

THE WISDOME OF Iesus the sonne of Sirach, called Ecclesiasticus.

This argument was founde in a certeine Greke copie.

THIS Iesus was the sonne of Sirach, and Sirachs father was also called Iesus, and he liued in the latter times, after the people had bene led away captiue, and broght home againe, and almoste after all the Prophetes. Now his grandfather, as he him self witnesseth, was a man of great diligence, and wisdom among the Hebrewes, who did not onely gather the graue sentences of wise men, that had bene before him, but he him self also spake manie ful of great knowledge and wisdom. So this first Iesus dyed, and left this which he had gathered, and Sirach afterwarde left it to Iesus his sonne, who toke it and put it in order in a boke, and called it *WISDOME*, intitling it bothe by his owne name, his fathers name, and his grandfathers: thinking by this title of *Wisdom*e to allure the reader to read this boke with more great desire, and to consider it more diligently. Therefore this boke containeth wise sayings, and darke sentences, and similitudes with certeine diuine histories which are notable and ancient, euen of men that were approued of God, and certeine prayers, and songs of the autor him self: moreover, what benefites the Lord had bestowed vpon his people, and what plagues he had heaped vpon their enemies. Thus Iesus did imitate Salomon, and was no lesse famous in wisdom and doctrine, who was therefore called a man of great knowledge, as he was in dede.

The prologue of the Wisdom of Iesus the sonne of Sirach.

WHERE as manie, and great things haue bene giuen vs by the Law, and the Prophetes, and by others that haue followed them, (for the which things Israel ought to be comended by the reason of doctrine and wisdom, whereby the readers ought not onely to become learned them selues, but also may be able by the diligent studie thereof to be profitable vnto strangers bothe by speaking & writing) after that my grand father Iesus had giuen him self to the reading of the Law, and the Prophetes, & other boke of our fathers, and had gotten therein sufficient iudgement, he purposed also to write some thing pertaining to learning and wisdom, to the intent that they which were desirous to learne, & wolde giue them selues to these things, might profite muche more in liuing according to the Law. Wherefore, I exhorte you to receiue it louingly, and to read it with diligence, and to take it in good worthe, thogh we seme to some in some things not able to attaine to the interpretation of suche wordes as are hard to be expressed: for the things that are spoken in the Hebrew tongue, haue another force in them selues then whē they are translated into another tōgue, and not one

ly these things, but other things also, as the Law it self, & the Prophetes, & other boke haue no smale difference when they are spoken in their owne lāguage. Therefore in the eight and thirtieth yere, when I came into Egypt vnder King Euergetes, and continued there, I founde a copie ful of great learning, and I thought it necessarīe, to bestowe my diligence, and trauaile to interpret this boke. So for a certeine time with great watching and studie I gaue my self to the finishing of this boke, that it might be published, that they which remaine in banishment, and are desirous to learne, might applie them selues vnto good maners, and liue according to the Law.

CHAP. I.

1. Wisdom cometh of God. 11 A praise of the fauour of God: 29 The meanes to come by wisdom.

ALLE wisdom cometh of the Lord, [and hath bene euer with him] and is with him for euer.

Who can nōber the sand of the sea, and the dropes of the raine, and the dayes of the worlde? [who can measure] the height of heauen, the bredth of the earth,

1. King 3.8. & 4.29.

That which is marked with these two markes [A] is red in the Latin copies, & not in the Greke.

earth, and the depth?
 3 Who can finde the wifdome [of God which hath bene afore all things?]
 4 Wifdome hath bene created before all things, and the vnderstanding of prudence from euerlasting.
 5 [The worde of God moſte high is the fountaine of wifdome, and the euerlaſting commandements are the entrance vnto her.]
 6 * Vnto whome hath the roote of wifdome bene declared? or who hath knowe her wife counſels?
 7 [Vnto whome hath the doctrine of wifdome bene diſcouered & ſhewed? and who hath vnderſtand the manifolde entrance vnto her?]
 8 There is one wife, [euen the moſte high Creator of all things, the almightie, the King of power] and verie terrible, which ſitteth vpon his throne.
 9 He is the Lord, that hath created her [thorow y^e holie Goſt:] he hath ſene her, nombred her, [and meafured her.]
 10 He hath powred her out vpon all his workes, and vpon all fleſh, according to his gift, and giueth her abundantly vnto them that loue him.
 11 The feare of the Lord is glorie, & gladnes, and reioycing, and a ioyful crowne.
 12 The feare of the Lord maketh a mery heart, and giueth gladnes, and ioye and long life.
 13 Whoſo feareth the Lord, it ſhal go wel with him at the laſt, and he ſhal finde fauour in the day of his death.
 14 [The loue of God is honorable wifdome, and vnto whome it appeareth in a viſion, they loue it for the viſion, and for the knowledge of the great workes thereof]
 15 * The feare of the Lord is the beginning of wifdome, and was made with the faithful in the wōbe: [ſhe goeth with the choſen women, and is knowen with the righteous and faithful].
 16 The feare of the Lord is an holie knowledge.
 17 Holines ſhal preferue, & iuſtifie y^e heart, and giueth mirth and gladnes.
 18 Who ſo feareth the Lord, ſhal proſper, & in the day of his end, he ſhal be bleſſed]
 19 She hath buyt her euerlaſting fundacions with men, and is giuen to be with their ſede.
 20 To feare God is the fulnes of wifdome, and filleth men with her frutes.
 21 She filleth their whole houſe with [all] things deſireable, and the garners with the things, that ſhe bringeth forth, and bothe twaine are giftes of God.
 22 The feare of the Lord is the crowne of wifdome, & giueth peace & perſite health: he hath ſene her and nombred her.

Rom. 11. 34.

Pſal. 111. 10.
 prou 9. 10.
 eob. 28. 28.

23 "She raineth downe knowledge, and vnderſtanding of wifdome, and hath brought vnto honour, them that poſſeſſed her.
 24 The feare of the Lord is the roote of wifdome, and her branches are long life.
 25 [In the treaſures of wifdome is vnderſtanding, and holie knowledge, but wifdome is abhorred of ſinners.]
 26 The feare of the Lord driueth out ſinne: and when ſhe is preſent, ſhe driueth away anger.
 27 ¶ For wicked angre can not be iuſtified: for his raſhnes in his angre ſhal be his deſtruction.
 28 A patient man wil ſuffer for a time, and then ſhal he haue the rewarde of ioye.
 29 He wil hide his wordes for a time, and manie mens lippes ſhal ſpeake of his wifdome.
 30 In the treaſures of wifdome are the ſecrets of knowledge, but y^e ſinner abhorreth the worſhip of God.
 31 If thou deſire wifdome, kepe the cōmandements, and the Lord ſhal giue her vnto thee, [and wil fil her treaſures.]
 32 For the feare of the Lord is wifdome and diſcipline: he hath pleaſure in faith and mekenes.
 33 Be not diſobedient to the feare of the Lord, and come not vnto him with a double heart.
 34 ¶ Be not an hypocrite that men ſhulde ſpeake of thee, but take hede what thou ſpeakeſt.
 35 Exalte not thy ſelf, leſt thou fall & bring thy ſoule to diſhonour, and ſo God diſcouer thy ſecretes, & caſt thee downe in the middes of the cōgregacion, becauſe thou woldeſt not receiue the true feare of God, and thine heart is ful of diſceite.

CHAP. II.

He exhorteth the ſeruants of God to righteousnes, loue, vnderſtanding, and patience. 11 To truſt in the Lord. 12 A curſe vpon them that are fainte hearted and impacient.

1 **M**Y ſonne, if thou wilt come into the ſeruice of God, [ſtand faſt in righteousnes and feare, and] prepare thy ſoule to tentacion.
 2 Settle thine heart, and be patient: [bow downe thine eare, and receiue the wordes of vnderſtanding] and ſhrinke not awaie, whē thou art aſſailed, [but waite vpon God patiently.]
 3 Ioyne thy ſelf vnto him, and departe not away, that thou maiſt be increaſed at thy laſt end.
 4 What ſo euer cometh vnto thee, receiue it patiently, and be patient in the change of thine affliction.
 5 * For as golde [& ſiluer are] tryed in the fyre, euen ſo are men acceptable in the fornace of aduerſitie.

Or wifd. 11.
Wifd. 8. 6.
prou 17. 3.

Ecclesiasticus.

- 6 Beleeue in God and he wil helpe thee: order thy waye a right, & trust in him: [holde fast his feare, and growe olde therein.]
- 7 Ye that feare the Lord, waite for his mercie: shrinke not awaye from him that ye fall not.
- 8 Ye that feare the Lord, helpe him and your rewarde shal not faile.
- 9 O ye that feare the Lord, trust in good things, & in the euerlasting ioy & mercie.
- 10 [Ye that feare y^e Lord, loue him, & your hearts shalbe lightened.]
- 11 Consider the olde generacions [of men, ye children,] and marke them wel: * was there euer anie confounded, that put his trust in the Lord? or who hath continued in his feate, and was forsaken? or whome did he euer dispise, that called vpon him?
- 12 For God is gracious and merciful, and forgueth finnes and saueth in the time of trouble, [& is a defender for all the that seke him in the trueth.]
- 13 Wo vnto them, that haue a feareful heart, [and to the wicked lippes] and to the faint hands, and to the sinner that goeth two * maner of wayes.
- 14 Wo vnto him that is faint hearted, for he beleueth not: therefore shal he not be defended.
- 15 Wo vnto you that haue lost pacience, [& haue forsaken the right wayes, and are turned backe into frowarde wayes:] for what wil ye do when the Lord shal visit you?
- 16 They that feare the Lord, wil not disobey his worde: and they that * loue him, wil kepe his wayes.
- 17 They that feare the Lord, wil seke out the things that are pleasant vnto him: and they that loue him, shalbe fulfilled with his Law.
- 18 They that feare the Lord, wil prepare their hearts, and humble their soules in his sight.
- 19 [Thei that feare the Lord, kepe his commandements, and wil be pacient til he se them,
- 20 Saying, If we do not repent] we shal fall into the hãds of the Lord, and not into the hands of men.
- 21 Yet as his greatnes is, so is his mercie.

CHAP. III.

2: To our father and mother ought we to giue double honor 10 Of the blessing and curse of the father and mother. 23 No man ought euer curiously to searche out the secrets of God.

- 1 **T** [He children of wisdome are the Church of the righteous, & their offspring is obedience and loue.]
- 2 Heare your fathers iudgement, ô childrẽ, and do thereafter, that ye may be safe.
- 3 For the Lord wil haue the father hono-

red of he children, and hath confirmed the autoritie of the mother ouer the children.

- 4 Who so honoreth his father, his finnes shalbe forguuen him, [and he shal abstaine from them, & shal haue his daily desires.]
- 5 And he that honoreth his mother, is like one that gathereth treasure.
- 6 Who so honoreth his father, shal haue ioye of his owne children, & when he maketh his prayer, he shalbe heard.
- 7 He that honoreth his father, shal haue a long life, and he that is obedient vnto the Lord, shal comfort his mother.
- 8 He that feareth the Lord, honoreth his parents, and doeth seruiçe vnto his parẽts, as vnto lords.
- 9 *Honour thy father and mother in dede and in worde [& in all paciẽce,] that thou maist haue Gods blessing, [& that his blessing may abide with thee in the end.]
- 10 For y^e blessing of the father establisheth the houses of the children, & the mothers curse rotteth out the fundacions.
- 11 Reioyce not at the dishonour of thy father: for it is not honour vnto thee, but shame.
- 12 Seing that mãs glorie cometh by his fathers honour, & the reproche of y^e mother is dishonour to the children,
- 13 My sonne, helpe thy father in his age, and greue him not as long as he liueth.
- 14 And if his vnderstanding faile, haue pacience with him, & despise him not when thou art in thy ful strength.
- 15 For the good intreatie of thy father shal not be forgottẽ, but it shalbe a sorteres for thee against finnes, [and for thy mothers offence thou shalt be recompensed with good, and it shalbe founded for thee in righteousness.]
- 16 And in the day of trouble thou shalt be remembered: thy finnes also shal melt away as the yce in the faire wether.
- 17 He that forsaketh his father, shal come to shame, and he that angreth his mother, is cursed of God.
- 18 ¶ My sonne, performe thy doings with mekenes, so shalt thou be beloued of them that are approued.
- 19 The * greater thou art, the more humble thy self [in all things,] & thou shalt finde fauour before the Lord.

20 Many are excellent & of renoume: but the secrets are reueiled vnto the meke.

21 For the power of the Lord is great, & he is honored of the lowlie.

- 22 *Scke not out the things that are to hard for thee, nether searche the things rashly which are to mightie for thee.
- 23 [But] what [God] hath commanded thee, thinke vpon that with reuciẽce, [and be not curious in many of his workes:] for it

Psal. 38, 25.

Or, dubit.

2. King 18, 21.

Job 14, 24.

*Exod 20, 12.
dent 5, 16.
mat 15, 4.
ephes 6, 2.
Or, the blessing
of men.*

Philip. 2, 3.

*Prou 25, 27.
rom. 12, 3.*

is not needful for thee to see with thine eyes
the things that are secret.

24 Be not curious in superfluous things: for
many things are shewed vnto thee about
the capacite of men.

25 The meddling with such hath beguiled
many, and an euil opinion hath deceiued
their iudgement.

26 Thou canst not see without eyes: professe
not the knowledge therefore that thou
hast not.

27 A stubberne heart shal fare euil at the
last: and he that loueth danger, shal perish
therein.

28 An heart that goeth two waies, shal not
prosper: and he that is frowarde of heart,
shal stumble therein.

29 An obstinate heart shalbe ladē with sor-
rowes: and the wicked man shal heape sin-
ne vpon sinne.

30 The persuation of the proude is without
remedie, & his steppes shalbe plucked vp:
for the plant of sinne hath taken roote in
him, [and he shal not be esteemed.]

31 The heart of him that hath vnderstan-
ding, shal perceiue secret things, and an at-
tentiuē care is the desire of a wise man.

32 [An heart that is wise & vnderstanding,
wil abstaine from sinne, and shal prosper
in the workes of righteousness.]

Dan. 4, 24.

33 Water quencheth burning fyre, *and al-
mes taketh away finnes.

34 And he that rewardeth good dedes, wil
remēber it afterward, & in the time of the
fall, he shal finde a staye.

CHAP. IIII.

*1 Almes must be done with gentlenes. 12 The studie of
wisdomē and her fruite. 20 An exhortation to eschewe
euil, and to do good.*

1 **M**Y sonne, defraude not the poore of
his liuing, and make not the needie
eyes to waite long.

2 Make not an hungrie soule sorrowful, ne-
ther vex a man in his necessitie.

3 Trouble not the heart that is grieued, &
differre not the gift of the needie.

4 Refuse not the prayer of one that is in
trouble: turne not away thy face from the
poore.

5 Turne not thine eyes aside [in angre]
from the poore, and giue him none occa-
sion to speake euil of thee.

6 For if he curse thee in the bitterness of
his soule, his prayer shalbe heard of him
that made him.

7 Be courteous vnto the cōpanie [of poore,
and humble thy soule vnto the Elder,] and
bowe downe thine head to a man of wor-
ship.

8 Let it not greue thee to bowe downe thi-
ne eare vnto the poore, [but pay thy dete,
] and giue him a friendlie answer.

9 ¶ Deliuere him that suffieth wrong, from

the hand of the oppressour, & be not faint
hearted when thou iudgest.

*Or, to defraude
him*

10 Be as a father vnto the fatherles, and as
an housband vnto their mother: so shal
thou be as the sonne of the moste High:
and he shal loue thee more then thy mo-
ther doeth.

11 Wisdome exalteth her children, and re-
ceiueth them that seke her, [& wil go be-
fore them in the way of righteousness.]

12 He that loueth her, loueth life, and they
that seke life in the morning, shal haue
great ioye.

13 He that kepeth her, shal inherit glorie:
for vnto whome she enticeth, him the Lord
wil blesse.

14 They that honour her, shalbe the ser-
uants of the holie one, and them that loue
her, the Lord doeth loue.

15 Who so giueth eare vnto her, shal iudge
the nacions, and he that goeth vnto her,
shal dwell safely.

16 He that is faithful vnto her, shal haue
her in possession, and his generacion shal
possesse her.

17 For first she wil walke with him by cro-
ked waies, and bring him vnto feare, and
drede, and torment him with her discipli-
ne vntil she haue tryed his soule, and haue
proued him by her iudgements.

18 Then wil she returne the straight way
vnto him, and comfort him, and shew him
her secrets, [and heape vpon him the trea-
sures of knowledge, and vnderstanding of
righteousnes.]

19 But if he go wrong, she wil forsake him,
and giue him ouer into the hands of his
destruction.

20 [¶ My sonne,] * Make muche of time, *Rom. 12, 12*
and eschewe the thing that is euil,

21 And be not ashamed [to say the trueth]
for thy life: for there is a shame that brig-
geth sinne, and a shame that bringeth wor-
ship and fauour.

22 Accept no persone against thine owne
conscience, that thou be not confounded
to thine owne decaye, [and forbear not
thy neighbour in his faute.]

23 And kepe not backe counsel when it may
do good, nether hide thy wisdomē when
it may be famous.

24 For by the talke is wisdomē knowen, and
learning by the wordes of the tongue, [&
counsel, wisdomē and learning by the tal-
king of the wise, & stedfastnes in the wor-
kes of righteousness.]

25 In no wise speake against the worde of
trueth, but be ashamed of the lies of thine
owne ignorance.

26 Be not ashamed to confesse thy finnes, &
resist not the course of the riuer.

27 Submit not thy self vnto a foolish man,
nether accept the persone of the mightie.

Ecclesiasticus.

- 28 Strive for the trueth vnto death, [and defend iustice for thy life,] and the Lord God shal fight for thee [against thine enemies.]
- 29 Be not hastie in thy tongue, nether slacke and negligent in thy workes.
- 30 Be not as a lion in thine owne house, nether bear thy seruants for thy fantasie, [nor oppresse them that are vnder thee.]
- 31 * Let not thine hand be stretched out to receive, and shut when thou shouldest giue.

Act. 20. 37.

CHAP. V.

1 In riches may we not put any confidence. 7 The vengeance of God ought to be feared, and repentance may not be differred.

- 1 **T**RUST not vnto thy riches, and say not, I haue ynough for my life: [for it shal not helpe in y^e time of vengeance and indignation.]
- 2 Followe not thine owne minde and thy strength to walke in the wayes of thine heart:
- 3 Nether say y^e, [How haue I had strength?] or who wil bring me vnder for my workes? for God the aduenger wil reuenge the wrong done by thee.
- 4 And say not, I haue sinned, and what euil hath come vnto me? for the Almighty is a patient rewarder, but he wil not leaue thee vnpunished.
- 5 Because thy sinne is forgiuen, be not without feare, to heape sinne vpon sinne.
- 6 And say not, The mercie of God is great: he wil forgiue my manifold sinnes: for mercie & wrath come from him, & his indignacion cometh downe vpon sinners.
- 7 Make not tarying to turne vnto the Lord, and put not of from day to day: for suddenly shal the wrath of the Lord breake forthe, & in thy securitie thou shalt be destroyed, and thou shalt perish in time of vengeance.
- 8 Trust not in wicked riches: for they shal not helpe thee in the day of punishment [and vengeance.]
- 9 Be not caryed about with euerie winde, and go not into euerie way: for so doeth the sinner that hath a double tongue.
- 10 Stand fast in thy sure vnderstanding [& in the way and knowledge of the Lord] & haue but one maner of worde, [& followe the worde of peace and righteousnes.]
- 11 Be humble to heare the worde of God, that thou maist vnderstand it, and make a true answer with wisdom.
- 12 Be swift to heare good things, and let thy life be pure, & giue a patient answer.
- 13 If thou hast vnderstanding, answer thy neighbour: if not, laye thine hand vpon thy mouth, [lest thou be trapped in an vndiscrete worde, and so be blamed.]

- 14 Honour and shame is in the talke, & the tongue of a man causeth him to fall.
- 15 Be not counted a talk bearer, & lie not in waite with thy tongue: for shame [and repentance] followe the thief, and an euil condemnacion is ouer him that is double tōgued: [but he that is a backebiter, shal be hated, enuid and confounded.]
- 16 Do not rashly, nether in small things nor in great.

CHAP. VI.

1 It is the propertie of a sinner to be euil tongued. 4 Of friendship. 22 Desire to be taught.

- 1 **B**E not of a friend [thy neighbours] enemy: for such shall haue an euil name, shame and reproche, and he shall be in infamie as the wicked that hath a double tongue.
- 2 Be not proude in the deuice of thine owne minde, lest thy soule rent thee as a bull,
- 3 And eat vp thy leaues, and destroie thy frute, and so thou be lesse as a drye tree [in the wildernes.]
- 4 For a wicked soule destroieeth him that hath it, and maketh him to be laughed to scorn of his enemies, [and bringeth him to the porcion of the vngodlie.]
- 5 A swete talke multiplieth the friends [& pacieth them that be at variance,] and a swete tōgue increaseth muche good talke.
- 6 Holde friendship with manie, neuertheless haue but one counseler of a thousand.
- 7 If thou gettest a friend, proue him first, & be not hastie to credit him.
- 8 For some man is a friend for his owne occasion, and wil not abide in the day of thy trouble.
- 9 And there is some friend that turneth to enimitie, and taketh parte against thee, & in contention he wil declare thy shame.
- 10 Againe some friend is but a companion at the table, and in the day of thine affliction he continueth not.
- 11 But in thy prosperitie he wil be as thou thy self, and wil vse libertie ouer thy seruants.
- 12 If thou be broght low, he wil be against thee, and wil hide him self from thy face.
- 13 Depart from thine enemies, and beware of thy friends.
- 14 A faithful friend is a strong defence, and he that findeth such one, findeth a treasure.
- 15 A faithful friend ought not to be changed for any thing, and the weight [of golde & siluer] is not to be compared to the goodnes [of his faith.]
- 16 A faithful friend is the medicine of life [and immortalitie,] & they that feare the Lord, shal finde him.
- 17 Who so feareth the Lord, shal direct his friendship a right, and as his owne self, so shal his friend be.

