

B A R U C H.

CHAP. I.

¹ Baruch wrote a booke during the captiuitie of Babylon, which he red before Iechoniah and all the people
¹⁰ The Iewes sent the booke with money vnto Ierusalem to their other brethren, to the iues that they shoulde pray for them.

¹ And these are the wordes of the booke, which Baruch y^e sonne of Nerias, the sonne of Maecias, the sonne of Sedecias, the sonne of Afadiaz, the sonne of Helcias wrote in at Babylon,

² In the fift yere, and in the seuenth day of the moneth, what time as the Chaldeans toke Ierusalem, and burnt it with fyre.

³ And Baruch did read the wordes of this booke, that Iechonias the sonne of Ioacim King of Iuda might heare, & all the people that were come to heare the booke,

⁴ And in the audience of the gouernour, & of the Kings sonnēs, & before the Elders, & before the whole people, frō the lowest vnto the hiest, before all thum that dwelt at Babylon by the riuer^s Sud.

⁵ Which *when they heard it*, wept, fasted and made prayers before the Lord.

⁶ They made a collection also of money, according to euertie mans power,

⁷ And sent it to Ierusalem vnto Ioacim the sonne of Helcias the sōne of Salom Priest, and vnto the other Priests, and to all the people, which were with him at Ierusalē,

⁸ When he had receiued the vessels of the Temple of the Lord, that were taken away out of the Temple; to bring thé againe into the land of Iuda, the tenth day of the moneth^s Siuan, to wit, siluer vessels, which Sedecias the sonne of Iofias King of Iuda had made,

⁹ After that Nabuchodonosor King of Babylon had led away Iechonias from Ierusalem, and his princes, & his nobles, prisoners, and the people, and caryed them to Babylon.

¹⁰ And they said, Beholde, we haue sent you money, wherwith ye shal bye burnt offerings for sinne, and incense, and prepare a meat offering, & offre vpon the altar of the Lord our God,

¹¹ And pray for the life of Nabuchodonosor King of Babylon, and for the life of Baltasar his sonne, that their daies may be vpon earth, as the daies of heauen,

¹² And that God wolde giue vs strength & lighten our eyes, that we may liue vnder the shadowe of Nabuchodonosor King of Babylon, and vnder the shadowe of Baltasar his sonne, that we may long do thé seruice, and finde fauour in their sight.

¹³ Pray for vs also vnto the Lord our God (for we haue sinned against the Lord our God, and vnto this day the furie of the Lord and his wrath is not turned from vs)

¹⁴ And rede this booke (which we haue sent to you to be rehearsed in the Tēple of the Lord) vpon the feast daies, and at time conuenient.

¹⁵ Thus shal ye say, *To the Lord our God *belongeth* righteousnes, but vnto vs y^e confusion of our faces, as it is come to passe this day vnto them of Iuda, and to the inhabitants of Ierusalem,

¹⁶ And to our Kings, and to our princes, & to our Priests, and to our Prophetes, and to our fathers,

¹⁷ Because we haue *sinned before the Lord our God,

¹⁸ And haue not obeyed him, nether hearkened vnto the voyce of the Lord our God, to walke in the commandements that he gaue vs openly.

¹⁹ From the day that the Lord broght our fathers out of the land of Egypt, euen vnto this day, we haue bene disobedient vnto this day,

Slif. ii.

** Or, manifeste
 meane which
 was it causing
 and necessary sa-
 crifice.*

Chap 26

Dan 3. 2.

** Or, Sedecias.*

** Or, Sud.*

** Or, Siuan.*

Baruch.

