

Chapter 10

Hanon king of Ammon for euil entreating Dauids men, sent vnto him of curtefie, 7. is iuftly plagued, with his confederates. 15. Alfo the fecond time they are ouerthrowen by Dauid.

And it came to paffe after thefe thinges, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanon his fonne reigned for him. ² And Dauid faid: I wil doe mercie with Hanon the fonne of Naas, as ^ahis father hath done mercie with me. Dauid therefore sent, confortng him by his feruants vpon his fathers death. But when the feruantes of Dauid were come into the land of the children of Ammon, ³ the princes of the children of Ammon faid to Hanon their lord: Thinkeft thou that for the honour of thy father Dauid hath sent comforters vnto thee, and not rather that he might fearch, and fpy into the citie, and ouerthrow it, hath Dauid sent his feruants vnto thee? ⁴ Hanon therefore tooke the feruants of Dauid, and fhaued the one half of their beard, and cutte away halfe their garments vnto the buttockes, and sent them away. ⁵ Which when it was told Dauid, he sent to meete them: for the men were confounded very fowly, and Dauid commanded them: Tary in Iericho, til your beard be growen, and then returne. ⁶ And the children of Ammon feing that they had done iniurie to Dauid, sent, and hyred for wages the Syrian of Rohob, and the Syrian of Soba, twentie thoufand foote-men, and of the king Maacha a thoufand men, and of Iftob twelue thoufand men. ⁷ Which when Dauid had heard, he sent Ioab and the whole armie of warryers. ⁸ The children therefore of Ammon iffued forth, and fette their men in aray before the verie entrance of the gate: but the Syrian of Soba, and Rohab, and Iftob,

^a This Naas king of Ammon curteoufly intertained Dauids freindes which efcaped from the king of Moab, killing moft of them that were comended to him, becaufe Dauid had leift his countrie, and was returned into Iuda. *1. Reg. 22. Hiftor. Ecclef.*

and Maacha were by themselves in the field. ⁹ Ioab therefore feigning, that there was battell prepared against him, both before him and behind him, he picked out of all the chosen of Israel, and directed his army against the Syrian: ¹⁰ and the rest of the people he delivered to Abifai his brother, who directed his army against the children of Ammon. ¹¹ And Ioab said: If the Syrian shall prevail against me, thou shalt aid me: and if the children of Ammon shall prevail against thee, I will aid thee. ¹² Play the man, and let vs fight for our people, and the city of our God: and our Lord will do that which is good in his sight. ¹³ Ioab therefore and the people that were with him, began to fight against the Syrians: Who immediately fled from his face. ¹⁴ And the children of Ammon feigning that the Syrians were fled, they also fled from the face of Abifai, and entered into the city: and Ioab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Ierusalem. ¹⁵ Therefore the Syrians feigning that they were fallen before Israel, they gathered themselves together. ¹⁶ And Adar-ezer sent, and fetched out the Syrians, that were beyond the river, and brought their army: and Sobach the master of Adar-ezer's warre, was their chief captain. ¹⁷ Which when it was told Dauid, he gathered together all Israel, and passed over Iordan, and came into Helam: & the Syrians put themselves in array against Dauid, & fought against him. ¹⁸ And the Syrians fled from the face of Israel, and Dauid slew of the Syrians seven hundred chariotes, and fourty thousand horsemen: and Sobach the prince of the warre he stroke: who forthwith died. ¹⁹ And all the kings, that were to aid Adar-ezer, feigning themselves overcome of Israel, were afraid and fled eight & fiftie thousand before Israel. And they made peace with Israel: and served them, and the Syrians were afraid any more to aid the children of Ammon.