

Chapter 2

Tobias to burie an Ifraelite that is flaine in the ftreete, leaueth his dinner and gheftes. 10. Is made blind by Gods permiffion, for manifeftation of his patience. 19. His wife getteth her liuing by worke, 22. and for a fcrupulous word, reprocheth his finceritie.

But after thefe thinges, when there was a feftiual day of our Lord, and a good dinner was made in Tobias houfe, ² he fayd to his fonne: Goe, and bring fome of our tribe, ^a)that feare God, to make merie with vs. ³ And when he had gone, returning he tolde him, that one of the children of Ifrael lay flayne in the ftreate. And he forthwith leaping vp from his place at the table, leauing his dinner, came fafting to the bodie: ⁴ and taking it vp caried it to his houfe fecretely, that when the funne should be downe, he might warely burie him. ⁵ And whẽ he had hid the bodie, he eate bread with mourning and trẽbling, ⁶ remembring that word, which our Lord fayd by Amos the Prophet: Your feftiual dayes ſhal be turned into lamentation and mourning. ⁷ But when the funne was downe, he went, and buried him. ⁸ And al his neighbours rebuked him, faying: Euen now thou waft commanded to be flayne becaufe of this matter, and thou dideft ſcarce eſcape the commandment of death, and ^b)doeft thou burie the dead agayne? ⁹ But Tobias more fearing God, then the king, in haſt tooke the bodies of them that were flayne, and hid them in his houſe, and at midnight buried them. ¹⁰ And it happened that on a certayne day, being wearied with burying, coming into his houſe, he had caſt himſelf downe by the wal, and flept, ¹¹ and as he was fleeping, hote dung out of the ſwallowes neſt fel vpon his eyes,

Amos. 8. v. 10.

^a Al the people of the tenne tribes did not ferue Ieroboams golden calues, but ſome *feared God* & conſequently *refrayned from euil*, *Prou. 3.* at leaſt from idolatrie.

^b True zeale is not hindred from workes of mercie by feare of death: *becauſe perfect charitie caſteth out feare. 1. Ioan. 4.*

and he was made blinde. ¹² And this tentation therfore our Lord permitted to chance vnto him, that an example might be geuen to posteritie of his patience, alfo of holie Iob. ¹³ For whereas he feared God alwaies from his infancie, and kept his commandmentes, he grudged not agaynft God for that the plague of blindnes had chanced to him, ¹⁴ but continewed immoueable in the feare of God, geuing thanks to God al the dayes of his life. ¹⁵ For as the kinges infulted againft bleffed Iob: fo his ^aparentes and cofins derided his life, faying: ¹⁶ Where is thy hope, for the which thou didest beftowe almes and burials? ¹⁷ But Tobias rebuked them, faying: Speake not fo: ¹⁸ becaufe we are the children of holie ones, and looke for that life, which God wil geue to them, that neuer change their faith from him. ¹⁹ But Anna his wife went dayly to weauing worke, and she brought the gaines of her handie labour, which fhe could get. ²⁰ Whereby it came to paffe, that she receiuing a kid of goates had brought it home: ²¹ the voice whereof bleating when her hufband had heard, he fayd: Take heed, left perhaps it be ftollen, reftore ye it to his owners, becaufe it is not lawful for vs either to eate anie thing of theft or to touch it. ²² To thefe wordes his wife being angrie answered: Thy hope is become vayne manifetly, and thine almes now haue appeared. ²³ And with thefe, and other fuch like wordes she vpbrayded him.

^a Both elder and yonger forte of his kinred derided him, not his proper parentes, for he was depriued of father and mother when he was a child, as it femeth. *c. 1. v. 4.*