- to the Lord our God, and we haue bene negligent to heare his voyce.
- Deu. 28. 25.* 20 *Wherefore these plagues are come vpon vs, and the curse which the Lord appointed by Moyses his seruant at the time that he broght our fathers out of the land of Egypt, to giue vs a land that floweth with milke and honie, as *appeareth* this day.
- 21 Neuertheles, we haue not hearkened vnto the voyce of the Lord our God, according to all the wordes of the Prophetes, whome he sent vnto vs.
- 22 But euerie one of vs followed the wicked imagination of his owne heart, to serue strange gods, and to do euil in the sight of the Lord our God.
- C H A P. I I.
- 1 The Iewes confesse that they suffer iustly for their finnes. The true confession of the Christians. 21 The Iewes desire to haue the wrath of God turned from them. 32 He promiseth that he wil call againe the people from captiuitie, and giue them a newe and euerlasting testament.*
- 1 **T**herefore the Lord our God hathe performed his worde, which he pronounced against vs, & against our iudges that governed Israel, and against our Kings, and against our princes, & against the men of Israel and Iuda,
- Deu. 28. 23.* 2 To bring vpon vs great plagues, suche as neuer came to passe vnder y whole heauē, as they that were done in Ierusalē, according to things, that were written in the Lawe of Moyses,
- 3 That some among vs shulde eat the flesh of his owne sonne, & some the flesh of his owne daughter.
- 4 Moreouer, he hathe deliuered them to be in subiection to all the kingdomes, that are rounde about vs, to be as a reprouche and desolation among all the people rounde about where the Lord hathe scattred them.
- 5 Thus they are broght beneth and not aboue, because we haue sinned against the Lord our God, and haue not heard his voyce.
- Chap. 1. 15.* 6 *To the Lord our God *apperteineth* righteousness, but vnto vs & to our fathers open shame, as *appeareth* this day.
- 7 For all these plagues are come vpon vs, which the Lord hathe pronounced against vs.
- 8 Yet haue we not prayed before the Lord, that we might turne euerie one from the imaginations of his owne wicked heart.
- 9 So the Lord hathe watched ouer the plagues, and the Lord hathe broght them vpon vs. for the Lord is righteous in all his workes, which he hathe commanded vs.
- 10 Yet we haue not hearkened vnto his voyce, to walke in the commandements of the Lord that he hathe giuen vnto vs.
- Deu. 9. 12.* 11 *And now, o Lord God of Israel, that hast broght thy people out of the land of Egypt with a mightie hand, and an hie arme, and with signes, and with wonders, and with great power, and hast gotten thy self a Name, as *appeareth* this day,
- 12 O Lord our God, we haue sinned: we haue done wickedly: we haue offended in all thine ordinances.
- 13 Let thy wrath turne from vs: for we are but a fewe left among the heathen, where thou hast scattred vs.
- 14 Heare our praier, o Lord, and our petitions, and deliuer vs for thine owne sake, and giue vs fauour in the sight of the, which haue led vs away,
- 15 That all the earth may know that thou art the Lord our God, and that thy Name is called vpon Israel and vpon their posteritie.
- 16 Therefore loke downe from thine holy Temple, and thinke vpon vs: encline thine eare, o Lord, and heare vs.
- Deu. 28. 25. isa 63. 15.* 17 *Open thine eyes, and beholde: for the dead that are in the graues, and whose soules are out of their bodies, *giue vnto the Lord, nether praise, nor righteousness.
- Psal 6. 6. Eccl 11. 17. isa 38. 18. Or, iustitie, not praise of righteousness.* 18 But the soule that is vexed for the greatness of saine, and he that goeth crookedly, and weake, and the eyes that faile, and the hungrie soule wil giue thee praise & righteousness, o Lord.
- 19 For we do not require mercie in thy sight, o Lord our God, for the righteousness of our fathers, or of our Kings,
- 20 But because thou hast sent out thy wrath and indignacion vpon vs, as thou hast spoken by thy seruants the Prophetes, saying,
- Or, by the hand of thy seruants. Iere. 27. 7.* 21 * Thus saith the Lord, Bowe downe your sholders, and serue the King of Babylon: so shal ye remaine in the land, that I gaue vnto your fathers.
- 22 But if ye wil not heare the voyce of the Lord, to serue the King of Babylon,
- 23 I wil cause to cease in the cities of Iuda, and in Ierusalem, I wil cause to cease the voyce of mirthe, and the voyce of ioye, & the voyce of the bridegrome, and the voyce of the bride, & the land shalbe desolate of inhabitants.
- 24 But we wolde no hearken vnto thy voyce, to serue the King of Babylon: therefore hast thou performed the wordes that thou spakest by thy seruants the Prophetes: namely, that the bones of our Kings, and the bones of our fathers shulde be caryed out of their places.
- 25 And lo, they are cast out to the heat of the day, and to the colde of the night, and are dead in great miserie with famine, & with