18 ¶ My sonne, receiue doctrine from thy youth vp: so shalt thou finde wisdom [which shal indure] til thine olde age.
 19 Go to her as one that ploweth, and sowe eth, and waste for her good frutes: for thou shalt haue but litle labour in her worke: but y^e shalt eat of her frutes right sone.
 20 How exceeding shapre is she to the vnlearned: he that is without iudgement, wil not remaine with her.
 21 Vnto suche one she is as a fine touchstone, and he casteth her from him without delay.
 22 For thei haue the name of wisdom, but there be but fewe that haue the knowledge of her.
 23 [For with them that knowe her, she abideth vnto the appearing of God.]
 24 Giue eare, my sonne: receiue my doctrine, and refuse not my counsell,
 25 And put thy fete into her linkes, and thy necke into her chaine.
 26 Bowe downe thy shulder vnto her, and beare her, and be not wearie of her bands.
 27 Come vnto her with thy whole heart, & kepe her waies with all thy power.
 28 Seke after her, and searche her, & she shal be shewed thee: and when thou hast gotten her, forsake her not.
 29 For at the last thou shalt finde rest in her, and that shalbe turned to thy ioye.
 30 Then shal her setters be a strong defence for thee, [and a sure fundacion] & her chaines a glorious raiment.
 31 For there is a golden ornament in her, & her bands are the laces of purple colour.
 32 Thou shalt put her on as a robe of honour, & shalt put her vpon thee, as a crowne of ioye.
 33 My sonne, if thou wilt, thou shalt be taught, and if thou wilt applie thy minde, thou shalt be wittie.
 34 If thou loue to heare: thou shalt receiue [doctrine,] and if thou delite in hearing, thou shalt be wise.
 35 Stand with the multitude of the Elders, which are wise, and ioyne with him that is wise.
 36 * Desire to heare all godlie talke, and let not the graue sentences of knowledge escape thee.
 37 And if thou seeest a man of vnderstanding, get thee sone vnto him, and let thy foote weare the steppes of his dores.
 38 Let thy minde be vpon the ordinances of the Lord, and be continually occupied in his comandements: so shal he stablish thine heart, and giue thee wisdom at thine owne desire.

Chap. 1.9.

10. 1. 1. 1. 1.

CHAP. VII.

1 We must forsake euil, and yet not iustifie our selues.
 2 The behauiour of the wise towards his wife, his friend, his children, his seruants, his father and mother.

DONE euil: so shal no harme come vnto thee.
 2 Departe from the thing that is wicked, and sinne shal turne away from thee.
 3 My sonne, sowe not vpon the forowes of vnrighteousnes, lest that thou reape them seuen foide.
 4 Aske not of the Lord preeminence, neither of the King the seate of honour.
 5 * Iustitie not thy self before the Lord: [for he knoweth thine heart,] & boast not thy wisdom in the presence of the King.
 6 Seke not to be made a iudge, lest thou be not able to take away iniquitie, and lest thou, fearing the person of the mightie, shuldest commit an offence against thine vprihtnes.
 7 Offend not against the multitude of a citie, and cast not thy self among the people.
 8 * Binde not two sinnes together: for in one sinne shalt thou not be vnpunished.
 9 Say not, God wil loke vpon the multitude of mine oblations, and when I offer to the moste high God, he wil accept it.
 10 Be not faint hearted, when thou makest thy prayer, nether slacke in giuing of almes.
 11 Laugh no mā to scorne in the heauines of his soule: for [God which seeth all things] is he *that can bring downe, & set vp againe.
 12 Sow not a lie against thy brother, nether do the same against thy friend.
 13 Vse not to make anie maner of lie: for the custome thereof is not good.
 14 Make not manie wordes when thou art among the Elders, nether reape a thing in thy prayer.
 15 Hate not laborious worke, nether the housbandrie, which the moste High hath created.
 16 Nomber not thy self in the multitude of the wicked, but remember that vengeance wil not slacke.
 17 Humble thy minde greatly: for the vengeance of the wicked is fyre and wormes.
 18 Giue not ouer thy friend for anie good, nor thy true brother for y^e golde of Ophir.
 19 Departe not from a wise and good woman, [that is fallen vnto thee for thy portio in the feare of the Lord:] for her grace is aboue golde.
 20 * Where as thy seruāt worketh truely, intreate him not euil, nor y^e hireling that bestoweth him self wholie for thee.
 21 Let thy soule loue a good seruant, and defraude him not of libertie, [nether leaue him a poore man.]

Iob. 9. 2.
 Psal. 143. 2.
 Eccl. 7. 17.
 Luk. 14. 11.

Chap. 12. 2.

1. Sam. 2. 7.

Leui. 19. 13.
 Chap. 33. 30.
 34. 7.

Deut. 2. 4.

22 * If thou haue cattel, loke wel to them, and if thei be for thy profite, kepe them with thee.

Ecclesiasticus.

- 23 If thou haue sonnes, instruct them, and holde their necke from their youth.
- 24 If thou haue daughters, kepe their bodie, and shewe not thy face chereful towards them.
- 25 Make thy daughter, & so shalt thou performe a weightie matter: but giue her to a man of vnderstanding.
- 26 If thou haue a wife after thy minde, forsake her not, but commit not thy self to the hateful.
- 27 *Honour thy father fro thy whole heart, & forget not the sorowes of thy mother.
- 28 Remember that thou wast borne of the, and how canst thou recompense them the things that they haue done for thee?
- 29 ¶ Feare the Lord with all thy soule, and honor his ministers.
- 30 Loue him that made thee, with all thy strength, and forsake not his seruants.
- 31 Feare the Lord with all thy soule, and honor the Priests, * and giue them their portion, as it is commanded thee, the first frutes, [and purifications] and sacrifices for sinne, & the offrings of the shoulders, and the sacrifices of sanctification, and the first frutes of the holie things.
- 32 Stretche thine hand vnto the poore that thy blessing, [and reconciliacion] may be accomplished.
- 33 Liberalitie pleaseth all men liuing, and * from the dead restrain it not.
- 34 * Let not them that wepe, be without [comfort:] but moune wth suche as mourne.
- 35 * Be not slowe to visit the sicke: for that shal make thee to be beloued.
- 36 Whatsoeuer thou takest in hand, remember the end, & thou shalt neuer do amisse.
- C H A P. V I I I.
- We must take heed with whom we haue to do.*
- 1 **S**TRIVE not with a mightie mā, lest thou fall into his hands.
- 2 * Make not variance with a riche mā, lest he on y^other side weigh downe thy weight: * for golde [and siluer] hath destroyed manie & hath subuerted y^e hearts of Kings.
- 3 Strive not with a man that is full of wordes, and laie no stickes vpon his fyre.
- 4 Playe not with a man that is vntaught, lest thy kinred be dishonored.
- 5 * Despise not a man that turneth him self away from sinne, nor cast him not in the teeth with all, but remeber that we are all worthe blame.
- 6 * Dishonour not a man in his olde age: for they were as we which are not olde.
- 7 Be not glad of the death of thine enemy, but remember that we must dye all, [and so enter into ioy.]
- 8 * Despise not the exhortacion of the [Elders] y^e be wise, but acquaint thy self with their wise sentences: for of the thou shalt learne wisdom, [and the doctrine of vnderstanding,] and how to seise great men [without complaint.]
- 9 Go not from the doctrine of the Elders: for they haue learned it of their fathers, & of them thou shalt learne vnderstanding, and to make answer in the time of nede.
- 10 Kindle not the coles of sinners, [when thou rebukest them,] lest thou be burnt in the fyre flames [of their sinnes.]
- 11 Rise not vp against him that doeth wrong, y^e he lay not waite as a spie for thy mouth.
- 12 * Lend not vnto him that is mightier then thy self: for if thou lendest him, coust it but lost.
- 13 Be not suretie about thy power: for if thou be suretie, thinke to paie it.
- 14 Go not to law with y^e iudge: for thei wil giue sentence accordig to his owne honour.
- 15 * Trauaile not by the way with him that is rash, lest he do thee iniurie: for he followeth his owne wilfulnes, & so shalt thou perish thorow his folie.
- 16 * Strive not with him that is angrie, & go not with him into the wildernes: for blood is as nothing in his sight, and where there is no helpe, he wil ouerthrowe thee.
- 17 Take no counsel at a foole: for he can not kepe a thing close.
- 18 Do no secret thing before a stranger: for thou canst not tell what he goeth about.
- 19 Open not thine heart vnto euery man, lest he be vnthankful to thee, [and put thee to reprove.]
- C H A P. I X.
- Of ielousie 12 An olde friend is to be preferred before a newe. 15 Righteous men shoulde be bidden to thy table.*
- 1 **B**E not ielous ouer thy wife of thy meane, nether teache her by thy meane an euil lesson.
- 2 Giue not thy life vnto a woman, lest she ouercome thy strength, [and so thou be confounded.]
- 3 Mete not an harlot, lest thou fall into her snares.
- 4 Vse not the companie of a woman that is a singer, [& a dancer, nether heare her,] lest thou be taken by her craftines.
- 5 Gaze not on a * maide, that thou fall not by that that is precious in her.
- 6 * Cast not thy minde vpon harlots [in a- nient maner of thing,] lest thou destroye [bothe thy self and] thine heritage.
- 7 Go not about gazig in the streates of the cite, nether wander thou in the secret places thereof.
- 8 * Turne away thine eye from a beautiful woman, and loke not vpon others beautie: for manie * haue perished by the beautie of women: for thorow it loue is kindled as a fyre.
- 9 [Euery woman that is an harlot, shal be trodden vnder fote as dogue, of euery one that goeth by the waye.

- 10 Many wondering at ſtrange woman, haue bene caſt out: For her wordes burne as a fyre.]
- 11 Sit not at all with another mā's wife, [neither lie with her vpon the bed,] nor banquet with her, leſt thine heart incline vnto her, and ſo through thy deſire fall into deſtruction.
- 12 ¶ Forſake not an olde friend: for the new ſhal not be like him: a newe friend is as newe wine: when it is olde, thou ſhalt drinke it with pleaſure.
- 13 ¶ Deſire not ſhonour [& riches] of a ſinner: for ſt thou knoweſt not what ſhal be his end.
- 14 Delite not in the thing that the vngodlie haue pleaſure in, but remēber that they ſhal not be founde iuſt vnto their graue.
- 15 Kepe thee fro the man that hath the power to ſlaye: ſo ſhalt thou not doute the feare of death: and if thou come vnto him, make no fault, leſt he take away thy life: remēber that thou goeſt in the middes of ſnares, and that thou walkeſt vpon the rowres of the citie.
- 16 Trye thy neighbour as nere as thou caſt, and aſke counſel of the wiſe.
- 17 Let thy talke be with the wiſe, & all thy cōmunicatiō in the Law of ſonour.
- 18 Let iuſt men eat and drinke with thee, and let thy reioycing be in the feare of the Lord.
- 19 In the hands of the craftemen ſhal the workes be commended, and the wiſe prince of the people by his worde, [& the worde by the wiſdome of the Elders.]
- 20 A man full of wordes is dangerous in his citie, and he that is raſh in his talking, ſhal be hated.

CHAP. X.

1 Of Kings and iudges. 7 Pride and conuouſnes are to be abhorred. 22 Labour is praiſed.

- 1 A Wiſe iudge wil inſtruct his people with diſcretion: the gouernance of a prudent man is wel ordered.
- 2 As the iudge of the people is him ſelf, ſo are his officers, and what maner of man the ruler of the citie is, ſuche are all they that dwell therein.
- 3 ¶ An vnwiſe King deſtroieth his people, but where they that be in autoritie, are men of vnderſtāding, there the citie profreth.
- 4 The gouernement of the earth is in the hand of the Lord, [and all iniquitie of the nations is to be abhorred,] and when time is, he wil ſet vp a profitable ruler ouer it.
- 5 In the hand of God is the proſperitie of man, and vpon the ſcribes wil he laye his honour.
- 6 ¶ Be not angrie for any wrong, with thy neighbour, and do nothing by iniurious practiſes.

- 7 Pride is hateful before God and man, & by bothe doeth one commit iniquitie.
- 8 ¶ Becauſe of vnrighteous dealing and wrongs and riches gotten by deceit, the kingdome is tranſlated from one people to another.
- 9 There is nothing worſe then a couetous man: [why art thou proude, o earth and aſhes? there is not a more wicked thing, then to loue money:] for ſuche one wolde euen ſel his ſoule, & for his life euerie one is compelled to pul out his owne bowels.
- 10 [All tyrannie is of ſmale indurance, and the diſeaſe that is hard to heale, is grieuous to the phyſician.]
- 11 The phyſician cutteth of ſore diſeaſe, & he that is to day a King, to morow is dead.
- 12 Why is earth & aſhes proude, ſeing that when a man dyeth, he is the heire of ſerpents, beaſtes and wormes?
- 13 The beginning of mans pride, is to fall away from God, & to turne away his heart from his maker.
- 14 For pride is the original of ſinne, and he that hathe it, ſhal powre out abominacion, til at laſt he be ouerthrowen: therefore the Lord bringeth the perſuaſious [of the wicked] to diſhonour, and deſtroieth them in the end.
- 15 The Lord hathe caſt downe the thrones of the [proude] princes, & ſet vp the meke in their ſteade.
- 16 The Lord plucketh vp the rootes of the [proude] nations, and planteth the lowlie with glorie among them.
- 17 The Lord ouerthroweth the lands of the heathen, and deſtroieth the vnto ſonour foundations of ſonour earth: he cauſeth the to wither away, & deſtroieth them, and maketh their memorial to ceaſe out of the earth.
- 18 [God deſtroieth the memorial of the proude, & leaueth the remembrance of the humble.]
- 19 Pride was not created in mā, nether wrath in the generacion of women.
- 20 There is a ſede of mā, which is an honorable ſede: the honorable ſede are they ſonour feare ſonour Lord: there is a ſede of mā, which is without honour: ſonour ſede without honour, are they that tranſgreſſe the cōmandemēt of the Lord: it is a ſede that remaineth w feareth the Lord, & a faire plant, that loue him: but they are a ſede without honour, that deſpiſe the Law, & a deceiueable ſede that breake the commandements.
- 21 He ſonour is the chief among brethren, is honorable: ſo are they ſonour feare ſonour Lord in his ſight.
- 22 The feare of the Lord cauſeth that the kingdome faileth not, but the kingdome is loſt by crueltie and pride.
- 23 The feare of the Lord is ſonour glorie aſwel of the riche & the noble, as of the poore.
- 24 It is not mete to deſpiſe the poore man

Iudg 9.3.
2. Sam. 11.12.

Chap 7.8.

10r, the work-
man is praiſed
according to the
work.

1 King 12.1.

Leu. 19.17.

1er. 27.6.
dan 4.14.

Ecclesiasticus.

- that hath vnderstanding, nether is it convenient to magnifie the riche that is a wicked man.
- 25 The great man and the iudge & the man of autoritie, are honorable, yet is there none of them greater, then he that feareth the Lord.
- Prov. 17. 2.* 26 *Vnto the seruant that is wise, shal they that are free, do seruice: *he y harbe knowledge, wil not grudge whē he is reformed, [& the ignorant shal not come to honor.]
- 2. Sam. 12. 13.* 27 Seke not excuses when thou shuldest do thy worke, nether be ashamed thereof through pride in the time of aduersitie.
- Prov. 12. 9.* 28 *Better is he that laboreth & hathe plentifulnes of all things, then he that is gorgeous, and wanteth bread.
- 29 My sonne, get thy self praisse by mekenes, and esteeme thy self as thou deseruest.
- 30 Who wil counte him iust that sidneth against him self: or honour him, that dishonoreth his owne soule?
- 31 The poore is honored for his knowledge [and his feare,] but the riche is had in reputacion because of his goods.
- 32 He that is honorable in pouertie, how muche more shal he be when he is riche: & he that is vn honest beig riche, how muche more wil he be so when he is in pouertie?
- C H A P. X I.
- 1 The praise of humilitie. 2 After the outward appearance ought we not to iudge. 7 Of rash iudgement. 14 All things come of God. 29 All men are not to be brought into thine house.*
- Gen. 41. 40.* 1 **W**isdome *listeth vp y head of him that is lowe, and maketh him to sit among great men.
- dan. 6. 2.* 2 Commend not a man for his beautie, nether despise a man in his vtter appearance.
- 3 The bee is but smal among the fowles, yet doeth her frute passe in swazines.
- Al. 12. 2.* 4 Be not proude of clothing & raimēt, * & exalte not thy self in the day of honour: for the workes of the Lord are wōderful, [and glorious,] secret, [and vnknown] are his workes among men.
- 1. Sam. 15. 28.* 5 Many tyrāts haue sit downe vpon y earth, * & the vnlikelie hathe worne the crowne.
- esther. 6. 10.* 6 Many mightie men haue bene brought to dishonour, & the honorable haue bene deliuered into other mens hands.
- Deu. 19. 14.* 7 ¶ *Blame [no mā] before thou haue inquired the matter: vnderstand first, and then reforme [righteously.]
- 17. 6.* 8 *Giue no sentence, before thou hast heard the cause, nether interrupt men in the middes of their tales.
- 18. 7. 22.* 9 Striue not for a matter that thou hast not to do with, and sit not in the iudgement of sinners.
- Prov. 18. 13.* 10 My sonne, medle not with many matters: *for if thou gaine muche, thou shalt not be blameles, and if thou follow after it, yet shalt thou not atteine it, nether shalt thou escape, though thou flee from it.
- 11 *There is some man that laboreth and taketh peine, and the more he hasteth, the more he wanteth.
- Prov. 10. 1.* 12 Againe there is some that is slouthful, & *hathe nede of helpe: for he wātech strēgth, *Iob. 42. 10.* and hathe great pouertie, yet the eye of the Lord loketh vpō him to good, and setteth him vp from his lowe estate,
- 13 And he listeth vp his head: so that manie men marueil at him, [& giue honour vnto God.]
- 14 *Prosperitie & aduersitie, life & death, pouertie and riches come of the Lord. *Iob. 14. 12. 25. 26. 4.*
- 15 Wisdome & knowledge, and vnderstanding of the Lawe are of the Lord: loue & good workes come of him.
- 16 Errour and darckenes are appointed for sinners, and they that exalte them selues in euil, waxe olde in euil.
- 17 The gift of the Lord remaineth for the godlie, & his good wil giueth prosperitie for euer.
- 18 ¶ Some man is riche by his care and niggardship, & this is y porcion of his wages,
- 19 In that he saith, *I haue gotten rest, and now wil I eat continually of my goods, yet he considereth not, y the time draweth nere, that he must leaue all these things vn to other men, and dye him self. *Luk. 12. 19.*
- 20 Stand thou in thy state, and exercise thy self therein, and remaine in thy worke vnto thine age.
- 21 Marueil not at the workes of sinners, but trust in the Lord, and abide in thy labour: for it is an easie thing in the sight of the Lord suddenly to make a poore man riche.
- 22 The blessing of the Lord is in the wages of the godlie, and he maketh his prosperitie sone to flourish.
- 23 ¶ Say not, What profite and pleasure shal I haue? and what good things shal I haue hereafter?
- 24 Againe say not, I haue ynough, & possesse many things, * & what euil can come to me hereafter? *Chap. 12. 25.*
- 25 In thy good state remēber aduersitie, & in aduersitie forget not prosperitie.
- 26 For it is an easie thing vnto the Lord in the day of death to rewarde a man according to his wares.
- 27 The aduersitie of an houre maketh one to forget pleasure: and in a mans end, his workes are discouered.
- 28 Iudge none blessed before his death: for a man shalbe known by his children.
- 29 Bring not euerie man into thine house: for the discerful haue many traues, [and are like stomackes that belche stinkingly.]
- 30 As a partridge is takē vnder a basket, [& the hinde is taken in the snare,] so is the heart of the proude man, which like a spie watcheth

watcheth for thy fall.

- 31 For he lieth in waite & turneth good vnto euil, and in things worthie praise he wil finde some faute.
 32 Of one litle sparke is made a great fyre, [& of one discretful man is blood increased:] for a sinful mā laieth waite for blood.
 33 Beware of a wicked man : for he imagineth wicked things to bring thee into a perpetual shame.
 34 Lodge a stranger, and he wil destroe thee with vnquietnes, & driue thee from thine owne.

CHAP. XII.

1 Vnto whome we ought to do good. 10 Enemies ought not to be trusted.

- 1 **W**hen thou wilt do good, knowe to whome thou doest it, so shalt thou be thanked for thy benefites.
 2 Do good vnto the righteous, & thou shalt finde [great] rewarde, though not of him, yet of the moste High.
 3 He can not haue good that continueth in euil, and giueth no almes: [for the moste High hateth the sinners, and hathe mercie vpon them that repent.]
 4 Giue vnto suche as feare God, and receiue not a sinner.
 5 Do wel vnto him that is lowlie, but giue not to y vngodlie: holde backe thy bread, and giue it not vnto him, lest he ouercome thee thereby: els thou shalt receiue twise as muche euil for all the good that thou doest vnto him.
 6 For the moste High hateth the wicked, & wil repay vengeance vnto the vngodlie, & kepeth them against the day of horrible vengeance.
 7 Giue vnto the good, and receiue not the sinner.
 8 A friend can not be knowen in prosperitie, nether can an enemy be vnknownen in aduersitie.
 9 When a man is in wealth, it griueth his enemies, but in heauines & trouble a mans very friend wil departe from him.
 10 Trust neuer thine enemy: for like as an yron rusteth, so doeth his wickednes.
 11 And though he make muche crouching & kneeling, yet aduise thy self, & beware of him, & thou shalt be to him, as he that wipeth a glasse, and thou shalt knowe that all his rust hathe not bene wel wiped away.
 12 Set him not by thee, lest he destroy thee, & stand in thy place.
 13 Nether set him at thy right hand, lest he sike thy roume, & thou at the last remeber my wordes, & be pricked with my sayings.
 14 Binde not two sinnes together: for there shal not one be vnpunished.
 15 Who wil haue pitie of y charmer, that is stinged of the serpent or of all suche as come nere the beastes: so is it wth him that kepeth companie with a wicked man, & wrap

peth him self in his sinnes.

- 16 For a season wil he bide with thee: but if thou stamble, he taryeth not.
 17 *An enemy is swete in his lippes: he can make manie good wordes, and speake manie good things: yea, he can weepe with his eyes, but in his heart he imagineth how to throwe thee into the pit: and if he may finde opportunitie, he wil not be satisfied with blood.
 18 If aduersitie come vpon thee, thou shalt finde him there first, and though he preted to helpe thee, yet shal he vndermine thee: he wil shake his head, and clappe his hands, and wil make manie wordes, and disguise his countenance.

1ere 41.8.

CHAP. XIII.

1 The companies of the proude & of the riche are to be eschewed. 17 The loue of God. 17 Lik^e is companie with their like.

- 1 **H**E *that toucheth pitch, shalbe defiled with it: and he that is familiar with the proude, shal be like vnto him.
 2 Burthen not thy self about thy power, whiles thou liuest, and companie not with one that is mightier, and richer then thy self: for how agre the kettel and the earthen pot together: for if the one be smitten against the other, it shalbe broke.
 3 The riche dealeth vnrighteously, and threatneth with all: but the poore being oppressed must intreat: if the riche haue done wrong, he must yet be intreated: but if the poore haue done it, he shal straight waife be threatned.
 4 If thou be for his profite, he vseth thee: but if y haue nothing, he wil forsake thee.
 5 If thou haue anie thing, he wil liue with thee: yea, he wil make thee a bare man, and wil not care for it.
 6 If he haue nede of thee, he wil defraude thee, and wil laugh at thee, and put thee in hope, and giue thee all good wordes, & say, What wantest thou?
 7 Thus wil he shame thee in his meat, vntil he haue supt thee cleane vp twise or thrise, and at the last he wil laugh thee to scorn: afterwarde, when he seeth thee, he wil forsake thee, and shake his head at thee.
 8 [Submit thy self vnto God, & waite vpo his hand.]
 9 Beware that y be not disceiued in thine owne conceit & broght downe by thy sim plenes: [be not to huble in thy wisdom.]
 10 ¶ If thou be called of a mightie man, absent thy self: so shal he call thee the more oft.
 11 Praise not thou vnto him, that thou be not shut out, but go not thou farre of, lest he forget thee.
 12 Withdraw not thy self fro his speache, but beleue not his manie wordes: for with muche communicatiō wil he tempt thee,

Deu. 7.26

Ecclesiasticus.

and laughingly will he groke thee.

