

Chapter 21

Famine oppressing Ifrael three yeares, for the finne of Saul agaynft the Gabaonites, 6. feuen of Sauls race (7. Miphibofeth faued) are crucified. 12. Their bones with Sauls and Ionathas are buried in the Land of Benjamin. 15. Dauid hath foure great battels and victories againft the Philiftians.

And there came a famine in the daies of Dauid three yeares continually: and Dauid confulted the oracle of our Lord. And our Lord fayd: For Saul, and his bloody houfe, becaufe he flewe the Gabaonites. ² The king therefore calling the Gabaonites, fayd to them. (Moreouer the Gabaonites were not of the children of Ifrael, but the reliques of the Amorrhaites: *Iofue. 9.* For the children of Ifrael had fworne to them, and Saul would ftrike them of zeale, as it were for the children of Ifrael and Iuda.) ³ Dauid therefore fayd to the Gabaonites: What shal I do for you? And what shal be the expiation for you, that you may bleffe the inheritance of our Lord? ⁴ And the Gabaonites fayd to him: We haue no queftion vpon filuer and gold, but agaynft Saul, and agaynft his houfe: neither wil we that a man be flayne of Ifrael. To whom the king fayd: What wil you then that I do for you? ⁵ Who fayd to the king: The man, that hath wafted vs and oppreffed vs vniuftly, we muft fo deftroy, that there be not fo much as one leift of his ftocke in al the coaftes of Ifrael. ⁶ Let there be geuen vs feuen men of his children, that we may crucifie them to our Lord in Gabaa of Saul, once the chofen of our Lord. And the king fayd: I wil geue them. ⁷ And the king fpared Miphibofeth the fonne of Ionathas the fonne of Saul, for the oth of our Lord, that had beene between Dauid, and between Ionathas the fonne of Saul. ⁸ The king therefore tooke the two fennes of Refpha the daughter of Aia, whom fhe bare to Saul, Armoni, and Miphibofeth: and the fiue fennes of Michol the daughter of Saul, which fhe bare to Hadriel the fonne of Berzellai, that was of Molathi, ⁹ and gaue them into the handes of the Gabaonites: who crucified them on a hil before our

Lord: and these feuen dyed together in the first dayes of harueft, when the reaping of barley began. ¹⁰ And Refpha the daughter of Aia taking a heare cloth, fprede it vnder her vpon the rocke from the beginning of harueft, til water dropped vpon them from heauen: and she fuffered not the birdes to teare them by day, nor the beaftes by night. ¹¹ And the thinges were told Daud, which Refpha had done, the daughter of Aia, the concubine of Saul. ¹² And Daud went, and tooke the bones of Saul, and the bones of Ionathas his fonne from the men of Iabes Galaad, who had ftolen them out of the ftreate of Bethfan, in the which the Philiftijms hanged them when they had killed Saul in Gelboe. ¹³ And he caried thence the bones of Saul, and the bones of Ionathas his fonne: and gathering the bones of them, that were crucified, ¹⁴ they buried them with the bones of Saul, and the bones of Ionathas his fonne in the Land of Benjamin, in the fide, in the fepulchre of Cis his father: and they did al thinges that the king had commanded, and God was made propitious agayne to the land after these thinges. ¹⁵ And there was a battel made agayne of the Philiftianes againft Ifrael, and Daud went downe, and his feruantes with him, and fought agaynft the Philiftijms. And Daud faynting, ¹⁶ Iefbibenob, which was of the kinred of Arapha, the yron of whose fpeare weyed three hundred ounces, and he was girded with a new fword, affayed to ftrike Daud. ¹⁷ And Abifai the fonne of Saruia refkewed him, and ftriking the Philiftian killed him. Then fware Dauids men, faying: Thou shalt no more goe forth with vs into battel, left thou put out the lampe of Ifrael. ¹⁸ There was alfo a fecond battel in Gob againft the Philiftians: then ftroke Sobochai of Hufathi, Saph of the ftocke of Arapha of the kinred of the gyantes. ¹⁹ There was alfo a third battel in Gob agaynft the Philiftians, in the which Adeodatus the fonne of the Forest a broderer the Bethlehemite ftroke Goliath the Getheite, the shaft of whose fpeare was as it were a weauers beame. ²⁰ The fourth battel was in Geth: in the which was a tal man, that had fix fingers and fix toes on eche hand and foote, that is fowre and

twentie, and he was of the race of Arapha. ²¹ And he blasphemed Ifrael: and Ionathan the fonne of Samaa the brother of Daud ftroke him. ²² Thefe foure were borne of Arapha in Geth, and they fel by the hand of Daud, and of his feruantes.