- with the sworde, and in banishment.
- 26 And the Temple wherē thy Name was called vpon, thou hast brought to the state, as *appeareth* this day, for the wickednes of the house of Israel, and the house of Iuda.
- 27 O Lord our God, thou hast intreated vs according to equitie, and according to all thy great mercie.
- 28 As thou spakest by thy seruant Moyses, in the day when thou didest cōmand him to write thy Lawe before the childrē of Israel, saying,
- 29 *If ye wil not obey my voyce, then shal this great swarme and multitude be turned into a verie fewe among the nacions where I wil scater them.
- 30 For I knowe that they wil not heare me: for it is a stifnecked people: but in the land of their captiuitie they shal remember them selues,
- 31 And knowe that I am y Lord their God: then wil I giue them an heart to vnderstand, and cares.
- 32 And they shal heare, and praise me in the land of their captiuitie, & thinke vpon my Name.
- 33 Then shal they turne them from their harde backs, and from their euil workes: for they shal remember the way of their fathers, which sinned before the Lord.
- 34 And I wil bring them againe into the land, which I promised with an othe vnto their fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Iacob, and they shal be lords of it: and I wil increase them, and they shal not be diminished.
- 35 And I wil make an euerlasting couenant with them, that I wil be their God, & they shalbe my people: and I wil no more driue my people of Israel out of the land that I haue giuen them.

CHAP. III.

The people continueth in their prayer begun for their deliuerance. 9 He praiseth wisdom vnto the people, shewing that so great aduersities came vnto them for the despising thereof. 36 Onely God was the finder of wisdom. 37 Of the incarnation of Christ.

- 1 O Lord almightie, o God of Israel, the soule that is in trouble, and the spirit that is vexed, cryeth vnto thee.
- 2 Heare, o Lord, and haue mercie: for thou art merciful, and haue pitie vpon vs, because we haue sinned before thee.
- 3 For thou enduicst for euer, and we vtterly perish.
- 4 O Lord almightie, the God of Israel, heare now the praier of the dead Israelites, and of their children, which haue sinned before thee, and not hearkened vnto the voyce of thee their God, wherefore these plagues hang vpon vs.
- 5 Remember not the wickednes of our fa-
- thers, but thinke vpon thy power, and thy Name at this time.
- 6 For thou art the Lord our God, & thee, o Lord, wil we praise.
- 7 And for this cause hast thou put thy feare in our hearts, that we shulde call vpon thy Name, and praise thee in our captiuitie: for we haue considered in our mindes all the wickednes of our fathers, that sinned before thee.
- 8 Beholde, we are yet this day in our captiuitie, where thou hast scatered vs, to be a reproche, and a curse, and subiect to payments, according to all the iniquities of our fathers, which are departed from the Lord their God.
- 9 O Israel, heare the commandements of life: hearken vnto them, that thou maicst learne wisdom.
- 10 What is the cause, o Israel, that thou art in thine enemies land, and art waxen olde in a strange countrey?
- 11 And art defiled with the dead? and art counted with them, that go downe to the graues?
- 12 Thou hast forsaken the fountaine of wisdom.
- 13 For if thou hadest walked in the way of God, thou shuldest haue remained safe for euer.
- 14 Learne where is wisdom, where is strength, where is vnderstanding, that thou maist knowe also from whence cometh long continuance, and life, and where the light of the eyes, and peace is.
- 15 Who hath found out her place? or who hath come into her treasures?
- 16 Where are the princes of the heathen, & suche as ruled the beasts vpon the earth?
- 17 They that had their pastime with the foules of the heauen, that hoorded vp siluer, and golde, wherein men trust, & made none end of their gathering?
- 18 For they that coyned siluer, and were so careful of their worke, and whose inuention had none end,
- 19 Are come to naught, and gone downe to hel, and other men are come vp in their steades.
- 20 Whē thei were yong, they sawe y light, and dwelt vpon the earth: but they vnderstode not the way of knowledge,
- 21 Nether perceiued the paths thereof, nether haue their children receiued it: but they were farre of from that way.
- 22 It hath not bene heard of in the land of Chanaan, nether hath it bene sene in Theman,
- 23 Nor the Agarines that fought after wisdom vpon the earth, nor the marchants of Nerran, and of Theman, nor the expounders of fables, nor the searchers out of wisdom haue knowen the way of wisdom.