13 He is vnmerciful, & kepeth not promes: he wil not spare to do thee hurt, and to put thee in prison.

14 Beware, & take good hede: for thou walkest in peril of thine ouerthrowing: when thou hearest this, awake in thy slepe.

15 Loue the Lord all thy life, and call vpon him for thy saluacion.

16 ¶ Euerie beast loueth his like, and euerie man loueth his neighbour.

17 All flesh wil resort to their like, & euerie man wil kepe companie with suche as he is him self.

18 How can the wolfe agre with the lambe? no more can the vngodlie with the righteous.

19 What felowship hath the hyena with a dogge? and what peace is betwene the riche and the poore?

20 As the wilde asse is the lions praye in the wilderness, so are poore men the meat of the riche.

21 As the proude hate humilitie, so do the riche abhorre the poore.

22 If a riche man fall, his friends set him vp againe: but when the poore falleth, his friends driue him away.

23 If a riche man offend, he hath many helpers: he speaketh proude wordes, and yet men iustifie him: but if a poore man faile, they rebuke him, & though he speake wisely, yet can it haue no place.

24 When the riche man speaketh, euerie man holdeth his tongue: and loke what he saith, they praise it vnto the cloudes: but if the poore man speake, they say, What felow is this? and if he do amisse, they wil destroie him.

25 Riches are good vnto him that hath no sinne [in his conscience,] and pouertie is euil in the mouth of the vngodlie.

26 The heart of a man changeeth his countenance, whether it be in good or euil.

27 A chearful countenance is a token of a good heart: for it is an hard thing to knowe the secrets of the thought.

CHAP. XIII.

1 The offence of the tongue. 17 Man is but a vaine thing.
21 Happie is he that continueth in wisdom.

Chap 13.7.
13.7.

1 Blessed is the man that hath not fallen by [the worde of] his mouth, & is not tormented with the sorow of sinne.

2 Blessed is he that is not condemned in his conscience, and is not fallen from his hope in the Lord.

3 Riches are comelie for a nigarde, and what shulde an enuous man do with money?

4 He that gathereth together from his owne soule, heapeth together for others, that wil make good cheare with his goods.

5 He that is wicked vnto him self, to whom wil he be good? for suche one can haue

no pleasure of his goods.

6 There is nothing worse, then when one enueth him self: and this is a rewarde of his wickednes.

7 And if he do anie good, he doeth it, not knowing thereof, and against his wil, and at the last he declareth his wickednes.

8 The enuous man hath a wicked loker: he turneth away his face, and dispiseth men.

9 A couetous mans eye hath neuer ynough of a porciō, and his wicked malice withereth his owne soule.

10 A wicked eye enueth the bread, & therefore is scarcenes vpon his table. *Prm. 17. 10.*

11 My sonne, do good to thy self of that thou hast, and giue the Lord his due of frings.

12 Remember that death tarieth not, & that the couenant of the graue is not shewed vnto thee.

13 Do good vnto thy friend before thou dye, & according to thine habilitie stretch out thine hand, and giue him. *Chap. 4. 1. 10. 4. 7. Luk. 14. 12.*

14 Defraude not thy self of the good day, and let not the porcion of the good desires ouerpasse thee.

15 Shalt thou not leaue thy trauails vnto another, and thy labours for the deuiding of the heritage?

16 Giue and take and sanctifie thy soule: [worke thou righteousness before thy death:] for in the hell there is no meat to finde.

17 ¶ All flesh waxeth olde, as a garment, & this is the condition of all times, Thou shalt dye the death. *Isa. 40. 6. 1 Pet. 1. 24. 100. 1. 19.*

18 As the grene leaues on a thicke tree, some fall, and some growe, so is the generation of flesh and blood: one cometh to an end, and another is borne.

19 All corruptible things shal faile, and the worker thereof shal go withal.

20 [Euerie excellent worke shal be iustified, and he that worketh it, shal haue honour thereby.]

21 ¶ Blessed is the man that doeth meditate honest things by wisdom, [& exerciseth him self in iustice,] and he that reasoneth of holic things by his vnderstanding.

22 Which considereth in his heart her wayes, and vnderstandeth her secrets.

23 Go thou after her as one that seeketh her out, and lie in waite in her wayes.

24 He shal loke in at her windowes, & hearken at her doores.

25 He shal abide beside her house, and fasten a stake in her walles: he shal pitche his tent besides her.

26 And he shal remaine in the lodging of good men, & shal set his childre vnder her couering, and shal dwell vnder her branches.

17 By her he shalbe couered from the heat,
and in her glorie shal he dwell.

CHAP. XV.

1 The goodnes that followeth him which feareth God.
2 God reuicth and casteth of the sinner. 11 God is
not the author of euil.

1 HE that feareth the Lord, wil do good:
and he that hathe the knowledge of
the Law, wil kepe it sure.

2 As an [honorable] mother shal she mete
him, and she, as his wife married of a virgine,
wil receiue him.

3 With the bread [of life] and vnderstanding
shal she fede him, & giue him the wa-
ter of [wholsome] wisdom to drinke.

4 He shal assure him self in her, and shal not
be moued, and shal holde him self fast by
her, and shal not be confounded.

5 She shal exalt him aboue his neighboures,
and in the middes of the congregaciō
shal she open his mouth: [with the spi-
rit of wisdom, and vnderstanding shal she
fil him, and clothe him with the garment
of glorie.]

6 She shal cause him to inherit ioye, & the
crowne of gladnes, & an euerlasting name.

7 But foolish men wil not take holde vpō
her: [but suche as haue vnderstanding, wil
mete her:] the sinners shal not se her.

8 For she is farre frō pride [and disceite,]
& men that lie, cā not remember her: [but
men of trueth shal haunt her, & shal prof-
per euen vnto the beholding of God.]

9 Praise is not semelic in the mouth of the
sinner: for that is not sent of the Lord.

10 But if praise come of wisdom, [and be
plētuous in afaithful mouth] thē the Lord
wil prosper it.

11 Say not thou, It is through the Lord that
I turne backe: for thou oghdest not to do
the things that he hateth.

12 Say not thou, He hathe caused me to er-
re: for he hathe no nede of the sinful man.

13 The Lord hateth all abomnacion [of
eiour:] and they that feare God, wil loue
it.

Gen. 1. 27.

14 *He made man from the beginning, and
lest him in the hand of his counsel, [and
gaue him his commandements and pre-
cepts.]

15 If thou wilt, thou shalt obserue the com-
mandements, and testifie thy good wil.

16 He hathe set water and fyre before thee:
stretche out thine hand vnto which thou
wilt.

Ier. 31. 1.

17 *Before man is life and death, [good &
euil:] what him liketh, shal be giuen him.

18 For the wisdom of the Lord is great, &
he is mightie in power, and beholdeth all
things [continually.]

Psal. 34. 16.

19 *And the eyes [of the Lord] are vpon
them that feare him, and he knoweth all
the workes of man.

10 He hathe commanded no man to do vn-
godlie, nether hathe he giuen anie man
licēce to sinne: [for he desireth not a mul-
titude of infidels, & vnprofitable childrē.]

CHAP. XVI.

1 Of vnhappie, and wicked children. 17 No man can
hide him self from God. 24 An exhortacion to the re-
cessung of instruction.

1 DESIRE not the multitude of vnprofi-
table children, nether delice in vn-
godlie childrē: though thei be manie, reioy-
ce not in thē, except the feare of the Lord
be with them.

2 Trust not thou to their life, nether rest
vpon their multitude.

3 For one that is iuste, is better then a thou-
sand suche, and better it is to dye without
children, then to leaue behinde him vn-
godlie children.

4 For by one that hathe vnderstanding, shal
the citie be inhabited: but the stocke of the
wicked shal be wasted incontinently.

5 Manie suche things haue I sene with mi-
ne eyes, and mine eare hathe heard greater
things then these.

6 *In the congregaciō of the vngodlie shal
a fyre be kandeled, and among vnfaithful
people shal the wrath be set on fyre. *Chap. 21. 20.*

7 *He spared not the olde gyants, w̄ were
rebellious, trusting to their owne strēgth, *Gen. 6. 4.*

8 *Nether spared he where as Lot dwelt, *Gen. 19. 21.*
those whome he abhorred for their pride.

9 He had no pitie vpon the people that
were destroyed, & puffed vp in their sins.

10 *And so he preferued the six hundreth
thousand fotemen, that were gathered in
the hardnes of their heart, in afflicting thē
& pitying them, in smiting them & heal-
ing thē, with mercie, & with chastisemēt. *Nom. 14. 15. & 20. 16.*

11 Therefore if there be one stiff necked
among the people, it is matueil if he scape
vnpunished: for mercie and wrath are with
him: he is mightie to forgieue, & to powre
out displeasure.

12 *As his mercie is great, so is his punish-
ment also: he iudgeth a man according to
his workes. *Chap. 11. 29.*

13 The vngodlie shal not escape with his
spoil, and the pacience of the godlie shal
not be delayed.

14 He wil giue place to all good dedes, &
euerie one shal finde according to his wor-
kes, [and] after the vnderstanding of his
pilgrimage.]

15 The Lord hath denied Pharao, that he shul-
de not knowe him, and that his workes
shulde be knownen vpon the earth vnder
the heauen.

16 His mercie is knownen to all creatures:
he hathe separate his light from the dark-
nes with an adamant.

17 Say not thou, I wil hide my self from the
Lord: for who wil thike vpō me frō aboue?

Ecclesiasticus.

I shal not be knownen in so great an heape of people: for what is my soule among suche an infinite number of creatures?

2 Pet. 1. 16.

18 Beholde, the heauen, and the ^{*}heauen of heauens, which are for God, the depth, and the earth, and all that therein is, shal be moued when he shal visite.

19 All the worlde which is created and made by his wil, the mountaines also, and the fundacions of the earth shal shake for feare, when the Lord loketh vpon them.

20 These things doeth no heart vnderstand worthely, [but he vnderstandeth euerie heart.]

21 And who vnderstandeth his wayes? and the storme that no man can see? for the moste parte of his workes are hid.

22 Who can declare y^e workes of his righteousness? or who can abide them? for his ordinance is farre of, and the trying out of all things faileth.

23 He that is humble of heart, wil consider these things: but an vnwise and erroneous mā casteth his minde vpon foolish things.

24 My sonne, hearken vnto me, and learne knowledge, and make my wordes with thine heart.

25 I wil declare thee weightie doctrine, & I wil instruct thee exactly in knowledge.

26 The Lord hathe set his workes in good order fro the beginning, & parte of them hathe he sundred from the other when he first made them.

27 He hathe garnished his workes for euer, and their beginnings so long as they shal indure, they are not hungrie nor wearied in their labours, nor cease from their offices.

28 None of them hindreth another, nether was anie of them disobedient vnto his wordes.

29 After this the Lord looked vpon the earth and filled it with his goods things.

30 With all maner of liuing beaſts hathe he couered the face thereof, and they returne into it againe.

CHAP. XVII.

1 The creation of man, and the goodnes that God hathe done vnto him. 20 Of almes, 26 And repentance.

*Gen. 1. 27.
Et 1. 1.
Wisd. 2. 23.
Et 9. 6.
1 Cor. 11. 7.
Col. 2. 10.*

1 **T**He ^{*}Lord hathe created man of the earth, and turned him vnto it againe.

2 He gaue him the number of dayes & certeine times, and gaue him power of the things, that are vpon earth.

3 He clothed them with strength, as they had nede; and made them according to his image.

4 He made all flesh to feare him, so that he had the dominion ouer the beaſts, and fowles.

Gen. 2. 20.

5 [^{*}He created out of him an helper like vnto him self,] and gaue them discrecion and tongue, and eyes, eares, and an heart

to vnderstand, and sixtly he gaue them a spirit, and seuenly he gaue them speache to declare his workes.

6 And he filled them with knowledge of vnderstanding, and shewed them good and euil.

7 He set his eye vpon their hearts, declaring vnto them his noble workes,

8 And gaue the occasion to reioyce perpetually in his miracles, that they shulde prudently declare his workes, & that the elect shulde praise his holie Name together.

9 Beside this, he gaue them knowledge, and gaue the Law of life for an heritage, that they might now knowe that they were mortal.

10 He made an euerlasting couenant with them, and shewed them his iudgements.

11 Their eyes sawe the maiestie of his glorie, and their eares heard his glorious voyce.

12 And he said vnto them, Beware of all vnrighteous things. ^{*}He gaue euerie man also a comādemēt concerning his neighbour.

*Ecc. 20. 22.
Et 22. 23.*

13 Their wayes are euer before him, and are not hid from his eyes.

14 Euerie man fro his youth is giued to euil, and their stonic hearts can not become flesh.

15 He appointed a ruler vpon euerie people, when he deuided the nacions of the whole earth.

16 ^{*}And he did chuse Israel, as a peculiar people to him self, whome he nourisheth with discipline as his first borne, and giueth him moste louing light, and doeth not forsake him.

*Deu. 4. 20.
Et 10. 15.*

17 All their workes are as the sunne before him, and his eyes are continually vpon their wayes.

18 None of their vnrighteousnes is hid fro him, but all their sinnes are before y^e Lord.

19 And as he is merciful, and knoweth his worke, he doeth not leaue them nor forsake them, but spareth them.

20 ^{*}The almes of a man, is as a thing scaled vp before him, and he kepeth the good dedes of man as the apple of the eye, and giueth repentance to their sonnes, and daughters.

Chap. 29. 11.

21 ^{*}At the last shal he arise, & rewarde the, and shal repay their rewarde vpon their heads.

Mat. 23. 31.

22 ^{*}But vnto them that wil repēt, he giueth them grace to returne, and exhorteth suche as faile, with pacience, [and sendeth them the porcion of the veritie.]

Al. 2. 19.

23 ^{*}Returne the vnto the Lord, and forsake thy sinnes: make thy prayer before his face and take away the offence.

Jerem. 3. 12.

24 Turne againe vnto y^e most High: for he wil bring thee from darkenes to wholsome light:

light: to forsake thine vnrightheadnes, and hate greatly all abominacion.

25 [Knowe the righteoufnes & iudgements of God: stand in the porcion that is set forthe for thee, and in the prayer of the most high God, & go in the partes of the holie worlde with suche as be liuing and confesse God.]

*Psal. 6.6.
154.22.2.*

26 *Who can praise the moste High in the hell, as do all they that liue and confesse him?

27 [Abide not thou in the error of the vngodlie, but praise y Lord before death.]

28 Thankfulness perisheth from the dead, as though he were not: but the liuing, and he that is founde of heart, praiseth the Lord, [and reioyceth in his mercie.]

29 How great is the louing kindenes of the Lord our God, and his compafsion vnto suche as turne vnto him in holines!

30 For all things can not be in men, because the sonne of man is not immortal, [and they take pleasure in the vanitie of wickednes.]

31 What is more cleare then the sunne? yet shal it faile.

32 So flesh and blood that thinketh euil, [shal be reprobud.]

33 He seeth the power of the high heauen, and all men are but earth and ashes.

CHAP. XVIII.

1 The maruelous workes of God. 6.7 The miserie & wretchednes of man. 9 Against God ought we not to complaine. 21 The performing of vovues.

Gen. 2.1.

1 **H**E y liueth for euer,* made all things together: y Lord who onelie is iust, and there is none other but he, [and he remaineth a victorious King for euer.]

2 He ordereth the worlde with the power of his hand, and all things obey his wil: for he gouerneth all things by his power, and deuiceth the holie things from the prophane.

3 To whome hathe he giuen power to expresse his workes? who wil sike out the grounde of his noble actes?

4 Who shal declare the power of his greatnes? or who wil take vpo him to tell out his mercie?

5 As for the wonderous workes of y Lord, there may nothing be taken from them, nether can anie thing be put vnto them, nether may the grounde of them be founde out.

6 But when a man hathe done his best, he must beginne againe, and when he thinketh to come to an end, he must go againe to his labour.

7 ¶ What is man? whereto serueth he? what good or euil can he do?

Psal. 139.13.

8 *If: he number of a mans daies be an hundred yere, it is muche: and no man hathe certeine knowledge of his death.

9 As droppes of raine are vnto the sea, and as a grauel stone is in comparison of the sand, so are a thousand yeres to the dayes everlasting.

10 Therefore is [God] patient with them, and poureth out his mercie vpon them.

11 He sawe & perceiued, that [the arrogancie of their heart, and their ruine was euil: therefore heaped he vp his mercie vpon them, and shewed them the way of righteoufnes.]

12 The mercie that a man hathe, reacheth to his neighbour: but the mercie of the Lord is vpon all flesh: he chasteneth, and nurtueth, & teacheth, & bringeth backe, as a shepherd his flocke.

13 He hathe mercie of them that receiue discipline, and that diligently seke after his iudgements.

14 ¶ My sonne, when thou doest good, reprove not: and what soeuer thou giuest, vse no discomfortable wordes.

15 Shal not the dowe aswage the heat? so is a worde better then a gift.

16 Lo, is not a worde better then a good gift? but a gracious man giueth them bothe.

17 A foole wil reproche churlishly, and a gift of the enuious putteth out the eyes.

18 [Get thee righteoufnes before thou come to iudgement:] learne before thou speake, and vse physike or euer thou be sicke.

19 *Examine thy self, before y be iudged, *1. Cor. 11.31.* & in the day of the visitacion thou shalt finde mercie.

20 Humble thy self before thou be sicke, & whiles thou maiest yet sinne, shewe thy conuersion.

21 Let nothing let thee to pay thy vowe in time, and disferre not vnto death to be reformed: [for the rewarde of God endureth for euer.]

22 Before thou praie, prepare thy self, and be not as one that tempteth the Lord.

23 Thinke vpon the *wrath, that shal be at the end, and the houre of vengeance, when he shal turne away his face. *Chap. 7.18.*

24 *When thou hast ynough, remeber the time of hunger: and when thou art sicke, thinke vpon pouertie and neede. *Chap. 11.17.*

25 From the morning vntil the euening the time is changed, and all suche things are sone done before the Lord.

26 A wise man feareth in all things, and in the daies of transgression he kepeth himself from sinne: but the foole doeth not obserue the time.

27 ¶ Euerie wise man knoweth wisdom, & knowledge, and praiseth him that findeth her.

28 They that haue vnderstanding, deale wisely in wordes: [they vnderstand the truth and righteoufnes,] and poure out

Ecclesiasticus.

- with modestie graue sentēces for mā's life. 14 Reproue a friend that he may kepe his tongue: and if he haue spoken, that he say it no more.
- 29 The chief autoritie of speaking is of the Lord alone: for a mortal man hathe but a dead heart. 15 Tell thy friend his faute: for oft times a slander is raised, and giue no credence to euerie worde.
- Rom 6, 6 & 30* ¶ Followe not thy lustes, but turne thee from thine owne appetites. 16 A man falleth with his tongue, but not with his wil: and who is he, that hathe not offended in his tongue? *Lam 3, 8*
- 31 For if thou giueſt thy soule her desires, it shal make thine enemies that enuie thee, to laugh thee to scorne. 17 Reproue thy neighbour before thou threaten him, & being without anger, giue place vnto the Law of the moſte High.
- 32 Take not thy pleasure in great voluptuousnes, and mingle not thy self with such companye. 18 The feare of the Lord is the first degre to be receiued of him, and wisdom obtineth his loue.
- 33 Become not a begger by making bankets of that that thou hast borrowed, and so leaue nothing in thy purse: els y^e shuldest scandalously lie in waite for thine owne life. *CHAP. XIX.* 19 The knowledge of the commandemēts of the Lord is the doctrine of life, & they that obey him, shal receiue the frute of immortalicie.
- ¶ *Wine & whoredome bring men to peruerſie. 6 In thy mouth use discretion. 22 The difference of the wisdom of God and man. 27 Whereby thou maiſt knowe what is in man.* 20 The feare of the Lord is all wisdom, and the performing of the Law is perſect wisdom, & the knowledge of his almighty power.
- 1 Laboring man that is giuen to drūkennes, shal not be riche: & he that commeth ſmale things, shal fall by litle and litle. 21 If a ſeruant say vnto his maſter, I wil not do as it pleaſeth thee, though afterward he do it, he shal diſpleaſe him that nourisheth him.
- Gen 19, 33-34* 2 ¶ Wine and women leade wiſe men out of the way, [and put men of vnderſtanding to reprove.] 22 The knowledge of wickednes is not wisdom, nether is there prudencie where as the counſel of ſinners is: but it is euen execrable malice: and the foole is voide of wisdom.
- 3 And he that companieth adulterers, shal become impudent: rottennes and wormes shal haue him to heritage, and he that is to bolde, ſha' be taken away, and be made a publicke example. 23 He that hathe ſmalle vnderſtanding, and feareth God, is better then one that hathe muche wisdom, & tranſgreſſeth the Law of the moſte High.
- Iob 22, 28* 4 ¶ He that is haſtie to giue credit, is light minded, and he that erreth, ſinneth againſt his owne ſoule. 24 There is a certeine ſubtiltie that is fine, but it is vnrighteous: & there is that wraſteth the open and maſt maſt Law: yet there is that is wiſe and iudgeth righteouſly.
- 5 Whoſo reioyceth in wickednes, ſhal be puniſhed: [he that hateth to be reformed, his life ſhal be ſhortened, and he that abhorreth babling of wordes, quencheſt wickednes:] but he that reſiſteth pleaſures, crowneth his owne ſoule. 25 There is ſome that being about wicked purpoſes, do bowe downe them ſelues, and are ſad, whoſe inward partes burne altogether with deceit: he loketh downe with his face, and ſaineth him ſelf deafe: yet before thou perceiue, he wil be vpon thee to hurt thee.
- 6 He that refraineth his tongue, may liue with a troubleſome man, and he that hateth babling, ſhal haue leſſe euil. 26 And though he be ſo weake that he can do thee no arme, yet when he may finde opportunitie, he wil do euil.
- 7 Rehearſe not to an other, that which is tolde vnto thee: ſo y^e ſhalt not be hundred. 27 ¶ A man may be known by his loke, and one that hathe vnderſtanding, may be perceiued by the marking of his countenance.
- 8 Declare not other mens maners, nether to friend nor foe: and if the ſinne apperteine not vnto thee, reueile it not. 28 ¶ A mans garment, and his exceſſiue laughter, and going declare what perſone he is. *CHAP. XX.*
- 9 For he wil hearken vnto thee, and make thee, and when he findeth opportunitie, he wil hate thee. *Of correction & repentance. 6 To ſpeake & kepe ſilence in time. 17 The fall of the wicked. 23 Of lying. 24 The thief & the murderer. 28 Giſtes blinde the eyes of the wiſe.*
- Chap. 22, 28 & 27, 27.* 10 ¶ If thou haſt heard a worde [againſt thy neighbour,] let it dye with thee, & be ſure, it wil not burſt thee. 1 Here is ſome rebuke that is not comelic: againe, ſome man holdeth his tongue, and he is wiſe.
- 11 A foole trauaileth when he hathe heard a thing, as a woman that is about to bring forth a childe. 2 It is muche better to reprove, then to beare
- 12 As an arrowe that ſticketh in ones thigh, ſo is a worde in a foolles heart. 3 It is muche better to reprove, then to beare
- Leui 19, 17. mat 18, 13.* 13 ¶ Reproue a friend leſt he do euil, and if he haue done it, that he do it no more.

