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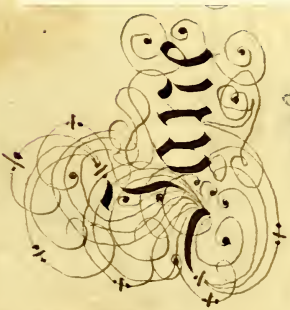

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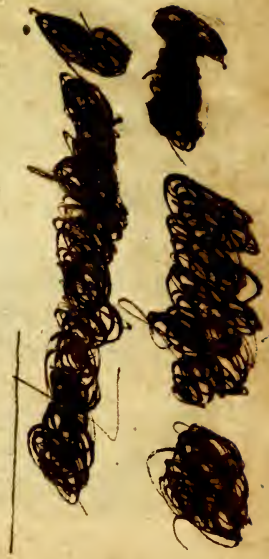

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THE PREFACE.

IT is altogether unneceſſary to trouble the Reader with a Detail of the Uſefulneſs of the following Sheets; ſince every Thing that bears ſo intimate a Relation to the Holy Bible, carries with it its own Recommendation.

The Expence of purchaſing the Sieur de Royamont's *Hiſtory of the Bible, publiſh'd by Mr.* Blome; *and of that more excellent one written by Mr.* How-

ell, *was a great Inducement to us, to offer this small Piece to the World:—— Most of the Historical Facts (in the Old Testament especially) want no Explanation or Comment, and it must, in some Measure, render the Design of those Pieces less valuable, as the Sacred Books themselves, of almost any Size, may be purchased at a much easier Rate, than the Comments on them: For who would not rather have Recourse to the Fountain-Head of Knowledge, than to the Under-Currents? Especially when it is impossible that most of the Facts can be set in a clearer or fuller Light, than they already shine in, as related with the beautiful Simplicity so natural to the inspired Penmen, who have transmitted to us the Sacred History.*

'Tis true, the many Copper Plates inserted in those Works, in order to allure the Minds of the Readers to the Study of the Holy Scriptures, necessarily inhance

hance their Price: But if they are generally the Minds of weak Perſons, of People of low Education, and of Children, that Pictures are intended to allure, the great Bulk and high Price of thoſe Performances, muſt of conſequence, as we have hinted, be a Hindrance to their very Deſign.

For theſe Reaſons, we thought we ſhould hit upon a proper Medium, *and anſwer all the Ends that are neceſſary to recommend ſuch a Performance, if we could comprize a Hiſtory of the Holy Bible in ſo ſmall a Compaſs, as to make it proper for Schools, and to allure, by neat Plates, repreſenting many of the moſt material Facts, the Minds of Youth to the Knowledge of the Scriptures, and which ſhould be afforded at ſo eaſy a Price, as that the Expence ſhould be no greater a Burthen to the Parents Pockets, than the Matter of it ſhould be to the Learner's Memory: And which, at the*

the same Time that it should want nothing to make it perfectly intelligible to the meanest Understanding, should not be so low as to merit the Contempt of those of brighter Intellects.

How well we have executed this Design, must be left to the Reader's Determination: But we flatter our selves that we shall stand in some measure acquitted, when he is inform'd of the Difficulty we have labour'd under, from the narrow Compass to which we have been confined, to observe any tolerable Connexion in the respective Histories; especially as the Choice of the several Stories were left to the Designer, who had finish'd all the Plates before we began to compile; which laid us under an Obligation to write to the Cuts; and frequently to omit some Histories that otherwise ought to have been inserted, for the better Illustration of the Design: As to the rest, it must be confess'd, the

Engraver

Engraver has perform'd his Part, conſidering his narrow Compaſs, with an Exquiſiteneſs and Accuracy not to be equalled in ſeveral Pieces, where the Artiſt has had far more Advantages and Room to inable him to excel. But 'tis an ungenerous Part to recommend our ſelves on the Faults and Imperfections of others; and therefore we ſhall ſay no more on this Head.

We have interſperſed as often as we could, brief Obſervations and Reflections upon the Hiſtories recited, in order to lead ductile Minds into a Way of Thinking ſuitable to the Deſign of each particular Relation: But the Brevity which we were oblig'd to obſerve, has laid us under a Neceſſity of being more ſparing on this Head, than we ſhould otherwiſe have been. And that we might do Juſtice to the Sacred Text, we have, as often as we could, conſiſtent with our intended Conciſeneſs, choſen to expreſs

expreſs our ſelves in the very Words of Scripture.

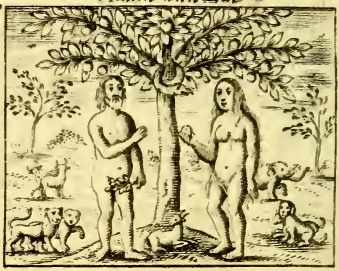
As to the reſt, we ſhall only add, That if any little Incongruity has been occaſion'd by the Choice of the Plates, as in particular in the Paſſion of our Bleſſed Lord, his Reſurrection, Aſcenſion, &c. which, as they have been taken from the ſeveral Relations given thereof by the ſeveral Evangeliſts, may ſeem to ſome Readers to ſavour of Tautology or Repetition; we have excus'd our ſelves on that Head by brief Prefaces and References in their proper Places, and ſhall ſay no more of them here: But conclude with ſubmitting the whole Performance to the favourable Cenſure of the Candid Reader.

THE

Gen: 2. 3. 4. cap:

Adam and Eue

1



droue out of Eden

2

8 And y^e Lord god planted a garden, &c:

16 And y^e Lord god comanded y^e man, &c

25 And they were both naked, &c:

III 24 So he droue out ye man, & he placed &c:

I.

The CREATION.

GOD having, out of a confused and obscure *Chaos*, created the Heavens, the Earth, and the Sea; the Fishes, the Birds of the Air, the Cattle, and every creeping Thing, He last of all, was pleased to form *Man*, to be the Lord of all these, *out of the Dust of the Earth*, and *breathed into his Nostrils the Breath of Life*. And that he might not be without a Companion, or *Help meet for him*, he cast the Man into a deep Sleep, and from one of his Ribs, formed Woman, and brought her to the Man, who received her as *Bone of his Bone*, and *Flesh of his Flesh*, and called her *Woman*, to signify her Relation to him.

II.

The FALL.

THIS happy Pair, thus created and placed in Paradise, of all the Works of His Creation, God prohibited them no Enjoyment, saving, that they should not, on Pain of Death, eat of the Fruit of one Tree, called *The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil*; which Command was inforced upon them, as a Test of their Obedience and Acknowledgment of their Dependance upon their Creator. But long had they not enjoy'd the charming Beauties of their Situation, before the Woman, tempted by the wily Serpent, prevailed on the Man to eat of the forbidden Fruit. This their Transgression, could not be hidden from the Eye of an all-seeing God, who upbraiding the Man for his Disobedience, pronounced Sentence upon him, *That, as he was taken out of the Dust, so he should return to Dust again*, and expelled them both out of Paradise.

III.

The Sacrifice *of* CAIN *and* ABEL.

FROM this Disobedience of our first Parents, Rancour, Malice, Revenge, and all the deadly Passions, began to invade the Heart of Man; and Satan, who had but too well succeeded in his first Attempts, never ceased to pursue the Advantages he had gained: A fatal Example of which happen'd in the Case of *Cain* and *Abel*, the Sons of *Adam* and *Eve*: *Cain* being an Husbandman, offered to God, a Sacrifice of some of his Fruits, and *Abel*, who was a Shepherd, the best of his Flocks, *Cain*, burning with Resentment and Uncharitableness to his Brother, found his Sacrifice unpleasing to God; while that of *Abel* was well accepted, by Reason of the Integrity of his Heart. This so irritated *Cain*, that he determined from that Time to wreak his Revenge on his innocent Brother.

IV.

CAIN *slayeth* ABEL.

IN Order to this, *Cain* having treacherously inticed *Abel* into the Fields, who little suspected his barbarous Intention, he there, laying aside all Humanity and Brotherly Affection, rose up against him, and slew him. But the Blood of righteous *Abel* crying out from the Earth unto the Lord, the Almighty set a Mark upon *Cain*, that no Body should slay him, but that he might live to bear the tormenting Stings of a wounded Conscience, and condemned him to be a Vagabond upon the Earth all his Life: A just Punishment for such a barbarous Fratricide, and a Warning to all Posterity, to avoid the savage Passions of Envy and Revenge, and all Uncharitableness.

Cain & Abels sacrifice

3

Cain slayeth Abel

4

IIII. 3 Cain brought of ye frute of ye ground &c
4 And Abell he also brought of ye fatlinge
of his flock and the fat thereof &c:
8 Cain rose up against Abel his brother &c

Noah entreth the Ark Gen:7:1.

5

The waters prevail.7:12.

6

Gen:7:1 And ye Lord said unto Noah,
come thou and all thy house into vt
Gen:7:12 And ye rain was upon ye earth
fortie dayes and fortie nights &c:

V.

The ARK.

THE Sins of Mankind ſtill increaſing, and every Generation growing worſe and worſe, inſomuch that there was but one righteous Man to be found; the Almighty, juſtly provoked at their Ingratitude and Degeneracy, repented him that he had made Man, and reſolved to extirpate him from the Face of the Earth: But becauſe the righteous *Noah* ſhould not loſe his Reward, God commanded him to build an Ark, according to the Proportions he preſcribed, in order to ſave his own Family, and the living Creatures God ſhould ſend him. This Ark was a Hundred Years in building, during all which Time, *Noah* preached Repentance to the Sons of Men, in order to avert the Wrath of Heaven; but all to no Purpoſe, their Hearts being harden'd, and they being abandon'd to their own Deſtruction.

VI. *The* DELUGE.

ALL *Noah*'s Admonitions thus proving ineffectual, God commanded him to enter the Ark, which he had ſtor'd with all neceſſary Proviſions for himſelf and the Creatures he took with him (every clean Beaſt by Seven's, and unclean by Two's) together with his Wife, and his Three Sons and their Wives: Which being done, the Lord cauſed ſuch violent Rains to be ſhower'd down, for the Space of Forty Days and Forty Nights, that the Earth was totally overwhelm'd, and the Waters prevailed Fifteen Cubits above the higheſt Hills and Mountains; ſo that in this univerſal Deluge, not only Men, but Birds, and Beaſts, and every creeping Thing periſh'd; except *Noah* and his Family, and the living Creatures with him in the *Ark*; which by the Providence of God was ſtill preſerv'd floating on the Surface of the Waters.

VII.