*Leu. 26. 14.
deu. 32. 15.*

Baruch.

- dome, nether do they thinke vpon the partes thereof.
- 24 O Israel, how great is the House of God! and how large is the place of his possession!
- 25 It is great, and hath no end: it is high, and vnmeasurable.
- 26 There were the gyants, famous from the beginning, that were of so great stature, and so expert in warre.
- 27 Those did not the Lord chuse, nether gaue he the way of knowledge vnto them.
- 28 But they were destroyed, because they had no wisdom, and perished through their owne foolishnes.
- 29 Who hath gone vp into heauen, to take her, and brought her downe from the cloudes?
- 30 Who hath gone ouer the sea, to finde her, and hath brought her, rather then silver golde?
- 31 No man knoweth her waies, nether considereth her paths.
- 32 But he that knoweth all things, knoweth her, and he hath founde her out with his vnderstanding: this same is he which hath prepared the earth for euermore, and hath filled it with foure footed beastes.
- 33 When he sendeth out the light, it goeth: and when he calleth it againe, it obeyeth him with feare.
- 34 And the starres shine in their watch, and reioyce. When he calleth them, they say, Here we be: and so with cherefulness they shewe light vnto him that made them.
- 35 This is our God, and there shall none other be compared vnto him.
- 36 He hath founde out all way of knowledge, and hath given it vnto Iacob his seruant, and to Israel his beloued.
- 37 Afterwarde he was sene vpon earth, and dwelt among men.
- destruction: but because ye prouoked God to wrath, ye were deliuered vnto the enemies.
- 7 For ye haue displeased him that made you, offering vnto deuils and not to God.
- 8 Ye haue forgotten him that created you, euen the euerlasting God, & ye haue greued Ierusalem, that nourished you.
- 9 When she sawe the wrath comming vpon you from God, she said, Hearken, ye that dwell about Sion: for God hath brought me into great heauines.
- 10 I see the captiuitie of my sonnes and daughters, which y^e Euerlasting wil bring vpon them.
- 11 With ioye did I nourish the, but I must leaue them with weping and mourning.
- 12 Let no man reioyce ouer me a widdow, and forsaken of manie, which for the finnes of my children am desolate, because they departed from the Law of God.
- 13 They wolde not knowe his righteousnes, nor walke in the wayes of his commandements: nether did they enter into the paths of discipline, through his righteousness.
- 14 Come, ye that dwell about Sion, and call to remembrance the captiuitie of my sonnes and daughters, which the Euerlasting hath brought vpon them.
- 15 For he hath brought vpon them a nation from farre, an impudent nacion, and of a strange language,
- 16 Which nether reuerence the aged, nor pittie the yong: these haue caried away the dere beloued of the widdowes, leauing me alone, and destitute of my daughters.
- 17 But what can I helpe you?
- 18 Surely he that hath brought these plagues vpon you, can deliuer you from the hands of your enemies.
- 19 Go your way, & children, go your way: for I am left desolate.
- 20 I haue put off the clothing of peace, and put vpon me the sackcloth of prayer, and so long as I liue, I wil call vpon the Euerlasting.
- 21 Be of good comfort, O children: crye vnto God, and he wil deliuer you from the power, and hand of the enemies.
- 22 For I haue hope of your saluatioⁿ through the Euerlasting, and ioye is come vpon me from the Holy one, because of the mercie, which shall quickly come vnto you from our euerlasting Saviour.
- 23 For I sent you away with weping, and mourning: but with ioye and perpetual gladnes wil God bring you againe vnto me.
- 24 Like as now the neighbours of Sion saw your captiuitie, so shall they also see shortly your saluatioⁿ from God, which shall come vnto you with great glorie, and brightness

CHAP. IIIII.

The reward of them that kepe the Law, and the punishment of them that despise it. 12 A comforting of the people being in captiuitie. 19 A complaint of Ierusalem & vnder the figure thereof the Church. 25 A consolation and comforting of the same.