- beare euil wil: and he that acknowledgeth his faute, shalbe preserued from hurt.
- Chap. 30. 22.* 3 As* whē a gelded mā thorowe lust wolde defile a maide, so is he that vseth violence in iudgement.
- 4 How good a thing is it, when thou art reprobud, to shewe repentance! for so shalt thou escape wilful sinne.
- 5 Some man kepeth silence, and is founde wise, and some by muche babling becometh hateful.
- 6 Some man holdeth his tongue, because he hathe not to answer: and some kepeth silence, waiting a conuenient time.
- Chap. 32. 5.* 7 *A wise man wil holde his tongue til he se opportunitie: but a trifier & a foole wil regarde no time.
- 8 He that vseth manie wordes, shal be abhorred, and he that taketh autoritie to him self, shalbe hated.
- 9 Some man hathe oft times prosperitie in wicked things, and *some time* a thing that is founde, bringeth losse.
- 10 These is some gift that is not profitable for thee, and theie is some gift, whose rewarde is double.
- 11 Some man humbleth him self for glories sake, and some by humblenes listeth vp the head.
- 12 Some man byeth muche for a litle price: for the which he payeth seuen times more.
- Chap. 33. 5.* 13 *A wise man with his wordes maketh him self to be loued, but the mery tales of foolles shal be powred out.
- 14 The gift receiued of a foole, shal do thee no good, nether yet of the enutous for his importunitie: for he loketh to receiue manie things for one: he giueth litle, & he vpbideth muche: he openeth his mouthe like a towne crier: to day he lendeth, to morowe asketh he againe, and suche one is to be hated of God and man.
- 15 The foole saith, I haue no friend: I haue no thanke for all my good dedes: and they that eat my bread, speake euil of me.
- 16 How oft, and of how manie shal he be laughed to scorne! for he comprehendeth not by right iudgemēt that which he hath: & it is all one: as thogh he had it not.
- 17 The fall on a pauement is verie sudden: so shal ſ fall of the wicked come hastily.
- 18 A man without grace is as a foolish tall which is oft tolde by the mouthe of the ignorant.
- 19 A wise sentence loseth grace when it cometh out of a foolles mouthe: for he speaketh not in due season.
- 20 Some man sinneth not because of pouertie, and yet is not grieved when he is alone.
- 21 Some man there is that destroyeth his owne soule, because he is ashamed, and for the regarde of persones loseth it.
- 22 Some man promifeth vnto his friend for shame, and getteth an enemy of him for naught.
- 23 *A lie is a wicked shame in a mā: yet is it oft in the mouth of the vnwise. *Chap. 25. 9.*
- 24 A thief is better, then a man that is accustomed to lye: but they bothe shal haue destruction to heritage.
- 25 The condicions of liers are vn honest, and their shame is cuer with them.
- 26 A wise man shal bring him self to honor with his wordes, and he that hathe vnderstanding, shal please great men.
- 27 *He that tilleth his land, shal increase his heape: [he that worketh righteousnes, shalbe exalted,] and he that pleaseth great mē, shal haue pardō of his iniquitie. *Prov. 12. 22. & 22. 19.*
- 28 *Rewardes and giftes blinde the eyes of the wise, and make them dōme, that they can not reprove fautes. *Exod 23. 2. deu 16. 19.*
- 29 Wisdome that is hid, and treasure that is horded vp, what profite is in the bothe?
- 30 Better is he that kepeth his ignorance secret, then a man that hideth his wisdom.
- 31 The necessarie pacience of him, that followeth the Lord, is better then he that gouerneth his life without the Lord.

CHAP. XXXI.

1 Not to continue in sinne. 5 The prayer of the afflicted. 6 To hate to be reprobud. 17 The mouthe of the wise man 26 The thought of the foole.

- 1 MY sonne, hast thou sinned: do so no more,*but pray for the fore finnes [that they may be forgiuen thee.] *Chap. 5. 9. psal 41. 5. luk. 15. 21.*
- 2 Flee from sinne, as from a serpent: for if thou comest to nere it, it wil bite thee: the teeth thereof are as the teeth of a lyon, to slaye the soules of men.
- 3 All iniquitie is as a two edged sworde, the woundes whereof can not be healed.
- 4 Strife & iniuries waste riches: so the house of the proude shalbe desolate.
- 5 *The prayer of the poore going out of the mouth, cometh vnto the eares of the Lord, and iustice is done him incontinently. *Exod 3. 9. and 22. 23.*
- 6 Who so hateth to be reformed, is in the way of sinners: but he that feareth the Lord, conuerteth in heart.
- 7 An eloquent talker is knowen afarre off: but he that is wise, perceiueth when he falleth.
- 8 Who so buyldeth his house with other mēs money, is like one that gathereth stones to make his graue.
- 9 *The congregacion of the wicked is like towne wrapped together: their end is a flame of fyre to destroye them. *Chap. 16. 7.*
- 10 The waye of sinners is made plaine with stones, but at the end thereof is hel, [darkenes and paines.]
- 11 He that kepeth the Law of the Lord, ruleth his owne affections thereby: and

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- the increase of wisdom is the end of the feare of God.
- 12 He that is not wise, will not suffer him self to be taught: but there is some wit that increaseth bitternes.
- 13 The knowledge of the wise shal abounde like water that runneth ouer, and his counsel is like a pure fountaine of life.
- Chap. 31, 1.* 14 * The inner partes of a foole are like a broken vessel: he can kepe no knowledge while he liueth.
- 15 When a man of vnderstanding heareth a wise worde, he wil comend it, and increase it: but if an ignorant man heare it, he wil disallowe it, and cast it behinde his backe.
- 16 The talking of a foole is like a burden in the way, but there is comelines in the talke of a wise man.
- 17 They inquire at the mouthe of the wise man in the congregacion, and they shal ponder his wordes in their heart.
- 18 As is an house that is destroyed, so is wisdom vnto a foole, and the knowlege of the vnwise is as wordes without order.
- 19 Doctrines vnto fooles is as fetters on the fete, and like manicles vpon the right hand.
- Chap. 19, 27.* 20 * A foole listeth vp his voyce with laughter, but a wise mā doeth scarce smile secretly.
- 21 Learning is vnto a wise man a iewel of golde, and like a bracelet vpon his right arme.
- 22 A foolish mans fote is sone in [his neighbours] house: but a man of experience is ashamed to loke in.
- 23 A foole wil pepe in at the dore into the house: but he that is wel nurtered, wil stand without.
- 24 It is the point of a foolish mā to hearkē at the dore: for he that is wise, wil be grieued with such dishonour.
- 25 The lippes of talkers wil be telling suche things as pertaine not vnto the, but y wordes of suche as haue vnderstanding, are weighed in the balance.
- 26 The heart of fooles is in their mouth: but the mouth of the wise is in their heart.
- 27 When the vngodlie curseth Satan, he curseth his owne soule.
- Chap. 22, 9.* 28 * A backebiter defileth his owne soule, & is hated wheresoeuer he is: [but he that kepeth his tongue, and is discrete, shal come to honour.]
- CHAP. XXXII.
- 1 Of the fluggard. 12 Not to speake muche to a foole. 16 A good conscience feareth not.*
- 1 **A** Slothful man is like a filthie stone, which euerie man mocketh at for his shame.
- 2 A slothful man is to be compared to the dongue of oxē, & currie one that taketh it vp, wil shake it out of his hand.
- 3 An euil nurtered sonne is the dishonour of the father: & the daughter is least to be esteem: d.
- 4 A wise daughter is an heritage vnto her housband: but she that liueth dishonestly, is her fathers heauines.
- 5 She that is bolde, dishonoreth bothe her father and her housband; [and is not inferior to the vngodlie,] but they bothe shal dispise her.
- 6 A tale out of time is as musicke in mourning: but wisdom knoweth the seasons of correction and doctrine.
- 7 Who so teacheth a foole, is as one that gleweth a potcherde together, and as he that waketh one that slepeth, from a sounde slepe.
- 8 If children liue honestly, & haue wherewith, they shal put away the shame of their parents.
- 9 But if children be proude, with hautines and foolishnes they defile the nobilitie of their kinred.
- 10 Who so telleth a foole of wisdom, is as a man, which speaketh to one y is a slepe: whē he hathe tolde his tale, he saith, What is the matter?
- 11 * Wepe for the dead, for he hathe lost the light: so wepe for the foole, for he wanteth vnderstanding: make smale weping for the dead, for he is at rest: but the life of the foole is worse then the death.
- 12 Scūe dayes do men mourne for him that is dead: but the lamentacion for the foole, & vngodlie [shulde endure] all the dayes of their life.
- 13 Talke not muche with a foole, & go not to him that hathe no vnderstanding: * beware of him, lest it turne thee to paine, and lest thou be defiled when he shaketh him self. Depart from him, & thou shalt finde rest, and shalt not receiue sorowe by his foolishnes.
- Chap. 12, 12.*
- 14 What is heauier then lead, and what other name shulde a foole haue?
- 15 * Sad and salt, and a lumpe of yron is easier to beare, then an vnwise, [foolish and vngodlie man.]
- Pro. 17, 1.*
- 16 As a frame of wood ioyned together in a buylding can not be losed with shaking, so the heart that is stablished by aduised counsel, shal feare at no time.
- 17 The heart that is confirmed by discrete wisdom, is as a faire plaistering on a plaine wall.
- 18 As reedes that are set vp on hie, can not abide the winde, so the feareful heart with foolish imaginacion can indure no feare.
- 19 He that hurteth the eye, bringeth forthe teares, & he that hurteth y heart, bringeth forthe the affection.
- 20 Who so casteth a stone at y birdes, fraieth them away: & he that vpbraideth his friend, breaketh friendship.
- 21 Thogh

- 21 Thogh thou drewest a sworde at thy friend, yet dispaire not: for there may be a returning to fauour.
- 22 If thou haue opened thy mouth against thy friend, feare not: for there may be a reconciliation, so that vpbaiding or pride or disclosing of secrets or a traiterous woude do not let: for by these things euerie friend wil departe.
- 23 Be faithful vnto thy friend in his pouvertie, that thou maist reioyce in his prosperitie. Abide stedfast vnto him in the time of his trouble, that thou maist be heire with him in his heritage: for pouvertie is not alwayes to be contemned, nor the riche that is foolish, to be had in admiration.
- 24 As the vapour, and smoke of the chimney goeth before the fyre, so euil wordes, [rebukes & threatenings] go before bloodshedding.
- 25 I wil not be ashamed to defende a friend: nether wil I hide my self from him, thogh he shulde do me harme: whosoeuer heareth it, shal beware of him.
- 26 Who shal set a watch before my mouth, and a seale of wisdom vpon my lippes, that I fall not suddenly by them, and that my tongue destroye me not?

CHAP. XXIII.

1 A prayer of the autor. 23 Of othes, blasphemie, and vnwise communiacion 26 Of thre kindes of finnes. 27 Manes finnes procede of aduulterie. 27 Of the feare of God.

- 1 **O** Lord, father & gouernour of all my whole life, leaue me not to their counsel, and let me not fall by them.
- 2 Who wil correct my thought, and put the doctrine of wisdom in mine heart, that they may not spare me in mine ignorace, nether let their fautes passe?
- 3 Lest mine ignorances increase, and my finnes abounde to my destruction, and lest I fall before mine aduulterie, and mine enemies reioyce ouer me, whose hope is farre from thy mercie.
- 4 O Lord, father & God of my life, [leaue me not in their imaginacion] nether giue me a proude looke, but turne away from thy seruants a stoute minde.
- 5 Take from me vaine hope, and concupiscence, and retaine him in obedience, that desireth continually to serue thee.
- 6 Let not the griedines of the bellie, nor lust of the flesh holde me, and giue not me thy seruant ouer into an impudent minde.
- 7 ¶ Heare, o ye children, the instruction of a mouth that shal speake truth: who so kepeth it, shal not perishe thorow his lippes, [nor be hurte by wicked workes.]
- 8 The sinne shalbe taken by his owne lippes: for the euil speaker and the proude do offende by them.

Or, my lippt.

That is of tongue and lip
acc.

- 9 *Accustome not thy mouth to swearing: [for in it there are many falles,] nether take vp for a custome the naming of the Holy one: [for thou shalt not be vnpunished for suche things.]
- 10 For as a seruant which is oft punished, can not be without some starre, so he that sweareth and nameth God continually, shal not be fauteles.
- 11 A man that vseth much swearing, shalbe filled with wickednes, and the plague shal neuer go from his house: when he shal offend, his faute shalbe vpon him, and if he knowledge not his sinne, he maketh a double offence: and if he sweare in vaine, he shal not be innocent, but his house shalbe full of plagues.
- 12 There is a worde which is clothed with death: God giante that it be not founde in the heritage of Iacob: but they that feare God, eschewe all suche, & are not wrapped in sinne.
- 13 Vse not thy mouth to ignorant rashnes: for therein is the occasion of sinne.
- 14 ¶ Remember thy father and thy mother when thou art set among great men, lest thou be forgotten in their sight, and so through thy custome become a foole, and wish that thou hadest not bene borne, and curse the day of thy natiuitie.
- 15 *The man that is accustomed to opprobrious wordes, wil neuer be reformed all the daies of his life.
- 16 There are two sortes [of me] that abounde in sinne, and the third bringeth wrath [and destruction:] a minde note as fyre, that can not be quenched til it be consumed: an adulterous man that giueth his bodie no rest, til he haue kindled a fyre.
- 17 (All bread is swete to a whoremonger: he wil not leaue of til he perishe.)
- 18 A man that breaketh wedlocke, & thinketh thus in his heart, *Who seeth me? I am compassed about with darkenes: the wales couer me: no bodie seeth me: whome ne de I to feare? the moste High wil not remember my finnes.
- 19 Suche a man onely feareth the eyes of men, & knoweth not that the eyes of the Lord are ten thousand times brighter the sunne, beholding all the wales of me, [and the ground of the deepe,] and considereth the moste secret partes.
- 20 He knewe all things or euer they were made, and after they be brought to passe also he loketh vpon them all.
- 21 *The same man shalbe punished in the streets of the cite, [& shalbe chased like a yong horsefoale,] and when he thinketh not vpon it, he shalbe taken: [thus shal he be put to shame of euerie man, because he wolde not vnderstand the feare of the Lord.]

Exod. 20. 7.
chap. 27. 15.
mat. 5. 34.

Or, inordinat
swearing.

2 Sam. 16. 7.

Leu. 20. 20.
deut. 22. 22.

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- 22 And thus shal it go also with euerie wife, that leaueth her housband, and getteth inheritance by another.
- Ecc. 26, 14.* 23 *For first she hathe disobeid the Law of the moste High, and secondly, she hathe trespassed against her owne housband, & thirdly, she hathe plaide the whore in adulterie, and gotten her children by another man.
- 24 She shalbe broght out into the congregation, and examination shalbe made of her children.
- 25 Her children shal not take roote, and her branches shal bring forth no frute.
- 26 A shameful reporte shal she haue, and her reproche shal not be put out.
- 27 And they that remaine, shal knowe that there is nothing better then the feare of the Lord, and that there is nothing sweter then to take hede vnto the commandments of the Lord.
- 28 It is great glorie to followe the Lord, and to be receiued of him is long life.
- CHAP. XXIIII.
- 1 A praise of wisdom proceeding forth of the mouth of God. 6 Of her workes and place where she relecth. 20 She is giuen to the children of God.*
- 1 **W**isdom shall praise her self, [and be honored in God,] and reioyce in the middes of her people.
- 2 In the congregacion of the moste High shal she open her mouth, and triumph before his power.
- 3 [In the middes of her people shal she be exalted, and wondred at in the holy assemblie.]
- 4 In the multitude of the chosen she shalbe commended, and among suche as be blessed, she shalbe praised, and shal say,]
- 5 I am come out of the mouth of the moste High, [first borne before all creatures.]
- 6 I caused y light that faileth not, to arise in the heauen,] and couered the earth as a cloude.
- 7 My dwelling is aboue in the height, and my throne is in the pillar of the clouds.
- 8 I alone haue gone round about the compassse of heauen, and haue walked in the bottom of the depth.
- 9 I possessed the waues of the sea, and all the earth, and all people, and nation, [and with my power haue I troden downe the hearts of all, bothe High and low.]
- 10 In all these things I foght rest, & a dwelling in some inheritance.
- 11 So the creator of all things gaue me a commandement, and he that made me, appointed me a tabernacle, and said, Let thy dwelling be in Iacob, and take thine inheritance in Iacob, and roote thy selfe among my chosen.
- Prov. 1, 23. Ecc. 1, 21, 22.* 12 *He created me fro the beginning, & before the worlde, & I shal neuer faile: * In the holic habitacion haue I serued before him, and so was I stablished in Sion.
- 13 *In the welbeloued cite gaue he me rest, *Tygr. 132, 2.* and in Ierusalem was my power.
- 14 I toke roote in an honorable people, euē in the porcion of the Lords inheritance.
- 15 I am set vp on hie like a cedar in Libanus, and as a cypers tre vpon the mountaynes of Hermon.
- 16 I am exalted like a palme tre^r about the *Or. in Cedar* bankes, and as a rose plante in Iericho, as a faire oliue tre in a pleasant field, and am exalted as a plane tre by the water.
- 17 I smelled as the cinnamom, & as a bagge of spices: I gaue a swete odour as the best myrrhe, as galbanum, and onix, and swete storax, & perfume of incense in an house.
- 18 As the terebinth, haue I stretched out my branches, and my branches are the braches of honour and grace.
- 19 *As the vine haue I broght forth [*John 1, 2.* fruite] of swete sauour, and my floures are the frute of honour and riches.
- 20 I am the mother of beautiful loue, and of feare, and of knowledge, and of holy hope: I giue eternal thigs to all my children to whome God hathe commanded.
- 21 [In me is all grace of life and truth: in me is all hope of life and vertue.]
- 22 Come vnto me all ye that be desirous of me, and fill your selues with my frutes.
- 23 *For the remembrance of me is sweter *Psal. 119, 12.* then honie, and mine enheritance [sweter] then the honie combe: [the remembrance of me endureth for euer more.]
- 24 They that eat me, shal haue y more hunger, and they that drinke me, shal thirst the more.
- 25 Who so hearkeneth vnto me, shal not come to confusion, & they that worke by me, shal not offende: [they that make me to be known, shal haue euerlasting life.]
- 26 All these things are the boke [of life,] & the couenant of the moste high God, [& the knowledge of the truth,] * & the Law *Ecc. 20, 14. & 24, 1. deu. 4, 1. & 25, 5.* that Moyses [in the precepts of righteousness] commanded for an heritage vnto the house of Iacob, [and the promises pertaining vnto Israel.]
- 27 Be not weary to behaue your selues variatly with the Lord, that he may also confirme you: cleaue vnto him: for the Lord almightie is but one God, & besides him there is none other Sauour.
- 28 [Out of Dauid his seruant he ordeined to raise vp a moste mightie King y shal de sit in the throne of honour for euer more.]
- 29 He filleth all things with his wisdom, as *Physon, & as Tygris, in the time of the *Gen. 1, 10.* new frutes.
- 30 He maketh the vnderstanding to abound like * Euphrates, & as Iorden in the *Iof. 1, 13.* time

time of the haruest.
 31 He maketh the doctrine of knowledge to appeare as the light, and ouerfloweth as Geon in the time of the vintage.
 32 The first man hath not knowen her perfectly: no more shal the last seke her out.
 33 For her considerations are more abundant then the sea, and her counsel is profounder then the great deepe.
 34 I wisdome [haue cast out floods:] I am as an arme of the riuier: I runne into Paradise as a watercondite.
 35 I said, I wil watter my faire garden, and wil watter my pleasant ground: and lo, my ditche became a flood, and my flood became a sea.
 36 For I make doctrine to shine as the light of the morning, and I lighten it for euer.
 37 [I wil pearce thorow all the lower partes of the earth: I wil loke vp o all suche as be a slepe, & lighten all them that trust in the Lord.]
 38 I wil yet powre out doctrine, as prophetic, and leaue it vnto all ages for euer.
 39 *Beholde that I haue not labored for my self onely, but for all them that seke wisdom.

Chap 33, 12.

CHAP. XXV.

1 Of three things which please God, and of three which he hateth. 7 Of nine things that be not to be suspect. 15 Of the malice of a woman.
 1 **T**Hre things reioyce me, and by them I am beautified before God & men: *the vntie of brethren, the loue of neighbours, a man and wife that agre together.
 2 ¶ Three sortes of men my soule hateth, & I vterly abhorre the life of them: a poore man that is proude: a riche man that is a lier, and an olde adulterer that doteth.
 3 ¶ If thou hast gathered nothing in thy youth, what canst thou finde in thine age?
 4 ¶ Oh, how pleasant a thing is it whē graie headed men minister iudgement, & when the elders can giue good counsel!
 5 Oh, how comelic a thig is wisdom vnto aged men, and vnderstanding and prudence to men of honour!
 6 The crowne of olde mē is to haue muche experience, and the feare of God is their glorie.
 7 ¶ There be nine thigs, which I haue iudged in mine heart to be happie, and the tenth wil I pronounce with my tongue: a man that while he liueth, hath ioye of his children, and seeth the fall of his enemies.
 8 ¶ Wel is him that dwelleth with a wife of vnderstanding, *and that hath not fallen with his tongue, and that hath not serued suche as are vnworthie of him.

Chap 24, 2.
 & 29, 16.
 1470, 2, 10.

9 Wel is him that findeth prudence, and he that can not speake in the eares of them that wil heare.
 10 ¶ Oh, how great is he that findeth wisdom! yet is there none about him, that feareth the Lord.
 11 The feare of the Lord passeth all things in clerenes.
 12 [Blessed is the man, vnto whome it is granted to haue the feare of God.] Vnto whome shal he be likened that hath attained it?
 13 The feare of the Lord is the beginning of his loue, and faith is the beginning to be ioyned vnto him.
 14 [¶ The greatest heauines is the heauines of the heart, and the greatest malice is the malice of a woman]
 15 Giue me any plague, saue onely the plague of the heart, and any malice, saue the malice of a woman:
 16 Or any assault, saue the assault of them that hate, or any vengeance, saue the vengeance of the enemy.
 17 There is not a more wicked head then the head of the serpent, and there is no wrath about the wrath of an enemy.
 18 * I had rather dwell with a lion and dragon, then to kepe house with a wicked wife.
 19 The wickednes of a woman chāgeth her face, and maketh her countenance blacke as a sacke.
 20 Her housband is sitting among his neighbours: because of her he figheth sore or he beware.
 21 All wickednes is but litle to the wickednes of a woman: let the poision of the sinner fall vpon her.
 22 As the climbing vp of a sandie way is to the fete of the aged, so is a wife ful of wordes to a quiet man.
 23 * Stumble not at the beautie of a woman, and desire her not for thy pleasure.
 24 If a woman nourish her housband, she is angrie and impudent and ful of reproche.
 25 A wicked wife maketh a sorie heart, an heauie countenance, and a wounded minde, weake hands and feble knees, and can not comfort her housband in heauines.
 26 Of the * woman came the beginning of sinne, and thorow her we all dye.
 27 Giue the wares no passage, [no not a litle,] nether giue a wicked woman libertie to go out.
 28 If she walke not in thine obedience, [she shal confound thee in the sight of thine enemies.] Cut her of then from thy flesh:
 * Giue her, and forsake her.

