Chapter 19

Ægyptians perfecuting the Hebrewes were drowned, 10. hauing bene plagued before with flies, and frogges. 11. Quailes were geuen to the people of Ifrael. 13. The barbarous not receiuing, or euil intreating Gods people, were ftrooken with blindnes. 17. And al creatures ferue God in punishing the impious, and rewarding the godlie.

Exo. 14.

ut vpon the impious euen to the later end there came wrath without mercie. For a)he foreknew also the thinges that should come vnto them: ² because when they had permitted that they should depart, and had fent them away with great diligence, they repenting purfued them. ³ For having as yet moorning betwen their hands, and lamenting at the graues of the dead, they tooke to themselues an other cogitation of follie: and whom by intreating they had caft forth, them they purfued as fugitiues: 4 for worthie necessitie brought them to this end: and they loft the remembrance of those thinges, which had chanced, that punishment might fulfil the thinges that wanted to the torments: 5 and that thy people certes might paffe through merueloufly, but they might finde a new death. ⁶ For euerie creature according to his kind was fashioned agayne from the begyning, feruing thy precepts, that thy children might be kept without hurt. ⁷ For a clowde ouer shadowed their campe, and out of the water which was before, there appeared drie land, and in the redfea a way without impediment, and of the great depth a fpringing filde: 8 through the which al the nation paffed, which was protected with thy hand, feing thy meruelous thinges and wonders. ⁹ For euen as horfes they fed on meate, and as lambes they reioyced, magnifying thee ô Lord, which didft deliuer them. ¹⁰ For they were mindful of those thinges, which had bene done in their feiourning, how for the nation of beafts the

^a God foreseing the Ægyptians malice, permitted them to perfecute his people, but was no way the cause nor auctor of their finne.

earth brought forth flies, and for fishes the river yelded a multitude of frogges. 11 And laft of all they faw a new creature of birdes, when allured by concupifcence they defired meates of delicioufnes. 12 For in comfort Exo. 16. of their defire, there came vp to them the quaile from the fea: and vexations came vpon the finners, not without those arguments, which were made before by the force of lightninges: for they fuffered iuftly according to their wickednes. For they inftituted a more deteftable inhofpitalitie: a)fome certes received not the vnknowen ftrangers, and other fome brought the good ftrangers into feruitude. ¹³ And not onlie thefe thinges, but in deede there was an other respect also of them: for they against their wil received the strangers. 14 But they that received them with gladnes, did afflict them with most cruel forowes, that vfed the fame rightes: 15 but they were ftriken with blindnes: as they in the dores of the iuft, when they were couered with fodaine darkenes, euerie man fought the paffage of his doore. ¹⁶ For whiles the b)elements are turned in themselues, as in an inftrument the found of the qualitie is changes, and al keepe their found: wherfore it may be certainly judged by the very fight. ¹⁷ For the thinges of the fild were turned into thinges of the water: and what foeuer were fwimming thinges paffed into the land. 18 The fyre had force in water aboue his powre, and the water forgot her quenching nature. ¹⁹ On the contrarie the flames vexed not the flesh of corruptible beafts walking therwith, neither did they melt that good meate, which was eafely diffolued euen as yee. For in al thinges thou didft magnifie thy people ô Lord, and didft honour them, and didft not

Exo. 9. v. 24.

Exo. 19. v. 21.

them.

despife them, at al time, and in eueric place affifting

^a The Amorrheites refused to grant them passage. Num. 21. v. 21. The Ægyptians brought them into feruitude. Exo. 1.

b God changing the natural properties of elementes, by them wrought iuftice on finners. S. Greg. ho. 55. in Euang.