- 1 **T**his is the booke of the commandements of God, and the Law that endureth for euer: all they that kepe it, shall come to life: but suche as forsake it, shall dye.
- 2 Turne thee, O Iacob, and take holde of it: walke by this brightness before the light thereof.
- 3 Giue not thine honour to another, nor the things that are profitable vnto thee, to a strange nacion.
- 4 O Israel, we are blessed: for the things that are acceptable vnto God, are declared vnto vs.
- 5 Be of good comfort, O my people, which art the memorial of Israel.
- 6 Ye are sold to the nations, not for your

from

from the Euerlasting.

- 25 My children, suffer patiently the wrath that is come vpon you from God: for thine enimie hathe persecuted thee, but shortly thou shalt see his destruction, and shalt treade vpon his necke.
- 26 My darlings haue gone by rough wayes, and were led away as a flocke that is scattered by the enemies.
- 27 Be of good comfort, my children, and crye vnto God: for he that led you away, hathe you in remembrance.
- 28 And as it came into your minde to go astray from your God, so endeouore your selues ten times more, to turne againe and to seeke him.
- 29 For he that hathe broght these plagues vpon you, wil bring you euerlasting ioye againe, with your saluation.
- 30 Take a good heart, O Ierusalem: for he which gaue thee that name, wil comfort thee.
- 31 They are miserable that afflict thee, and suche as reioyce at thy fall.
- 32 The cities are miserable whome thy children serue: miserable is she that hathe take thy sonnes.
- 33 For as she reioyced at thy decay, and was glad of thy fall, so shal she be sorie for her owne desolation.
- 34 For I wil take away the reioycing of her great multitude, and her ioye shalbe turned into mourning.
- 35 For a fyre shal come vpon her from the Euerlasting, long to endure, & she shalbe inhabited of deuils for a great season.
- 36 O Ierusalem, loke towards the East, and beholde the ioye that cometh vnto thee from thy God.
- 37 Lo, thy sonnes (whome thou hast let go) come gathered together from the East vnto the West, reioycing in the worde of the Holy one vnto the honour of God.

CHAP. V.

Ierusalem is moued vnto gladnes for the returne of her people, and vnder the figure thereof the Church.

- 1 **P**Vt of thy mourning clothes, O Ierusalem and thine affliction, and decke thee with the worshippe and honour, that cometh vnto thee from God, for euermore.
- 2 Put on the garment of righteousness, that cometh from God, and set a crowne vpon thine head of the glorie of the Euerlasting.
- 3 For God wil declare thy brightness to euerie countrey vnder the heauen.
- 4 And God wil name thee by this name for euer, The Peace of righteousness, and the glorie of the worship of God.
- 5 Arise, O Ierusalem, & stand vpon hie, and loke about thee towards the East, and beholde thy children gathered from the East vnto the West by the worde of the Holie

one, reioycing in the remembrance of God.

- 6 For they departed from thee on foote, and were led away of their enemies: but God wil bring thee againe vnto thee, exalted in glorie, as children of the kingdome.
- 7 For God hathe determined to bring downe euerie high mountaine, and the long enduring rockes, and to fill the valleys, to make the grounde plaine, that Israel may walke safely vnto the honour of God.
- 8 The woods and all swete smelling trees shal ouershadowe Israel at the commandement of God.
- 9 For God shal bring Israel with ioye in the light of his maiestie, with the mercie and righteousnes that cometh of him.

CHAP. VI.

A COPIE OF THE PISTLE, that Ieremias sent vnto them that were led away captiues into Babylon by the King of the Babylonians, to certifie the of the thing that was commanded him of God.