10, 1000, 6.

Prov. 21, 19.

10, 2 heart.

Chap 42, 12
 2, sam. 13, 2.

Gen 3, 6.
 2, tim. 2, 14.

a To wit, the bill of divorcement.

Ecclesiasticus.

CHAP. XXVI.

1 The praise of a good woman. 5 Of the feare of three things, and of the fourth. 6 Of the ielous and drunken woman. 22 Of two things that cause sorow, and of the thirde which moueth wrath.

1 **B**lessed is the man that hath a verteous wife: for the number of his yeres shalbe double.

2 An honest womā reioyceth her housbād, and she shal fill the yeres of his life with peace.

3 A verteous womā is a good portiō which shalbe giuen for a gift vnto suche as feare the Lord.

4 Whether a man be riche or poore, he hath a good heart toward the Lord, & they shal at all times haue a chereful countenance.

5 ¶ There be three things that mine heart feareth, & my face is afrayed of the fourth: treason in a citie: the assemblie of the people, and false accusation: all these are heavier then death.

6 ¶ But the sorow and grief of the heart is a woman that is ielous ouer another: and she that communeth with all, is a scourge of the tongue.

7 An euil wife is as a yoke of oxen y drawe diuerse waies: he that hath her, is as though he helde a scorpion.

8 A drunken woman and suchē as can not be tamed, is a great plague: for she can not couer her owne shame.

9 The whordome of a womā may be knowē in the pride of her eyes, and eyeliddes.

Chap. 22, 27. 10 ¶ If thy daughter be not shamefast, holde her straitly, lest she abuse her self thorrowe ouer muche libertie.

11 Take hede of her that hath an vnshamefast eye: & marueile not if she trespace against thee.

12 As one that goeth by the way, and is thirstie, so shal she open her mouth, and drinke of euerie next water: by euerie hedge shal she sitte downe, & open her quiuer against euerie arrowe.

13 The grace of a wife reioyceth her housband, and fedeth his bones with her vnderstanding.

14 A peaceable woman and of a good heart is a gift of the Lord, and there is nothing so muche worthe as a womā wel instructed.

15 A shamefast & faithful woman is a double grace, and there is no weight to be cōpared vnto her continent minde.

16 As the sunne when it ariseth in the high places of the Lord, so is the beautie of a good wife the ornament of her house.

17 As the clere light is vpon the holie candlestick, so is the beautie of the face in a ripe age.

18 As the golden pillers are vpon the sockettes of siluer: so are faire sete with a con-

stant minde.

19 [Perpetual are the fundaciōs that be laide vpon a strong rocke: so are the cōmandements of God in the heart of an holie woman.]

20 My sonne, kepe the strength of thine age stable, and giue not thy strength to strangers.

21 When thou hast gotten a fruteful possesiō through all the fields, sowe it with thine owne seede, trusting in thy nobilitie.

22 So thy stocke that shal liue after thee, shal growe, trusting in the great liberalitie of their nobilitie.

23 An harlot is compared to a sowe: but the wife that is married, is counted as a towre against death to her housband.

24 A wicked womā is giuen as a rewarde to a wicked man: but a godlie woman is giuē to him that feareth the Lord.

25 A shameles woman contemneth shame: but a shamefast woman wil reuerence her housband.

26 A shameles woman is cōpared to a dogge: but she that is shamefast, reuerēceth the Lord.

27 A woman that honoreth her housband, shalbe iudged wise of all: but she that despi Seth him, shalbe blafed for her pride.

28 A lowde crying woman and a babler let her be fought out to driue away y enemies: the minde of euerie man that lueth with suche, shalbe conuerfant among the troubles of warre.

29 There be two things that grieue mine heart, and the thirde maketh me angrie: a mā of warre that suffreth pouertie: and mē of vnderstāding that are not set by: & whē one departeth from righteousnes vnto sinne: the Lord appointeth suche to y sworde.

30 [There be two things, which me thinke to be hard and perilous.] A marchant can not lightly kepe him from wrong, and a vitailer is not without sinne.

CHAP. XXVII.

3 Of the poore that wold be riche. 5 The probacion of the man that feareth God. 13 The vnconstantnes of a foole. 16 The secrets of friends are not to be reueled. 26 The wicked imagineth euil which turneth vpon him self.

1 **B**ecause of pouertie haue manie sinned: and he that seketh to be riche, turneth his eyes aside.

2 As a nail in the wall sticketh fast betwene the ioyntes of the stones, so doeth sinne stricke betwene the selling and the buying.

3 If he holde him not diligently in the feare of the Lord, his house shal sone be ouerthrown.

4 As when one sifteth, the filthines remaineth in the sieve, so the filth of man remaineth in his thought.

5 The fornace proueth the potters vessel:

1 Tim 6, 9. prou 13, 9.

*[o]

Prov. 27, 21. *fo doeth [tentacion] trye mens thoughts.

6 The frute declareth if the tre haue bene trimmed: fo the worde [declareth] what man hath in his heart.

7 Pleafe no man except thou haue heard his talke: for this is the tryal of men.

8 ¶ If thou followest righteoufnes, thou shalt get her, & put her on as a faire garment, [and shalt dwell with her, and she fhall defend thee for euer: and in the daye of knowledge thou shalt finde ftedfaftnes.]

9 The birdes reforte vnto their like: fo doeth the trueth tune vnto them, that are practifed in her.

10 As the lyon waiteth for the beaft, fo doeth finne vpon them that do euil.

11 The talking of him that feareth God, is all wifdome: as for a foole, he changeth as the moone.

12 If thou be among the vndifcete, obferue the time, but haunte ftill the afsemble of them that are wif.

13 The talking of foolles is grieuous, and their fporte is in the plaifer of finne.

Chap. 22, 10. 14 *The talke of him that sweareth much, maketh the heere to ftand vp: & to ftirue with fuche, ftoppeth the eares.

15 The ftirfe of the proude is blood fhedding, and their fouldings are grieuous to heare.

Chap. 19, 10. & 22, 28. 16 *Who fo difcouereth fecrets, lefeth his credit, & findeth no friend after his wil.

17 Loue thy friend, & be faithfull vnto him: but if thou bewrayeft his fecrets, thou fhalt not get him againe.

18 For as a man deftroyeth hisemie, fo doeft thou deftroye the friendship of thy neighbour.

19 As one that letteth a buide go out of his hand, fo if thou giue ouer thy friend, thou canft not gette him againe.

20 Followe after him no more, for he is to farte of: he is as a roe efaped out of the fnare: [for his foule is wounded.]

21 As for woundes, they may be bounde vp againe, and an euil worde may be reconciled: but whofo bewrayeth the fecrets of a friend, hath loft all his credit.

Prov. 10, 10. 22 *He that winketh with the eyes, imagineth euil: and he that knoweth him, wil let him alone.

23 When thou art prefent, he wil fpeake fweetely, and praife thy wordes: but at the laft he wil turne his tale, and fclander thy faying.

24 Manie things haue I hated, but nothing fo euil as fuche one: for the Lord alfo hateth him.

25 Who fo cafteth a ftone on hie, cafteth it vpon his owne head: and he that fmiteth with guile, maketh a great wounde.

Prov. 26, 27. ecclef. 10, 8. 26 Who fo diggeth a pit, fhall fall therein,

[and he that laieth a ftone in his neighbours way, fhall ftumble thercon,] and he that laieth a fnare for another, fhall be takē in it him felf.

27 He that worketh euil, fhall be wrapped in euil, and fhall not knowe from whence they come vnto him.

28 Mockerie & reproche followe the proude, and vengeance lurketh for them as a lyon.

29 They that reioyce at the fall of y righteous, fhall be taken in the fnare, & anguifh fhall confume them before they dye.

30 Difpice & angre are abominable things, and the finful man is fubie& to the bothe.

CHAP. XXVIII.

1 We ought not to defire vengeance, but to forgive the offence 13 Of the vices of the tongue, and of the dangers thereof.

1 **H**E* that fekethe vengeance, fhall finde vengeance of the Lord, and he wil fuicly kepe his finnes.

Deut. 32, 35. rom. 12, 19.

2 ¶ Forgiue thy neighbour the hurt that he hath done to thee, fo fhall thy finnes be forgiven thee alfo, when thou praiteft.

¶ Man ought not to leue vengeance.

3 Shulde a man beare hatred againft man, and *defire forgienes of the Lord?

Matt. 6, 24.

4 He wil fhewe no mercie to a man, which is like him felf: and wil he afke forgienes of his owne finnes?

5 If he that is but flefh, nourifhe hatred, [and afke pardone of God,] who wil intreate for his finnes?

6 Remembre the end, & let enimitie paffe: imagine not death and deftruction to another through angre, but perfeuere in the commandements.

7 Remember the commādements: fo fhalt thou not be rigorous againft thy neighbour: [confider diligently] the couenant of the moft High, and forgiue his ignorance.

8 *Beware of ftirfe, & thou fhalt make thy finnes fewer: for an angrie man kindleth ftirfe.

Chap. 1, 1.

9 And the finful man difquieteth friends, and bringeth in falfe accufations among them that be at peace.

10 *As the matter of the fyre is, fo it burneth, and mans angre is according to his power: and according to his riches his angre increafeth, and the more vehement the angre is, the more is he inflamed.

Prov. 16, 22.

11 An haftie brauling kindleth a fyre, and an haftie fighting fheddeh blood: [a togue that beareth falfe witnes, bringeth death.]

12 If thou blowe the sparke, it fhall burne: if thou fpiit vpon it, it fhall be quenched, and bothe thefe come out of the mouth.

13 ¶ *Abhorre the fclander and double tongued: for fuche haue deftroyed many that were at peace.

¶ The tongue. Chap. 21, 20.

14 The double tongue hath difquieted

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manic, and driuen them from nacion to nacion: strong cities hath it broken downe, and ouerthrowen the houses of great men: [the strength of the people hath it brought downe, & bene the decaye of mightie nations.]

15 The double tongue hath cast out manie vertuous women, and robbed them of their labours.

16 Whoso hearkeneth vnto it, shal neuer finde rest, and neuer dwell quietly.

17 The stroke of the rodde maketh markes in the flesh, but the stroke of the tongue breaketh the bones.

18 There be manie that haue perished by the edge of the sworde, but not so manie as haue fallen by the tongue.

19 Wel is him that is kept frō an euil tongue, and cometh not in the angrē thereof, which hath not drawn in that yoke, neither hath bene bounde in the bandes thereof.

20 For the yoke thereof is a yoke of yron, and the bands of it are bandes of brasse.

21 The death thereof is an euil death: hell were better then suche one.

22 It shal not haue rule ouer them that feare God, nether shal they be burnt with the flame thereof.

23 Suche as forsake the Lord, shal fall therein: and it shal burne them, and no man shalbe able to quenche it: it shal fall vpon them as a lyon, and deuoure them as a leopard.

24 Hedge thy possession with thornes, and make dores and barres for thy mouth.

25 Binde vp thy siluer and golde, & weigh thy wordes in a balance, and make a dore and a barre, [and a sure bridle] for thy mouth.

26 Beware that thou slide not by it, and so fall before him that lieth in wait, [and thy fall be incurable, euen vnto death.]

C H A P. XXX.

Do lend money, and do almes 15 Of a faithfull man answering for his friend. 24 The poore mans life.

¶ Of wisdom.

HE that wil shewe mercie, [and] lendeth to his neighbour: and he that hathie power ouer him self, kepeth the commandements.

1 Lend to thy neighbour in time of his neede, and pay thou thy neighbour againe in due season.

2 Kepe thy worde and deale faithfully with him, and thou shalt alwaye finde the thing that is necessarie for thee.

3 Manie when a thing was lent them, rekened it to be founde, & grieued them that had helped them.

4 Til they receiue, they kisse his hands, and for their neighbours good they humble their voyce: but when they shulde paie againe, they prolong the terme, and giue a

careles answer, and make excuses by reason of the time.

6 And though he be able, yet giueth he scarce the halfe againe, and rekeneth the other as a thing founde: els he deceiueth him of his money, & maketh him an enemy without a cause: he pisseth him with cursing & rebuke, & giueth him euil wordes for his good dede.

7 There be manie which refuse to lend because of this inconuenience, fearing to be defrauded without cause.

8 Yet haue thou pacience with him that humbleth him self, & differre not mercie from him.

9 Helpe the poore for the commandemēt's sake, and turne him not away, because of his pouertie.

10 Lest thy money for thy brothers and neighbours sake, and let it not rust vnder a stone to thy destruction.

11 * Bestowe the treasure after the commandement of the moste High, & it shal bring thee more profite then golde.

Dan. 4. 24. Luk. 11. 41. Mat. 10. 4.

12 Lay vp thine almes in thy secret chambers, & it shal kepe thee from all affliction.

Or. give thy almes secretly.

13 [A mans almes is as a purse with him, and shal kepe a mans fauour as the apple of the eye, and afterwarde shal it arise, and paye euerie man his rewarde vpon his head.]

14 It shal fight for thee against thine enemies, better then the shield of a strong man, or speare of the mightie.

15 An honest man is [suretie] for his neighbour: but he that is impudent, forsaketh him.

¶ Of suretieshippe.

16 Forget not the friendship of thy suretie: for he hath laied his life for thee.

17 The wicked despiseth the good dede of his suretie.

18 The wicked wil not become suretie: and he that is of an vnthankful minde, forsaketh him that deliuered him.

19 [Some men promiseth for his neighbour: and when he hath lost his honestie, he wil forsake him.]

20 Suretieshippe hath destroyed manie a riche man, & remoued them as the waues of the sea: mightie men hath it driuen away from their houses, and caused them to wander among strange nations.

21 A wicked man, transgressing the commandements of the Lord, shal fall into suretieshippe: and he that medleth muche with other mens busines, is intangled in controuersies.

22 ¶ Helpe thy neighbour according to thy power, and beware that thou thy self fall not.

23 * The chief thing of life is water, and bread, and clothing, and lodging to couer thy shame.

Chap. 30. 31.

Sobers living. 24 ¶ The poore mans life in his owne lodge is better then delicate fare in another mans.
 25 Be it litle or muche, holde thee contented, that the house speake not euil of thee.
 26 For it is a miserable life to go from house to house: for where thou art a stranger, thou darrest not open thy mouth.
 27 Thou shalt lodge and fede vnthankful men, & after shalt haue bitter wordes for the same, saying,
 28 Come, thou stranger, and prepare the table, and fede me of that thou hast readie.
 29 Giue place, thou stranger, to an honorable man: my brother cometh to be lodged, and I haue nede of mine house.
 30 These things are heauie to a mā that hath the vnderstanding, the vpbraiding of the house, and the reproche of the tender.

CHAP. XXX.

1 Of the correction of children. 14 Of the commoditie of health 17 Death is better then a sorrowful life. 22 Of the ioye and serow of the heart.

Prui. 13, 24. & 13, 13.

1 HE that loueth his sonne, * causeth him oft to fele the rodde, that he may haue ioye of him in the end.

2 He that chastiseth his sone, shal haue ioy in him, and shal reioyce of him amōg his acquaintance.

Dem. 6, 7.

3 He that * teacheth his sonne, griueth the enemye, and before his friends he shal reioyce of him.

4 Though his father dye, yet is he as though he were not dead: for he hath left one behinde him that is like him.

5 In his life he sawe him, and had ioye in him, and was not sorie in his death, [neither was he ashamed before his enemies.]

6 He left behinde him an aduenger against his enemies, and one that shulde shewe fauour vnto his friends.

7 He that flattereth his sonne, bindeth vp his woundes, and his heart is griued at euerie crye.

8 An vntamed horse wil be stubburne, and a wanton childe wil be wilful.

9 If thou bring vp thy sonne delicately, he shal make thee afraide: and if thou piaye with him, he shal bring thee to heauines.

10 Laugh not with him, lest thou be sorie with him, and lest thou gnash thy teeth in the end.

Chap. 7, 25.

11 * Giue him no libertie in his youth, and winke not at his folie.

12 Bowe downe his necke while he is yong, and beat him on the fles, while he is a childe, lest he waxe stubburne, and be disobedient vnto thee, and so bring sorow to thine heart.

13 Chastise thy childe, and be diligent therein, lest his shame griue thee.

¶ The praise of health.

14 ¶ Better is the poore, being whole and strong, then a riche man that is afflicted

in his bodie.
 15 Health and strength is about all golde, and a whole bodie about infinite treasure.

16 There is no riches about a founde bodie, and no ioye about the ioye of the heart.

17 Death is better then a bitter life, [and long rest,] then continual sickenes.

18 The good things that are powred on a mouth shut vp, are as masses of meat set vpon a graue.

19 What good doeth the offering vnto an idole: for he can nether eat, nor smell: so is he that is persecuted of the Lord, [& beareth the rewarde of iniquitie.]

20 He seeth with his eyes, and groneth like * a gelded man, that lieth with a virgin *Chap. 30, 8.* and sigheth.

21 * Giue not ouer thy minde to heauines, *Prui. 12, 21. & 17, 11. & 17, 20.* and vexenot thy self in thine owne counsel.

22 The ioye of the heart is the life of mā, and a mans gladnes is the prolonging of his daies.

23 Loue thine owne soule, and comforte thine heart: driue sorow farre from thee: for sorow hath slaine many, and there is no profite therein.

24 Enuie and wrath shorten the life, and carefullnes bringeth age before the time.

25 A noble and good heart wil haue consideration of his meat and diet.

CHAP. XXXI.

Of couetousnes. 2 Of them that take paine to gather riches. 8 The praise of a riche man without a fault. 12 We ought to flee drunkennes and folowe sobernes.

1 W Aking ¶ after riches pineth away *¶ Couetousnes.* the bodie, and the care thereof driueth away slepe.

2 This waking care breaketh the slepe, as a great sickenes breaketh the slepe.

3 The riche hath great labour in gathering riches together, and in his rest he is filled with pleasures.

4 The pore laboreth indiuing poorely, and when he leaueth off, he is still poore.

5 He that loueth golde, shal not be iustified, and he that followeth corruption, shal haue ynough thereof.

6 * Many are destroyed by the reason of golde, *Chap. 7, 25.* and haue founde their destruction before them.

7 It is as a stumbling blocke vnto the that sacrifice vnto it, and euerie foole is taken therewith.

8 Blessed is the *riche which is founde without blemish, and hath not gone after golde. *Luk. 6, 24.* [nor hoped in money and treasures.]

9 Who is he, and we wil commend him for wonderful things that he doth among his people.

10 Who hath bene tryed thereby, & founde

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- de perſite: let him be an exāple of glorie, who might offende, and haſte not offend, or do euil, and haſte not done it.
- 11 Therefore ſhal his goods be ſtabliſhed, and the congregacion ſhal declare his almes.
- Temperancie* 12 If thou ſit at a coſtlye table, || open not thy mouth wide vpon it, & ſay not, Beholde muche meate.
- 13 Remembre that an euil eye is a ſhrew: & what thing created is worſe then a wicked eye: for it wēpeth for euerie cauſe.
- 14 Stretch not thine hand whereſoeuer it loketh, and thruſt it not with it into the diſh.
- 15 Conſider by thy ſelf him that is by thee, and marke euerie thing.
- 16 Eat modeſtly that which is ſet before thee, and deuoure not, leſt thou be hated.
- 17 Leaue thou of firſt for nourtours ſake, & be not infaciabie, leſt thou offend.
- 18 When thou ſitteſt among many, reache not thine hand out firſt of all.
- Chap. 17. 32.* 19 *How litle is ſufficient for a man wel taught? and thereby he be lecheth not in his chamber, [nor ſeleteh any paine.]
- 20 A whoſome ſlepe cometh of a temperat bellie: he riſeth vp in the morning, and is wel at eaſe in him ſelf: but paine in watching and cholericke diſeaſes, and pangſ of the bellie are with an vnſaciabie man.
- 21 If thou haſt bene forced to eat, ariſe, go forth, vomit, and then take thy reſt: [ſo thou ſhalt bring no ſickenes vnto thy bodie.]
- 22 My ſonne, heare me, and diſpiſe me not, and at the laſt thou ſhalt finde as I haue tolde thee: in all thy workes be quicke, ſo ſhal there no ſickenes come vnto thee.
- Prou. 22. 9.* 23 *Who ſo is || liberal in his meat, men ſhal bleſſe him: and the teſtimonie of his honeſtie ſhal be beleued.
- Liberallitee.*
- 24 But againſt him that is a nigard of his meat, the whole cite ſhal murmure: the teſtimonies of his nigardnes ſhal be ſure.
- 25 Shewe not thy valiantnes in wine: for
- Iudeth 13. 3.* wine hath deſtroied manie.
- 26 The fornace proueth the edge in the répering: ſo doeth wine the hearts of the proude by drunkennes.
- Pſal. 104. 13.* 27 *Wine ſoberly dronken, is profitable for the life of mā: what is his life that is ouercome with wine?
- Prou. 31. 4.*
- 28 Wine was made [from the beginning] to make men glad, [and not for drunkennes.] Wine meſurably dronken and in time, bringeth gladnes and cherefulnes of the minde.
- 29 But wine dronken with exceſſe, maketh bitternes of minde with braulings and ſkouldings.
- 30 Drunkennes increaſeth the courage of a ſoule, til he offēd: it diminiſheth his ſtrēgth
- and maketh woundes.
- 31 *Rebuke not thy neighbour at the wine, *Chap. 30. 1.* and diſpiſe him not in his mirth: giue him no diſpiteful wordes, and preſſe not vpon him with contrarie wordes.
- CHAP. XXXII.
- An exhortation to modeſtie. 3 Let the ancient ſpeake. 14 To giue thanks after the repaſt. 15 Of the feare, faith and conſcience in God.*
- 1 IF thou be made ſy matter of the feaſt, || liſt *Humblenes.* not thy ſelf vp, but be among them, as one of the reſt: take diligent care for the, and ſo ſit downie.
- 2 And when thou haſt done all thy duetic, ſit downe, that ſy maieſt be merie with them, and receiue a crowne for thy good behauiour.
- 3 Speake thou that art the elder: for it becometh thee, but with ſounde iudgement, and hinder not muſicke.
- 4 Powie not out wordes, where there is no audience, *and ſhewe not for the wiſdome out of time. *Chap. 3. 8. & 20. 7.*
- 5 The conſent of muſicians at a banquet is as a ſignet of carbuncle ſet in golde.
- 6 And as the ſignet of an emtraude wel trimmed with golde, ſo is the melodie of muſicke in a pleaſant banquet.
- 7 [Giue care, and be ſtil, and for thy good behauiour thou ſhalt be loued.]
- 8 Thou that art yong, ſpeake if neede be, and yet ſcarſely when thou art twiſe asked.
- 9 Comprhende muche in fewe wordes: [in manie things be as one that is ignorant:] be as one that vnderſtādeth, and yet holde thy tongue.
- 10 If thou be among great men, compare not thy ſelf vnto them: and when an elder ſpeaketh, bable not muche.
- 11 Before the * thonder goeth lightning, *Iob. 32. 6.* and before a ſhamefaſt man goeth fauour.
- 12 Stand vp betimes, and be not the laſt: but get thee home without delay.
- 13 And there take thy paſtime, and do what thou wilt, ſo that thou do none euil, or vſe proude wordes.
- 14 But about all things, giue thanks vnto him that hath made thee, and replenished thee with his goods.
- 15 ¶ Who ſo feareth the Lord, wil receiue his doctrine, and they that riſe early, ſhal finde fauour.
- 16 He that ſeketh the Law, ſhal be filled therewith: but the hypocrite wil be offended thereat.
- 17 They that feare the Lord, ſhal finde that which is righteous, and ſhal kinde iuſtice as a light.
- 18 An vngodlie man wil not be reformed, but findeth out excuſes according to his wil.
- 19 A man of vnderſtanding diſpiſeth not counſel:

counsel: but a lewde and proude mā is not touched with feare, euē when he hathe done rashly.