The Waters *dried up.*

IT was for the Space of Seven Months from the Beginning of the Flood, that the Earth remain'd overwhelm'd, when the Lord cauſed a great Wind to paſs over it, which abated the Waters ſo much, that the Ark reſted upon the Mountains of *Ararat*. Four Months after which, *Noah* ſent forth firſt a Raven, which did not return, and after that a Dove, which finding no Reſting place, returned to him; but Seven Days after that, he ſent forth the ſame Dove, which returned to him with a green Olive-branch in its Mouth, pluck'd off of a Tree; by which *Noah* obſerv'd that the Waters were abated. Afterwards, they being wholly dried up, the Lord permitted *Noah*, who had continued in the Ark for a whole Year, to depart from it, together with all his Family, and the living Creatures of all Kinds, that had been preſerved therein.

VIII.

GOD's *Covenant with* NOAH.

NOAH, to ſhew his Thankfulneſs to the Lord, for his diſtinguiſhing Mercy and Goodneſs to him, as ſoon as he came forth of the Ark, built an Altar, and offer'd upon it an Offering of every clean Beaſt and every clean Fowl; which the Almighty was pleaſed to accept graciouſly, and made an eternal Covenant with him and his Children, and eſtabliſh'd as a Token thereof, the Rainbow, to ſignify that he would never more deſtroy the World by a Deluge, and commanded them to increaſe and multiply, and to replenish and poſſeſs the Earth.

The waters dried up. 8: 16.

7

Gods Covenāt wᵗʰ Noah Gen: 9. 13.

8

Gen: 8. 16. Go forth of yᵉ Ark, thou and
thy wife, & thy sons, & thy sons wiues &
Gen: 9. 13 I do set my bow in yᵉ cloud, &
it shall be for a token of yᵉ Covenant &

Abra:m entertaineth 3 Angels Gen: 18 8

9

Lot and his two Daugters Gen: 19: 32

10

Gen: 18.8 And he took butter & milk
and ye calfe which he had dressed &c:
Gen: 19: 32 Come let us make our fa:t
drink wine and we will lie w:th him

IX.

ABRAHAM *entertaineth three* Angels.

MANY Hundred Years after the Death of *Noah*, it pleased God to distinguish by his Mercies, the faithful *Abraham*, the Son of *Terah*, and Descendant of *Shem*, one of the Sons of *Noah*; whom he promised to make the Father and Head of many powerful Nations: And when *Abraham* was a Hundred Years old, he sent Three Angels to his Abode to confirm his Promise; who being received as Travellers by *Abraham*, declared that his Wife would shortly conceive a Son, which she over-hearing, being above Ninety Years of Age, and always barren, laughed at as an impossible Thing. The Angels challenging her with her Incredulity, she, filled with Confusion, not thinking they had heard her, denied she had laughed; upon which they reprimanded her, and took leave of *Abraham*, and departed.

X. LOT's *Incest.*

BUT whilst *Abraham* became the chosen Favourite of the Almighty, it happened not so well with his Nephew *Lot*, who having separated from him, by means of the little Brangles and Strifes arisen between their Servants, took up his Abode near the City of *Sodom*, which, for its abominable Wickedness, being shortly after destroyed by Fire and Brimstone from Heaven, and his Wife, for her Disobedience, turned into a Pillar of Salt, and he being driven for Refuge to a Cave in *Zoar*, his Two Daughters, thinking all Mankind but themselves and their Father, were destroyed, in order to preserve the Human Species, made him drunk with Wine, and caused him to commit Incest; from which unnatural Sin sprang the Fathers of the *Moabites* and the *Ammonites*, Two very powerful Nations.

XI.

HAGAR's *Diſtreſs.*

BUT before the ſet Time of the Lord's Promiſe of a Son to *Abraham*, was accompliſhed, *Sarah* recommended to him her Handmaid *Hagar*, as was frequently the Cuſtom of thoſe Days, that he might not be deſtitute of an Heir, in Caſe ſhe herſelf ſhould bear him no Children: Accordingly, *Abraham* had a Son by *Hagar*, called *Iſhmael*, who when *Iſaac* was born, deriding him, and *Hagar* behaving herſelf alſo unſeemly to her Miſtreſs, *Abraham* was obliged to put her and her Son away; who travelling in the Wilderneſs of *Beerſheba*, and being in great Diſtreſs for Water, ſhe caſt the Child under one of the Shrubs, and removing a Bow-ſhot Diſtance, bewail'd her unhappy Caſe, and her Infant's, whoſe Death ſhe inſtantly expected: But the Angel of the Lord diſcover'd to her a Well of Water, wherewith ſhe ſaved her Child's Life, who afterwards became the Father of a mighty People called the *Iſhmaelites*.

XII.

ABRAHAM's *Tryal.*

THE *Jewiſh* Tradition tells us, that *Iſaac* was Thirty-ſeven Years old when his Father *Abraham* was called upon to the greateſt Tryal of his Faith, which he had ever experienc'd. He was not only the Son of the Promiſe, and the Son of his Parents old Age, but their only earthly Delight and Pleaſure: Yet ſo great was the Faith of *Abraham*, and his Reliance on the Almighty, that when God commanded him, to take this his only Comfort, and ſacrifice him to him, he readily, without Heſitation, complied with the divine Command; and as he was juſt about to ſlay his Son, the Angel of the Lord called to him to deſiſt, and having applauded his great Faith, cauſed a Ram to be caught by the Horns in a Thicket, which *Abraham* took and offer'd up to the Lord inſtead of his Son.

Isaac and Rebekah Gen:24:17

13

Abraham's burial Gen:25:9

14

Gen: 24:17 And ye servant ran to meet
her & said Let me (I pray thee) drink &c:
Gen:25:9. And his sons Isaac and Ismael
buried him in ye cave of Machpelalah

Hagars Distreſs Gen: XXI: 7

11

Abrams triall Gen: 22: 10:

12

16: 7 And yᵉ Angel of the Lord found her by a fountain &c:
22: 10 And Abraham ſtretched forth his hand and tooke his knife &c:

XIII.

ISAAC *and* REBEKAH.

ABRAHAM having buried his Wife *Sarah*, at the Age of 127 Years, and being old himſelf, thought it Time to Think of marrying his Son *Iſaac*; but not caring to wed him to the Daughters of the Land, he ſent his faithful Steward *Eliezer*, with Camels and a great Equipage, to get him a Wife among the Daughters of his Brother *Nahor*, the *Meſopotamian:* The Steward arriving near the City of *Nahor*, by a Well's Side, pray'd to the Lord, That the Damſel, who ſhould be the Wife of *Iſaac*, might come forth with a Pitcher to draw Water, and that if he asked her to give him to drink, ſhe would offer to make his Camels drink alſo: This happen'd according to his Prayer, and *Rebekah* the Daughter of *Bethuel*, *Nahor*'s Son, coming forth, and offering him and his Camels Drink, he plainly perceived the Finger of the Lord in the Caſe, and inſtantly went home with her, and demanded and obtained her for a Wife for his young Maſter *Iſaac*, and conducted her to him accordingly.

XIV.

ABRAHAM's *Burial.*

AFTER *Abraham* had ſeen his Son *Iſaac* thus happily married, he took to himſelf another Wife, named *Keturah*; who bore to him Six Sons; and having preſented theſe Sons with Gifts, he ſent them away towards the *Eaſt Country*, and left all the Remainder of his great Riches to his beloved Son *Iſaac*. And now, having compleated an Hundred and Threeſcore and Fifteen Years, he gave up the Ghoſt, and was buried by his Sons *Iſaac* and *Iſhmael*, in the Cave of *Machpelah*, which he had purchaſed in his Life Time for the Sepulture of his Family, and where he had before buried *Sarah* his Wife.

XV.

ESAU *sells his Birth-Right.*

ISAAC had been marry'd to his beloved Wife *Rebekah* 20 Years, before he had any Children by her; and then she conceived of Twins, the first-born whereof was called *Esau*, and the other *Jacob*: When these Sons were grown up, *Esau* became a great Hunter, *and* Jacob *was a plain Man dwelling in Tents.* It happened that *Esau* on a Time returning from Hunting ready to faint with Hunger, besought *Jacob*, who had sod Lentile-pottage, to give him a Mess to eat, but *Jacob*, taking Advantage of his Brother's Necessity, insisted upon his parting with his Birth-Right for it. *And* Esau *said, Behold I am at the Point to die; and what Profit shall this Birth-Right do to me? And* Jacob *said, Swear to me this Day, and he swore unto him: And he sold his Birth-Right unto* Jacob.—*Thus* Esau *despised his Birth-Right.*

XVI.

JACOB *steals the Blessing from* ESAU.

NOW Isaac *loved* Esau, *because he eat of his Venison; but* Rebekah *loved* Jacob: And hearing *Isaac*, who was now blind with Age, give order to *Esau* to kill him some Venison, and to make savoury Meat for him, that he might bless him before he dy'd, she contriv'd to put *Jacob* in his Stead, and to make him steal from *Esau* the Blessing design'd him; and accordingly having made *Esau* believe the Imposture, he blessed him, and assured him, that all his Brethren should serve him. *Esau* returning, and *Isaac* being undeceived, would not however reverse his Blessing, but told him, that he should serve his Younger Brother. At which *Esau* conceived a violent Hatred against *Jacob*, and threatned to kill him after the Death of his Father *Isaac*.

Iacob and Esau Gen: 25: 31

15

Rebekah and Iacob Gen: 27: 8.

16

Gen: 25: 31 And Iacob said sell mee this
day thy birth right. And Esau said &c
Gen: 27: 8 Now therefore my son obey
my voyce, according to that wch I &c:

Iacob's Ladder Gen. 28: 12

17

Iacob and Rachel Gen: 29: 3

18

Gen: 28:12 And he dreamed and behold
a ladder set upon yᵉ earth & ẏ top &
Gen: 29:3 And they rolled yᵉ stone fro
yᵉ wells mouth & watred yᵉ sheep &

XVII.

JACOB's *Ladder.*

JACOB being obliged to flee to avoid the Resentment of his Brother *Esau*, bent his Course to his Mother's Kindred in *Mesopotamia*; but being belated in his Journey, he gathered some Stones together for his Pillow, and laying him down, fell asleep, and *dream'd, and behold a Ladder set upon the Earth, and the Top of it reach'd to Heaven; and the Angels of God ascending and descending on it*; and above it stood the Almighty, who was graciously pleased to renew to him, all the Promises which he had made to *Abraham*, and to *Isaac*, and that he would protect him and bless him in all his Undertakings. *And* Jacob *awaked out of his Sleep, and said, Surely the Lord is in this Place, and I knew it not.* And he vow'd a Vow, that the Lord should be his God, if he would vouchsafe to protect him, and (being not solicitous for ought but the Necessities of Life) if he would be pleas'd to give him Meat to eat, and Raiment to put on; and he called the Name of the Place *Beth-el.*

XVIII.

JACOB *and* RACHEL.

