

Chapter 4

Baana and Rechab secretly kil Ifbofeth: 8. bring his head to Dauid. 9. Who condemning their fact, putteth them to death.

And Ifbofeth the fonne of Saul heard that Abner was flaine in Hebron: and his handes were weakened, and al Ifrael was trubled. ² And the fonne of Saul had two men captaynes of robbers, the name of one Baana, and the name of the other Rechab, the fonnes of Rhemmon the Berothite of the fonnes of Benjamin: for Beroth alfo was accounted in Benjamin. ³ And the Berothites fled into Gethaim, and were there ftrangers vntil that time. ⁴ And Ionathas the fonne of Saul had a fonne lame in his feete: for he was fiue yeares old, when the tydinges came of Saul and Ionathas from Iezrahel. His nurfe therefore taking him, fled: and when fhe made haft to flee, he fel, and was made lame: and he was called Miphibofeth. ⁵ Therefore the fonnes of Rhemmon the Berothite, Rechab and Baana coming, entered into the houle of Ifbofeth in the heat of the day: who flept vpon his bed at noone. ⁶ And they entered into the houle fecretely taking eares of corne, and Rechab and Baana his brother, ftroke him in priuy partes and fled. ⁷ And when they were entred into the houle, he flept vpon his bed in a parler, and ftriking they killed him: and taking away his head they went by the way of the defert al night. ⁸ And brought the head of Ifbofeth to Dauid into Hebron: and they faid to the king: Behold the head of Ifbofeth the fonne of Saul thine enemye who fought thy life: and our Lord hath geuen my lord the king this day reuenge of Saul, and of his feede. ⁹ But Dauid anfwering Rechab, and Baana his brother, the fonnes of Rhemmon the Berothite, and fayd to them: Our Lord liueth, which hath deliuered my foule out of al diftreffe, ¹⁰ for fo much as him that told me, and faid: Saul is dead, who thought that he told prosperous thinges, I apprehended, and flewe him in Siceleg, to whom I fhould haue geuen a reward for

his tydings. ¹¹ How much more now when wicked men haue flaine an innocent man in his owne houle, vpon his bed, shal I not require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth? ¹² Dauid therefore commanded his seruantes, and they flew them, and cutting of their handes and feete, hanged them ouer the poole in Hebron: but the head of Ishbosheth they tooke, and buried in the sepulcher of Abner in Hebron.