

Chapter 2

Tobias to burie an Ifraelite that is flayne 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 remembering 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 fcarce efcape the commandment of death, and ^b)doeft thou burie the dead agayne? ⁹ But Tobias more fearing God, then the king, in haft tooke the bodies of them that were flayne, and hid them in his houfe, and at midnight buried them. ¹⁰ And it happened that on a certayne day, being wearied with burying, coming into his houfe, he had caft himfelf downe by the wal, and flept, ¹¹ and as he was fleeping, hote dung out of the fwallowes neft fel vpon his eyes,

Amos. 8. v. 10.

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

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

and he was made blinde. ¹² And this tentation therefore our Lord permitted to chance vnto him, that an example might be geuen to posteritie of his patience, also of holie Iob. ¹³ For whereas he feared God alwaies from his infancie, and kept his commandmentes, he grudged not agaynst God for that the plague of blindnes had chanced to him, ¹⁴ but continewed immoueable in the feare of God, geuing thankes to God al the dayes of his life. ¹⁵ For as the kinges insulted against bleffed Iob: fo his ^aparentes and cofins derided his life, faying: ¹⁶ Where is thy hope, for the which thou didest bestowe almes and burials? ¹⁷ But Tobias rebuked them, faying: Speake not fo: ¹⁸ because 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 she could get. ²⁰ Whereby it came to passe, that she receiuing a kid of goates had brought it home: ²¹ the voice whereof bleating when her husband had heard, he sayd: Take heed, lest perhaps it be stollen, reftore ye it to his owners, because it is not lawful for vs either to eate anie thing of theft or to touch it. ²² To these wordes his wife being angrie answered: Thy hope is become vayne manifestly, and thine almes now haue appeared. ²³ And with these, and other such like wordes she vpbayded him.

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