

Chapter 32

Sennacherib king of Affyria inuading Iuda, king Ezechias encorageth the people, and prouideth to defend the countrie. 9. The Affyrians threaten the people, and blasphemeth God. 20. Ezechias and Ifaias pray. 21. An Angel deftroiyeth the Affyrians armie, fo their king retiring home, is flayne in his idols temple, by his owne fonnes. 22. Ezechias reigneth in peace, 24. falleth into deadlie ficknes, but miraculoufly recouereth, offendeth in pryde, and repenteth: 27. is exceeding rich, which he imprudently sheweth to ftrangers: 32. dieth, and Manaffes fuccedeth.

4. *Reg. 18.*
Ifaie. 36.

After which thinges, and this maner of truth, came Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians, and entering into Iuda, befieged the fenfed cities, defirous to take them. ² Which when Ezechias had fene, to witte, that Sennacherib was come, and the whole force of the battel to be turned agaynft Ierufalem, ³ taking counfel with the princes, and the moft valiant men, to ftoppe vp the heades of the fountaynes, that were without the citie: and the fentence of them al decreing this, ⁴ he gathered a very great multitude, & they ftopped vp al the fountaynes, and the riuier, that ranne in the middes of the land, faying: Left the kinges of the Affyrians come, and finde abundance of waters. ⁵ He built alfo doing induftrioufly euerie wall that had bene deftroied, and built towers vpon them, and an other wall without: and he repayred Mello in the citie of Daud, and made armour and fhildes of al fortes: ⁶ And he appointed princes of warryers in the armie: and he called them al together in the ftreate of the gate of the citie, and fpake to their hart, faying: ⁷ Doe manfully, and take courage: feare not, neither dread ye the king of the Affyrians, and al the multitude, that is with him: for there are manie moe with vs, then with him. ⁸ For with him is an arme of flefh: with vs the Lord our God, which is our helper, and fighteth for vs. And the people was encouraged with thefe maner of wordes of Ezechias the

king of Iuda. ⁹ Which thinges after they were done, Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians fent his feruantes to Ierufalem (for himfelf with al his armie befeiged Lachis) to Ezechias the king of Iuda, & to al the people, that was in the citie, faying: ¹⁰ Thus fayth Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians: In whom hauing affiance, doe you fitte befeiged in Ierufalem? ¹¹ Hath Ezechias deceiued you, to deliuer you to death in hunger and thirft, affirming that the Lord your God can deliuer you from the hand of the king of the Affyrians? ¹² Why, is not this Ezechias, that hath deftroyed his excelfes, and altars, and hath commanded Iuda & Ierufalem, faying: Before one altar you fhall adore, and on it you fhall burne incenfe? ¹³ Are you ignorant what thinges I haue done, and my fathers to al the peoples of the landes? haue the goddes of nations, and of al landes bene able to deliuer their countrie out of my hand? ¹⁴ Who is there of al the goddes of the nations, which my fathers wafted, that could deliuer his people out of my hand, that your God alfo can deliuer you out of this hand? ¹⁵ Let not therfore Ezechias deceiue you, nor delude you with vayne perfuafion, neither beleue ye him. For if no god of al nations and kingdomes, could deliuer his people out of my hand, and out of the hand of my fathers, confequently neither fhall your God be able to deliuer you out of my hand. ¹⁶ Yea and manie other thinges did his feruantes fpeake, agaynft our Lord God, and agaynft Ezechias his feruant. ¹⁷ Letters alfo he wrote full of blafphemie againft our Lord the God of Ifrael, and he fpake agaynft him: as the goddes of their nations could not deliuer their people out of my hand, fo the God alfo of Ezechias can not deliuer his people out of this hand. ¹⁸ Moreouer alfo with a lowd crie, in the Iewes tongue, he founded againft the people, that fate on the walles of Ierufalem, that he might terrifie them, and take the citie. ¹⁹ And he fpake agaynft the God of Ierufalem, as agaynft the goddes of the peoples of the earth, the workes of mens handes. ²⁰ Ezechias therfore the king, and Ifaias the prophet the fonne of Amos, prayed agaynft this blafphemie, and cried out euen to heauen. ²¹ And our Lord fent an Angel, which ftroke

euerie ftrong man, and warryer, and prince of the armie of the king of the Affyrians: and he returned with ignominie into his countrie. And when he was entered into the houle of his god, his fonnes that were come forth of his wombe, flewe him with the fword. ²² And our Lord faued Ezechias and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem, out of the hand of Sennacherib the king of the Affyrians, and out of the hand of al, & gaue them reft round about. ²³ Manie alfo brought hoftes, and facrifices to our Lord into Ierufalem, and giftes to Ezechias the king of Iuda: who was exalted after thefe thinges before al nations. ²⁴ In thofe daies Ezechias was fick euen to death, and he prayed our Lord: and he heard him, and gaue him a figne. ²⁵ But not according to the benefites, which he receiued, did he recompense, ^a)becaufe his hart was eleuated: and wrath came agaynft him, and agaynft Iuda and Ierufalem. ²⁶ And he was humbled afterward, becaufe his hart had bene exalted, both he and the inhabitantes of Ierufalem: and therefore the wrath of our Lord came not vpon them in the daies of Ezechias. ²⁷ And Ezechias was rich, and glorious exceedingly and gathered to himfelf great treafures of filuer and of gold, and of pretious ftone, of fpices, and of armour of al kinde, and of veffels of great price. ²⁸ Storehoufes alfo of corne, of wyne, and of oyle, and ftalles of al beaftes, and foldes of cattel, ²⁹ and fix cities he built to him felf: for he had flockes of fheepe, and of heardes innumerable, becaufe our Lord had geuen him fubftance exceding much. ³⁰ The fame is Ezechias, that ftopped the vpper fountaine of the waters of Gihon, and turned them away vnderneath toward the Weft of the Citie of Dauid: in al his workes he did prosperoufly what he would. ³¹ But yet in the embaffie of the princes of Babylon, that were fent to him, to aske of the wonder, that had chanced vpon the earth, God leift him that he might be tempted, and al thinges might be made knowen, that were in his hart. ³² But the reft of the wordes of Ezechias, and of his mercies are writen in the vifion of Ifaias the fonne

^a More danger of pride in prosperitie, then in aduerfitie.

of Amos the prophete, and in the booke of the kinges of Iuda & Ifrael. ³³ And Ezechias flept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefe sepulchres of the children of Daud: and al Iuda celebrated his funeralles, & al the inhabitantes of Ierufalem: and Manaffes his sonne reigned for him.