20 [My sonne,] do nothing without aduifement: so shal it not repent thee after the dede.

21 Go not in the way where thou maist fall, nor where thou maist stumble among the stones, nether trust thou in the way that is plaine.

22 And beware of thine owne children, [and take hede of them that be thine owne housholde.]

23 In euerie good worke be of a faithfull heart: for this is the keping of the commandements.

10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

CHAP. XXXIII.

1 The deliuerance of him that feareth God. 4 The answer of the wise. 12 Man is in the hand of God, as the clay is in the hand of the potter. 25 Of euil seruants.

1 **T**Here shal no euil come vnto him that feareth the Lord: but when he is in tentation, he wil deliuer him againe.

2 A wise man hateth not the Law: but he that is an hypocrite therein, is as a shippe in a storme.

3 A man of vnderstanding walketh faithfully in the Law, and the Law is faithful vnto him.

4 As the question is made, prepare the answer, and so shalt thou be heard: be sure of the matter, and so answer.

Chap. 31, 17. 5 The heart of the* foolish is like a cartewhele: and his thoughts are like a rolling axeltre.

6 As a wilde horse neieth vnder euerie one that sitteth vpon him, so is a scorneful friend.

7 Why doeth one day excell another, seing that the light of the daies of the yere come of the sunne?

8 The knowledge of the Lord hathe parted them a sondre, and he hathe by them disposed the times and solemne feastes.

9 Some of them hathe he chosen and sanctified, & some of them hathe he put among the daies to number.

Gen 1, 27. 2, 27. 10 And all men are of the* grounde, and Adam was created out of the earth: but the Lord hathe deuided them by great knowledge, and made their waies diuers.

11 Some of them hathe he blessed and exalted, and some of them hathe he sanctified, and appropriate to him self: but some of the hathe he cursed, and brought the lowe, and put them out of their estate.

Isa 45, 9. Rom 9, 20. 12 As the clay is in the potters hand, to

order it at his pleasure, so are men also in the hand of their creator, so that he may rewarde them as liketh him best.

13 Against euil is good, and against death is life: so is the godlie against the sinner, and the vngodlie against the faithfull.

14 So in all the workes of the moste High thou maist se: that there are cuer two, one against another.

15 ¶ I am awaked vp last of all, as one that gathereth after them in the vintage. In the blessing of the Lord I am increased, and haue filled my wine presse, like a grape gatherer.

16 Beholde, how I haue not labored onely for my self, but for all them that seke knowledge. Chap. 24, 26.

17 Heare me, o ye great men of the people, & hearken with your cares, ye rulers of the congregacion.

18 Giue not thy sonne and wife, thy brother and friēd, power ouer thee while thou liuest, and giue not away thy substance to another, lest it repent thee, and thou intreat for the same againe.

19 As long as thou liuest, and hast breth, giue not thy self ouer to anie persone.

20 For better it is that thy children shulde pray vnto thee, then that thou shuldest loke vp to the hands of thy children.

21 In all thy workes be excellent, that thine honour be neuer stained.

22 At the time when thou shalt end thy dayes, and finish thy life, distribute thine inheritance.

23 ¶ The fodder, the whippe and the burden belong vnto the asse: and meat, correctiō and worke vnto thy seruant.

24 If thou set thy seruant to labour, thou shalt finde rest: but if thou let him go idle, he shal seke libertie.

25 The yoke & the whippe bow downe the hard necke: so tame thine euil seruāt with the whippes and correctiō.

26 Send him to labour, that he go not idle: for idlens bringeth much euil.

27 Set him to worke, for that belongeth vnto him: if he be not obedient, put on more heauie fetters.

How fetters were ordered in oldetyme.

28 But be not excessiuetowarde anie, and without discrecion do nothing.

29 ¶ If thou haue a faithfull seruant, let him be vnto thee as thine owne soule: for in blood hast thou gotten him. If thou haue a seruant, intreat him as thy brother: for thou hast nede of him, as of thy self. If thou intreat him euil, and he runne away, wile thou seke him? Chap. 7, 22.

CHAP. XXXIIII.

Of dreames. 13 The praise of them that feare God. 18 The offerings of the wicked. 22 The bread of the medie 27 God doeth not allowe the workes of an vnfaithfull man.

Ecclesiasticus.

- ¶** *Dreames.* **1** The hope of a foolish man is vaine & false, ¶ & dreames make fooles to haue wings.
- 2** Who so regardeth dreames, is like him that wil take holde of a shadowe, and followe after the winde.
- 3** Euen so is it with the appearings of dreames, as the likenes of a face is before another face.
- 4** Who can be clesed by the vncleane? or what trueth can be spoken of a lier?
- 5** Sothsayings, witchcraft, and dreaming is but vanitie, and a minde that is occupied with fantasties, is as a woman that triauaileth.
- 6** Where as suche visions come not of y^e moste High to trye thee, set not thine heart vpon them.
- 7** For dreames haue disceiued many, and thei haue failed that put their trust therein.
- 8** The Law shalbe fulfilled without lies, & wisdom is sufficient to a faithful mouth: [what knowledge hathe he that is not tryed?]
- 9** A man that is instructed, vnderstandeth muche, and he that hathe the good experience, can talke of wisdom.
- 10** He that hathe no experience, knoweth litle, and he that erreth, is ful of craft.
- 11** Whē I wandred to and fro, I sawe many things, and mine vnderstanding is greater then I can exp^rse.
- 12** I was oft times in danger of death, yet I was deliuered by these things.
- 13** ¶ The spirit of those that feare the Lord, shal liue: for their hope is in him that can helpe them.
- ¶* *The feare of the Lord.* **14** Who so ¶ feareth the Lord, feareth no man, nether is afraid: for he is his hope.
- 15** Blessed is the soule of him that feareth y^e Lord: in whome putteth he his trust: who is his strength?
- ¶* *Psal. 33, 18.* **16** ¶ For the eyes of the Lord haue respect vnto them, that loue him: he is their mightie protection, and strong grounde, a defence fr^m the heat, and a shadowe for the nowne day, a succour fr^m stumbling, & an helpe fr^m falling.
- ¶* *Psal. 91, 2.* **17** He setteth vp the soule, & lightneth the eyes: he giueth health, life and blessing.
- ¶* *Pror. 22, 17.* **18** ¶ He that giueth an offering of vnrighteous goods, offereth a mocking sacrifice, & the giftes of the vnrighteous, please not him.
- 19** [But y^e Lord is theirs onely, that patiently abide him in the way of trueth & righteousness.]
- ¶* *The offering of the wicked & his prayer.* *¶* *Pror. 11, 2.* **20** The moste High doeth not alowe the offering of the wicked, nether is he pacified for sinne by the multitude of sacrifice.
- 21** Who so bringeth an offering of the goods of y^e poore, doeth as one that sacrificeth y^e sonne before the fathers eyes.
- 22** The bread of the nedeful is the life of the poore: he that defraudeth him thereof, is a murderer.
- 23** He y^e taketh away his neighbours liuing, slayeth him, * and he that defraudeth the labourer of his hyre, is a bloodshedder. *Deu. 24, 14. chap. 7, 22.*
- 24** ¶ When one buyldeth, and another breaketh downe, what profite haue they then but labour?
- 25** When one prayeth and another curseth, whose voyce wil the Lord heare?
- 26** * He that washeth him self because of a dead bodie, and toucheth it againe, what auaieth his washing?
- 27** * So is it with a man that fasteth for his finnes, and committeth them againe: who wil heare his prayer? or what doeth his fasting helpe him? *2. Pet. 2, 20.*
- C H A P. X X X V.
- ¶* *Of true sacrifices. 24 The prayer of the fatherles, and of the widdowe, and him that humblith him self.* **1** Who so kepeth the Law, * bringeth offerings ynough: he that holdeth fast the commandements, ¶ offereth an offering of saluacion. *2. Sam. 15, 22. iere 7, 3. ¶ True sacrifices.*
- 2** He that is thakeful to them that haue wel deserued, offereth fine floure: * and he that giueth almes, sacrificeth praise. *Philip. 4, 18.*
- 3** To departe from euil is a thakeful thing to the Lord, and to forsake vnrighteousnes, is a reconciling vnto him.
- 4** * Thou shalt not appeare emptie before the Lord. *Exod. 23, 15. & 34, 20. deu 2, 16.*
- 5** For all these things are done because of the commandement.
- 6** * The offering of the righteous maketh the altar fat, and the smel thereof is swete before the most High. *Gen. 4, 4.*
- 7** The sacrifice of the righteous is acceptable, and the remembrance thereof shal neuer be forgotten.
- 8** Giue the Lord his honour with a good and liberal eye, and diminish not the first frutes of thine hands. *2. Cor. 9, 7.*
- 9** * In all thy giftes shewe a ioyeful countenance, and dedicate thy tishes with gladnes.
- 10** Giue vnto the moste High according as he hathe enriched thee, * and loke what thine hand is able, giue with a cheareful eye. *Tob. 4, 6.*
- 11** For the Lord recompenseth, and wil giue thee seuen times as muche.
- 12** * Diminish nothing of thine offering: for he wil not receiue it, and abstaine from wrogful sacrifices: for the Lord is the iudge, and regardeth no mans persone. *Leu. 22, 20. deu 15, 20.*
- 13** He accepteth not the persone of the poore, but he heareth the prayer of the oppressed. *Deu. 10, 17. 2. coro 10, 7. iob 34, 19. wisdom. 6, 8. all. 10, 34. rom 2, 11.*
- 14** He despiseth not the desire of the fatherles, nor the widdowe, when she powteth out her prayer. *gal 2, 6. ephe 6, 2. col. 3, 14. 1. pet. 1, 17.*

- 15 Doeth not the teares runne downe the widdowes chekes, and her crye is against him that caused them: [for from her chekes do they go vp vnto heauen, and the Lord which heareth them, doeth accept them.]
- 16 He that serueth y Lord, shalbe accepted with fauour, and his prayer shal reache vnto the cloudes.
- 17 The prayer of him that humbleth him self, goeth thorowe the cloudes, and ceaseth not til it come nere, and wil not departe til the moste High haue respect thereunto to iudge righteously, and to execute iudgement.
- 18 And the Lord wil not be slacke, nor the Almighty wil tarie long from the, til he haue smitten in sunder the loynes of the vnmerciful, and aduenged him self of the heathen, til he haue taken away the multitude of the cruel, and broken the scepter of the vnrighteous, til he giue euerie man after his workes, and rewarde them after their deuises, til he haue iudged the cause of his people, and comforted them with his mercie.
- 19 Oh, how faire a thing is mercie in the time of anguish and trouble! It is like a cloude of raine, that cometh in the time of a drought.

CHAP. XXXVI.

1 A prayer to God in the person of all faithful men, against those that persecute his Church. 22 The praise of a good woman.

¶ Against the wicked.

Leu. 10. 25.

- 1 **H**Aue mercie vpon vs, o Lord God of all things, and beholde vs, & [shewe vs the light of thy mercies,]
- 2 And send thy feare among the nations, which seke not after thee, [that they may know that there is no God but thou, and y they may shewe thy wonderous workes.]
- 3 Lift vp thine hand vpon the strange nations, that they may see thy power.
- 4 As thou art sanctified in vs before them, so be thou magnified among them before vs,
- 5 That they may knowe thee, as we knowe thee: for there is none other God but onely thou, o Lord.
- 6 Renew the signes, & change the wonders: shewe the glorie of thine hand, and thy right arm, that they may shewe for the thy wonderous actes.
- 7 Raise vp thine indignacion, & powre out wrath: take away the aduersarie, and smite the enemy.
- 8 Make the time shorte: remember thine othe, that thy wonderous workes may be praised.
- 9 Let the wrath of the fyre consume them that escape, and let them perish that oppress the people.
- 10 Smite in sunder the heades of the princes

- that be our enemies, and say, There is none other but we.
- 11 ¶ Gather all the tribes of Iacob together, [that they may knowe that there is none other God but onely thou, and y they may shewe thy wonderous workes,] and inherit thou them as from the beginning.
- 12 O Lord, haue mercie vpon the people, that is called by thy Name, & vpon Israel, whom thou hast likened to a first borne sonne. *Exod. 4. 22.*
- 13 Oh, be merciful vnto Ierusalem the citie of thy Sanctuarie, the citie of thy rest.
- 14 Fill Sion, that it may magnifie thine oracles, and fill thy peopl. with thy glorie.
- 15 Giue witness vnto those that thou hast possessed from the beginning, and raise vp the prophecies that haue bene shewed in thy Name.
- 16 Rewarde them that waite for thee, that thy Prophetes may be founde faithful.
- 17 O Lord, heare the prayer of thy seruants according to the blessing of Aaron ouer thy people, [& guide thou vs in the way of righteousness] that all they which dwell vpon the earth, may knowe that thou art the Lord the eternal God. *Nomb. 6. 23.*
- 18 ¶ The belie deuoureth all meates, yet is one meat better then another.
- 19 As the throte tasteth venisone, so doeth a wise minde discerne false wordes.
- 20 A frowarde heart bringeth grief, but a man of experience wil resist it.
- 21 A woman is apt to receiue euerie man: yet is one daughter better then another.
- 22 The beautie of a woman chereth the face, and a man louth nothing better.
- 23 If there be in her tongue gentenes, mekenes, and wholesome talke, then is not her housband like other men.
- 24 He that hath gotten a [vertuous] woman, hath begone to get a possession: she is an help: like vnto him self, and a pillar to rest vpon. *¶ The praise of a good woman.*
- 25 Where no hedge is, there the possession is spoiled: and he that hath no wife, wandereth to and fro, mourning.
- 26 Who wil trust a thief that is a way readie and wandereth from towne to town. And likewise him, that hath no rest, and lodgeth, where soeuer the night taketh him?

CHAP. XXXVII.

1 How a man shoulde knowe friends & counselors. 12 To kepe his companie that feareth God.

- 1 **E**uerie friend saith, I am a friend vnto him also: but there is some friend, which is onely a friend in name. *¶ Of friendship.*
- 2 Remaineth there not heauines vnto death, when a companion and friend is turned to an enemy?
- 3 O wicked presumption, from whence art thou sprung vp to couer the earth with disceite?

Ecclesiasticus.

- Chap. 6. 10.* 4 *There is some companiō which in prof-
peritie reioyeth with his friend: but in the
time of trouble he is against him.
- 5 There is some companion that helpeth
his friend for the bellie sake, & taketh vp
the buckeler against the enemye.
- 6 Forget not thy friend in thy minde, and
thinke vpon him in thy riches.
- ¶ Of whome
we shuld take
counsel.* 7 Seke [no counsel at him of whome thou
art suspected, and disclose not thy coun-
sel vnto suche as hate thee.
- Chap. 8. 21.
Or 9. 21.* 8 *Euerie counseler praiserh his owne cou-
sel: but there is some that counseleth for
him self.
- 9 Beware of the counseler, and be aduised
afore whereto thou wilt vse him: for he
wil coufel for him self, lest he cast the lot
vpon thee,
- 10 And say vnto thee, Thy way is good, &
afterwarde he stand against thee, and loke
what shal become of thee.
- 11 [Aske no counsel for religion of him,
that is without religion, nor of iustice, of
him that hathe no iustice,] nor of a womā
touching her of whome she is ielous, nor
of a cowarde in matters of warre, nor of
a marchant concerning exchange, nor of
a bier for the sale, nor of an enuious man
touching thankfulness, nor of the vn-
merciful touching kindenes, [nor of an
vnhonest man of honestie,] nor of the
slothful for anie labour, nor of an hire-
ling for the finishing of a worke, nor of
an idle seruant for muche busines: hear-
ken not vnto these in anie matter of coun-
sel.
- 12 But be cōtinual with a godlie man who-
me thou knowest to kepe the commande-
ments of the Lord, whose minde is accor-
ding to thy minde, & is forie for thee whe
thou stumblest.
- 13 Take counsel of thine owne heart: for
there is no man more faithful vnto thee,
then it.
- 14 For a mans minde is sometime more ac-
customed to shewe more the seuen watch-
men that sit aboue in an high tower.
- 15 And aboue all this pray to y molt High,
that he wil direct thy waye in trueth.
- 16 Let reason go before euerie enterpryse, &
counsel before euerie action.
- 17 ¶ The [changing] of the countenance is
a signe of the changing of the heart: foure
things appeare good and euil, life and de-
ath, but the tongue hathe euer more the
gouernement ouer them.
- 18 ¶ Some mā is wittie, & hathe instructed
manie, and yet is vnprofitable vnto him
self.
- 19 Some man wil be wise in wordes, and is
hated, yea, he is destitute of all foode,
- 407771/2. 101.* 20 Because grace is not giuen him of the
Lord: for he is destitute of all wisdom.
- 21 Another is wise for him self, and the fru-
tes of vnderstanding are faithful in his
mouth.
- 22 A wise man instructeth his people, and
the frutes of his wisdom faile not.
- 23 A wise mā shalbe plēteously blessed, and
all they yse him, shal thinke him blessed.
- 24 The life of man standeth in the number
of dayes: but the dayes of Israel art innu-
merable.
- 25 A wise man shal obtaine credit among
his people, and his name shalbe perpetual.
- 26 My sonne, proue thy soule in thy life, &
se what is euil for it, and permit it not to
do it.
- 27 For all things are not profitable for all
men, nether hathe euerie soule pleasure in
euerie thing.
- 28 Be not ¶ grieued in all delites, and be not *¶ Of temperance.*
to hastie vpon all meates.
- 29 *For excesse of meates bringeth sickenes, *Chap. 31. 22.*
and glotonie cometh into cholericke dis-
eases.
- 30 By surfet haue manie perished: but he
that dieteth him self, prolongeth his life. **Or, 21. 21.
bede.*
- C H A P. XXXVIII.
- 1 A physician is commendable. 16 To burye the dead.*
24 The wisdom of him that is learned.
- 1 **H**ONOR y ¶ physician with that honor *¶ Of physicians
& phisicke.*
that is due vnto him, because of ne-
cessitie: for the Lord hathe created him.
- 2 For of the moste High cometh healing,
and he shal receiue gites of the King.
- 3 The knowledge of the physician listeth
vp his head, and in the sight of great men
he shalbe in admiration.
- 4 The Lord hathe created medecines of
the earth, and he that is wise, wil not ab-
horre it.
- 5 *Was not y water made swete with wood, *Exod. 15. 25.
Iudeth. 7. 15.*
that men might know the vertue thereof?
- 6 So he hathe giuen men knowledge, that
he might be glorified in his wonderous
workes.
- 7 With suche doeth he heale men, and ta-
keth away their paines.
- 8 Of suche doeth the apothecarie make a
confection, and yet he can not finish his
owne workes: for of y Lord cometh pro-
peritie and welch ouer all the earth.
- 9 My sonne, faile not in thy sickenes, but
*praye vnto the Lord, & he wil make thee *1/2. 32. 2.*
whole.
- 10 Leauē of from sinne, and order thine
hands a right, and cleanse thine heart from
all wickednes.
- 11 Offer swete incense, and fine flour for a
remembrance: make the offering fat, for thou
art not the first giuer.
- 12 Then giue place to the physician: for the
Lord hathe created him: let him not go
from thee, for thou hast nede of him.
- 13 The houre may come, that their enter-
prises *¶ God bestow-
eth first his be-
nefit, and we
must render a
porciō there-
of to suche v-
ses as he 22.
pointeth.*

prifes may haue good successe.

- 24 For they also shal praye vnto the Lord, that he wolde prosper that, which is giuen for ease, & their phylicke for the prolonging of life.
- 25 He that sinneth before his maker, let him fall into the hands of the physicion.
- Chap. 22, 26*
¶ Of mourning
¶ Of the iustnes
26 My sonne, *powre forthe teares ouer the dead, ¶ and beginne to mourne, as if thou hadest suffred great harme thy self, & then couer his bodie according to his appointment, and neglect not his buryal.
- 27 Make a grieuous lamentacion, and be earnest in mourning, & vse lamentacion as he is worthie, & that, a daye or two, lest thou be euil spoken of, and then comforte thy self for thine heauines.
- Prou. 15, 13*
¶ 17, 22.
28 *For of heauines cometh death, and the heauines of the heart breaketh ¶ strength.
- 29 Of the affection of the heart cometh sorrow, and the life of him that is afflicted, is according to his heart.
- 30 Take no heauines to heart: driue it away and remember the last end.
- 31 Forget it not: for there is no turning againe: thou shalt do him no good, but hurte thy self.
- 32 Remember his iudgement: thine also shalbe likewise, vnto me yester daye, and vnto thee to day.
- 1 Sam. 12, 20.*
33 *Seing the dead is at rest, let his remembrance rest, & comforte thy self againe for him, when his spirit is departed from him.
- 34 ¶ The wisdom of a learned mā cometh by vsing wel his vacant time: and he that ceaseth from his owne matters and labour, may come by wisdom.
- 35 How can he get wisdom that holdeth the plough, and he that hathe pleasure in the gode, and in driuing oxen, and is occupied in their labours, and talketh but of the brede of bullockes?
- 36 He giueth his minde to make forowes, and is diligent to giue the kine fodder.
- 37 So is it of cuerie carpenter, and workemaster that laboreth night and daye: and they that cut, and graue seales, and make sondrie diuersities, and giue them selues to contrefait imagerie, and watch to performe the worke.
- 38 The smithe in like maner abideth by his anuil, and doeth his diligēce to labour the yron: the vapour of the fyre dryeth his flesh, and he muste fight with the heat of the fornace: the noyce of the hammer is euer in his eares, and his eyes loke stil vpon the thing that he maketh: he setteth his minde to make vp his workes: therefore he watcheth to polish it perfirely.
- 39 So doeth the potter sit by his worke: he turneth the whele about with his fete: he is careful alway at his worke, and maketh

his worke by number.