JACOB pursuing his Journey, arriv'd at a Well in *Haran*, where they used to water their Flocks, and being informed that *Rachel* the Daughter of *Laban* his Mother's Brother, was approaching with her Flock, he rolled a great Stone from the Mouth of the Well, and making himself known to *Rachel*, water'd her Flock; and she hasten'd to acquaint her Father with his Arrival, who received him with all manner of Kindness; and he serv'd him 14 Years for his Daughters *Leah* and *Rachel*, and in the Space of 6 Years more, having greatly increased his Substance, and by his Wives and their Handmaids, having 11 Sons, and one Daughter, he set out to return to his Father's House, hoping by this Time his Brother *Esau* had forgot his Resentment.

XIX.

JACOB *wreſtles with an* Angel.

JACOB hearing his Brother *Eſau* was coming to meet him, attended with 400 Men, was exceeding terrified, and having implored the Divine Protection, he pick'd out 200 *She-Goats*, *and* 20 *He-Goats*: 200 *Ewes*, *and* 20 *Rams*; 30 *Milch Camels with their Colts*; 40 *Kine*, *and* 10 *Bulls*; 20 *She-Aſſes*, *and* 10 *Foles*, ordering them to be drove before in different Flocks, as Preſents to pacify the Fury of his Brother. And he following after alone, was wreſtled with by a Man, who proved to be an Angel of the Lord, who touching the Hallow of *Jacob*'s Thigh, occaſioned him to halt ever after; and for this Reaſon *the Children of* Iſrael *eat not of the Sinew which ſhrank*, *which is upon the Hollow of the Thigh*, *unto this Day*.

XX.

JACOB *meeteth* ESAU.

JACOB being convinced that the Perſon he had wreſtled with, was an Angel of the Lord, who chang'd his Name to *Iſrael*, procur'd his Bleſſing, and departed to meet *Eſau*; who by this Time having approached his People, and being ſoftned by his Brother's humble Deportment, laid aſide his Reſentments, and meeting him, fell on his Neck and kiſſed him, and wept. *Jacob* preſented to him his Wives, and his Sons, and Daughter, and urged him to accept of the Preſents he had ſelected from his Flocks for him; which, after ſome Difficulty, *Eſau* complying with, many mutual Civilities paſſed between them, and they parted. And thus was *Jacob* reconciled to his Brother, and delivered from all his Apprehenſions on that Score, by his ſubmiſſive and obliging Deportment to his Brother.

Iacob and yᵉ Angel Gen:32:24

19

Iacob meeteth Esau Gen: 33:24

20

Gen:32:24: And there wrestled a man with him untill yᵉ braking off yᵉ day. Gen:33:4 And Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on ꝺ:

Dinah Ravished Gen: 34 : 2 .

21

The Shechemites slain 34 26

22

And when Shechem ye Son of Hamor
or ye Hevite Prince of ye countrey &c:
And they slew Hamor and Shechem
his son with ye edge of the sword &c:

XXI.

DINAH *Raviſhed.*

JACOB having thus eſcaped the Fury of his Brother, purſued his Journey to *Succoth*, and purchaſed a Field wherein he pitch'd his Tents, and built him an Houſe, and erected an Altar to the Lord. But long he had not been ſettled there, before *Dinah* his Daughter, out of womaniſh Curioſity, going to ſee the Daughters, of the Land, *Shechem* the Son of *Hamor*, Prince of the Country, ſeized on her by Force, and raviſh'd her: But being captivated with her Beauty, he procur'd his Father *Hamor* to treat with *Jacob* about marrying her; offering to agree to any Propoſals that ſhould be made for that purpoſe, and to conſolidate an intire Union between their Families and People, in order to repair the Fault committed by his Son.

XXII.

The Shechemites *ſlain.*

TO theſe Propoſals *Jacob* and his Son ſeemed to give Ear, and demanded that the Prince and all the Males of the Country ſhould be Circumciſed: To which they readily yielding, on the Third Day, when their Pains were moſt violent, *Simeon* and *Levi*, Two of the Sons of *Jacob*, unknown to their Father, boldly enter'd the City, and put to the Sword all the Males, not ſparing either *Hamor* the King, or his Son *Shechem*, while the whole City became the Plunder of the other Sons, and the Wives and Daughters of the *Shechemites*, were carry'd by them into Captivity. This Bloody Execution ſorely vexed *Jacob*, who expoſtulated with them thereupon in ſtrong Terms; but they juſtified themſelves becauſe of the Outrage their Siſter *Dinah* had received: And the Lord caſt a Terror upon all the Nations round about, ſo that they durſt not riſe and revenge upon *Jacob*, who was innocent of his Sons Violence, the Deſtruction of the *Shechemites*.

XXIII.

JUDAH *and* TAMAR.

JUDAH, one of the Sons of *Jacob*, having Three Sons, Two of which for their Wickedneſs were ſlain by the Lord, he ordered *Tamar* their Widow to dwell with him till his Third Son was grown up, whom he promis'd to give to her in Marriage. But his Son being arriv'd at Maturity, and *Judah* neglecting his Promiſe, *Tamar* chang'd her Apparel for that of a looſe Woman, and went and ſat herſelf down by the Highway-ſide, where *Judah* was to come by: Who taking her for what ſhe appear'd to be, left his Bracelet, Signet, and Staff with her, as Pledges for a Preſent of a Kid which he was to ſend her for her Permiſſion to lie with her; and ſo, unknown to himſelf, went to Bed to his Daughter-in-Law. Which furniſhes a Leſſon to all Perſons who ſuffer themſelves to be led by their headſtrong Paſſions, that they know not to what Sins their Follies may lead them.

XXIV.

TAMAR *to be burnt.*

JUDAH, as ſoon as he got to his Flock, ſent the Kid to redeem his Pledges, by the Hands of a Friend; but finding no Woman there, he durſt not, for fear of Scandal, make farther Enquiry. But afterwards hearing that *Tamar* was with Child, he order'd her to be burnt: When ſhe was brought forth, ſhe ſent her Pledges to *Judah*, ſaying, *By the Man whoſe theſe are, am I with Child. And* Judah *acknowledg'd them, and ſaid, She is more righteous than I, becauſe that I gave her not to* Shelah *my Son: And he knew her no more. Tamar* being thus reſpited from Execution, was in Proceſs of Time deliver'd of Twins.

Iudah's incest Gen: 38 : 18

23

Tamar to be burnt: 38 : 24

24

And he said what pledge shall I giue and she said thy Signet and &c: And Iudah said bring her forth and let her be burnt &c.

Ioseph's dreams .37.: 7

25

Ioseph cast into a Pit Gen. 37.24.

26

Gen:37.7. Forbehold wee were bindg
sheaues in the field and to my &c:
Gen: 37:27. Come let us sell him to y
Ishmelites and lett not our hands &c

XXV.

JOSEPH's *Dreams.*

IT frequently happens, that Parents who have several Children, are too apt to shew a partial Affection to some one, tho by this Imprudence they subject their Favourite to the Hatred and Malice of all the rest. This was the Case with *Jacob*, who of all his Sons, loved *Joseph* the Son of *Rachel* best, and was so impolitick as to distinguish him in his Apparel, by cloathing him in gay and party-colour'd Vestments; which irritated his Brethren against him. *Joseph*, as is the Case often of the most favour'd, also added to their Disgusts, by acquainting his Father with their Faults and undue Liberties of Speech; and what still augmented their Hatred, was, Two Dreams which he had, and told them of; the one, that as they were binding Sheaves, his Sheaf arose, and stood in the midst of theirs, and that theirs made Obeisance to his Sheaf; the other, that the Sun, Moon and Eleven Stars, paid also Obeisance to him; both which seem'd to presage his future Grandeur and Elevation.

XXVI. JOSEPH *cast into a Pit.*

ALL these Provocations put together, so exasperated *Joseph*'s Brethren against him, that they resolved to wreak their Revenge upon him the first Opportunity. Accordingly *Jacob* having sent him to see how his Brethren fared, who kept their Flocks in a distant Part of the Country, they no sooner saw him, but they conspired together to slay the *Dreamer*, as they called him in Derision. But *Reuben*, his eldest Brother, dissuaded them from their bloody Purpose, and advised them to put him into an empty Pit in the Wilderness, and leave him to his Fate, designing afterwards secretly to deliver him from thence. Accordingly they seized *Joseph*, and having, with great Contumely, stripped him of his party-colour'd Coat, they cast him into a Pit, and sat themselves down to eat and be merry.

XXVII. JOSEPH *sold to the* Ishmaelites.

JOSEPH had not been long in the Pit, when his Brethren saw some *Midianitish* Merchants passing by, to whom they thought they had better sell him, than to be guilty of his Blood: Accordingly they bargained for 20 Pieces of Silver, and delivered him to the *Ishmaelites*, who being on a Journey to *Egypt*, carried *Joseph* thither, and sold him to *Potiphar*, Captain of the Guards to King *Pharoah*. Mean time *Reuben*, who had a Design privately to save *Joseph*, and knew nothing of his being sold, coming to the Pit, and finding him not there, gave way to the most excessive Grief, and went to his Brethren, telling them, That he found *Joseph* was no more; and that they should never be able to see their Father's Face: Hereupon they killed a Kid, and dipping *Joseph*'s Coat in the Blood, they carried it to *Jacob*, pretending that some evil Beast had devoured his beloved Son; which he believing, rent his Cloaths, and cloathed his Loins with Sackcloth, and would not receive any Consolation.

XXVIII. JOSEPH's *Chastity.*

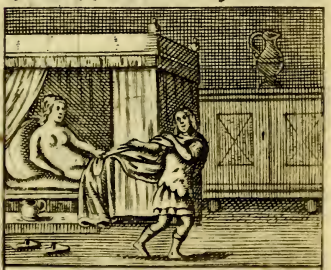
BUT what *Joseph*'s Brethren had designed for his Ruin, by the Providence of God, was turned to his Exaltation; for *Potiphar* his Master observing his Diligence, and that every thing prospered that he took in Hand, made him Steward over all his Houshold and Estate. In this advantageous Situation he had not continued long, before his Mistress observing him to be a very handsome Youth, tempted him to lie with her: But he abhorring such Wickedness, did all he could to avoid her Company and Conversation; but on a Time, the Duties of his Office obliging him to be in the House all alone with his Mistress, and no Body being near, she caught hold of his Garment, saying, *Lie with me.* *Joseph* hereupon struggling to get free, left his Garment in her Hand, and fled from the House, to avoid her farther Importunities.

Ioseph sold for 20 pieces. Gen: 37:28

27

Ioseph refisteth his mistres 39:12

28



Gen: 37: 28. Then there pasied by Midi
anites marchant men &c:
Gen: 39:12 And she caught him by
his gament saying Lie with mee &c.

