

Chapter 7

They are kindly entertained by Raguel. 10. Tobias demandeth Sara to wife, which Raguel, encoredged by the Angel, granteth, 15. and the mariage is made.

And they went to Raguel, and Raguel receiued them with ioy. ² And Raguel beholding Tobias, fayd to Anna his wife: How like is this yongman to my fifters fonne! ³ And when he had fpoken thefe wordes, he fayd: Whence are you ye yongman our brethren? ⁴ But they fayd: We are of the tribe of Nephthali, of the captiuitie of Niniue. ⁵ And Raguel fayd to them: Know you Tobias my brother? Who fayd: We know him. ⁶ And when he fpake much good of him, the Angel fayd to Raguel: Tobias, of whom thou askest is this mans father. ⁷ And Raguel put forth him felfe, and with teares kiffed him, and weeping vpon his necke, fayd: Bleffing haue thou my fonne, becaufe thou art the fonne of a good and moft vertuous man. ⁸ And Anna his wife, and Sara theyr daughter wept. ⁹ And after they had talked, Raguel commanded a wether to be killed, and a banket to be prepared. And when he defired them to fitte downe to dinner, ¹⁰ Tobias faid: I wil not eate nor drinke here this day, vnleffe thou firft affure my petition, and promife to geue me Sara thy daughter. ¹¹ Which word Raguel hearing, was fore afrayd, knowing what had chanced to thofe feuen husbands, which went in vnto her: and he began to feare left perhaps it might chance to him alfo in like maner: and when he doubted, and ^agaue no anfwer to him demanding, ¹² the Angel fayd to him: Feare not to geue her to this man, for to him fearing God is thy daughter dewe to be his wife: therefore an other could not haue her. ¹³ Then fayd Raguel: I doubt not but God hath admitted my prayers and teares in his fight. ¹⁴ And I

^a A iuft man (fayth S. Ambrofe *lib. 3. Off. c. 14.*) feared other mens harmes, and would rather his daughter fhould not be married then others fhould be in danger, preferring honeftie before profite.

beleue that therfore he hath made you come to me, that this mayde might be ioyned to her kinred, according to the law of Moyfes: and now haue no doubt but I wil deliuer her to thee. ¹⁵ And taking his daughter by the right hand, gaue it into the right hand of Tobias, faying: The God of Abraham, and the God of Ifaac, and the God of Iacob be with you, and he ioyne you together, and fulfil his bleffing in you. ¹⁶ And taking paper they made a writing of the mariage. ¹⁷ And after thefe things they made merie, bleffing God. ¹⁸ And Raguel called to him Anna his wife, and commanded her to prepare an other chamber. ¹⁹ And fhe brought Sara her daughter in thither, and fhe wept. ²⁰ And fhe fayd to her: Be of good cheere my daughter, our Lord of heauen geue thee ioy for the tedioufneffe which thou haft fuffered.