- 1 **B**Ecause of the finnes, that ye haue committed against God, ye shalbe led away captiues vnto Babylon, by Nabuchodonosor, King of the Babylonians.
- 2 So when ye be come into Babylon, ye shal remaine there manie yeres, and a long season, euen seuen generacions, and after that wil I bring you away peaceably from thence.
- 3 Now shal ye see in Babylon gods of siluer, and of golde, and of wood, borne vpon mens sholders, to cause the people to feare.
- 4 ^{1sa 44.20.} ^{psal 115.8.} ^{wis. 13.19.} Beware therefore that ye in no wise be like the strangers, nether be ye afraid of them, when ye see the multitude before the and behinde them worshipping them,
- 5 But say ye in your hearts, O Lord, we must worshipping thee.
- 6 For mine Angel shalbe with you, & shal care for your soules.
- 7 As for their tongue, it is polished by the carpenter, and they them selues are gilded, and laied ouer with siluer: yet are they but lyes, and can not speake.
- 8 And as they take golde for a maide that loueth to be deckt,
- 9 So make they crownes for the heads of their gods: some times also the Priests them selues conuey away the golde, and siluer from their gods, and bestow it vpon them selues.
- 10 Yea, they giue of the same vnto the harlots, that are in their houses: againe, they decke these gods of siluer, and gods of golde, and of wood with garments like men,
- 11 Yet can not they be preferred from rust and wormes,

Baruch.

- 12 Thogh they haue covered the with clo-
thing of purple, and wipe their faces be-
cause of the dust of the Temple, whereof
there is much vpon them.
- 13 One holdeth a scepter, as thogh he were
a certeine iudge of the countrey: yet can he
not slay suche as offende him.
- 14 Another hathe a dagger or an axe in his
right hand: yet is he not able to defende
him self from battel, nor from theues: so
then it is euident, that they be no gods.
- 15 Therefore feare them not: for as a vessel
that a man vsleth, is nothing worthe when
it is broken,
- 16 Suche are their gods: when they be set vp
in their temples, their eyes be ful of dust
by reason of the fete of those y^e come in:
- 17 And as the gates are shut in round about
vpon him that hathe offended the King:
or as one that shulde be led to be put to
death, so the Priests kepe their temples with
doores, and with lockes, & with barres, lest
their gods shulde be spoyled by robbers.
- 18 They light vp candels before them: yea,
more the for them selues whereof they ca
not se one: for they are but as one of the
postes of the temple.
- 19 They confesse, that euen their hearts are
gnawen vpon: but when the things, that
crepe out of the earth, eat them and their
clothes, they feele it not.
- 20 Their faces are blacke thorow the smo-
ke that is in the temple.
- 21 The owles, swalowes and birdes flie vp
their bodies, and vpon their heads, yea, &
the cattles also.
- 22 By this ye may be sure, that they are not
gods: therefore feare them not.
- 23 Notwithstanding the golde, that is about
them to make them beautiful, except one
wipe of the rust, they can not shine: nether
when they were molten, did they fele it.
- 24 The things wherein is no breth, are
bought for a moste high price.
- 25 *They are borne vpon mens sholders,
because they haue no feete, whereby they
declare vnto men, that they be nothing
worthe: yea, & they that worship them, are
ashamed.
- 26 For if they fall to the grounde at anie
time, they can not rise vp againe of them
selues, nether if one set them vp right, can
they moue of them selues, nether if they be
bowed downe, can they make them selues
straight: but they set giftes before them, as
vnto dead men.
- 27 As for the things y^e are offered vnto them,
their Priests sell them, and abuse them: li-
kewise also the women lay vp of the same:
but vnto the poore and sicke they giue
nothing.
- 28 The menstruous women, and they that
are in childebed, touche their sacrifices:
- by these things ye may knowe that they
are no gods: feare them not.
- 29 From whence cometh it then, that they
are called gods? because the women bring
giftes to the gods of siluer, and golde, and
wood.
- 30 And the Priests sit in their temples, ha-
uing their clothes rent, whose heades and
beardes are shauen, & being bare headed,
- 31 Thei roare, & crye before their gods, as
men do at the feast of one that is dead.
- 32 The Priests also take away of their gar-
ments, and clothe their wiues and childre.
- 33 Whether it be euil that one doeth vn-
to the, or good, they are not able to recom-
pense it: they can nether set vp a King
nor put him downe.
- 34 In like maner they can nether giue riches,
nor money: thogh a man make a vowe
vnto them and kepe it not, they wil no re-
quire it.
- 35 They can saue no ma from death, nether
deliuer the weake from the mightie.
- 36 They can not restore a blinde man to
his sight, nor helpe anie man at his nede.
- 37 They can shewe no mercie to the wid-
dowe, nor do good to the fatherles.
- 38 Their gods of wood, golde and siluer,
are as stones, that be hewen out of the
mountaine, and they that worship them,
shalbe confounded.
- 39 How shulde a man the thinke or say that
they are gods?
- 40 Moreover the Chaldeas them selues dis-
honor them: for when thei se a dome man,
that can not speake, thei present him to Bel,
- 41 And desire that he wolde make him to
speake, as thogh he had anie felig: yet thei
that vnderstand these things, can not lea-
ue them: for they also haue no sense.
- 42 Furthermore the women, girded with
coards, sit in the stietes, and burne strawe.
- 43 And if one of them be drawn away, and
lie with anie suche as come by, she casteth
her neighbour in the teeth, because she was
not so worthely reputed, nor her coard
broken.
- 44 Whatfoeuer is done among them, is lies:
how may it then be thought or said, that
they are gods?
- 45 Carpenters and golde smithes make the,
nether be they anie other thing: but euen
what the workeman wil make them.
- 46 Yea, they that make them, are of no long
continuance: how shulde then the things
that are made of them, be gods?
- 47 Therefore they leaue lies, and shame
for their posteritie.
- 48 For when there cometh anie warre or
plague vpon the, the Priests imagine with
them selues, where they may hide the sel-
ues with them.
- 49 How then can men not perceiue, that
they

