

Chapter 12

Nathan the prophet by a parable induceth Dauid to condemne him felf of great finne, 7. blameth and threatneth him for the fame. 13. But vpon his confefsion denounceth remifsion of his finne, 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 therfore fent Nathan to Dauid: Who when he was come to him, he fayd vnto him: There were two men in one citie, one riche, and the other poore. ² The rich man had sheepe, and oxen exceding 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 houle together with his children, eating of his bread, and drinking of his cuppe, and fleeping in his bofome: and it was to him as a daughter. ⁴ And when a certayne ftranger was come to the riche man, he fparing to take of his owne fheepe and oxen, to make a feaft for that ftranger, 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 againft that man, fayd to Nathan: Our Lord liueth, the man that hath done this is the childe of death. ⁶ He fhall render the ewe fourefold, becaufe he hath done this thing, and hath not fpared. ⁷ And Nathan fayd to Dauid: Thou art that man. Thus fayth our Lord the God of Ifrael: I anointed thee to be king ouer Ifrael, and I deliuered thee from the hand of Saul, ⁸ and gaue thee the houle of thy lord, and the wiues of thy lord in thy bofome, and haue geuen thee the houle of Ifrael and Iuda: and if thefe thinges be litle, I wil adde farre greater thinges vnto thee. ⁹ Why therefore haft thou contemned the word of the lord, that thou wouldest doe euil in my fight? Vrias the Hetheite thou haft fmitten with the fword, & his wife thou haft taken to thy wife, and haft flayne him

with the fword of the children of Ammon. ¹⁰ For which thing the fword fhall not depart from thy houfe ^afor euer, becaufe thou haft defpifed me, and haft taken the wife of Vrias the Hetheite, to be thy wife. ¹¹ Therefore thus fayth our Lord: Behold, I wil rayfe vpon thee euil out of thine owne houfe, and wil take thy wiues before thine eies, and geue them to thy neighbour, and he fhall flepe with thy wiues in the fight of this Sunne. ¹² For thou haft done it fecretly: but I wil doe this word in the fight of al Ifrael, and in the fight of the Sunne. ¹³ And Dauid fayd to Nathan: I haue finned to our Lord. And Nathan fayd to Dauid: Our Lord alfo hath taken away thy finne: thou fhalt not die. ¹⁴ Neuertheles, becaufe thou haft made the enemies of our Lord to blaspHEME, for this thing, the sonne that is borne to thee, dying fhall dye. ¹⁵ And Nathan returned into his houfe. Our Lord alfo ftroke the child, which the wife of Vrias had borne to Dauid, and he was pafte hope. ¹⁶ And Dauid befought our Lord for the child: and Dauid fafled a fast, and going in afide, lay vpon the ground. ¹⁷ And the ancientes of his houfe came, being earneft with him, that he would rife from the ground: who would not, neither did he eate meate with them. ¹⁸ And it chanced the feuenth day that the infant died: and the feruantes of Dauid feared to tel him, that the child was dead. For they fayd: Behold when the child yet liued, we fpake to him, and he heard not our voice: how much more if we fhall fay: The child is dead, wil he afflict him felf? ¹⁹ When Dauid therefore fawe his feruantes muttering, he vnderftood that the infant was dead: and he fayd to his feruantes: Is the child dead? Who answered him: He is dead. ²⁰ Dauid therefore rofe from the ground; and was washed and annoynted: and when he had changed

^a Now & then fome of thy feede fhall be violently flaine: fo were flaine three of his owne fonnes, Ammon, *chap. 13.* Abfalom, *chap. 18.* Adonias, *3. Reg. 2.* fix fonnes of Iofaphat, and al Iorams fonnes faue one, *2. Paralip. 21.* alfo Ochozias, Amafias, Iofias, *2. Par. 24. 25. 35.* and the fonnes of Sedechias, himfelfe hauing his eyes put out and fo brought into Babylon. *4. Reg. 25.*

his garment, he entered into the houle of our Lord: and adored, and came into his owne houle, and he called for bread, and he did eate. ²¹ And his seruantes fayd vnto him: What thing is this, that thou haft done? for the infant, when he yet liued, thou didst fast and weepe: but the child being dead, thou didst rife vp, and haft eaten bread. ²² Who fayd: For the infant, whiles he yet liued, I fasted and wept: for I fayd: 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 fhall go to him rather: but he fhall not returne to me. ²⁴ And Dauid comforted Bethabee his wife, and going in vnto her, slept 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 meffengers 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 shall 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.