Rahab's covenant Iosh: 2:12

29

12 stones taken out of Jordan Iosh: 4:2

30

Iosh: 2:12 Now therefore I pray you sweare unto me by yᵉ Lord since I haue &c:
Iosh: 4: 3. Take you 12 men out of the people out of every tribe, a man &c

XXIX. RAHAB's *Covenant.*

AS it is impoſſible in this ſmall Volume to carry on a ſtrict Connexion in all the Hiſtories of the *Holy Bible*, we ſhall refer our Readers to the 39th, 40th, and following Chapters of the Book of *Geneſis*, for the farther Particulars of the Hiſtory of *Joſeph*; where he will find, how he was impriſoned by the falſe Accuſation of his Miſtreſs: By what Means he was delivered and made *Pharaoh*'s Prime Miniſter: How he amuſed his Brethren, who, according to his Dreams, were obliged to ſubmit to him. How he made himſelf known to them; and of his Grandeur, Riches, Children, Death and Burial. In the Beginning of *Exodus* will be found, the Oppreſſion of the Children of *Iſrael* in *Egypt* under a new King, their Deliverance by the Hand of *Moſes*, &c. who dying, *Joſhua*, after many Dangers and great Atchievements, conducted the *Iſraelites* to the Land of *Promiſe*; and ſending two Spies to the chief City *Jericho*, to view it, they took up their Lodging at the Houſe of a Harlot named *Rahab*, who, covenanting that they ſhould ſave her and her Family when they took the Town, hid them from the Citizens, who ſuſpected their Errand, and letting them out of her Window by a Cord, they, purſuing her Advice, got off ſafe.

XXX. STONES *taken out of* Jordan.

THE Spies having encouraged the People to attack *Jericho*, *Joſhua* made Preparations accordingly; but being to paſs the River *Jordan*, God commanded the Prieſts to carry the Ark of the Covenant into *Jordan*, the Waters of which he cauſed to divide as ſoon as their Feet touched the Brim thereof, and they were gathered up on Heaps, while the Prieſts enter'd into the midſt of the River with the Ark, and there ſtood, till all the People were paſſed over; when the Waters returned into their natural Channel, and flowed as before. To perpetuate the Memory of which Prodigy, God commanded that 12 Men out of the 12 Tribes ſhould each take a Stone out of *Jordan*, while the Stream was ſtopped, which *Joſhua* pitch'd in *Gilgal*.

XXXI.

CIRCUMCISION *renewed.*

THE Children of *Israel* who came out of *Egypt*, having, in their Journey to the Land of *Promise*, behaved themselves disobediently to the Lord, and often murmur'd against the Divine Commands; it pleased God to punish them, by causing them to walk forty Years in the *Wilderness*, during which Time, all that Generation was consumed: And their Descendants having never been Circumcised, by Reason of their being born in their Journeyings, the Lord commanded *Joshua*, after he had passed *Jordan*, to cause all the Males to be initiated into that holy Ordinance, which was accordingly performed, *and they abode in their Places in the Camp till they were whole.*

XXXII.

JERICHO *taken.*

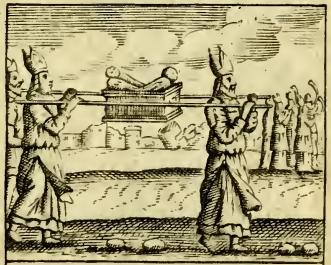
THE Lord being willing to manifest his Wonders to the Children of *Israel*, and to shew them that they should not trust in the Arm of Flesh for their Victories, ordered that the Ark of the Covenant should be carried Seven Times round *Jericho*, preceded by Seven Priests, blowing each a Trumpet of Ramshorns; and at the seventh Time, upon a particular Signal, the People were ordered to give a great Shout, and immediately the lofty Walls of *Jericho* fell flat down to the Earth, and the *Israelites* enter'd the same, and put to the Sword every Man, Woman and Child; and all Sorts of Cattle, and burnt the City to Ashes; only sparing the Harlot *Rahab*, and her Family, according to the Promise of the Spies, whom she had preserved from the Rage of the Men of *Jericho*, who sought to take away their Lives.

Circumcision renewed Iosh: 5: 3

31

The Ark of ye Covenant Iosh: 6: 4.

32



Iosh: 5: 3. And Joshua made him sharp knives and circumcised ye Children &c
Iosh: 6: 4. And seven priests shall bear before ye ark 7 trumpets of rams &c

Five Kings hanged Iosua. 10: 26.

33

Gideons present. Iudges 7: 20.

34

10: 26 And afterward Iosua smot and slew them and hanged ym &c.
6: 20 And ye angell of God said unto him take ye flesh and ye unleavened &c.

XXXIII.

Five KINGS *hanged.*

JOSHUA purſuing his Victories. Five Kings, to wit, the King of *Jeruſalem*, the King of *Hebron*, the King of *Jarmuth*, the King of *Lachiſh*, and the King of *Eglon*, joined their Forces, to attack *Gibeon*, a City in Alliance with the *Iſraelites*, who thereupon joined Battle with the Five Kings; and the Lord rained Hailſtones upon their Enemies, and, at the Prayer of *Joſhua*, cauſed the Sun and Moon to ſtand ſtill for three Days, till they were wholly diſcomfitted; and the Five Kings taking Refuge in a Cave at *Makkadah*, *Joſhua* commanded them to be brought forth, and having cauſed his Officers to put their Feet on their Necks, in Token of the Lord's ſubjecting their Enemies beneath their Feet, he ſmote them and ſlew them, and hanged them on Five Trees, till the Evening, when their Bodies were taken down, and thrown into the Cave where they had hid themſelves, cloſing up the Mouth thereof with great Stones.

XXXIV. GIDEON's *Preſent.*

AFTER the Death of *Joſhua*, and of that whole Generation, the Children of *Iſrael* ſuffered themſelves to be ſeduced by the Heathens among whom they lived, to worſhip their falſe Gods, and forſook that gracious God, who had heaped ſo many miraculous Favours upon them. Wherefore the Lord gave them into the Hands of the *Midianites*, who oppreſſed them ſo exceedingly, that they crying to the Lord, he raiſed up *Gideon* to deliver them; to whom an Angel appearing, accepted of his Preſent of a Kid, and other Proviſions, which he cauſed him to put on a Rock, and made fire to come out of the Rock, by touching the Fleſh with his Staff, which conſumed the Fleſh, and all the Proviſions, &c.

XXXV. GIDEON's *Fleece.*

GIDEON being confirmed by this Miracle, that the Lord had chosen him to deliver his Country, destroy'd the Altar of *Baal*, which belonged to his Father *Joash*; at which the *Midianites* being incensed, drew up a mighty Army of several Nations, to revenge their false God, and to punish *Gideon*, who, by this Time, being followed by many *Israelites*, had raised a little Army against them. *And* Gideon *said unto God, if thou wilt save* Israel, *by my Hand, as thou hast said, I will put a Fleece of Wool in the Floor, and if the Dew be on the Fleece only, and it be dry upon all the Earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save* Israel *by my Hand, as thou hast said. And it was so: for he rose up early on the Morrow, and thrust the Fleece together, and wringed the Dew out of the Fleece a Bowl-full of Water. And* Gideon *said unto God, Let not thine Anger be hot against me—— Let it now be dry only upon the Fleece, and upon all the Ground let there be Dew. And God did so that Night.*

XXXVI. GIDEON's *Army.*

GIDEON being thus encouraged, encamped with his Army, which by this Time was increased to 32000 Men: But the Lord ordered him to proclaim, that whosoever was afraid, should quit the Army, lest the *Israelites* should vaunt, that their own Numbers had saved them; and thereupon 22000 Men retired to their own Homes; but the Lord still thinking the remaining 10000 too many, ordered *Gideon* to carry them down to the Water, and to chuse only those that lapped Water as a Dog, and not those that bowed down on their Knees to drink; which reducing their Number to 300 Men, who were all that lapped, with these God miraculously was pleased to deliver his People, and destroy at one time 120,000 of the *Midianites*, together with *Oreb* and *Zeeb*, and *Zeba* and *Zalmunna*, Princes and Kings of *Midian*, and thereby intirely deliver'd *Israel* from the *Midianitish* Yoke.

Gedeon's Fleece Iudg: 6:37

35

Gideon's army Iudg: 6:5:

34

6.27. Behold I will put a fleece of
woolle in the floor and if the dew
7:5 So he brought down the people
unto ye water; and ye Lord said vnto

Iepthah & his daughter Iud.'n 39

37

Their Sacrifices

38

n:39: And it came to passe at ye end of two months, that she returned to her & Father who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed, &c.

XXXVII.

JEPHTHAH's *Vow.*

NEVER was People so much favour'd by God, as the *Jews*, and never was there a more perverse and undeserving Nation; in their Prosperity, always forsaking God, and never, but in Adversity, observing his Statutes. After the Death of *Gideon*, they returned to gross Idolatry; so that the Lord raised up against them the numerous Armies of the *Ammonites*, which struck such a Consternation thro' *Israel*, that once more they laid aside their abominations, and turn'd to the Lord: who mercifully raised up *Jephthah* the *Gileadite* to defend them: This valiant Captain vowed a Vow, that if the Lord would deliver his Enemies into his Hands, he would offer for a Burnt Offering whatever came first out of his House to meet him; and having totally discomfitted the *Ammonites*, on his returning in Triumph, his Daughter and only Child, came out to meet him with Timbrels and Dances.

XXXVIII.

JEPHTHAH's *Sacrifice.*

NOTHNIG could be more afflicting than this Sight to *Jephthah*, which turned all his Triumph into Mourning. He acquainted his Beloved Daughter with his Vow: who with, admirable Resignation, submitted to it, and besought him not to depart from it, because of his Tenderness to her; desiring only, that she might be permitted to go upon the Mountans with her Female Companions, for the Space of two Months, to bewail her Virginity. Which *Jephthah* complying with, at the End of that Time she returned; *And he did with her according to his Vow which he vowed. And it was a Custom in* Israel, *after that the Daughters of* Israel *went yearly to lament the Daughter of* Jephthah *four Days in a Year.*

XXXIX. MANOAH's *Sacrifice.*

AFTER the Death of *Jephthah*, the *Israelites* were govern'd by several other Judges, till doing Evil again in the Sight of the Lord, he gave them into the Hands of the *Philistines* for the Space of 40 Years. But at last being moved by their Oppressions and Repentance, he was pleased to raise up *Samson* for their Assistance. His Father's Name was *Manoah* of the Tribe of *Dan*, whose Wife having continued barren for many Years, an Angel appeared to her alone, and told her she should bear a Son, who should begin to deliver *Israel* from the *Philistines:* She not knowing it to be an Angel, informed her Husband of the Prediction, who praying to God also to see the Holy Man, the Angel appeared to them both, and renewed his Prediction; and commanded them to offer a Burnt-offering to the Lord (instead of paying any Honours to himself) he ascended up before them, in the Smoke thereof, leaving them both fully convinced of his Angelick Mission, and in a great Consternation at so extraordinary an Occurrence.

