

Chapter 24

Ioas reigning pioufly, fo long as Ioiada liueth, caufeth the Temple to be repayred, 14. and new facred vefels to be made. 15. Ioiada an hundred thirtie yeares old dieth. 17. Ioas falleth to idolatrie: 20. caufeth Zacharias to be flayne in the court of the Temple. 23. A few Syrians kil the chief men about the king, and carie away great prayes. 25. Ioas is flayne by his owne men, and his fonne Amafias reigneth.

Seven yeares old was Ioas when he began to reigne: and he reigned forty yeares in Ierufalem, the name of his mother was Sebia of Berfabee. ² And he did that which is good before our Lord al the dayes of Ioiada the Prieft. ³ And Ioiada tooke for him two wiues, of whom he begat fonnes & daughters. ⁴ After which thinges it pleased Ioas to repayre the houfe of our Lord. And he affembled the Prieftes, and the Leuites, and fayd to them: Goe ye forth to the cities of Iuda, and gather of al Ifrael money for the reparation of the temple of your God, yeare by yeare, and doe this in haft: moreouer the Leuites did negligently. ⁵ And the king called Ioiada the prince, and fayd to him: Why haft thou had no care to conftrayne the Leuites to bring in out of Iuda and Ierufalem the money, that was ^a)appointed of Moyfes the feruant of our Lord, that al the multitude of Ifrael fhould bring it in into the tabernacle of teftimonie? ⁶ For the moft impious Athalia, and her children haue deftroied the houfe of God, and of al thinges that had bene fanctified in the temple of our Lord, they adorned the temple of Baalim. ⁷ The king therfore commanded and they made a cheft: and fet it by the gate of our Lord on the out fide. ⁸ And it was proclaymed in Iuda and Ierufalem, that eury man should bring the price to our Lord, which Moyfes the feruant of God appoynted ouer al Ifrael, in

^a By the law euerie one payed yearly halfe a ficle, towards the repaying of the tabernacle and fo afterwarde of the temple. *Ex. 30.*

the defert. ⁹ And al the princes reioyfed, and al the people: and going in they contributed into the cheft of our Lord, and caft in fo that it was filled. ¹⁰ And when it was time that they should bring the cheft before the king by the handes of Leuites (for they faw much money) the kinges Scribe went in, and he whom the high prieft had appoynted: & they powred out the money that was in the cheft, & recaried it to his place: and fo did they from day to day, and there was gathered infinite money. ¹¹ Which the king and Ioiada gaue to them, that ouerfaw the workes of the houfe of our Lord: but they hired with it hewers of ftones, and artificers of al workes, to repayre the houfe of our Lord: fmithes alfo of yron and braffe, that that which began to fal, might be vpholden. ¹² And they that wrought did induftrioufly, and the breach of the walles was clofed by their handes, and they rayfed the houfe of our Lord into the old ftate, and made it ftand firmly. ¹³ And when they had accomplifhed al the workes, they brought the reft of the money before the king and Ioiada: of the which were made veffels of the temple to the minifterie, and for holocauftes, phials alfo, and other veffels of gold and filuer: and holocauftes were offered in the houfe of our Lord continually al the daies of Ioiada. ¹⁴ But Ioiada became old being ful of dayes, and died when he was an hundred and thirtie yeares old. ¹⁵ And they buried him in the citie of Dauid with the kinges, becaufe he had done good with Ifrael, and with his houfe. ¹⁶ And after that Ioiada was dead, the princes of Iuda went in, and adored the king, who being altered by their feruiceableneffe, agreed to them. ¹⁷ And they forfooke the temple of our Lord the God of their fathers, and ferued groues, and fculptilles, and there came wrath agaynft Iuda, and Ierufalem for this finne. ¹⁸ And he fent them prophetes, that they fhould returne to our Lord, whom protefting they would not heare. ¹⁹ The fpirit of God therefore inuefted Zacharias the fonne of Ioiada the Prieft, & he ftood in the fight of the people, and fayd to them: Thus fayth our Lord God: Why tranfgrefse you the precept of our Lord, which thing fhall not profit you, & haue forfaken our Lord, that he fhould forfake

you? ²⁰ Who being gathered agaynft him, they threw ftones according to the kinges commandement, in the court of the houfe of our Lord. ²¹ And Ioas the king did not remember the mercie, that Ioiada his father had done with him, but he killed his fonne. Who when he died, fayd: Our Lord fee, and requite it. ²² And when a yeare was come about, the armie of Syria came vp agaynft him: & it came into Iuda & Ierufalem, & flewe al the princes of the people, and al the pray they fent to the king into Damafcus. ²³ And wheras there was come a very fmal number of the Syrians, our Lord deliuered into their handes an infinit multitude, for that they had forfaken our Lord the God of their fathers: on Ioas alfo they exercifed ignomious iudgementes. ²⁴ And departing they left him in great difeafes: and his feruantes rofe agaynft him, ^afor reuenge of the blood of the fonne of Ioiada the prieft, & they flewe him in his bed, & he dyed: and they buried him in the Citie of Daud, but not in the kinges fepulchres. ²⁵ And there confpired agaynft him Zabad the fonne of Semmaath an Ammoniteffe, & Iozabad the fonne of Semarith a Moabiteffe. ²⁶ Moreouer his children, and the fumme of money, which was gathered vnder him, & the repayring of the houfe of God are writen more diligently in the Booke of kinges: and Amafias his fonne reigned for him.

^a He that killed his fpiritual father was flaine by his owne feruantes.