

Chapter 29

Ezechias repayreth the Temple, and diuine seruice. 5. Zeloufly exhortheth offenders to repentance. 12. The Temple is purified in fixtene daies. 18. The king and nobles offer hoftes, which the Prieftes immolate, 25. with folemne muſick (ordained by king Dauid) and great ioy of al the people.

4. Reg. 18.

Therfore Ezechias began to reigne, when he was fiue and twentie yeares old, and he reigned nine and twentie yeares in Ierufalem: the name of his mother was Abia, the daughter of Zacharias. ² And he did that which was pleafing in the fight of our Lord, according to al thinges that Dauid his father had done. ³ He in the firft yeare and moneth of his reigne opened the doores of the houfe of our Lord, and repayred them. ⁴ And he brought the Prieftes and the Leuites, and affembled them in the Eaft ftreate. ⁵ And he fayd to them: Heare me ye Leuites, and be ſanctified, cleaſe the houfe of our Lord the God of your fathers, and take away al vn-cleannes out of the Sanctuarie. ⁶ Our fathers haue finned and done euil in the fight of our Lord God, forfaking him: they haue turned away their faces from the tabernacle of our Lord, and geuen the backe. ⁷ They haue ſhut the doores, that were in the porch, and put out the lampes, and haue not burnt incenſe, and haue not offered holocauſtes in the Sanctuarie of the God of Ifrael. ⁸ Therefore was the furie of our Lord ftirred vp vpon Iuda and Ierufalem, and he hath deliuered them into commotion, and into deftruction, & to be hiſſed at, as your felues ſee with your eyes. ⁹ Behold, our fathers haue fallen by the ſwordes, our ſonnes, and our daughters, and wiues are led captiue for this wickedneſſe. ¹⁰ Now therefore it pleafeth me that we make a couenant with our Lord the God of Ifrael, and he wil turne away the furie of his wrath from vs. ¹¹ My children be not negligent: our Lord hath choſen you to ſtand before him, and to miniſter to him, and to worſhipe him, and to burne incenſe to him. ¹² The Leuites therefore aroſe: Mahath

the fonne of Amafai, and Ioel the fonne of Azarias, of the children of Caath: moreouer the children of Merari, Cis the fonne of Abdi, and Azarias the fonne of Ialaleel. And of the children of Gerfon, Ioah the fonne of Zemmas, and Eden the fonne of Ioah. ¹³ But of the children of Elifaphan, Samri, and Iahiel. Also of the children of Afaph, Zacharias, and Mathanias. ¹⁴ Moreouer also of the children of Heman, Iahiel, & Semei: yea and of the children of Idithun, Semeias, and Oziel. ¹⁵ And they gathered together their brethren, and were sanctified, and went in according to the commandment of the king, and the precept of our Lord, to purge the house of God. ¹⁶ The Priestes also going into the Temple of our Lord to sanctifie it, brought out al vncleannes, which they found within the entrance of the house of our Lord, which the Leuites tooke, and caried to the Torrent cedron without. ¹⁷ And they began to clenfe it the first day of the first moneth, and in the eight day of the same moneth they entred into the porche of the temple of our Lord, and they purged the temple in eight dayes, and in the fixtenth day of the same moneth, they accomplished that which they began. ¹⁸ They entered in also to Ezechias the king, and sayd to him: We haue sanctified al the house of our Lord, and the altar of holocaust, and the vessels therof, moreouer also the table of propofition with al the vessels therof, ¹⁹ and al the furniture of the temple, which king Achaz in his reigne had polluted, after that he transgressed; and behold al thinges are set forth before the altar of our Lord. ²⁰ And Ezechias the king rising early, affembled al the princes of the citie, and went vp into the house of our Lord: ²¹ and they offered together feuen oxen, and feuen rammes, feuen lambes, and feuen buckgoates for sinne, for the kingdom, for the sanctuarie, for Iuda, and he sayd to the Priestes the children of Aaron, that they should offer them vpon the altar of our Lord. ²² They killed therefore the oxen, and the Priestes tooke the bloud, and powred it vpon the altar, they killed also the rammes, and their bloud they powred also vpon the altar, and they immolated the lambes, and powred the bloud vpon the altar. ²³ They

brought the buckgoates for finne before the king, and the whole multitude, and they put their handes vpon them: ²⁴ and the Prieftes immolated them, and fprinkled their blood on the altar for an expiation of al Ifrael: for the king had commanded for al Ifrael, that holocaust should be made, and for finne. ²⁵ He appoynted also the Leuites in the house of our Lord with cymbals, and pfalteries, and harpes according to the difpofition of Dauid the king, and of Gad the Seer, and of Nathan the Prophete: for it was the precept of our Lord by the hand of his prophetes. ²⁶ And the Leuites ftoode, holding the instruments of Dauid, and the Prieftes trumpettes. ²⁷ And Ezechias commanded that they should offer holocaustes vpon the altar: and when holocaustes were offered, they began to fing prayfes to our Lord, and to found with trumpettes, and on diuerse instruments, which Dauid the king of Ifrael had prepared for to found. ²⁸ And al the multitude adoring, the finging men, and they that held the trumpettes, were in their office, whiles the holocaust was accomplished. ²⁹ And when the oblation was ended, the king bowed, and al that were with him, and adored. ³⁰ And Ezechias, and the princes commanded the Leuites, that they should prayfe our Lord in the wordes of Dauid, and Afaph the Seer: who prayfed him with great ioy, and bowing the knee adored. ³¹ But Ezechias added these wordes also: You haue filled your handes to our Lord, come, and offer victimes, and prayfes in the house of our Lord. Al the multitude therefore offered hoftes, and prayfes, and holocaustes with a deuout minde. ³² Moreouer the number of the holocaustes, which the multitude offered, was this, oxen feuentie, rammes an hundred, lambes two hundred. ³³ And they sanctified to our Lord fix hundred, & sheepe three thousand. ³⁴ But the Prieftes were few, neither could they fuffice to draw of the fkinnes of the holocaustes: wherfore the Leuites also their brethren holpe them, til the worke was accomplished, and the Prieftes were sanctified, for the Leuites are sanctified with an easier rite, then the Prieftes. ³⁵ There were holocaustes

therfore verie many, the fatte of pacifiques, and the liba-
mentes of the holocaustes: and the seruice of the house
of our Lord was accomplished. ³⁶ And Ezechias reioyfed,
and al the people, because the minifterie of our Lord was
accomplished. For it pleased them that the thing should
be done of a foden.