XL. SAMSON *killeth a Lyon.*

SAMSON, according to the Prediction of the Angel, being born and growing a Man, he cast his Eyes on a young Woman at *Timnah*, of the Daughters of the *Philistines*, whom he desired his Father and Mother to procure for his Wife. *Manoah* opposed his Choice at first, because she was a *Philistine*; but finding his Son insist upon it, he and his Wife accompanied him to *Timnah*, and as *Samson* was at some Distance from them in their Way, *Behold a young Lyon roared against him. And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he rent the Lyon as he would have rent a Kid, and he had nothing in his Hand; but he told not his Father nor his Mother what he hath done:* But proceeded on his Way, and gaining the Consent of the young Woman and her Parents, a Day was fix'd for his Espousals.

Monoahs Sacrifice Judg: 13: 20

39

Samson killeth a Lion: 14: 6.

40

13: 20. For it came to passe when ye flame went up towards heaven

14. 6. And ye spirit of ye Lord came mightilie upon him &c:

Samson smiteth ye Philistines Iudg: 15:15

41

Samson carrieth away ye gates Iudg: 16:3

42

15:15: And he found a new jaw bone of
of an Asse, and put forth his hand and &c.
16:3 And Samson lay till midnight and
arose at midnight and took the &c

XLI. SAMSON *ſmiteth the* Philiſtines.

AS *Samſon* returned to marry his Wife, he found in the Carcaſe of the dead Lyon, Bees, and Honey, which he eat of: And at his Wedding Feaſt propounded this Riddle to 30 young Men at the Table, *viz. Out of the Eater came forth Meat, and out of the Strong, Sweetneſs*; promiſing them 30 Changes of Rayment, and 30 Sheets, if, within a fixed Time, they could expound the ſame; provided, that if they could not, they ſhould give him the ſame Reward. The ſet Time being almoſt elapſed, they prevailed on his Wife to get the Secret out of him: Which being revealed to them, ſo enraged *Samſon*, that he ſlew 30 *Philiſtines*, and gave their Rayment to thoſe who had expounded the Riddle. After this, in his Abſence, his Wife being given to another Man, he caught 300 Foxes, and tied them Tail to Tail, with Firebrands between each, and letting them looſe among the ſtanding Corn of the *Philiſtines*, he conſumed that and their Vineyards and Olives. This inraging the *Philiſtines*, they burnt his Wife and her Father; whereupon *Samſon* ſmote them Hip and Thigh, with a great Slaughter, and went and dwelt on the Top of a Rock. The *Philiſtines* being gathered together for Revenge, the Men of *Judah* perſuaded *Samſon* to let them bind him with new Cords, and deliver him up to the *Philiſtines*, who ſeeing him bound, gave a great Shout; upon which the Spirit of the Lord coming upon *Samſon*, he ſnapt the new Cords as if they had been burnt Flax, and finding the Jaw Bone of an Aſs, he fell upon the *Philiſtines*, and therewith ſlew 1000 Men.

XLII. Samſon *carrieth away the Gates.*

AND it was told the Gazites, *ſaying*, Samſon *is come hither. And they compaſſed him in, and laid wait for him, and having ſecured the Gates, were quiet all the Night, ſaying, In the Morning, when it is Day, we ſhall kill him. And* Samſon *aroſe at Midnight, and took the Doors of the Gate of the City, the two Poſts, Bar and all, and carried them up to the Top of an Hill that is before* Hebron.

XLIII. DELILAH's *Falſhood.*

THE Lords of the *Philiſtines* having ſought all Opportunities to be revenged of *Samſon*, to no Purpoſe, at laſt had recourſe to a Woman named *Delilah*, for whom he had a great Affection; offering her mighty Rewards if ſhe could prevail upon him to reveal where his great Strength lay. Three ſeveral Times he amuſed her with wrong Accounts, and ſo eſcaped the Snare laid for him: But at length, *When ſhe preſſed him daily with her Words, and urged him ſo, that his Soul was vexed unto Death, he told her all his Heart, and ſaid unto her, There hath not come a Razor upon mine Head; for I have been a* Nazarite *unto God from my Mother's Womb: If I be ſhaven, then my Strength will go from me, and I ſhall become weak, and be like any other Man. Delilah* hereupon making him ſleep upon her Knees, ſent for the Lords of the *Philiſtines*, and cauſed a Man to ſhave off the *Seven Locks of his Head, and his Strength went from him, and the* Philiſtines *took him, and put out his Eyes, and brought him down to* Gaza, *and bound him with Fetters of Braſs, and he did grind in the Priſon-houſe.* And thus was *Samſon* ſeverely puniſhed for revealing his Secrets to a wicked Proſtitute.

XLIV. SAMSON's *Revenge and Death.*

BUT in a little Time *Samſon*'s Hair beginning to grow again, his Strength alſo returned: Mean while the *Philiſtines* triumphed exceedingly in their Conqueſt, and on a Time making a Sacrifice in Gratitude to their God *Dagon*, who they ſuppoſed had delivered their Enemy into their Hands, being very merry, they ſent for *Samſon* to make them Sport; who being brought and placed between the Two Pillars that ſupported the Houſe, he took one in each Hand, and calling upon God to aſſiſt him that once to revenge himſelf for his two Eyes, and deſiring to die with them, *he bowed himſelf with all his might, and the Houſe fell upon the Lords, and upon all the People that were therein: So the Dead which he ſlew at his Death, were more than they which he ſlew in his Life.*

Delilah's falshood Iudg 16 19

43

Samson's death Iudg: 16 : 29.

44

16:19 And she made him sleep upon her
lap and she caled for a man and she &c
16:29 And Samson tooke hold of ye two
middle pillres upon which the house &c

Naomi & her two daughters. 1:8
Ruth. 1.2.3.4

45

Boaz and Ruth 2:e: 8:v.

46

8 And Naomi said unto her two
daughters in law, Go return &c:
2:8 Then said Boaz unto Ruth
hearest thou not my daughter &

XLV. Naomi *and her Two Daughters.*

NAOMI having buried her Husband and Two Sons in the Land of *Moab*, whither they had retired when there was a Famine in the Land of *Judah*, and being disposed to return to her own Country, which was again blessed with Plenty, she endeavour'd to persuade *Orpah* and *Ruth*, the Widows of her deceased Sons, to leave her in her Misfortunes, and return to their Mother's House, where they would probably be less exposed to the Hardships her Poverty and Affliction must needs involve them in: *Orpah* was mov'd by her Arguments, and took leave of her Mother; but *Ruth*, having more Piety, and a stronger Faith in God's Providence, said to *Naomi*, *Intreat me not to leave thee, or return from following after thee; for whither thou goest I will go, and where thou lodgest I will lodge: Thy People shall be my People, and thy God my God: Where thou diest will I die, and there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but Death part thee and me.* *Naomi* seeing she was stedfastly resolved, desisted from her Persuasions; and *they two went until they were come to* Bethlehem.

XLVI. BOAZ's *Kindness to* Ruth.

IT was the Beginning of Barley-harvest, when *Naomi* and *Ruth* arrived at *Bethlehem*, and *Ruth* going to glean in the Fields of *Boaz*, a very wealthy Relation of *Naomi*'s late Husband, *Boaz* cast his Eyes upon her, and being informed who she was, he applauded her dutiful Behaviour to her Mother-in-Law, and enjoin'd her to glean in no other Field but his, during the whole Time of Harvest; and to keep fast by his Maidens; and after she was gone to glean, he order'd his Servants that they should drop Handfuls on purpose for her to take up; which they did, insomuch, that when she had beat out that she had gleaned, it was about an Ephah of Barley.

XLVII.

RUTH *lieth at the Feet of* BOAZ.

NAOMI rejoicing at *Boaz*'s Kindneſs to her Daughter-in-Law, and being willing to improve his favourable Diſpoſition to her, commanded *Ruth* to watch the Place of his Repoſe in the Threſhing-floor, where he was to winnow Barley that Night, and when he was laid down, and was fallen aſleep, to uncover his Feet, and to lay herſelf down by him. *Ruth* obey'd, and being laid down by him, he awoke at Midnight, and was at firſt ſurprized to find a Woman at his Feet; but *Ruth* revealing herſelf, and claiming of him the Right of marrying her, according to the *Jewiſh* Cuſtom, as being her near Kinſman, he applauded her Choice, in that ſhe had not ſet her Heart on a young, indiſcreet Man, and told her, that there was ſtill a nearer Relation than he, of whom he would require to perform the Duty of neareſt Kinſman, and if he declined it, he himſelf would marry her. And in the Morning preſenting her with ſix Meaſures of Barley, he diſmiſſed her, with much Civility and Kindneſs.

XLVIII.

BOAZ *married* RUTH.

BOAZ reſted not till he made good his Promiſe to *Ruth*, and having, as was the Cuſtom, required, publickly, the neareſt Kinſman to marry *Ruth*, and he having declin'd it, *Boaz* took Witneſſes of it, and eſpouſed her himſelf: And in proceſs of Time ſhe conceived and bore a Son, who was called *Obed*, who was the Father of *Jeſſe*, the Father of King *David*; from which Stock, according to the Fleſh, afterwards deſcended our bleſſed Lord and Saviour *Jeſus Chriſt*. And thus glorioufly, for an Example to all Children, was *Ruth* rewarded for her filial Duty to her Mother-in-Law.

Ruth lieth at Boazs feet. 3:7

47

He marieth her 4:9

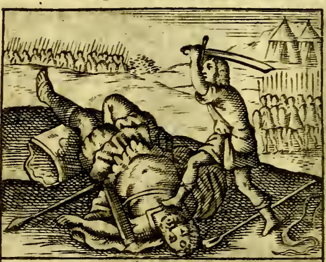
48

3:7 And when Boaz had eaten &c.
drunk and his heart was merry &c.
4:9 And Boaz said unto the elders
and unto all the people &c.

Samuell killeth Agag. 1 Sam: 15: 33

49

David killeth Goliah. 1 Sam: 17: 51.



50

And Samuell said as thy swoord hath made women Childlesse so shall &c.
Therefore David ran and stood ... Philistine ... tooke his ...

XLIX. SAMUEL *killeth* AGAG.

THE *Israelites* having requested of the Prophet *Samuel*, that he would make them a King to judge them like other Nations, the Lord was pleased to comply with their Request, and directed *Samuel* to anoint for their King, *Saul* the Son of *Kish*, who having, by the Divine Assistance, subdued many powerful Nations, was at last commanded to fall upon the *Amalekites*, and to spare neither Man, Woman nor Child, nor Ox, Sheep, Camel nor Ass; *Saul* accordingly made great Slaughter of the *Amalekites*; but took Prisoner King *Agag* their King, whom he spared, and also the best of their Cattle, from a Principle of Avarice: Whereupon *Samuel* having severely rebuked *Saul* for not fulfilling the Command of the Lord, and threatned him with the Deprivation of his Kingdom, he ordered *Agag* to be brought forth, whom he hewed in Pieces before the Lord in *Gilgal*.

