

Chapter 10

The quene of Saba coming to king Salomon, admireth his vvifdom, magnificence, and order of gouernment. 10. She geueth and receiueth giftes. 14. Salomon receiueth much gold diuers vvayes: 16. maketh golden targets, 18. a magnificent throne, 21. and much golden vefsel. 25. Manie bring him prefentes. 26. He hath manie chariottes, horfemen, 27. abundance of filuer. 28. Marchantes of diuers kingdomes fel him horfes.

But the Queene of ^{a)}Saba alfo hauing heard the fame of Salomon, in the name of our Lord came to proue him, in hard propofitions. ² And entring into Ierufalem with a great trayne, and riches, and camels carying fpices, and gold exceding infinite, and pretious ftones, she came to king Salomon, and fpake to him al thinges that she had in her hart. ³ And Salomon interpreted to her al the wordes, that she propofed: there was not a word, that the king could be ignorant of, and could not anfwer her. ⁴ And the queene of Saba feing al the wifedom of Salomon, and the houfe, which he had built, ⁵ and the meates of his table, and the habitations of his feruantes, and the orders of them that ferued, and their garmentes, cupbearers, and the holocaustes which he offered in the houfe of our Lord: ^{b)}ſhe had no longer ſpirit, ⁶ and ſhe faid to the king: The report is true, which I haue heard in my countrie, ⁷ concerning thy wordes, and concerning thy wifedom, and I did not beleue them that told me, til my ſelfe came, and

^a Part of Arabia is called Saba, nere to Iurie, but this Saba is beyond Arabia, as S. Hierom teftifieth in *Efaïs. 60. li. 17.* it ſemeth to be in Æthiopia, for our Sauour faith *Mat. 12. The quene of the South came frō the endes of the earth, to heare the vvifdom of Salomon.*

^b As this quene had no ſpirite, when ſhe ſaw Salomons wifdom, fo the Church gathered of gentiles knowing Chriſts grace, & finding the maſters of Euangelical doctrin, caſting away the ſpirite of pride, and laying of al hautineffe of mind, lerned to diftruſt in her ſelf, and to truſt in the great mercie of her king. *S. Greg. in Pſal. 7.*

fawe with myne eies, and haue proued that the half not been told me: greater is thy wifdom, and thy workes, then the rumour, which I haue heard. ⁸ Bleffed are thy men, and bleffed are thy feruantes, which ftand before thee alwaies, and heare thy wifedom. ⁹ Be the Lord thy God bleffed, whom thou haft pleafed, and that hath fette thee vpon the throne of Ifrael, for that the Lord hath loued Ifrael for euer, and hath appointed thee king, to do iudgement and iuftice. ¹⁰ She therefore gaue to the king an hundred and twentie talentes of gold, and fpices exceding much, and pretious ftones: There was no more brought fo much fpice, as that which the Queene of Saba gaue to king Salomon. (¹¹ But the naue alfo of Hiram, which caried gold out of Ophir, brought from Ophir thyine trees exceding manie, and pretious ftones. ¹² And the king made of the thyine trees the porches of the houfe of our Lord, and of the kinges houfe and harpes & vials for the fingers: there were not fuch thyine trees brought, nor feen vntil this prefent daye.) ¹³ And king Salomon gaue to the queene of Saba al that she would, and asked of him: befide thofe thinges, which of him felfe he offered her for a royal gift. Who returned, and went into her countrie with her feruantes. ¹⁴ And the weight of the gold, that was brought to Salomon euerie yeare, was of fix hundred fixtie fix talentes of gold: ¹⁵ befide that, which the men brought, that were ouer the tributes, and merchantes, and al that fold light wares, and al the kinges of Arabia, and the dukes of the land. ¹⁶ Salomon alfo made two hundred fhieldes of moft pure gold, fix hundred ficles of gold did he allow for the plates of one shield. ¹⁷ And three hundred tergattes of tried gold: and three hundred poundes of gold garnished one terget: and the king put them in the houfe of the foreft of Libanus. ¹⁸ King Salomon alfo made a great throne of yuorie: and couered it with gold exceding yellow, ¹⁹ which had fixe fteppes: and the toppe of the throne was round in the hinder part: and the two handes on either fide holding the feate: and two lyons ftood at euery hand. ²⁰ And twelue litle lyons ftanding vpon the fixe fteppes on either fide: there was not fuch a worke

made in al kingdomes. ²¹ Yea and al the veffels, out of the which the king Salomon drunke, were of gold: and al the furniture of the houfe of the foreft of Libanus of moft pure gold: there was no filuer, neither was it thought of any price in the daies of Salomon, ²² becaufe the kinges nauie, once in three yeares, went with the nauie of Hiram on the fea into Tharfis, bringing thence gold, and filuer, and the teeth of elephantes, and apes, and pecockes. ²³ King Salomon therefore was magnified aboue al the kinges of the earth in riches, and wifedom. ²⁴ And al the earth defired to fee Salomons face, that they might heare his wifedom, which God had geuen in his hart. ²⁵ And euerie one prefented him giftes, veffel of filuer and gold, garmentes and instrumentes for warre, fpices alfo, and horfes and mules euerie yeare. ²⁶ And Salomon gathered together the chariotes and horfemen, and there amounted to him a thoufand foure hundred chariotes, and twelue thoufand horfemen: and he difpofed them in fenced cities, and with the king in Ierufalem. ²⁷ And he made that there was as great abundance of filuer in Ierufalem, as of ftones: and of ceder trees he caufed fuch a multitude, as if it were fycomore trees, which grow in the playnes. ²⁸ And there were horfes brought for Salomon out of Ægypt, and Coa, for the kinges merchantes brought them out of Coa, and brought them at a fette price. ²⁹ And a chariote of foure horfes came out of Ægypt, for fixe hundred ficles of filuer, and one horfe for an hundred and fiftie. And after this maner did al the kinges of the Hetheites, and of Syria fel horfes.