

Chapter 19

Dauid moued by Iobabs admonition, 8. ceafeth mourning for Abfalom, and reconcileth the rebels. 19. Seimei is pardoned. 24. Miphibofeth clereth him felf of his feruantes falfe accufation, yet recouereth not his whole right. 32. Berzellai is courteoufly intreated. 40. The other tribes contend with Iuda for their affection to the king.

And it was told Ioab, that the king wept, and mourned for his fonne: ² And the victorie was turned into mourning that day to al the people: for the people heard it fayd in that day: The king foroweth vpon his fonne. ³ And the people shunned that day to enter into the citie, as a people turned, & fleeing out of battel is wont to shrinke afide. ⁴ Moreouer the king couered his head, and cried with a lowd voice: O my fonne Abfalom, ô Abfalõ my fonne, ô my fonne. ⁵ Ioab therfore entring in to the king, into his houle, fayd: Thou haft cõfounded this day the countenances of al thy feruantes, that haue faued thy life, and the life of thy fonnes, and thy daughters, and the life of thy wiues, and the life of thy concubines. ⁶ Thou loueft them that hate thee, and thou hateft them that loue thee: and thou haft shewed this day that thou careft not for thy nobles, and for thy feruantes: and in deede I knowe now, that if Abfalom liued, and al we had beene flayne, then it would please thee. ⁷ Now therfore arife, and come forth, and fpeaking vnto them fatisfie thy feruantes: for I fweare to thee by our Lord, that if thou wilt not goe forth, not one verely wil remayne with thee this night: and this shal be worfe for thee, then al the euils, which haue come vpon thee from thy youth vntil this present. ⁸ The king therfore arofe and fate in the gate: and it was told al the people that the king fate in the gate: and al the multitude came forth before the king, but Ifrael fled into their tabernacles. ⁹ Al the people also ftroue in al the tribes of Ifrael, faying: The king hath deliuered vs out of the hand of our enemies, he hath

faued vs from the head of the Philiftianes: and now he
 fled out of the land for Abfalom. ¹⁰ But Abfalom whom
 we annoynted ouer vs, is dead in the battel: how long
 are you ftill, and reduce not the king? ¹¹ But king Dauid
 fent to Sadoc, and Abiathar the prieftes, faying: Speake
 to the Ancientes of Iuda, faying: Why come you laft to
 bring backe the king into his houfe? (And the faying
 of al Ifrael was come to the king in his houfe.) ¹² You
 are my brethren, you my bone, and my flesh, why do
 you laft bring backe the king? ¹³ And fay ye to Amafa:
 Art not thou my bone, and my flesh? Thefe thinges do
 God to me, and thefe adde he, if thou be not the chiefe
 captayne of warfare before me alwayes for Ioab. ¹⁴ And
 he inclined the hart of al the men of Iuda, as it were
 of one man: and they fent to the king, faying: Returne
 thou, and al thy feruantes. ¹⁵ And the king returned,
 and came as far as Iordan, and al Iuda came as far as
 Galgal to meete the king, and to bring him ouer Ior-
 dan. ¹⁶ And Semei the fonne of Gera the fonne of Iemini
 of Bahurim made haft, and went downe with the men
 of Iuda to meete king Dauid ¹⁷ with a thoufand men of
 Benjamin, and Siba the feruant of the houfe of Saul: and
 his fiftene fonnes, and twentie feruantes were with him:
 and rushing into Iordan, ¹⁸ paffed the fordes before the
 king, that they might helpe ouer the kinges houshold,
 and doe according to his commandement. And Semei
 the fonne of Gera prostrate before the king, when he
 had now paffed Iordan, ¹⁹ fayd to him: Impute not to
 me my lord the iniquitie, nor remember the iniuries of
 thy feruant in the day that thou my lord king wenteft
 out of Ierufalem, nor put it in thy hart ô king. ²⁰ For
 I thy feruant acknowledge my finne: and therefore this
 day I am firft come of al ^athe houfe of Iofeph, and am
 defcended to meete my lord the king. ²¹ But Abifai the

^a Al the eleuen tribes are called by the name of Iofeph, being chiefe
 after Iuda. So Semei not of the proper tribe of Iofeph but of
 Beniamin, pleading for pardon of his former fault, alleageth that
 he came firft of the eleuen tribes, to fubmitte him felf and ferue
 the king.