L. DAVID *killeth* GOLIATH.

GOD being displeased with *Saul*, determined to transfer the Kingdom from him to *David*, the Great Grandson of *Boaz* and *Ruth*: Nor was it long before an Occasion offer'd to signalize this Youth in the Face of all *Israel*; for a mighty Champion of the *Philistines* called *Goliath* of *Gath*, who was Six Cubits and a Span high, and of prodigious Strength, having defy'd the Champions of *Israel* for 40 Days, struck such a Terror into them, that they always fled at the Sight of him, as often as he appear'd. With this mighty Champion *David*, tho a Stripling, undertook to encounter, notwithstanding the Persuasions and Apprehensions of the whole Camp; and having taken his Sling he went to meet him, and slung a Stone that entered the *Philistine*'s Forehead, and felled him flat to the Earth; whereupon *David* ran and stood upon him, and with his own Sword struck off his Head, which occasioned the total Discomfiture of the *Philistines*.

LI.

SAUL *envieth* DAVID.

THIS extraordinary Victory obtained by *David*, having gain'd him the Applauſe and Affection of the People, *Saul* grew jealous of him, and determined to deſtroy him; and being troubled with an Evil Spirit from the Lord, *David* was uſed to play upon his Harp, which diverted his Melancholy, and cauſed the Evil Spirit to depart from him: And on a Time, as *David* was playing on his Harp to divert him, *Saul*, having a Javelin in his Hand, *caſt the Javelin; for he ſaid, I will ſmite* David *even to the Wall with it; and* David *avoided out of his Preſence twice.*

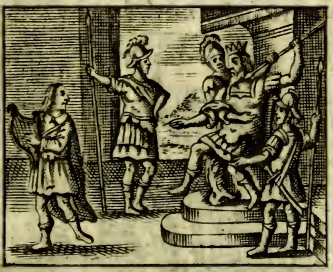
LII.

JONATHAN's *Kindneſs to* DAVID.

BUT tho *David* had the Misfortune to incur the Diſpleaſure of *Saul*, yet his great Merits attach'd to him *Jonathan Saul*'s Son; who loved him as his own Soul, and gave him Notice from Time to Time of all the Evil intended to him by his Father. And the Feaſt of the New Moon being at Hand, when it was uſual for all the Courtiers to attend the King, and *David* not daring to be preſent for fear of being put to Death, it was agreed upon between them, That if *Jonathan* ſhould diſcover that his Father intended Miſchief to *David*, he would ſhoot his Arrows near a Place in the Field where *David* was to be hid, and if he bid his Boy fetch them from beyond him, and not on this Side of him; that then he ſhould make his Eſcape. And *Jonathan* having found his Father's Reſolution to deſtroy *David*, he ſhot his Arrows beyond him as was agreed, and *David* made the beſt of his Way, having firſt ſworn to a ſtrict Covenant with *Jonathan*.

Saul envieth him. I Sam: 18: 11

51



Ionathan's kindness: II Sam: 20: 35

52

And Saul cast ye Iaudin for he said, I will smite David even to the wall &c. And it came to passe in ye morning yt Ionathan went out into ye feild &c.

Nabals churlishnes. 1 Sam. 25:10

53

Abigails wisdome. 1 Sam. 25:18

54

25:10 And Naball answered Davids
servants, and said who is David &c.
25:18 Then Abigail made hast and
took 200 loaves and 2 bottles of wine &

LIII. NABAL's *Churliſhneſs.*

DAVID being obliged to flee into the Wilderneſs to avoid *Saul*'s Reſentment, he became a Captain over ſeveral Hundreds of Perſons who reſorted to him to avoid their Creditors, or ſome other Diſtreſs, and hearing that *Nabal*, a mighty rich Man, whoſe Shepherds he had protected in *Carmel*, was ſhearing his Sheep there, he ſent ten of his Followers to him to remind him of his Civility to his Servants, and deſire him to ſend him ſome Proviſions or whatſoever he could ſpare. But *Nabal* being *churliſh and evil in his Doings*, *anſwered* David's *Servants*, *and ſaid*, *Who is* David? *And who is the Son of* Jeſſe? *There be many Servants now-a-days that break away every Man from his Maſter. Shall I then take my Bread and my Water, and my Fleſh that I have kill'd for my Shearers, and give it unto Men whom I know not whence they be? So* David's *young Men went again, and told him all thoſe Sayings.*

LIV. ABIGAIL's *Wiſdom.*

DAVID being exaſperated at this churliſh Anſwer, ordered all his Followers to gird on their Swords, and vowed by the Morning Light to leave not a Man alive of all *Nabal*'s Family. But the Servants of *Nabal* fearing what might happen, went to their Maſter's Wife *Abigail*, and inform'd her of their Apprehenſions, and of the Civilities they had received at *David*'s Hands; who thereupon took 200 Loaves and two Bottles of Wine, and five Sheep ready dreſs'd, with other Proviſions, and having loaden ſeveral Aſſes, with them ſhe ſet out with divers of her Servants, unknown to her Husband, and met *David* on full March with his Men in order to deſtroy *Nabal*'s Houſe and Family: But being appeaſed by her graceful Demeanour and Humility, he receiv'd her and her Preſents kindly, and was diverted from his Purpoſe; And *Abigail* being very beautiful as well as diſcreet, and *Nabal* dying for Vexation when he was told what had happened, *David* took her to Wife.

LV. *The* WITCH *of* Endor.

WHILE Matters went thus with *David*, *Samuel* the Prophet died, and *Saul* having in vain purſued *David* from Place to Place, and finding the Lord had left him, and being terrified at the great Armies of the *Philiſtines* which were drawn up againſt him, he went to a Woman who had a familiar Spirit, and deſired her to bring up *Samuel*, which having done, he requir'd of him what he ſhould do in his Diſtreſs? *Samuel* aſſur'd him, That the Lord had rent his Kingdom from him, and given it to *David*, and that on the next Day, God would deliver him and the *Iſraelites* with him, into the Hands of the *Philiſtines*; and that he and his Sons ſhould be with him in Death. This terrible Prediction ſo affected *Saul*, that he fell *ſtraitway all along on the Earth, and there was no Strength in him*; and when he recover'd, he would neither be comforted nor refreſh'd.

LVI. SAUL's *Death.*

ACcording to the Prophet's Prediction, the next Day both Armies having engag'd on Mount *Gilboa*, the *Iſraelites* were diſcomfited, and *Saul*'s Sons *Jonathan*, *Abinadab* and *Malchiſua*, being ſlain, and himſelf ſore wounded, he ſaid unto his Armour-bearer, *Draw thy Sword and thruſt me through therewith, leſt theſe Uncircumciſed come and thruſt me through, and abuſe me.* But his Armour-bearer refuſing, *Saul* took a Sword and fell upon it; which when his Armour-bearer ſaw, he likewiſe fell upon his Sword, and died with him. And when the *Philiſtines* found *Saul* among the Slain; they cut off his Head, ſent his Armour to *Aſhtaroth*, and faſtened his Body to the Walls of *Bethſhan*, together with the Bodies of his Sons; which afterward were reſcued from them by the Inhabitants of *Jabeſh Gilead*, who decently interr'd their Bodies. And *David* extreamly lamented the Loſs of *Saul*, and more eſpecially of his beloved Friend *Jonathan*.

The witch of Endor 1 Sam: 28: 8.

55

Saul's death & his armour bearer

56

28: 8 And Saul disguised him-selfe and put on other rayment and &c:
31: 4 Then said Saul to his armour bearer draw thy sword and &c:

Bethsheba's request. 1 Kings. 2.20:

57

He seats his mother on his right hand 2:22

58

2:20. Then she said I desire one smal petition of thee I pray thee say me &c
2:22: And why do est thou aske Abishag ye Shunamite for Adonijah &c

LVII.

BATHSHEBA's *Requeſt.*

AFTER this deplorable Fate of *Saul* and his Houſe, God was pleaſed to eſtabliſh the Throne of *David* over *Iſrael* and *Judah*, and to deliver his Enemies into his Hand. And *David* having reigned forty Years, appointed his Son *Solomon* his Succeſſor, preferably to his eldeſt Son *Adonijah*, and died in a good old Age. When *Adonijah* perceived all his Efforts to ſucceed to his Father, of no avail, he gave way to his Brother's good Fortune; but meditating to ſtrengthen his Pretenſions to the Throne, he deſired *Bathſheba*, the Mother of King *Solomon*, to requeſt the King to grant him to Wife *Abiſhag* the *Shunammite*, a beautiful Damſel, who had cheriſhed King *David*, and miniſtred unto him, and lay in his Boſom, when he was ſo old, that no Heat could be kept in him. *Bathſheba* courteouſly undertook the Meſſage; not being aware of his Deſign in it, and went to her Son, the King, to requeſt this Favour of him.

LVIII.

His ſeats his Mother on his Right-Hand.

AS ſoon as the King beheld his Mother, he dutifully roſe up to meet her, and cauſing her to be plac'd on the Throne on his Right Hand, he ſat down by her, and promiſed to grant whatever ſhe ſhould deſire of him: But when he heard her Requeſt, *He anſwered and ſaid, And why doſt thou ask* Abiſhag *the* Shunammite *for* Adonijah? *Ask for him the Kingdom alſo*——*Then King* Solomon *ſware by the Lord, ſaying, God do ſo to me and more alſo, if* Adonijah *have not ſpoken this Word againſt his own Life. Now therefore as the Lord liveth,* Adonijah *ſhall be put to Death this Day!*

LIX. ADONIJAH *slain.*

SOLOMON, as he had ſworn, accordingly ſent *Benaiah* the Son of *Jehoida*, who was his chief Captain, and he fell upon *Adonijah* and ſlew him: He after this removed *Abiathar*, a Friend of *Adonijah*'s, from being Chief Prieſt, putting *Zadock* one of his own Followers, into his Place; and not long after, cauſed the ſame *Benaiah* to fall upon the valiant *Joab*, who had been *David*'s chief General, and to ſlay him at the Horns of the Altar which he had taken hold of for a Sanctuary, he having alſo been attach'd to *Adonijah* as the eldeſt Son of his Royal Maſter. By theſe Removes and Sacrifices, ſo cuſtomary with Princes whoſe Crowns are conteſted, and eſpecially with the Princes of the *Eaſt*, did *Solomon* eſtabliſh his Throne over *Iſrael*.