*Pfal 115.3.
Wisd. 13.10.*

- they be no gods, which can nether defend them selues from warre, nor from plagues?
- 50 For *seing they be but of wood, and of siluer, and of golde, men shal knowe hereafter that they are but lies, and it shalbe manifest to all nacions & Kings, that they be no gods, but the workes of mens hands, and that there is no worke of God in the.
- 51 Whereby it maye be knowen, that they are no gods.
- 52 They can set vp no King in the lād, nor giue raigne vnto men.
- 53 They can giue no sentence of a matter, nether preserue from iniurie: they haue no power, but are as crows betwene the heauen and the earth.
- 54 When there falleth a fyre vpo the house of those gods of wood, and of siluer, & of golde, the Priests wil escape & saue the selues, but thei burne as y balkes therein.
- 55 Thei can not withstand anie King or enemies: how can it then be thought or said that they be gods?
- 56 Moreouer these gods of wood, of golde, and of siluer can nether defend them selues from theues nor robbers.
- 57 For they that are strongest, take awaye their golde and siluer, and apparel, wherewith they be clothed: and when they haue it, they get them awaye: yet can they not helpe them selues.
- 58 Therefore it is better to be a King, & so to shewe his power, or els a profitable vessel in an house, whereby he that oweth it, might haue profite, then suche false gods: or to be a dore in an house, to kepe suche things safe as be therein, then suche false gods: or a pilles of wood in a palace, then suche false gods.
- 59 For the sunne, and the moone, and the starres that shine, when thei are sent downe for necessaie vses, obey.
- 60 Likewise also the lightning when it shineth, it is euident: and the winde bloweth in euerie countrey.
- 61 And when God comandeth the cloudes to go about the whole worlde, they do as thei are bidden.
- 62 Whē the fyre is sent downe from aboue to destroye hilles and woods, it doeth that which is commanded: but these are not like anie of these things, nether in forme, nor power.
- 63 Wherefore men shulde not thinke, nor say that they be gods, seing thei can nether giue sentence in iudgement, nor do men good.
- 64 For so muche now as ye are sure, that they be no gods, feare them not.
- 65 For they can nether curse, nor blesse Kings:
- 66 Nether can thei shewe signes in the heauen among the heathē, nether shine as the moone.
- 67 The beastes are better thē they: for thei can get them vnder a couert, and do them selues good.
- 68 So ye may be certified that by no maner of meanes, they are gods: therefore feare them not.
- 69 For as a skarcrowe in a garden of cucumbers kepeth nothing, so are their gods of wood, and of siluer, and of golde:
- 70 And likewise their gods of wood, and golde and siluer are like to a white thorne in an orcharde, that euerie birde sitteth vpon, and as a dead bodie that is cast in the darke.
- 71 By the purple also and brightnes, which fadeth vpon them, ye may vnderstād, that they be no gods: yea, they them selues shal be consumed at the last, and they shalbe a shame to the countrey.
- 72 Better therefore is the iuste man, that hath none idoles: for he shalbe farre frō reprofe.