Church, by how much leffe they appeare abroad, becaufe *their office is not to teach, but to mourne*. *S. Bernard. Ser. 64.*

he couered with gold. ²⁴ And he made in the oracle two cherubs of oliue trees, of ten cubites in height. ²⁵ One wing of a cherub of fiue cubites, and the other wing of a cherub fiue cubites: that is, hauing tenne cubites, from the end of one wing vnto the end of the other wing. ²⁶ Of ten cubites alfo was the fecond cherub: in like meafure, and the worke was one in both cherubs, ²⁷ that is to fay, one cherub had the height of ten cubites, and in like maner the fecond cherub. ²⁸ And he put the cherubs in the middes of the inner temple: and the cherubs extended their wings, and the one wing touched the wal, and the wing of the fecond cherub touched the other wal: and the other winges in the middle part of the temple touched ech other. ²⁹ He couered alfo the cherubs with gold. ³⁰ And al the walles of the temple round about he graued with diuerfe engrauinges and caruing: & he made in them cherubs, and palme trees, and ^a)diuerfe pictures, as it were ftanding out of the wal, and coming forth. ³¹ Yea the pauement alfo of the houfe he couered with gold within and without. ³² And in the entrance of the oracle he made litle doores of the timber of oliue-trees, and fiue corner poftes. ³³ And two doores of oliuetimber: and he graued in them pictures of Cherubs, and figures of Palme trees, and grauen workes ftanding out very much; and he couered them with gold: and he couered as wel the cherubs as the palmetrees, and the other thinges with gold. ³⁴ And he made in the entrance of the temple poftes of oliuetimber foure fquare: ³⁵ and two doores of firre trees, one agaynft an other: and either doore was duple, and fo opened with folding leaues. ³⁶ And he graued cherubs, and palmetrees, and engrauinges appearing very much: and he couered al with golden plates in fquare worke by rule. ³⁷ And he built the inner court with three rowes of ftones polished, and one rowe of ceder timber. ³⁸ In the fourth yeare was the houfe of our Lord founded in the moneth of Zio: ³⁹

The end of the fourth age.

^a It is a clere cafe, that al carued & grauen pictures, or images were not vnlawful, but were religioufly made & fette in the holie Temple, for the more honour of God.

and in the eleventh yeare in the moneth Bul (that is the eight moneth) the houfe was perfected in al the workes therof, and in al the implementes therof: and he was building it feuen yeares.