LX. SOLOMON's *Judgment.*

SOLOMON having requeſted *Wiſdom* of the Lord, preferably to either *Riches* or *Power*, the Lord was pleaſed to add them all to him, and to promiſe him Wiſdom beyond all thoſe who went before him, or that ſhould come after him. It happened an extraordinary Caſe came before him ſoon after, which redounded greatly to his Reputation; for two Harlots living in one Houſe by themſelves, and being both brought to Bed within three Days of each other, the Child of one of them dying, the Mother changed the dead one for the live one, while the other was aſleep, and inſiſted ſtrongly that it was her own. This Caſe coming before the King, and both claiming the living Child, *Solomon* order'd that it ſhould be divided with a Sword between them: To this the pretended Mother aſſenting, the true one, beſought the King to let the other have it whole, rather than to deſtroy her Child; which at once ſhew'd ſhe was the true Mother, and ended the Controverſy.

Adonijah slain 2:25.

59

Solomon's Judgment. 3:16:

60

2 25: And king Solomon sent
by ye hand of Benaiah ye son of ye
3:16 Then came there two women
that were harlots unto the king &c

The Temple begun. 1 Kings. 6: 2.

61

Solomons prayer 1 Kings 8: 23

62

6: 2 And ye house wch King Solomon
built for the Lord the length thereof &c
8: 27: And he said Lord God of Israell
there is no god like the^e in heaven &c

LXI.

The TEMPLE *begun,*

GOD having reserved to the peaceable Reign of *Solomon*, the Building of a Temple to his Honour, that Prince set about the important Work, which when built and finish'd, became the Glory of the City of *Jerusalem*, and one of the seven Wonders of the World. For its Dimensions, curious Workmanship, and the Richness of its Utensils and Ornaments, we must refer our Readers to the Description given of it in sacred Writ, 1 *Kings*, vi, vii. having not Room, in this small Compass, to describe its wonderful Splendor, Magnificence, and Beauty.

LXII.

SOLOMON's *Prayer.*

SOLOMON having finish'd this glorious Fabrick, assembled the Elders of all *Israel*, and caused the Ark of the Lord to be carried into an Apartment peculiarly allotted for its Residence, by far the most rich and splendid of the whole Building, called the *Holy of Holies*; and having sacrificed 22,000 Oxen, and 120,000 Sheep, he dedicated the Temple to the Lord, and blessed the People, and made a solemn Prayer to the Almighty, acknowledging his Power and his Mercies; and begging first a Blessing upon himself and his House, he besought the Lord to hearken to the Cries of his People, whensoever they should offer their Supplications towards that Place, and to forgive them their Offences, and assist them in all their Distresses and Exigences: After which he hallow'd the Temple, and made a Feast for all *Israel*, which lasted 14 Days, and then dismissed the People. *And they blessed the King, and went into their Tents joyful and glad of Heart, for all the Goodness that the Lord had done for* David *his Servant, and for* Israel *his People.*

LXIII. SOLOMON's *Magnificence.*

NOW *King* Solomon *exceeded all the Kings of the Earth for Riches and for Wisdom; and he made a great Throne of Ivory, and overlaid it with the best Gold: The Throne had six Steps,* and twelve Lyons were placed, six on each side of the Steps, and two Lyons beside the Stays of it; *there was not the like made in any Kingdom. And when the Queen of* Sheba *heard of his Fame, she came to prove him with hard Questions,* attended with a great Train, and laden with Spices, and Gold, and precious Stones, as Presents to him; and when she had seen his magnificent Buildings, his splendid Court, and all his Wisdom, *there was no more Spirit in her*; and she acknowledged that the Report of his Glory and his Fame, which had induced her to leave her own Country to be Witness of them, and which 'till now she had scarce believ'd, was far short of what she had beheld; and pronouncing his Servants happy, who every Day heard his Wisdom, and blessing the Lord for his Mercies to him, she returned to her own Country loaden with magnificent Presents made her by King *Solomon.*

LXIV. SOLOMON's *Idolatry.*

THE Frailty of human Nature was never more conspicuous in any Man than in King *Solomon*, and shews what weak Creatures the best and wisest of Men are, when left to themselves, or when they give the Reigns to their head-strong Passions. After all the Blessings of the Almighty heaped upon this great Prince, he suffer'd himself, in his old Age, to be drawn away to worship strange Gods, by his Wives, whom to the Number of 700, besides 300 Concubines, he had taken from the Idolatrous Nations round him, which the Lord had commanded the *Israelites* not to inter-marry with: For this his Iniquity, the Lord threatned to rend away ten Tribes, and leave only one to his Son, and that for his Father *David*'s Sake: On whose Account also he promised not to do this in *Solomon*'s Life-Time.

Solomons Magnificence 1 Kings 10:1

63

His offering to ye Idol. 1 Kings. 11.4.

64

10:1 And ye quē of Sheba heard of y^
fame of Solomon concerning o^
11.4 For it came to passe when Solomō
was old that his wives turned away y^

DAVID

65

SOLOMON

66

David king and Prophet author of the Psalmes and reigned 40 yeares
Solomon reigned in Ierusalem and over all Israell fortie yeares

LXV.

King DAVID.

THE Four most celebrated Kings of *Judah* were *David*, *Solomon* his Son, *Jehoshaphat*, and King *Josiah*. DAVID, as we have related, was the Son of *Jesse*, raised by the Lord to succeed to *Saul* and his Family. He was a Prince of great Valour and Wisdom, an excellent Poet and Prophet, and called a *Man after God's own Heart:* To him are the greatest Part of the Book of *Psalms* ascribed: He subdu'd the Enemies of *Israel*, and after having reigned Forty Years, died in a good old Age, leaving his Crown and Kingdom to his Son *Solomon*.

LXVI.

King SOLOMON.

SOLOMON was the greatest and most magnificent, as well as the wisest King, that ever reigned. He was the Author of the Books of *Proverbs*, *Ecclesiastes*, and the *Canticles*, called the *Song of Solomon*. The Scripture is thus express relating to his Works; *As spake* 3000 *Proverbs, and his Songs were a Thousand and Five: He spake of Trees from the Cedar that is in* Lebanon, *even unto the Hyssop that springeth out of the Wall. He spake also of Beasts, and of Fowl, and of creeping Things, and of Fishes*; which Book is supposed to be lost in the Destruction of the glorious Temple erected by him. He also reigned Forty Years, and left his Kingdom to his Son *Rekoboam*.

LXVII.

King JEHOSHAPHAT.

JEHOSHAPHAT was the Son *Asa*, King of *Judah*, and succeeded his Father at the Age of 35 Years, and reigned 25, with the greatest Splendor and Magnificence. He was a Prince of great Piety and Goodness, and God subjected all his Enemies under his Feet, and caused the numerous Armies of *Moab*, *Mount-Seir*, and the Children of *Ammon*, who had joined together against him, to fall upon one another, and totally destroy themselves, without a Blow from *Jehoshaphat*. This Prince walking in the Ways of God, the Almighty was pleased so to bless him with Prosperity and Riches in abundance; and his Armies were so powerful, that he had Eleven Hundred and Sixty Thousand Men of Valour ready upon all Occasions.

LXVIII.

King JOSIAH.

JOSIAH was eight Years old when he began to reign, and was a Prince of extraordinary Piety and Goodness, so that the Scripture testifies of him, *That like unto him was there no King that turned to the Lord with all his Heart, and with all his Soul, and with all his Might, according to all the Law of* Moses; *neither after him arose there any like him.* He destroyed all the High Places that had been built to *Baal*, and rooted Idolatry out of the Land. But he had not equal Success against his Enemies; the Lord, for the Sins of the People and of his Predecessors, suffering him to be slain in a Battle by *Pharaoh Necho* King of *Ægypt*, after he had reigned 31 Years in *Jerusalem*.

IEHOSHAPHAT

67

IOSIAS

68

Iehoshaphat reigned 5 and 20 yeares & conquered ye Amonits

Iosias reighned 31 yeares he demolished Idols and brought in &c

Ahyah's prophesy: 1 Kings: 11: 29: 69

Rehoboam consults ye old Men 70

11:29 And it came to passe at that time when Ieroboam went out of Ierusalem &c.
12:6 And King Rehoboam consulted with ye old men that stood before &c.

LXIX. ABIJAH's *Propheſy.*

WE ſhall now purſue the Hiſtory of *Solomon*, who, as we have related, ſuffer'd himſelf to be ſeduced by his Wives to Idolatry. This his Depravity ſo provoked the Almighty, that he raiſed him up ſeveral powerful Enemies, and among the reſt *Jeroboam* the Son of *Nebat*, who was a Man of great Valour, and one of his own Officers. It happened on a Time, that this Perſon being cloathed with a new Garment, and being gone out of *Jeruſalem*, the Prophet *Abijah* the *Shilonite* met him in the Field, and taking hold of his new Garment, he rent it in 12 Pieces, giving ten of them to *Jeroboam*, and declaring to him, that after *Solomon*'s Death, the Lord would in like manner rend 10 Tribes from the Hands of his Son, and give them to him, as a Puniſhment for *Solomon*'s Sin of Idolatry; and at the ſame Time promiſing to eſtabliſh *Jeroboam*'s Kingdom over *Iſrael*, if he walked in the Way of the Lord. After this *Jeroboam* fled into *Ægypt*, to avoid the Wrath of *Solomon*, who would have killed him, to fruſtrate *Abijah*'s Propheſy.

LXX. *King* REHOBOAM.

SOLOMON being dead, his Son *Reboboam* was made King in his ſtead; and as ſoon as *Jeroboam* heard this, he came from *Ægypt* to *Jeruſalem*, and joining himſelf to the Congregation of *Iſrael*, they petition'd the King for a Redreſs of the Grievances that had crept into the Government in the latter Part of his Father's Reign; rendring their Duty and Service to him, if he would make their Burthens lighter. Upon this, the King conſulted with his old Counſellors, who adviſed him to ſooth their inflam'd Paſſions, and to promiſe them a Redreſs of their Grievances, in order to ſecure their Faith and Allegiance to him, at the Beginning of his Reign.

LXXI.

REHOBOAM *consulteth the young Men.*

BUT this young Prince, being vainly puffed up with his new Dignity, would not condescend to sooth the Passions of the People; but adhered to the Advice of Persons of his own Age and Inexperience, the Companions and Favourites of his Youth, who persuaded him, that it was most becoming of the Royal Dignity, to threaten and terrify the People into their Duty, rather than to appear to comply in the least with their Petitions: Being of the Opinion of those Court Parasites and Flatterers, who would persuade young Princes, to their Ruin, That the People were made for Slaves to the Prince, and born with Saddles on their Backs; and that a Monarch had no more to do, but get up and ride: Which Advice many indiscreet Princes, both before and since *Rehoboam*, have so far pursu'd, 'till the oppressed People, being tyr'd with their Burthens, have risen as one Man, and cast their unkingly Rider: As proved to be the Case with this misled Prince.

