

Chapter 25

Amafias killeth thofe that flew his father. 5. Befides his owne people, hyreth fouldiars of Ifrael, but by aduife of a Prophete difmiffeth them, 11. and with his owne ouerthroweth the Idumeans, whose idols taken in battel (13. the difmiffed fouldiars in the meane time fpoyling his countrie) he adoreth. 15. Contemning admonition, 17. and prouoking the king of Ifrael to warre, 22. is taken in battel and fpoyled. 27. Fearing treason in Ierufalem fleeth, and is flaine in Lachis.

4. Reg. 14.

F iue and twentie yeares old was Amafias when he began to reigne, and he reigned nine and twentie yeares in Ierufalem, the name of his mother was Ioaden of Ierufalem. ² And he did good in the fight of our Lord: but yet not in a perfect hart. ³ And when he faw his kingdom ftrenghned, he put to death the feruantes, that had flayne the king his father, ⁴ but their children he flew not, as it is writen in the Booke of the law of Moyfes, where our Lord commanded, faying:

Deut. 24.

The fathers fhall not be flayne for the children, nor the children for their fathers, but euerie one fhall die in his owne finne. ⁵ Amafias therefore gathered together Iuda, and appoynted them by families, and tribunes, and centurions in al Iuda, and Beniamin: and he numbred from twentie yeares vpward, and found three hundred thoufand of yong men that went forth to battel, and held fpeare and fhield. ⁶ He hyred alfo for wages of Ifrael an hundred thoufand ftrong men, for an hundred talentes of filuer. ⁷ But a man of God came to him, and fayd: O king, let not the hoft of Ifrael goe forth with thee, for our Lord is not with Ifrael, and al the children of Ephraim: ⁸ and if thou thinke that battels confift in the force of an armie, God wil make thee to be ouercome of the enemies: for it perteyneth to God both to helpe, and to put to flight. ⁹ And Amafias fayd to the man of God: What fhall become then of the hundred talentes, which I haue geuen the fouldiars of Ifrael? And the man of God answered him: Our Lord hath wherby

he is able to geue thee much more then this. ¹⁰ Amafias therfore feperated the hoft, that came to him out of Ephraim, that they fhould returne into their place: but they being wrath exceedingly agaynft Iuda, returned into their countrie. ¹¹ Moreouer Amafias brought forth his people confidently, and went into the Vale of falt pittes, and ftroke the children of Seir, ten thoufand. ¹² And other ten thoufand men did the children of Iuda take, and bring to the fteepe of a certaine rocke, and caft them down headlong from the toppe, who burft in funder euerie one. ¹³ But that armie which Amafias had fent backe, from going with him to battel, was fped in the cities of Iuda, from Samaria vnto Bethhoron, & killing three thoufand tooke away a great praye. ¹⁴ But Amafias after the flaughter of the Idumeans, fette vp the goddes of the children of Seir, which he had brought thence, for his goddes, and adored them, and burnt incenfe to them. ¹⁵ For which thing our Lord being angrie againft Amafias, fent a prophete vnto him, which fhould fay to him: Why haft thou adored goddes, that haue not deliuered their owne people out of thy hand? ¹⁶ And when he fpake thefe thinges, he answered him: Art thou the kinges counfeler? be quiet, left I kil thee. And the prophet departing, fayd: I know that God is minded to kil thee, becaufe thou haft done this euil, and besides haft not agreed to my counfel. ¹⁷ Therefore Amafias the king of Iuda taking verie il counfel, fent to Ioas the fonne of Ioachaz the fonne of Iehu, the king of Ifrael, faying: Come, let vs fee one an other. ¹⁸ But he fent backe the meffengers, faying: A thiftle that is in Libanus fent to a cedar of Libanus, faying: Geue thy daughter to my fonne to wife: & behold the beaftes that were in the wood of Libanus paffed, and trode downe the thiftle. ¹⁹ Thou haft fayd: I haue ftroken Edom, and therefore thy hart is extolled into pryde, fitte in thy houfe, why doft thou prouoke euil againft thee, that both thou mayeft fal, and Iuda with thee. ²⁰ Amafias would not heare, becaufe it was our Lordes wil, that he should be deliuered into

4. Reg. 8.

the handes of the enemies ^a)for the goddes of Edom. ²¹ Ioas therfore the king of Ifrael went vp, and they gaue themfelues one the fight of the other: and Amafias the king of Iuda was in Bethfames of Iuda: ²² And Iuda fel before Ifrael, and fled into their tabernacles. ²³ Moreouer Ioas the king of Ifrael in Bethfames tooke Amafias the king of Iuda, the fonne of Ioas, the fonne of Ioachaz, & brought him into Ierufalem: and deftroied the wal therof from the gate of Ephraim, to the gate of the corner, four hundred cubites. ²⁴ Al the gold alfo, and filuer, and al the veffels, that he found in the houfe of God, and with Obededom in the treafures alfo of the kinges houfe, moreouer he brought backe the fonnes of the hoftages into Samaria. ²⁵ And Amafias the fonne of Ioas the king of Iuda liued, after that Ioas died the fonne of Ioachaz the king of Ifrael, fiftene yeares. ²⁶ But the reft of the wordes of Amafias the firft and the laft are writen in the Booke of the kinges of Iuda and Ifrael. ²⁷ Who after he reuolted from our Lord, they lay in waite agaynft him in Ierufalem. And when he had fled into Lachis, they fent, and flew him there. ²⁸ And carying him backe vpon horfes, buried him with his fathers in the Citie of Dauid.

^a Obduration of hart for former finne.