

Chapter 12

Nathan the prophet by a parable induceth Dauid to condemne him self of great sinne, 7. blameth and threatneth him for the same. 13. But vpon his confesion denounceth remission of his sinne, with referuation of temporal punishment, 15. the death of the childe. 24. Bethfabee beareth an other sonne, who is called Salomon. 26. The citie of Rabbath is taken, and a rich crowne with other praye.

Our Lord therefore sent Nathan to Dauid: Who when he was come to him, he sayd vnto him: There were two men in one citie, one riche, and the other poore. ² The rich man had sheepe, and oxen exceeding manie. ³ But the poore man had nothing at al, beside one litle ewe, which he had bought and nourished, and which had growen in his house together with his children, eating of his bread, and drinking of his cuppe, and sleping in his bosome: and it was to him as a daughter. ⁴ And when a certayne stranger was come to the riche man, he sparing to take of his owne sheepe and oxen, to make a feast for that stranger, which was come to him, tooke the poore mans ewe, and made meates therof for the man that was come to him. ⁵ And Dauid being exceedingly wrath with indignation against that man, sayd to Nathan: Our Lord liueth, the man that hath done this is the childe of death. ⁶ He shal render the ewe fourefold, because he hath done this thing, and hath not spared. ⁷ And Nathan sayd to Dauid: Thou art that man. Thus sayth our Lord the God of Israel: I anointed thee to be king ouer Israel, and I deliuered thee from the hand of Saul, ⁸ and gaue thee the house of thy lord, and the wiues of thy lord in thy bosome, and haue geuen thee the house of Israel and Iuda: and if these things be litle, I wil adde farre greater things vnto thee. ⁹ Why therefore hast thou contemned the word of the lord, that thou wouldest doe euil in my sight? Vrias the Hetheite thou hast smitten with the sword, & his wife thou hast taken to thy wife, and hast slayne him

with the sword of the children of Ammon. ¹⁰ For which thing the sword shall not depart from thy house ^a)for ever, because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Urias the Hethite, to be thy wife. ¹¹ Therefore thus sayth our Lord: Behold, I will rayse vpon thee euil out of thine owne house, and wil take thy wiues before thine eyes, and geue them to thy neighbour, and he shall slepe with thy wiues in the sight of this Sunne. ¹² For thou hast done it secretly: but I wil doe this word in the sight of al Israel, and in the sight of the Sunne. ¹³ And Dauid sayd to Nathan: I haue sinned to our Lord. And Nathan sayd to Dauid: Our Lord also hath taken away thy sinne: thou shalt not die. ¹⁴ Neuertheles, because thou hast made the enemies of our Lord to blaspheme, for this thing, the sonne that is borne to thee, dying shall dye. ¹⁵ And Nathan returned into his house. Our Lord also stroke the child, which the wife of Urias had borne to Dauid, and he was past hope. ¹⁶ And Dauid befought our Lord for the child: and Dauid fasted a fast, and going in a side, lay vpon the ground. ¹⁷ And the ancients of his house came, being earnest with him, that he would rise from the ground: who would not, neither did he eate meate with them. ¹⁸ And it chanced the seventh day that the infant died: and the seruantes of Dauid feared to tel him, that the child was dead. For they sayd: Behold when the child yet liued, we spake to him, and he heard not our voice: how much more if we shall say: The child is dead, wil he afflict him self? ¹⁹ When Dauid therefore sawe his seruantes muttering, he vnderstood that the infant was dead: and he sayd to his seruantes: Is the child dead? Who answered him: He is dead. ²⁰ Dauid therefore rose from the ground; and was washed and annoynted: and when he had changed

^a Now & then some of thy feede shall be violently flaine: so were flaine three of his owne sonnes, Ammon, *chap. 13.* Abfalom, *chap. 18.* Adonias, *3. Reg. 2.* six sonnes of Iofaphat, and al Iorams sonnes saue one, *2. Paralip. 21.* also Ochozias, Amasias, Iofias, *2. Par. 24. 25. 35.* and the sonnes of Sedechias, himselfe hauing his eyes put out and so brought into Babylon. *4. Reg. 25.*

his garment, he entered into the house of our Lord: and adored, and came into his owne house, and he called for bread, and he did eate. ²¹ And his seruantes sayd vnto him: What thing is this, that thou hast done? for the infant, when he yet liued, thou didst fast and weepe: but the child being dead, thou didst rife vp, and hast eaten bread. ²² Who sayd: For the infant, whiles he yet liued, I fasted and wept: for I sayd: Who knoweth if perhaps our Lord wil geue him to me, and the infant may liue? ²³ But now because he is dead, why do I fast? Shal I be able to cal him againe any more? I shal go to him rather: but he shal not returne to me. ²⁴ And Dauid comforted Bethabee his wife, and going in vnto her, flept with her: Who bare a sonne, and he called his name Salomon, and our Lord loued him. ²⁵ And he sent by the hand of Nathan the prophete, and called his name, Amiable to our Lord, because our Lord loued him. ²⁶ Ioab therefore fought against Rabbath of the children of Ammon, and wonne the kinges citie. ²⁷ And Ioab sent messengers to Dauid, saying: I haue fought against Rabbath, and the Citie of waters is to be taken. ²⁸ Now therefore gather the rest of the people, and besiege the citie, & take it: left when the citie shal be wafted of me, the victorie be ascribed to my name. ²⁹ Dauid therefore gathered al the people, and went forth against Rabbath: and when he had fought, he tooke it. ³⁰ And he tooke the crowne of their king from his head, in weight a talent of gold, hauing most pretious stones, and it was put vpon Dauids head. Yea & the praye of the citie he caryed away exceeding much: ³¹ bringing forth also the people therof sawed them, and drewe round about ouer them chariotes shod with yron: and he diuided them with kniues, and drew them through in forme of brikes: so did he to al the cities of the children of Ammon: and Dauid returned, and al the armie into Ierusalem.