

Chapter 28

For his great wickednes, Achaz is taken in battel, his cuntrye spoyled, and manie flayne by the kinges of Syria, and Ifrael. 9. Yet God suffereth not the kingdom to be subdued. 16. Then requiring helpe of the Afsyrians, 17. is spoyled by the Idumeans, Philifthians, and Afsyrrians. 22. After al which plagues he committeth more idolatrie, 26. dieth, and his sonne Ezechias reigneth.

4. Reg. 16.

Twentie yeares old was Achaz when he began to reigne, & he reigned fixtene yeares in Ierufalem: he did not right in the fight of our Lord as Daud his father: ² but walked in the wayes of the kinges of Ifrael, moreouer also he did cast ftatues to Baalim. ³ He it is that burnt incense to the Valebennom, and he consecrated his sonnes in fire according to the rite of the nations, which our Lord flewe in the coming of the children of Ifrael. ⁴ He sacrificed also, & burnt incense in the excelfes, & on hilles, and vnder euerie tree ful of grene leaues. ⁵ And our Lord his God deliuered him into the handes of the king of Syria, who ftroke him, and tooke a great praye out of his kingdom, & brought into Damafcus: to the handes also of the king of Ifrael was he deliuered, and striken with a great plague. ⁶ And Phacee the sonne of Romelia flewe of Iuda an hundred twentie thoufand in one day, al men of warre: for that they had forfaken our Lord the God of their fathers. ⁷ At that time Zechri a mightie man of Ephraim, flewe Maafias the kinges sonne, and Ezricam the gouernour of his houle, Elcana also second from the king. ⁸ And the children of Ifrael tooke of their brethren two hundred thoufand of wemen, of boyes, and of wenches, and an infinite praye: and they brought it into Samaria. ⁹ At that time there was a Prophete of our Lord, named Oded: who going forth to meete the armie coming into Samaria, fayd to them: Behold our Lord the God of your fathers being angrie againft Iuda, hath deliuered them into your handes, and you haue flayne them cruelly, fo that your crueltie did reach to heauen.

¹⁰ Moreouer the children of Iuda and Ierufalem you wil fubdue vnto you for bondmen and bondwemen, which nedeth not to be done: for you haue finned hereupon to our Lord your God. ¹¹ But heare ye my counfel, and carie backe the captiues, that you haue brought of your brethren, becaufe the great furie of our Lord hangeth ouer you. ¹² There ftood therefore princes of the children of Ephraim, Azarias the fonne of Iohanan, Barachias the fonne of Mofollomoth, Ezechias the fonne of Sellum, and Amafa the fonne of Hadali, againft them that came out of the battel, ¹³ and they fayd to them: You fhall not bring in the captiues hither, left we finne to our Lord. Why wil you adde vpon our finnes, and heape vp old offences? for it is a great finne, and the anger of the furie of our Lord hangeth ouer Ifrael. ¹⁴ And the men of warre difmift the pray, & al the thinges that they had taken, before the princes and al the multitude. ¹⁵ And the men, whom we mentioned aboue, ftood and taking the captiues, and al that were naked they clothed and fhod them, with the fpoyles: and when they had clothed and refrefhed them with meate and drinke, and annoynted them becaufe of their labour, and had looked carefully to them: as manie as could not walke, and were of a weake bodie, they fet on beaftes, and brought them to Iericho the Citie of palme trees to their brethren, and themfelues returned into Samaria. ¹⁶ At that time king Achaz fent to the king of the Affyrians asking helpe. And the Idumeans came and ftroke manie of Iuda, and tooke a great praye. ¹⁷ The Philifthijms alfo were fpred abroad by the cities of the champayne, and toward the South of Iuda: and they tooke Bethfames, & Aialon, and Gaderoth, Socho alfo, & Thamnan, and Gamzo, with their villages, and dwelt in them. ¹⁸ For our Lord had humbled Iuda becaufe of Achaz the king of Iuda, for that he had made it naked of helpe, and had contemned our Lord. ¹⁹ And he brought agaynft him Theglathphalnafar the king of the Affyrians, who alfo afflicted him, and fpoyled him no man refifting. ²⁰ Therefore Achaz fpoyling the houfe of our Lord, and the houfe of the kinges, and of the princes gaue giftes to the king of the

Affyrians, and yet it did nothing profite him. ²¹ Moreouer alfo in the time of his diftreffe he increafed contempte agaynft our Lord, king Achaz himfelf by himfelf, ²² immolated victimes to the goddes of Damafcus that ftroke him, and fayd: The goddes of the kinges of Syria doe helpe them, whom I wil pacifie with hoftes, and they wil ayde me, ^a)wheras on the contrarie part they were his ruine, and al Ifraels. ²³ Achaz therfore hauing fpoyled al the veffels of the houfe of God, and broken them flut the gates of the temple of God, and made him altars in al the corners of Ierufalem. ²⁴ In al the cities alfo of Iuda he built altars to burne frankincenfe, and he prouoked to wrath our Lord the God of his fathers. ²⁵ But the reft of his wordes, al his workes the firft and the laft are writen in the Booke of the kinges of Iuda and Ifrael. ²⁶ And Achaz fleft with his fathers, and they buried him in the Citie of Ierufalem: for they receiued him not into the fepulchres of the kinges of Ifrael. And Ezechias his fonne reigned for him.

^a VVicked policie auaieth nothing, but hurteth much