

Chapter 4

Tobias thincking he shal dye, geueth his fonne godlie admonitions: 7. especially exhorteth him to geue almes diligently, 13. to flee al fornication, pride, and fraude. 21. And telleth him of money lent to a freind.

Therfore when Tobias thought his prayer to be heard that he might haue died, he called to him Tobias his fonne, ² and fayd to him: ^aHeare my fonne the wordes of my mouth, & lay them as a foundation in thy hart. ³ When God fhall take my foule, burie my bodie: and thou shalt doe honour to thy mother al the dayes of her life: ⁴ for thou must be mindful what perils, and how great she suffered for thee in her wombe. ⁵ And when she also shall haue accomplished the time of her life, burie her beside me. ⁶ And al the dayes of thy life haue God in thy mind: and beware thou consent not to sinne at anie time, and pretermite the preceptes of our Lord God. ⁷ Of thy substance ^bgeue almes, and turne not away thy face from anie poore person: for so it shall come to passe that neither the face of our Lord shall be turned from thee. ⁸ As thou shalt be able, so be merciful. ⁹ If thou haue much, geue abundantly: if thou haue litle, studie to impart also a litle willingly. ¹⁰ For thou dost treasure vp to thy self a good reward in the day of necessitie, ¹¹ because almes deliuereth from all sinne, and from death, & wil not suffer the foule to goe into darkenesse. ¹² Great confidence before God most high shall almes be to all them that doe it. ¹³ Take heed to thy self my fonne of all fornication, & beside thy wife neuer abide to know crime. ¹⁴ Neuer permitte pryde to rule in thy word: for in it all perdition tooke his beginning. ¹⁵ Whosoever hath wrought anie thing for thee,

^a As Moyfes to the people *Deut. 33.* and Daudid to Salomon. *3. Reg. 2.* So Tobias gaue holie admonitions to his fonne: in all fourtene. *Noted in the margins.*

^b The same doctrine of good workes, and reward, is taught *Daniel. 4. v. 14.*

pay him his hyre immediatly, and let not the hyre of thy
hyred feruant remayne with thee at al. ¹⁶ That ^{a)}which 8.
thou hateft to be done to thee by an other, fee thou
doe it not to an other at anie time. ¹⁷ Eate thy bread
with the hungrie & needie, and of thy garmentes couer
the naked. ¹⁸ Set thy bread, and thy wine vpon ^{b)}the 9.
burial of a iuft man, and doe not eate and drinke therof 10.
with finners. ¹⁹ Seeke counfel alwaies of a wifeman. ²⁰ 11.
At al time bleffe God: and defire of him, that he di- 12.
rect thy waies, and that al thy counfels remayne in him.
²¹ I tel thee alfo my fonne ^{c)}that I gaue tenne talentes 13.
of filuer, whiles thou waft yet a child, to Gabelus, in
Rages a citie of the Medes, and I haue a bil of his hand
with me: ²² and therefore enquire how thou maift come
to him, and receiue of him the foresayd weight of filuer,
and reftore him the bil of his hand. ²³ Feare not my 14.
fonne: we leade in dede a poore life, but we shal haue
many good thinges if we feare God, and depart from al
finne, and doe wel.

^a A notable rule, agreable to the law of nature.

^b VVorkes of mercie extēd alfo to the dead.

^c It perteyneth to good men amongft other thinges, to geue notice
and to difpofe of their temporal goodes by their laft wil.