fonne of Saruia anfwering, fayd: What shal Semei for theſe wordes not be flayne, becauſe he reuiled the annoynted of our Lord? ²² And Daud fayd: What is to me and you ye fonnes of Saruia? Why are you made this day as fatan to me? Shal there a man be killed in Ifrael to day? Doe I not know that this day I am made king ouer Ifrael? ²³ And the king fayd to Semei: Thou ſhalt not die. And he fware to him. ²⁴ Miphibofeth alſo the fonne of Saul came downe to meete the king, his feete vnwashed, and his beard not pouled: and he had not washed his garmentes from the day that the king went forth, vntil the day of his returne in peace. ²⁵ And when he had mette the king at Ierufalem, the king fayd to him: Why cameſt thou not with me Miphibofeth? ²⁶ And he anfwering, fayd: My lord king, my feruant contemned me: and I thy feruant fpake to him that he ſhould fadle me an affe, that getting on I might goe with the king: for I thy feruant am lame. ²⁷ Moreouer he hath alſo accuſed me thy feruant to thee my lord king: but thou my lord king art as an Angel of God, doe what pleaſeth thee. ²⁸ For neither was my fathers houſe ought els, but guiltie of death to my lord king: and thou haſt put me thy feruant among the gueſtes of thy table? What iuſt complaynt therfore haue I? or what can I further crie out to the king? ²⁹ The king therfore fayd to him: What ſpeakeſt thou any more? That is determined which I haue fpoken: Thou, and Siba diuide the poſſeſſions. ³⁰ And Miphibofeth answered the king: Yea let him take al, for ſo much as my lord king is returned peacably into his houſe. ³¹ Berzellai alſo the Galaadite, coming downe from Rogelim, brought the king ouer Iordan, being readie alſo to attend on him beyond the riuier. ³² And Berzellai the Galaadite was verie old, that is to ſay, of foure ſcore yeares, and he gaue the king victuals, when he abode in the Fild: for he was an exceding rich man. ³³ The king therfore fayd to Berzellai: Come with me, that thou mayſt reſt ſecure with me in Ierufalem. ³⁴ And Berzellai fayd to the king: How manie are the daies of the yeares of my life, that I ſhould goe vp with the king into Ierufalem? ³⁵ I am this day foure ſcore

yeares old, are my fenfes quicke to difcerne fweete, or
 fowre? or can meate or drinke delight thy feruant? or
 can I heare more the voyce of finging men and finging
 wemen? Why should thy feruant be a burden to my lord
 the king? ³⁶ I thy feruant wil goe forward a litle from
 Iordan with thee: I neede not this recompense, ³⁷ but I
 befech thee that I thy feruant may returne, and die in my
 citie, and be buried by the fepulchre of my father, and
 my mother. But there is thy feruant Chamaam, let him
 goe with thee, my lord king, and doe to him whatfoeuer
 femeth good to thee. ³⁸ The king therfore fayd to him:
 Let Chamaam paffe on with me, and I wil doe for him
 whatfoeuer fhall pleafe thee, and al, that thou shalt aske
 of me, thou fhalt obtayne. ³⁹ And when al the people
 and the king had paffed Iordan, the king kifled Berzel-
 lai, and bleffed him: and he returned into his place.
⁴⁰ The king therfore paffed into Galgal, and Chamaam
 with him, and al the people of Iuda had brought ouer
 the king, and the halfe part onlie of the people of Ifrael
 were prefent. ⁴¹ Therefore al the men of Ifrael concurring
 to the king, fayd to him: Why haue our brethren the
 men of Iuda ftolen thee, and brought the king and his
 houshould ouer Iordan, and al the men of Daudid with
 him? ⁴² And euerie man of Iuda answered the men of
 Ifrael: Becaufe the king is neerer to me: why art thou
 angrie for this matter? haue we eaten any thing of the
 kinges, or were there giftes geuen vs? ⁴³ And a certayne
 man of Ifrael answered the men of Iuda, and fayd: I
 am greater by ten partes with the king, & to me per-
 taineth Daudid more then to thee: Why haft thou done
 me wrong, and it was not told me firft, that I might
 bring backe my king? And the men of Iuda answered
 more Sharply then the men of Ifrael.