- 30 He facioneth the claye with his arme, & with his fete he tempereth the hardnes thereof: his heart imagineth how to couer it with lead, and his diligence is to cleanse the ouen.
- 31 All these hope in their hands, and euerie one bestoweth his wisdom in his worke.
- 32 Without these can not ¶ cities be mainteined, nor inhabited, nor occupied.
- 33 And yet they are not asked their iudgement in the counsel of the people, neither are they in the congregacion, neither sit they vpon the iudgement seates, nor vnderstand the order of iustice: they can not declare matters according to the forme of the Law, and they are not mete for hard matters.
- 34 But they mainteine the state of the worlde, and their desire is concerning their worke and occupation.

CHAP. XXXIX.

1 A wise man. 16 The workes of God. 24 Vnto the good, good things profite, but vnto the euil, euen good things are euil.

- 1 **H**E onelie that applieth his minde to the Law of the moste High, and is occupied in the meditacion thereof, seketh out the wisdom of all the ancient, & exerciseth him self in the prophecies.
- 2 He kepeth the sayings of famous men, & entreteth in also to the secrets of darke sentences.
- 3 He seketh out the mysterie of graue sentences, and exerciseth him self in darke parables.
- 4 He shal serue among great men and appeare before the prince: he shal traueil through strange countreis: for he hath tried the good and the euil among men.
- 5 He wil giue his heart to resort early vnto the Lord that made him, & to praye before the moste High, and wil open his mouth in prayer, and praie for his finnes.
- 6 When the great Lord wil, he shalbe filled with the Spirit of vnderstanding, that he may powre out wise sentences, & giue thankes vnto the Lord in his praier.
- 7 He shal direct his counsel, & knowledge: *¶ On the Lord.* so shal he meditate in his secrets.
- 8 He shal shewe forthe his science and learning, and reioyce in the Law & couenant of the Lord.
- 9 Manie shal commend his vnderstanding, and his memorie shal neuer be put out, nor departe away: but his name shal continue from generacion to generacion.
- 10 *The congregacion shal declare his wisdom, and shewe it. *Chap. 44, 19.*
- 11 Thogh he be dead, he shal leaue a greater fame then a thousand: and if he liue stil, he shal get the fame.
- 12 Yet wil I speake of mo things: for I am

Ecclesiasticus.

- ful as the moone.
- 13 Harken vnto me, ye holy children, and bring forth the frute, as the rose that is planted by the brokes of the field,
- 14 And giue ye a swete smel as incense, and bring forth the flowres as the lillie: giue a smel and sing a song of praise: blesse the Lord in all his workes.
- 15 Giue honour vnto his Name, and shewe forth his praise with the songs of your lippes, and with harpes, and ye shal say after this maner,
- 16 * All the workes of the Lord are exceeding good, and all his commandements are done in due season.
- 17 And none may say, What is this? wherefore is that? for at time conuenient they shal all be fought out: at his commandement the water stode as an heape, & at the worde of his mouth the waters gathered them selues.
- 18 His whole fauour appeared by his commandement, and none can diminish that which he wil sue.
- 19 The workes of all flesh are before him, and nothing can be hid from his eyes.
- 20 He seeth from euerlasting to euerlasting, & there is nothing wonderful vnto him.
- 21 A man nede not to say, What is this? wherefore is that? for he hath made all things for their owne vse.
- 22 His blessing shal renne ouer as the streame, and moisture the earth like a flood.
- 23 As he hath turned the waters into saltnes, so shal the heathen fele his wrath.
- 24 As his waies are plaine and right vnto the iust, so are they stumbling blockes to the wicked.
- 25 ¶ For the good, are good things created from the beginning, and euil things for the sinners.
- 26 * The principal things for the whole vse of mans life is water, fyre, and yron, and salt, and meale, wheate and hony, & milke, the blood of the grape, and oyle, and cloathing.
- 27 All these things are for good to y godlie: but to y sinners they are turned vnto euil.
- 28 There be spretes that are created for vengeance, which in their rigour laye on sure strokes: in the time of destruction they shewe forth their power, and accomplish the wrath of him that made them.
- 29 Fyre, and haile, and famine, and death: all these are created for vengeance.
- 30 The teeth of wilde beasts, and the scorpions, and the serpents, and the sworde execute vengeance for the destruction of the wicked.
- 31 They shal be glad to do his commandements: & when nede is, they shal be readie vpon earth: and whē their houre is come,
- they shal not ouerpasse the commandement.
- 32 Therefore haue I taken a good courage vnto me from the beginning, and haue thought on these things, and haue put them in writing.
- 33 * All the workes of the Lord are good, & he giueth euerie one in due season, & when nede is:
- 34 So that a man nede not to say, This is worse then that: for in due season they are all worthie praise.
- 35 And therefore praise y Lord with whole heart and mouth, and blesse the Name of the Lord.

CHAP. XL.

1 Many miseries in mans life . 14 Of the blessing of the righteous and prerogative of the feare of God.

- 1 Great ¶ trauail is created for all men, and an heauie yoke vpon the sonnes of Adam from the day that they go out of their mothers wombe, til the day that they returne to the mother of all things,
- 2 Namely their thoughts, and feare of the heart, & their imaginacion of the things they waite for, and the daye of death,
- 3 From him that sitteth vpon the glorious throne, vnto him that is beneth in y earth and ashes:
- 4 From him that is clothed in blewe silke, and weareth a crowne, euen vnto him that is clothed in simple linen.
- 5 Wrath & enuie, trouble, and vnquietnes, and feare of death, & rigour, and strife, & in the time of rest the slepe in the night vpon his bed, change his knowledge.
- 6 A litle or nothing is his rest, and afterwarde in sleping he is as in a watchetowre in the daye: he is troubled with the visions of his heart, as one that renneth out of a battel.
- 7 And when all is safe, he awaketh, & marueileth that the feare was nothing.
- 8 Suche things come vnto all flesh, bothe man and beast, but seuen fold to the vngodlie:
- 9 Moreouer, * death & blood, and strife, & sworde, oppresion, famine, destruction, and punishment.
- 10 These things are all created for the wicked, and for their sakes came the * flood also.
- 11 * All things that are of the earth, shal turne to earth againe: and they that are of the * waters, shal returne into the sea.
- 12 ¶ All bribes and vnrighteousnes shal be put away: but y faithfulness shal endure for euer.
- 13 The substance of the vngodlie shal be dryed vp like a riuer, and they shal make a sounde like a great thonder in the raine.
- 14 When he openeth his had, he reioyceth: but

¶ The miseries of mans life.

Chap. 39. 35.

Gen 7. 11.

Gen 2. 9. Chap. 41. 13. Eccles 1. 7.

¶ Faithfulness.

but all the transgressours shal come to naught.

15 The children of the vngodlie shal not obtaine manie branches: for the vncleane rootes are as vpon the high rockes.

16 Their tender stalke by what water soeuer it be or water banke, it shalbe pulled vp before all other herbes.

17 ¶ Friendlines is as a moſte plentiful garden of pleasur, & mercie endureth for euer.

*Philip 4.12
2. Tim 6.6.*

18 * To labour and to be content with that a man harhe, is a swete life: but he that findeth a treasure, is about them bothe.

19 Children, and the buylding of the citie maketh a perpetual name: but an honest woman is counted about them bothe.

20 Wine & musike reioyce the heart: but the loue of wisdom is about them bothe.

21 The pipe and the psalterion make a swete noyce: but a pleasant tongue is about them bothe.

22 Thine eye desireth fauor & beautie: but a grene sedet me, rather then them bothe.

23 A friend, and companion come together at opportunitie: but about them bothe is a wife with her housband.

24 Friends and helpe are good in the time of trouble, but almes shal deliuer more then them bothe.

25 Golde and siluer fasten the fete: but counsel is esteemed about them bothe.

26 Riches and strength lift vp the minde: but the feare of the Lord is about them bothe: there is no want in the feare of the Lord, and it nedeth no helpe.

27 The feare of the Lord is a pleasant garden of blessing, and there is nothing so beautiful as it is.

28 ¶ My sonne, lead not a beggers life: for better it were to dye then to begge.

29 The life of him that dependeth on another mans table, is not to be counted for a life: for he tormeteth him self after other mens meat: but a wise man and wel nourted, wil beware thereof.

30 Begging is swete in the mouth of the vnshamefast, and in his bellie there burneth a fyre.

CHAP. XLII.

1 Of the remembrance of death. 3 Death is not to be feared. 8 A curse vpon them that forsake the Law of God. 12 Good name & fame. 14 An exhortacion to giue heed vnto wisdom. 17 Of what things a man ought to be ashamed.

¶ Of death.

1 O Death, how bitter is the remembrance of thee to a man that liueth at rest in his possessions, vnto the man that hathe nothing to vex him, and that hathe prosperitie in all things: yea, vnto him that yet is able to receiue meat!

2 O death, how acceptable is thy iudgement vnto the nedeful, and vnto him whose strength faileth, and that is now in the last

age, & is vexed with all things, and to him that dispaireth, and hathe lost pacience!

3 Feare not the iudgement of death: remember them that haue bene before thee, and that come after: this is the ordinance of the Lord ouer all flesh.

4 And why woldest thou be against y pleasure of the moſte High? whether it be ten or an hundreth, or a thousand yeres, there is no defense for life against the graue.

5 ¶ The children of the vngodlie are abominable children, and so are they that kepe companie with the vngodlie.

6 The inheritance of vngodlie children shal perish, and their posteritie shal haue a perpetual shame.

7 The children complaine of an vngodlie father, because they are reprohed for his sake.

8 Wo be vnto you, o ye vngodlie, which haue forsaken the Law of the moſte high God: for though you increase, yet shal you perish.

9 If ye be borne, ye shalbe borne to cursing: if ye dye, the curse shalbe your porcion.

10 All that is of y earth, shal tuiue to earth againe: so the vngodlie go from the curse to destruction.

11 Though men mourne for their bodie, yet the wicked name of the vngodlie shalbe put out.

12 Haue regarde to thy name: for that shal continue with thee about a thousand treasures of golde.

13 A good life hathe the dayes nombred: but a good name endureth euer.

*¶ A good name
Chap. 20. 28.*

14 * My children, kepe wisdom in peace: for wisdom that is hid, and a treasure y is not sene, what profite is in them bothe?

15 A man that hideth his foolishnes, is better then a man that hideth his wisdom.

16 Therefore beare reuerence vnto my wordes: for it is not good in all things to be ashamed: nether are all things allowed as faithful in all men.

*¶ Of shame-
fastnes.*

17 Be ashamed of whordome before father and mother: be ashamed of lies before the prince and men of autoritie:

18 Of sinne before the iudge and ruler: of offence before the congregacion and people: of vnrighteousnes before a companio and friend,

19 And of theft before y place where thou dwellest, & before the trueth of God & his couenant, and to leane with thine elbowed vpon the bread, or to be reproued for giuing or raking.

¶ Of rebt.

20 And of silence vnto them that salute thee, and to loke vpon an harlot,

21 And to turne away thy face from thy kinsman: or to take aw v a portiõ or a gift, or to be euil minded toward another mans wife,

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- 22 Or to sollicite anie mans maide, or to stand by her bed, or to reprove thy friēds with wordes,
 23 Or to vpbraide when thou giuest anie thing, or to reporte a matter that thou hast heard, or to reueile secret wordes.
 24 Thus maifest thou wel be shamefast, and shalt finde fauour with all men.

CHAP. XLII.

The Law of God must be taught. 9 A daughter. 14 A woman. 18 God knoweth all things, yea, euen the secrets of thine heart.

to what things we ought not to be ashamed.

- 1 Of these things be not thou ashamed, neither haue regarde to offend for anie persone,
 2 Of the Law of the most High & his covenant, & of iudgemēt to iustifie the godlie:
 3 Of the cause of thy companion, and of strangers, or of distributing the heritage among friends:
 4 To be diligent to kepe true balance, and weight, whether thou haue muche or litle:
 5 To sel marchandise at an indifferent price, and to correct thy children diligently, and to beat an euil seruant to the blood:
 6 To set a good locke where an euil wife is, and to locke where manie hands are:
 7 If thou giue anie thing by number, and weight, to put all in writing, bothe that y^e is giuen out, and that that is receiued againe:
 8 To teache the vnlearned, & the vnwife, & the aged, that contend against y^e yong: thus shalt thou be wel instructed, and approved of all men liuing.

Or, is a secret matter is the father.

- 9 ¶ The daughter maketh the father to wathe secretly, and the carefulness that he hath for her, taketh away his slepe in the youth, lest she shulde passe y^e floure of her age: and when she hath an housband, lest she shulde be hated:
 10 In her virginie, lest she shulde be defiled, or gotten withchilde in her fathers house, and, when she is with her housbād, lest she misbeaue her self: and when she is married, lest she continue vnfruteful.

Chap. 26, 10.

- 11 ¶ If thy daughter be vnshamefast, kepe her straitly, lest she cause thine enemies to laugh thee to scorne, and make thee a common talke in the cite, and diffame thee among the people, and bring thee to publicke shame.

Chap. 27, 22.

- 12 Beholde not euerie bodies beautie, and companie not among women.

Gen. 2, 6.

- 13 For as the moth cometh out of garmēt: so doeth wickednes of the woman.
 14 The wickednes of a man is better then the good intreatie of a woman, to wit, of a woman that is in shame, and reproche.
 15 ¶ I wil remember the workes of the Lord, and declare the thing that I haue sene: by the worde of the Lord are his workes.

16 The sunne that shineth, loketh vpon all things, and all the worke thereof is ful of the glorie of the Lord.

17 Hathe not the Lord appointed that his Sancts shulde declare all his wonderous workes, which the almightie Lord hath established to confirme all things by his maiestie?

18 He seeketh out the depth, and the heart, and he knoweth their practises: for y^e Lord knoweth all science, and he beholdeth the signes of the worlde.

19 He declareth the things that are past, and for to come, and discloseth the paths of things that are secret.

20 ¶ No thought may escape him, nether may anie worde be hid from him. *Iob 41, 4. Isa. 29, 17.*

21 He hath garnished the excellent workes of his wisdom, and he is from euerlasting to euerlasting, and for euer: vnto him may nothing be added, nether can he be diminished: he hath no nede of anie counseler.

22 Oh, how delectable are all his workes, & to be considered euē vnto y^e sparkes of fyre!

23 They liue all, and endure for euer: and when soeuer nede is, they are all obedient.

24 Thei are all double, one against another: he hath made nothing y^e hath anie faute.

25 The one commendeth the goodnes of the other, & who can be satisfied with beholding Gods glorie? *Or, satisfieth.*

CHAP. XLIII.

The summe of the creation of the workes of God.

1 His high ornament, the cleare firmament, the beautie of the heauē so glorious to beholde, *The wonderfull workes of God.*

2 The sunne also, a marueilous instrument when it appeareth, declareth, at his going out, the worke of the moste High.

3 At noone it burneth the countrey, & who may abide for the heat thereof?

4 The sunne burneth the mountaines thre times more then he that kepeth a fornace with cōtinual heat: it casteth out the fyre vapours, & with the shining beames blindeth the eyes.

5 Great is the Lord that made it, and by his commandement he causeth it to runne hastily.

6 ¶ The moone also hath he made to appeare according to her season, that it shulde be a declaration of the time, and a signe for the worlde. *Gen. 1, 16.*

7 ¶ The feasts are appointed by the moone: the light thereof diminisheth vnto y^e end. *Eccles. 1, 5.*

8 The moneth is called after y^e name thereof, & groweth wōdrously in her chāging.

9 It is a campe pitched on high, shining in the firmament of heauen: the beautie of heauē are the glorious starres, and the ornament that shineth in the high places of the Lord.

10 By the commandement of the holie one they

they continue in their order, and faile not in their watche.

Gen. 1. 14.

11 ¶ *Loke vpon the raine bowe, and praise him that made it: verie beautiful is it in the brightnes thereof.

Isa. 41. 12.

12 *It compaffeth the heauen about with a glorious circle, and the hands of the moſte High haue bended it.

13 ¶ Thorowe his cōmandement he maketh the ſnowe to haſte, and ſendeth ſwiftly the lightning of his iudgement.

14 Therefore he openeth his treaſures, and the cloudes ſhie forth as the ſoules.

15 In his power hathe he ſtrengthened the cloudes, and broken the haile ſtones.

16 The mountaines leape at the ſight of him: the South winde bloweth according to his wil.

17 The ſounde of his thonder beateth the earth: ſo doeth the ſtorme of the North: ¶ whirlewinde alſo, as birdes that ſhie, ſcattereth the ſnowe, and the falling downe thereof is as ¶ greſhoppers ¶ light downe.

18 The eye marueileth at the beautie of the whitenes thereof, & the heart is aſtoniſhed at the raine of it.

19 He alſo powreth out the froſt vpon the earth like ſalt, and when it is froſen, it ſticketh on the toppes of pales.

20 When the colde North winde bloweth, an yce is froſen of the water, it abideth vpon all the gatherings together of water, and clobeth the waters as ¶ a breſt plate.

21 It deuoureth the mountaines, & burneth the wildernes, and deſtroyeth that that is grene, like fyre.

22 The remedie of all theſe is when a cloude cometh haſtely, & when a dewe cometh vpon the heat, it reſreſheth it.

23 [By his worde he ſtilleth the winde:] by his counſel he appeaſeth the depe, and plāteſt ylands therein.

24 They that ſaile ouer the ſea, tel of the perils thereof, and when we heare it with our eares, we marueile thereat.

25 For there be ſtrange, & wonderous workes, diuers maner of beaſts, and the creation of whales.

26 Thorowe him are all things directed to a good end, & are ſtabliſhed by his worde.

27 And whē we haue ſpoken muche, we can not atteine vnto them: but this is ¶ ſumme of all, that he is all.

28 What power haue we to praiſe him: for he is aboue all his workes?

Pſal. 96. 4.

29 The Lord is terrible, and verie great, * & marueilous is his power.

30 Praise ¶ Lord, & magnifie him as muche as ye can, yet doeth he farre excede: exalt him with all your power, & be not wearie, yet can ye not atteine vnto it.

Pſal. 106. 2.

31 *Who hathe ſene him, that he might tel vs? and who can magnifie him as he is?

32 For there are hid yet greater things theſe be, & we haue ſene but a fewe of his workes.

33 For the Lord hathe made all things, and giuen wiſdome to ſuche as feare God.

CHAP. XLIIII.

The praiſe of certain holie men, Enoch, Noe, Abraham, Iſaac and Iacob.

1 **L**ET vs now cōmende the famous men, and our fathers, of whome we are begotten.

2 The Lord hathe gotten great glorie by them, and that through his great power from the beginning.

3 Thei haue borne rule in their kingdomes, and were renowmed for their power, and were wiſe in counſel, and declared prophecies.

4 *They gouerned the people by counſel & *Ench. 12. 22.* by the knowledge of learning mete for the people, in whoſe doctine were wiſe ſentences.

5 They inuented the melodie of muſicke, and expounded the verſes that were written.

6 They were riche and mightie in power, and liued quietly at home.

7 All theſe were honorable men in their generacions, & were wel reported of in their times.

8 There are of them that haue left a name behinde them, ſo that their praiſe ſhal be ſpoken of.

9 There are ſome alſo which haue no memorial, * and are periſhed, as though they *Gen. 7. 23.* had neuer bene, and are become as though they had neuer bene borne, and their children after them.

10 But the former were merciful men, whoſe righteouſnes hathe not bene forgottē.

11 For whoſe poſteritie a good inheritance is reſerued, and their ſede is contained in the couenant.

12 Their ſtocke is contained in the couenant, and their poſteritie after them.

13 Their ſede ſhal remaine for euer, & their praiſe ſhal neuer be taken away.

14 Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name liueth for euermore.

15 *The people ſpeake of their wiſdome, & *Chap. 39. 14.* the congregacion talke of their praiſe.

16 ¶ *Enoch pleaſed the Lord God: therefore was he tranſlated for an example of repentance to the generacions. *¶ Enoch. Gen. 5. 14. ebr. 11. 5.*

17 ¶ *Noe was founde perſire, and in the time of wrath he had a rewarde: therefore was he left as a remnant vnto the earth, when the flood came. *¶ Noe Gen. 6. 9. and 7. 1. ebr. 11. 7.*

18 An euerlaſting couenant was made with him, that all fleſh ſhulde * periſh no more by the flood. *Gen. 9. 11. ¶ Abraham. Gen. 12. 3. & 13. 1. & 17. 4.*

19 ¶ Abraham was a * great father of manie people: in glorie was there none like vnto him.

Ecclesiasticus.

- 20 He kept the Law of the moſte High, & was in couenant with him, and he ſet the couenant* in his fleſh, and in tentation he was founde faithfull.
- 21 Therefore he aſſured him by an*orhe, y he wolde bleſſe the nations in his ſede, & that he wolde multiplie him as the duſt of the earth, and exalte his ſede as the ſtars, and cauſe them to inherite from ſea to ſea, and from the Riuer vnto the end of the worlde.
- 22 *With J Iſaac did he confirme likewise for Abraham his fathers ſake, the bleſſing of all men, and the couenant,
- 23 And cauſed it to reſt vpon the head of J Iacob, and made him ſelf knowne by*his bleſſings, and gaue him an heritage and deuided his porcions, * and parted them among the twelue tribes.
- 24 And he brought out of him a merciful man, which founde fauour in the ſight of ali fleſh.
- CHAP. XLV.
- The praiſe of Moyses, Aaron, and Phinees.*
- 1 **A**ND Moyses, the *beioued of God & men, brought he forth, whose remembrance is bleſſed.
- 2 He made him like to the glorious Saints, and magnified him by the feare of his enemies.
- 3 By his wordes he cauſed the wonders to ceaſe, and he made him *glorious in the ſight of Kings, and gaue him commendements for his people, and ſhewed him his glorie.
- 4 *He ſanctified him with faithfullnes, and meknes, and choſe him out of all men.
- 5 He cauſed him to heare his voyce, and brought him into the darke cloude, * and there he gaue him the commandements before his face, euen the Law of life and knowledge, that he might teache Iacob y couenant, and Iſrael his iudgements.
- 6 He exalted J Aaron an holic man like vnto him, euē his*brother of y tribe of Leui.
- 7 An euerlaſting couenant made he with him, and gaue him the prieſthode among the people, and made him bleſſed through his comelie ornament, & cloſhed him with the garment of honour.
- 8 He put perſure ioye vpo him, and girded him with ornaments of ſtrength, as with breches, and a tunicle, and an ephod.
- 9 He compaſſed him about with belles of golde, & with manie belles round about, *that when he went in, the ſound might be heard, and might make a noyce in the Sanctuarie, for a remembrance to the childre of Iſrael his people,
- 10 And with an holic garment, with golde alſo, and blew ſilke, and purple, & diuers kindes of workes, and with a breſtſlape of iudgemēt, & with the ſignes of truth,
- 11 And with worke of ſkarlet conningly wrought, and with precious ſtones grauen like ſcales, & ſet in golde by goldeſmithes worke for a memorial with a writing grauen after the number of the tribes of Iſrael.
- 12 And with a crowne of golde vpon the mitre, bearing the forme and marke of holines, an ornāmēt of honour, a noble worke garniſhed, and pleaſant to loke vpon.
- 13 Before him were there no ſuche faire ornaments: there might no ſtrāger put them on, but onely his children, and his childres children perpetually.
- 14 Their ſacrifices were wholly conſumed euerie day twiſe continually.
- 15 *Moyses filled his hands, and anointed him with holic oyle: this was appointed vnto him by an euerlaſting couenant, & to his ſede, ſo long as the heauens ſhulde remaine, that he ſhulde miniſter before him, & alſo to execute the office of the prieſthode, and bleſſe his people in his name.
- 16 Before all men liuing the Lord choſe him that he ſhulde preſent offerings before him, and a ſweete fauour for a remembrance to make reconciliation for his people.
- 17 *He gaue him alſo his commendements and autoritie according to the Lawes appointed, that he ſhulde teache Iacob the teſtimonies, and giue light vnto Iſrael by his Law.
- 18 *Strangers ſtoode vp againſt him, & enuied him in the wildernes, euen the men that toke Dathans and Abirams parte, & the companie of Core in furie and rage.
- 19 This the Lord ſawe, and it diſpleaſed him, and in his wrathful indignacion were they conſumed: he did wonders vpon them, and conſumed them with the ſyrie flame.
- 20 *But he made Aaron more honorable, and gaue him an heritage, and parted the firſt frutes of the firſt borne vnto him: vnto him ſpecially he appointed bread in abundance.
- 21 For the Prieſts did eat of the ſacrifices of the Lord, which he gaue vnto him and to his ſede.
- 22 *Els had he none heritage in the land of his people, nether had he any porcion among the people: for the Lord is the porcion of his inheritance.
- 23 The third in glorie is J Phinees the ſonne of Eleazar, becauſe he had zeale in the feare of the Lord, & ſtoode vp with good courage of heart, when the people were turned backe, and made reconciliation for Iſrael.
- 24 Therefore was there a couenant of peace made with him, that he ſhulde be the chief of the Sanctuarie and of his people, and that he and his poſteritie ſhulde haue

Gen. 22. 4.

