Chapter 1

Salomon eftablished in the throne, offereth a thousand hostes of facrifice, 7. asking wisdome, 12. it is geuen him; with richesse, and temporal glorie, which he asked not. 14. He prouideth manie chariottes and horsemen.

The first part. Salomons reigne in the whole kingdome.

1. Paral. 13.

alomon therfore the fonne of Dauid was ftrengthened in his kingdom, and our Lord was with him, and magnified him on high. ² And Salomon commanded al Ifrael, the tribunes, and the centurions, and the dukes, and judges of al Ifrael, and the princes of the families: 3 and he went with al the multitude into the Excelfe of Gabaon, where was the tabernacle of the couenant of our Lord, which Moyfes the feruant of God made, in the wilderneffe. 4 For Dauid had brought the Arke of God from Cariathiarim into the place, which he had prepared for it, and where he had pitcht a tabernacle for it, that is, in Ierufalem. ⁵ The altar also of braffe, which Befeleel the sonne of Vri the fonne of Hur had made was there before the tabernacle of our Lord: which also Salomon fought, and al the affemblie. 6 And Salomon went vp to the altar of braffe, before the tabernacle of the couenant of our Lord, and offered on it a thousand hoftes. ⁷ And behold in that verie night God appeared to him, faying: Aske what thou wilt that I may geue it thee. 8 And Salomon fayd to God: Thou haft done great mercie with my father Dauid: and haft made me king for him. 9 Now therfore Lord God be thy word fulfilled, which thou haft promifed to Dauid my father: for thou haft made me king ouer thy people great in number, which is fo innumerable as the duft of the earth. ¹⁰ Geue me wifdom and intelligence, that I may come in & goe out before thy people: for who can worthely iudge this thy people, which is fo great? 11 And God fayd to Salomon: Because this rather hath pleased thy hart, and thou haft not asked riches, and fubftance, and glorie, nor their lives that hate thee, no nor manie dayes of life: but haft defired wifdom and knowledge, that thou mayft be able to judge my people, ouer which

I have made thee king. ¹² Wifdom and knowledge are geuen thee: and riches, and fubftance and glorie I wil geue thee, foe that none among the kinges neither before thee, nor after thee fhal be like thee. ¹³ Salomon therfore came from the Excelfe of Gabaon into Ierufalem before the tabernacle of couenant, & reigned ouer Ifrael. ¹⁴ And he gathered to him chariotes and horfemen, and there amounted to him a thousand foure hundred chariotes, and twelue thousand horsemen: and he caused them to be in the cities of the chariotes, and with the king in Ierufalem. ¹⁵ And the king gaue filuer and gold in Ierufalem a) as ftones, & cedar trees as fycomores, which grow in the champayne in great multitude. ¹⁶ And there were horses brought him from Ægypt, and from Coa by the kinges merchantes, which went, and brought by a price, ¹⁷ a chariote of foure horfes for fix hundred peces of filuer, and an horfe for an hundred fiftie: in like maner of all the kingdomes of Hetheites, and of the kinges of Syria market was made.

^a It is the maner of holie fcripture to expresse thinges exceding vulgar capacitie by the figure *Hyperbole*.