

Chapter 20

Seba raifeth rebellion, is purfued by Ioab, (10. VVho in the way trecheroufly killeth Amafa,) 13. Abela is befieged, becaufe Seba faueth him felf there. 20. But his head being cut of and caft ouer the wal to Ioab, the armie departeth. 23. Chief men in office are mentioned.

It chanced alfo that there was a man of Belial, named Seba, the fonne of Bochri, a man of Iemini: and he founded the trumpet, and fayd: We haue no part in Daud, not inheritance in the fonne of Ifai: Returne into thy tabernacles Ifrael. ² And al Ifrael was feperated from Daud, and folowed Seba the fonne of Bochri: but the men of Iuda ftucke to their king from Iordan vnto Ierufalem. ³ And when the king was come into his houfe to Ierufalem, he tooke the ten wemen his concubines, which he had leift to keepe his houfe, and he deliuered them into cuftodie, allowing them victuals: and he went not in vnto them, but they were flut vp vntil the day of their death liuing in widowhood. ⁴ And the king fayd to Amafa: Cal me together al the men of Iuda agaynft the third day, and be thou prefent. ⁵ Amafa therefore went to cal together Iuda, and taryed beyond the time appoynted which the king had affigned him. ⁶ And Daud fayd to Abifai: Now wil Seba the fonne of Bochri more afflict vs, then Abfalom: take therefore the feruantes of thy Lord, and purfew him, left perhaps he finde fenfed cities, & efcape vs. ⁷ There went forth therfore with him Ioabs men, Cerethi alfo and Phelethi: and al the ftrong men yffued forth of Ierufalem to purfew Seba the fonne of Bochri. ⁸ And when they were befide the great ftone, which is in Gabaon, Amafa coming mette them. Moreouer Ioab was clothed with a ftrayte cote according to the meafure of his ftature, and vpon it girded with a fword hanging downe to the flanke, in a fcabbarde, which being made for the purpofe could with light mouing come forth and ftrike. ⁹ Ioab therefore fayd to Amafa: God faue thee my brother. And he held with his right hand the chinne of Amafa, as it were kiffing

him. ¹⁰ But Amasa marked not the sword, which Ioab had, who trick him in the side, and poured out his bowels on the ground, neither added he the second wound, and he dyed. And Ioab, and Abifai his brother pursued Seba the sonne of Bochri. ¹¹ In the meane time certayne men, when they ftoode by the carcaffes of Amasa, Iobas company, sayd: Loe he that would haue bene for Ioab the companion of Dauid. ¹² And Amasa embrewed with blood, lay in the middes of the way. A certayne man saw this that al the people stayed to see him, and he remoued Amasa out of the way into the filde, and couered him with a garment, that they which passed might not stay because of him. ¹³ He therefore being remoued out of the way, euery man passed following Ioab to pursue Seba the sonne of Bochri. ¹⁴ Moreouer he had passed through al the tribes of Israell vnto Abela, and Bethmaaca: and al the chosen men were gathered together vnto him. ¹⁵ They therefore came, and assaulted him in Abela, and in Bethmaaca, and they compassed the citie with munitions, and the citie was besieged: and al the multitude, that was with Ioab, laboured to destroy the walles. ¹⁶ And a wife woman cryed out from the citie: Heare ye, heare ye, tel Ioab: Approche hither, and I wil speake with thee. ¹⁷ Who when he was come to her, she sayd to him: Art thou Ioab? And he answered: I am. To whom she spake thus: Heare the wordes of thy hand-mayd. Who answered: I doe heare. ¹⁸ And she agayne sayd: A saying was vsed in the old prouerbe: They that aske, let them aske in Abela: and so they prospered. ¹⁹ Am not I she that answer truth in Israell, and thou seekest to subuert the citie, & to ouerthrowe a mother citie in Israell? Why throwest thou downe hedlong the inheritance of our Lord? ²⁰ And Ioab answering, sayd: God forbid, God forbid that I should, I do not throw downe, nor destroy. ²¹ The matter is not so, but a man of mount Ephraim, Seba the sonne of Bochri by name, hath lifted vp his hand agaynst king Dauid: Deliuer him onlie, and we wil depart from the citie. And the woman sayd to Ioab: Behold his head shal be throwen

to thee of the wal. ²² She therefore went to al the people, and spake to them wifely: Who threw the head of Seba the fonne of Bochri being cut of, to Ioab. And he founded the trumpet, and they departed from the citie, euery one into their tabernacles: and Ioab returned to Ierufalem vnto the king. ²³ Ioab therefore was ouer al the armie of Ifrael: and Banaias the fonne of Ioiada ouer the Cheretheites and Pheletheites. ²⁴ But Aduram ouer the tributes: moreouer Iofaphat the fonne of Ahilud, was regifter. ²⁵ And Siua, a scribe: and Sadoc and Abiathar, priestes. ²⁶ And Ira the Iairite was the ^apriest of Daud.

^a Chiefe or great in familiaritie.