Gen. 22. 16.
Gal. 3. 8.

Gen. 26. 2.
Iſaac.

Jacob.
Gen. 27. 28.
Gen. 28. 1.
Iof. 18. 19. 4
Ioseph.

Moyses.
Exod. 11. 3.
4. 7. 22.

Exod. 6. 7. 2. 9

Numb. 12. 3.

Exod. 13. 2.

Aaron.
Exod. 4. 28.

Exod. 28. 35.

Phinees and
Thummiem.

Leu. 8. 2.

Deu. 17. 10.
& 21. 5.

Num. 16. 16

Num. 17. 8

Deu. 12. 19
& 18. 1.

Phinees.
Num. 25. 12.
1. Mac. 2. 54.

haue

haue the dignitie of the priesthode for euer,

- 15 And according to the couenant made with Dauid, that the inheritance of the kingdome shulde remaine to his sonne of the tribe of Iuda: so the heritage of Aarō shulde be to the onelic sonne of his sonne, and to his sede. God giue vs wisdome in our heart to iudge his people in rightcoufnes, that the good things that they haue, be not abolished, and that their glorie may endure for their posteritie.

CHAP. XLVI.

The praise of Iosue, Caleb, and Samuel.

Iosue
Num. 27. 18.
Deu. 34. 9.
Ios. 1. 2.
Ch. 12. 7.
1 **I**esus ¶ the sonne of Naue was valiant in the warres, & was y^e successour of Moyses in prophecies, who according vnto his name, was a great sauour of the elect of God, to take vengeance of y^e enemies that rose vp against them, and to set Israel in their inheritance.

Ios. 6. 2.
2 *What glorie gate he, when he lift vp his hand, and drew out his sworde against the cities?

3 Who was there before him, like to him? for he fought the battels of the Lord.

Ios. 10. 12.
4 *Stode not the sunne still by his meanes, & one day was as long as two?

5 He called vnto y^e molte high Gouvernour when the enemies preafed vpon him on euerie side, & the mightie Lord heard him with the haile stones, and with mightie power.

Ios. 10. 11.
6 He rushed in vpo the nacions in battel, & in the going downe of Bethorō he destroyed the aduersaries, that they might knowe his weapons, and that he fought in the sight of the Lord: for he followed the Almighty.

Or, that the Lord favoured his battel
Or, pursued the mightie men
Num. 14. 6.
1 Mac. 2. 5.
Caleb.

7 *In y^e time of Moyses also he did a good worke: he and Caleb the sonne of Iephune stode against theemie, and withhelde the people from sinne, & appeafed the wicked murmuring.

Num. 26. 6f.
Deu. 1. 35.
8 *And of six hundreth thousand people of fore, they two were preferred to bring the into the heritage, euen into the land that floweth with milke and honey.

Ios. 14. 11.
9 *The Lord gaue strength also vnto Caleb, which remained with him vnto his olde age, so that he went vp into the high places of the land and his sede obtained it for an heritage,

10 That all the children of Israel might see, that it is good to follow the Lord.

Iudges.
11 Concerning the Iudges, euerie one by name, whose heart went not a whoring, nor departed from the Lord, their memorie be blessed.

Chap. 49. 12.
12 Let their bones flourish out of their place, and their names by succession remaine to them that are moste famous of their

children.

13 ¶ Samuel the Prophet of the Lord, beloved of his Lord, *ordeined Kings, and anointed the princes ouer his people. *1 Samuel. 10. 1. & 16. 12.*

14 By the Lawe of the Lord he iudged the congregacion, and the Lord had respect vnto Iacob.

15 This Prophete was approued for his faithfulnes, and he was knowen faithful in his wordes and visions.

16 *He called vpon the Lord almightie, when his enemies preafed vpon him on euerie side, when he offred the sucking lambe. *1 Sam. 7. 12.*

17 And the Lord thondred from heauen, & made his voyce to be heard with a great noyce.

18 So he discomfited the princes of y^e Tyrians, and all the rulers of the Philistims.

19 *And before his long slepe he made protestacion in the sight of the Lord, and his anointed, that he toke no substance of any man, no, not so muche as a shooc, and no man colde accuse him. *1 Sam. 12. 30.*

20 *After his slepe also he tolde of y^e Kings death, & from the earth lift he vp his voyce, and prophecied that the wickednes of the people shulde perish. *1 Sam. 28. 16.*

CHAP. XLVII.

The praise of Nathan, Dauid and Salomon.

1 **A**fter him rose vp ¶ Nathā to prophcie in the time of Dauid. *1 Nathan 2 Sam. 12. 1.*

2 For as the fat is taken away from the peace offering, so was Dauid chosen out of the children of Israel. *1 Dauid.*

3 *He plaied with the lions, as with kiddes, and with beares, as with lambes. *1 Sam. 17. 34.*

4 *Slewe he not a gyante when he was yet but yong, and toke away the rebuke from the people, when he lift vp his hand with the stone in the sling, to beat downe the pride of Goliath? *1 Sam. 17. 49.*

5 For he called vpon the moste high Lord, which gaue him strength in his right hād, to slay that mightie warrour, and that he might set vp the horne of his people againe.

6 *So he gaue him y^e praise of ten thousand and honored him with great praises, and gaue him a crowne of glorie. *1 Sam. 18. 7. Or, the people. Or, with blessing of the Lord.*

7 *For he destroyed the enemies on euerie side, and rooted out the Philistims his aduersaries, and brake their horne in sunder vnto this day. *2 Sam. 1. 7.*

8 In all his workes he praised the Holy one, and the moste High with honorable wordes, and with his whole heart he sung songs, and loued him that made him.

9 *He set singers also before the altar, and according to their tune he made swete songs, that they might praise God daily, with their songs. *1 Chr. 16. 4.*

Ecclesiasticus.

- 10 He ordeined to kepe the feast daies comely, and appointed the times perfitey, that they might praise the holy Name of God, and make the Temple to sounde in the morning.
3. *Sap.* 12, 23. 11 *The Lord toke away his finnes, and exalted his horne for euer: he gaue him \bar{y} covenant of the kingdome, and the throne of glorie in Israel.
- 12 After him rose vp a wise sonne, who by him dwelt in a large possession.
- ¶ Salomon. 1. *King.* 4, 21. 13 ¶ Salomon reigned in a peaceable time, and was glorious: for God made all quiet roude about, that he might buyld an house in his Name, and prepare the Sanctuarie for euer.
1. *King.* 4, 29. 14 *How wise wast \bar{y} in thy youth, and wast filled with vnderstanding, as with a flood!
- 15 Thy minde couered the whole earth, and hathe filled it with graue and darke sentences.
- 16 Thy Name went abroade in the yles, & for thy peace thou wast beloued.
1. *King.* 4, 31. 17 *The courtiers marueiled at thee for thy songs, and prouerbes, and similitudes, and interpretations.
- 18 By the Name of the Lord God, which is called the God of Israel, thou hast gathered golde as tinne, and hast had as much siluer as lead.
1. *King.* 10, 27. 19 *Thou didest bowe thy loines to womē, and wast ouercome by thy bodie.
- 20 Thou didest staine thine honour, and hast defiled thy posteritie, and hast broght wrath vpon thy children, and hast felt sorowe for thy folie.
2. *King.* 12, 17. 21 *So the kingdome was deuided, and Ephraim begā to be a rebellious kingdome.
2. *King.* 7, 15. 22 *Neuertheles the Lord left not of his mercie, nether was he destrosed for his workes, nether did he abolish the posteritie of his elect, nor toke away the sede of him that loued him, but he left a remnant vnto Iacob, & a roote of him vnto Dauid.
- 23 Thus rested Salomon with his fathers, & of his sede he left behinde him ¶ Roboam, quen^{er} the foolishnes of the people, and one that had no vnderstanding, *who turned away the people thorow his counsel, & ¶ Ieroboam the sonne of Nabat, *which caused Israel to sinne, & shewed Ephraim the way of sinne,
- ¶ Roboam. 1. *King.* 12, 26. ¶ Ieroboam. 1. *King.* 12, 28. 24 So that their finnes were so muche increased, that they were driuen out of the land.
- 25 For they sought out all wickednes, til the vengeance came vpon them.
- CHAP. XLVIII.
- The praise of Elias, Eliseus, Ezekias and Isaias.*
- ¶ Elias. 2. *King.* 17, 1. 26 **T**hen stode vp ¶ Elias the Prophete as a fyre, and his worde burnt like a lampe.
- 27 He broght a famine vpon the, and by his zeale he diminished the: [for they might not away with the commandements of the Lord.]
- 28 By the worde of the Lord he shut the heauen, * and thre times broght he the fyre from heauen.
- 29 O Elias, how honorable art thou by thy wonderous dedes! who may make his boait to be like thee!
- 30 * Which hast raised vp the dead from death, & by the worde of the moste High out of the graue:
- 31 Which hast broght Kings vnto destruction, and the honorable from their seate:
- 32 Which heardest the rebuke of the Lord in Sina, * and in Horcb the iudgement of the vengeance:
- 33 * Which didest anoint Kings that they might recompense, and Prophetes to be thy successours:
- 34 * Which wast taken vp in a whirle winde of fyre, and in a charet of fyrie horses:
- 35 Which wast appointed to reprove in due season, & to pacifie the wrath of the Lords iudgemēt before it kindled, & to turne the hearts of the fathers vnto the childrē, and to set vp the tribes of Iacob.
- 36 Blessed were they that sawe thee, & slept in loue: for we shal liue.
- 37 * When Elias was couered with the storme, ¶ Eliseus was filled with his spirit: while he liued, he was not moued for any prince, nether colde any bring him into subiection.
- 38 Nothing colde ouercome him, * and after his death his bodie prophecied.
- 39 He did wonders in his life, and in death were his workes marueilous.
- 40 For all this the people repented not, nether departed they from their finnes: * til they were caryed away prisoners out of their land, and were scatered through all the earth, so that there remained but a very few people with the prince vnto the house of Dauid.
- 41 Howbeit some of them did right, and some heaped vp finnes.
- 42 ¶ Ezekias made his citie strong, & conuocied water into the middes thereof: he digged thorow the rocke with yron, and made fountaines for waters.
- 43 ¶ In his time came Sennacherib vp, and sent Rabfaces, and lift vp his hand against Sion, and boasted proudly.
- 44 Then trembled their hearts and hands, so \bar{y} they sorowed like a woman in trauel.
- 45 But they called vpon the Lord, which is merciful, and lift vp their hands vnto him, and immediatly the holy one heard them out of heauen.
- 46 [He thought no more vpon their finnes, nor gaue them ouer to their enemies,] but deliuered

deliuered them by the hand of Esai.

2 King. 19. 35 22 * He smote the hoste of the Assyrians, and his Angel destroyed them.

23 For Ezekias had done y thing that pleased the Lord, and remained stedfastly in the wayes of Dauid his father, as Esai the great Prophet, and faithful in his vision had commanded him.

24 * In his time the sonne went backward, and he lengthened the Kings life.

25 He sawe by an excellēt Spirit what shulde come to passe at the last, and he comforted them that were sorowful in Sion.

26 He shewed what shulde come to passe for euer, and secret things, or euer they came to passe.

CHAP. XLIX.

Of Iosias, Hekzekiah, Dauid, Ieremis, Ezechiel, Zorobabel, Iesus, Nechemias, Enoch, Joseph, Sem & Seth.

1 THE remembrance of Iosias is like the composition of the perfume that is made by the arte of the apothecarie: it is swete as honie in all mouthes, and as musicke at a banquet of wine.

2 He behaued him self vprightly in the reformation of the people, and toke away all abominacions of iniquitie.

3 He directed his heart vnto the Lord, & in the time of y vngodlie he established religion.

4 All, except Dauid and Ezekias, and Iosias, committed wickednes: for euen the Kings of Iuda forsoke the Law of the moste High, and failed.

5 Therefore he gaue their honre vnto other, and their honor to a strange naciō.

6 He burnt the elect cite of the Sanctuarie, and destroyed the stretes thereof according to the prophecie of Ieremias.

7 For they intreated him euil, which neuertheless was a Prophete, sanctified fro his mothers wombe, that he might roote out, and afflict, and destroye, and that he might also buyld vp, and plant.

8 Ezechiel sawe the glorious visiō, which was shewed him vpon the charet of the Cherubims.

9 For he made mencio of the enemies vnder the figure of the raine, and directed the that went right,

10 And let the bones of the twelue Prophetes flourish out of their place, and let their memorie be blessed: for they comforted Iacob, and deliuered them by assured hope.

11 How shal we praise Zorobabel, which was as a ring on the right hand!

12 So was Iesus also the sonne of Iosedec: these men in their time buylded the house, and set vp the Sanctuarie of the Lord againe, which was prepared for an euerlasting worship.

13 And among the elect was Neemias

whose renoume is great, which set vp for vs the walles that were fallen, and set vp the gates and the barres, and laied the fundacions of our houses.

14 But vpon the earth was no man created like Enoch: for he was take vp from the earth.

15 Nether was there a like man vnto Joseph the gouernour of his brethren, & the vpholder of his people, whose bones were kept.

16 Sem and Seth were in great honour among men: and so was Adam about euerie liuing thing in the creacion.

CHAP. I.

Of Simon the sonne of Onias. 22 An exhortacion to praise the Lord. 27 The auitor of this booke.

1 SIMON the sonne of Onias the hie Priest, which in his life set vp the house againe, and in his dayes established the Temple,

2 vnder him was the fundaciō of the double height laied, and the hie walles that compasseth the Temple.

3 In his daies the piaces, to receiue water that were decayed, were restored & the brasfe was about in measure as the sca.

4 He toke care for his people, that they shulde not fall, & fortified the cite against the siege.

5 How honorable was his conuersation among the people, and when he came out of the house couered with the vaile!

6 He was as the morning starre in the middes of a cloude, and as the moone when it is ful,

7 And as the sunne shining vpon the Temple of the moste High, and as the rainbowe that is bright in the faire cloudes,

8 And as the floure of the roses in y spring of the yere, and as lilies by the springs of waters, and as the branches of the frankcense tre in the time of fomer,

9 As a fyre & incense in the censer, and as a vessel of masie golde, set with all maner of precious stones,

10 And as a faire oliue tre that is fruteful, and as a cypresse tre, which groweth vp to the cloudes.

11 When he put on the garment of honour and was clothed with all beautie, he went vp to the holy altar, and made the garmēt of holines honorable.

12 When he toke the porcions out of the Priests hands, he him self stode by the herth of the altar, compassed with his brethren rounde about, as the branches do the cedre tre in Libanus, & they compassed him as the branches of the palme trees.

13 So were all the sonnes of Aaron in their glorie, and the oblations of the Lord in their hands before all the cōgregation of Israel.

2 King. 19. 35
Isa. 37. 36.
Iob. 1. 21.
1 Mac. 7. 47.
2 Mac. 8. 19.
Iosias.

2 King 20. 70
Isa. 38. 4.

Iosias
2 King 22. 1.
2. 23. 1.
2. 46. 1. 3.

2 King 23. 4

101. 20. 11.

2 King 23. 8.
101. 20. 11.
Ieremias
Ierem 38. 6.
Ierem 2. 1.

Ezechiel
Ez. 40. 1. 2.

Ez. 40. 1. 3. &
38.

Chap. 46. 14.

Hag 2. 24.
ez. 3. 2
Zorobabel.
Iosias
Zechar 3. 1.
ez. 1. 1. 2.
Hag. 1. 1. 2. &
2. 3.

Nche 7. 1.
Neemias.

Enoch.
Gen. 5. 24.
Ebr. 11. 5.
chap. 4. 18.
Iosiph.
Gen. 41. 44.
E. 42. 6 &
43. 2.
Isem.
Gen. 1. 3.
Iacob
Adam.

Simon
2 Mac. 3. 4.
101. 20. 11.

Which Salomon made.
2 King. 7. 23.

Ecclesiasticus.

- 14 And that he might accomplish his ministerie vpon the altar, and garnish the offering of the moste High, and almightie,
- 15 He stretched out his hand to the drinke offering, and powred of the blood of the grape, and he powred at the fote of the altar a perfume of good sauour vnto the moste high King of all.
- 16 Then showed the sonnes of Aaron, and blowed with brazen trumpets, and made a great noyce to be heard, for a remembrance before the moste High.
- 17 Then all the people together hasted, & fell downe to the earth vpo their faces to worship their Lord God almightie, and moste high.
- 18 The singers also sang with their voyces, so that the sounde was great, and the melodie swete.
- 19 And the people prayed vnto the Lord moste high with prayer before him that is mercifull, til the honour of the Lord were performed, and they had accomplished his seruice.
- 20 Then went he downe, and stretched out his hands ouer the whole congregacion of the children of Israel, that they shulde giue praise with their lippes vnto the Lord, and reioyce in his Name.
- 21 He began againe to worship, y he might receiue the blessing of the moste High.
- 22 Now therefore giue praise all ye vnto God, that worketh great things euerie where, which hath increased our dayes from the wombe, and delte with vs according to his mercie,
- 23 That he wolde giue vs ioyfulness of heart, & peace in our dayes in Israel, as in olde time,
- 24 That he wolde confirme his mercie with vs, and deliuer vs at his time.
- 25 ¶ There be two maner of people, y mine heart abhorreth, & the third is no people:
- 26 They that sit vpon the mountaine of Samaria, the Philistims, and the foolish people that dwell in Sicinus.
- 27 ¶ Iesus the sonne of Sirach, the sonne of Eleazarus, of Ierusalem, haathe written the doctrine of vnderstanding, and knowledge in this booke, and hath powred out the wisdom of his heart.
- 28 Blessed is he that exerciseth him self therein: and he that layeth vp these in his heart, shal be wise.
- 29 For if he do these things, he shal be strong in all things: for he setteth his steppes in the light of the Lord, which giueth wisdom to the godlie. The Lord be praised for euer more: so be it, so be it.
- CHAP. I I.
- A prayer of Iesus the sonne of Sirach.
- 1 I Wil confesse thee, o Lord and King, and praise thee, o God, my Saviour: I giue thanks vnto thy Name.
- 2 For thou art my defender and helper, and hast preserued my bodie from destruction, and from the snare of the sclanderous tongue, and from the lippes that are occupied with lies: thou hast holpen me against mine aduersaries,
- 3 And hast deliuered me according to the multitude of thy mercie, and for thy Names sake, from the roaring of them that were readie to deuoure me, and out of the hands of suche as sought after my life, and from the manifold afflictions, which I had,
- 4 And from the fyre that choked me rounde about, and from the middes of the fyre that I burned not,
- 5 And from the botome of the belie of hel, from an vncleane tongue, from lying wordes, from false accusation to the King, & fro the sclander of an vnrighteous tongue.
- 6 [My soule shal praise the Lord vnto death:] for my soule drewe nere vnto death: my life was nere to the hel beneath.
- 7 They compassed me on euerie side, & there was no man to helpe me: I looked for the succour of men, but there was none.
- 8 Then thought I vpon thy mercie, o Lord, and vpon thine actes of olde, how thou deliuerest suche as waite for thee, and sauest them out of the hands of the enemies.
- 9 Then list I vp my prayer from the earth, and praied for deliuerance from death,
- 10 I called vpon the Lord the father of my Lord, that he wolde not leaue me in the daye of my trouble, and in the time of the proude without helpe.
- 11 I wil praise thy Name continually, and wil sing praise with thanksgiving: & my prayer was heard.
- 12 Thou sauedst me from destruction, and deliueredst me from the euil time: therefore wil I giue thanks and praise thee, & blesse the Name of the Lord.
- 13 Whē I was yet yong, or euer I wēt abroad, I desired wisdom opely in my praier.
- 14 I praied for her before the Temple, and sought after her vnto farre countreys, and she was as a grape that waxeth ripe out of the floure.
- 15 Mine heart reioyced in her: my foote walked in the right way, & from my youth vp sought I after her.
- 16 I bowed somewhat downe mine eare, & receiued her, & gate me muche wisdom:
- 17 And I profited by her: therefore wil I ascribe the glorie vnto him, that giueth me wisdom.
- 18 For I am aduised to do thereafter: I wil be zelous of that that is good: so shal I not be confounded.
- 19 My soule hath wrestled with her, and I haue examined my workes: I lifted vp mine

18r, Sirach.

10r, uelut.

- mine hands on hye, and considered the ignorances thereof.
- 20 I directed my soule vnto her, and I founde her in purenes: I haue had mine heart ioyned with her from the beginning: therefore shal I not be forsaken.
- 21 My bowels are troubled in seeking her: therefore haue I gotten a good possession.
- 22 The Lord hathe giue me a tongue for my rewarde, wherewith I wil praise him.
- 23 Drawe nere vnto me, ye vnlearned, and dwell in the house of learning.
- 24 Wherefore are ye slowe, and what say you of these things, seeing your soules are very thurstie?
- 25 I opened my mouth, and said, * Bye her *Isa 55.1.* for you without money.
- 26 Bowe downe your necke vnder the yoke, & your soule shal receiue instruction: she is ready that ye may finde her.
- 27 Beholde with your eyes, * how that I haue had but litle labour, & haue gotten vnto me muche rest. *Chap. 6. 20.*
- 28 Get learning with a great some of money: for by her ye shal possesse muche golde.
- 29 Let your soule reioyce in the mercie of the Lord, and be not ashamed of his praise.
- 30 Do your dutie betimes, and he wil giue you a rewarde at his time.