LXXII.

REHOBOAM *threatneth the People*

JEROBOAM and the Elders of the People, attending the King at the appointed Time for an Answer to their Petitions, this rash Prince, according to the Advice of his young Counsellors, answered them roughly, saying, *My Father made your Yoke heavy, and I will add to your Yoke: My Father also chastized you with Whips, but I will chastize you with Scorpions.* This Answer inraging the People, they cry'd out, *What Portion have we in* David?——*To your Tents*, O Israel! *Now see to thine own House*, David! And immediately departing, 10 Tribes fell off from the House of *David*, and chose *Jeroboam* for their King, according to the Word of *Abijah* the Prophet.

Rehoboam Consults ye young men.

71

Rehoboam thretneth ye People 12:14

72

12:9. And he said unto them what counsell giue ye, that ye may &c:
12:14. And spoke unto them after the counsell of ye young men [illegible]

Elijah prophi.h against Ahab 1 Kng 17:1

73

Elijah and ye Widow of Zerephath

74

17:1 And Elijah ye Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilliad said unto Ahab &c.
17:9 Arise and get thee to Zerephath which belongeth to Zedon and &c.

LXXIII. ELIJAH *propheſieth againſt* AHAB.

VARIOUS were the Revolutions that afterwards follow'd in the Kingdom of *Iſrael*, which *Jeroboam* had founded: For he doing Evil in the Sight of the Lord, and erecting Altars to two Golden Calves which he ſet up to divert the People, for Political Reaſons, from going to worſhip the Lord at *Jeruſalem*, the Lord was pleaſed to cut of all his Houſe and Family by the Hand of *Baaſha*; who alſo doing Evil in the Sight of the Lord, the Lord deſtroy'd all his Houſe and Family by the Hand of *Zimri*; who burning himſelf to Death to avoid the Puniſhment due to his Treaſon, *Omri* aſcended the Throne, and after a Reign of 22 Years, died, and was ſucceeded by his Son *Ahab*, who was a greater Idolater and a wickeder Man, than all that went before him: Inſomuch, that the great Prophet *Elijah* propheſy'd againſt him, and aſſured him, that there ſhould not be Dew or Rain in *Iſrael* for Years to come, but according to his Word.

LXXIV. Elijah *and the Widow of* Zarephath.

ELIJAH, after this, by the Command of the Lord, hid himſelf by the Brook *Cherith*, and the Lord cauſed the Ravens to bring him Bread and Fleſh both Morning and Evening. Afterwards by the Divine Command, he went to a Widow at *Zarephath*, whom he found gathering Sticks, in order to make a Fire to dreſs a little Meat, which, with a ſmall Cruſe of Oil, was all the Suſtenance ſhe had for herſelf and Son; as ſhe told the Prophet, when he deſir'd a little Bread and Water at her Hands: But *Elijah* commanded her notwithſtanding, to bring him a little Cake, and promis'd her, that her Barrel of Meal and Cruſe of Oil ſhould not fail, till God ſent Rain upon the Earth: Which was accordingly fulfilled, and they all three were ſuſtain'd many Days by this ſmall Pittance, which the good Widow thought would hardly ſerve for one Meal for her ſelf and Son.

LXXV. Elijah *reproveth* Ahab.

THE Widow's Son ſickening after this, and dying, the Lord was pleaſed, at the Supplications of the Prophet, to reſtore him to Life, to the great Joy of the poor Widow, who before that was inconſolable for his Loſs, and in her Agony of Sorrow, imputed his Death to the Preſence of *Elijah*. And in the third Year after the great Drought, the Lord commanded *Elijah* to go ſhew himſelf to *Ahab*, promiſing to ſend Rain upon the Earth: *Ahab* in the mean while, had cauſed ſearch to be made for *Elijah*, throughout *Iſrael*, in order to ſlay him, imputing to him the Famine which then ſorely raged in *Samaria*, and as ſoon as he ſaw the Prophet, he ſternly ſaid, *Art thou he that troubleth* Iſrael? *And he anſwered, I have not troubled* Iſrael, *but thou and thy Father's Houſe, in that ye have forſaken the Commandments of the Lord, and thou haſt followed* Baalim.

LXXVI. Elijah's *Sacrifice.*

ELIJAH then, in order to convince *Ahab* of the Folly of his Idolatry, perſuaded him to aſſemble the 450 Prophets of *Baal*, and cauſe them to offer a Sacrifice to *Baal* of a Bullock, cut in Pieces, and he would do the ſame to the Lord, and the God who ſhould anſwer by Fire from Heaven on the Sacrifice, ſhould be acknowledged the only true God. *Baal's* Prieſts could not refuſe the Tryal, and called upon *Baal* from Morning till Evening, in the moſt violent Tranſports of ſuperſtitious Zeal, to no Purpoſe. And *Elijah* in his Turn, having cauſed a Trench to be made, and 12 Barrels of Water to be pour'd on the Wood and on the Sacrifice, till the Trench was filled, he ſupplicated the Almighty to aſſert his Power to the Conviction of thoſe Idolaters, and in the Sight of the King and all the People, Fire deſcended from Heaven, *and conſumed the Burnt Sacrifice, and the Wood, and the Stones, and the Duſt, and licked up the Water, that was in the Trench.*

Eliyah reproveth Ahab 1 King: 18:18

75

Eliyah Sacrificeth 1 Kings 18: 38

76

18:18 And he answered, I have not troub-
Israell, but thou and thy fathers house &c
18 38 And ye fire of ye Lord fell, and
consumed ye burnt Sacrifice &c.

Elijah in ye Fiery chariot II Kin: 2

77

The Widow's oil II Kings 4: 1

78

2: 1: And it came to passe as they still went on and talked &c.
4: 1 Now there cryed a certain woman of the wives of the sons of y^e &c

LXXVII.

ELIJAH *in the Fiery Chariot.*

AND *when all the People saw this, they fell on their Faces, and they said, The LORD he is the God! The LORD he is the God! And* Elijah *said unto them, Take the Prophets of* Baal, *let not one of them escape: And they took them, and* Elijah *brought them down to the Brook* Kishon, *and slew them there. And* Elijah *said unto* Ahab, *Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a Sound of Abundance of Rain:* Which accordingly came to pass. This great Prophet having miraculously by the Assistance of God perform'd these and many other great Things to the Glory of the Almighty, and having appointed *Elisha* to succeed him as a Prophet, according to the Divine Command, was at last taken up, in the Presence of *Elisha*, by a Chariot and Horses of Fire, in a Whirlwind, to Heaven, and dropping his Mantle from him, *Elisha* took it up, and with it divided the Waters of *Jordan*, and passed over dry-shod, as he had seen *Elijah* do before.

LXXVII.

The WIDOW's Oil.

NOW *there came a certain Woman unto* Elisha, *saying, Thy Servant my Husband is dead, and the Creditor is come to take unto him my two Sons to be Bondmen.* And *Elisha* said unto her, What shall I do for thee?——What hast *thou in the House? And she said, Thine Handmaid hath not any Thing in the House, save a Pot of Oil.* Then he commanded her to borrow a great Number of Vessels of her Neighbours, and pour out into those Vessels till they were full; which she did, and found so great a Quantity, that she sold a Part of it for as much as satisfy'd her Debts, and there was enough left to subsist her and her Children.

LXXIX. NAAMAN's *Leprosy cured.*

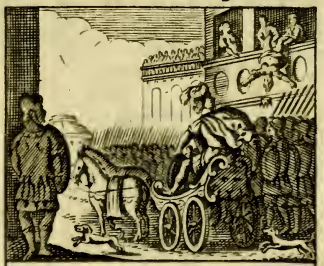
AFTER this, *Naaman* the *Syrian* General, who was a Man of great Valor, but a Leper, hearing of *Elisha*'s Miracles, went, nobly attended, to his House, to seek a Cure at his Hands: Whereupon *Elisha* sent him Word by a Servant, to wash seven Times in *Jordan*, and he should be clean. *Naaman* expecting to have seen *Elisha* himself, and that he should have been instantly cured by his Prayers to God for him went away in a great Rage, saying, are not the Rivers of *Damascus* of greater Virtue than the Waters of *Israel?* But being persuaded to comply with the Prophet's Advice, he went down to *Jordan*, and dipped himself seven Times; and his Flesh came again, and he was clean. Upon which he confessed, that there was no God in all the Earth, but in *Israel*; and offer'd great Presents to *Elisha*, who absolutely refused them; and smote with *Naaman*'s Leprosy, his Servant *Gehazi*, who clandestinely, in his Master's Name, obtain'd some Presents for himself.

LXXX. JEZEBEL's *Death.*

AHAB having been slain by the *Syrians*, and the Lord having caused *Elisha* to anoint *Jehu* for King of *Israel*, with a Command to cut off all the House of *Ahab*, *Jehu* accordingly conspired against his Master King *Joram*, the Son of *Ahab*, and having killed him, he enter'd *Israel* in Triumph, and seeing the wicked *Jezebel*, *Ahab*'s Wife, at the Palace Window, who reproached him for his Conspiracy, he caused her to be thrown out of the Window, and her Blood was sprinkled on the Wall, and the Dogs afterwards eat her Body, all but her Skull and the Palms of her Hands, pursuant to the Threatnings of the Prophet, as a Punishment for her wickedness, and the Murder of *Naboth*. After which *Jehu* slew 70 of the Sons of *Ahab*, and all his Relations and Friends, and destroy'd all the Priests of *Baal*, having by a Stratagem assembled them all together; and by these Acts of Justice had the Kingdom assur'd to his Posterity of the 4th Generation.

79 *Naaman's leprosie cured II. King: 5: 14:*

80 *Iezebel's death II: King: 9: 33.*



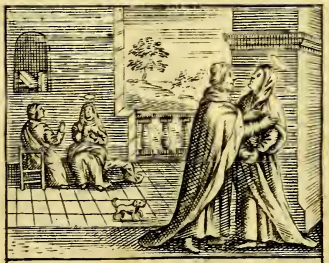
5. 14 Then he went down and dipped him: selfe seven times in Iordan &c
9: 33 And he said throw her down, so they threw her down and &

The Angell: salutation Luc: 1:26

81

The visitation Luc: 1. 39.

82



Luc 1:26 And in ye sixth month ye angell
Gabriel was sent from God unto a &c
Luc: 1:39 And Mary arose in those
dayes and went into ye hill countrey

LXXXI. *The* SALUTATION.

THE Time being at Hand, when God, to complete the Predictions of the Prophets, and in Compassion to the Sons of Men, was pleased to cause his beloved Son to become incarnate, in order to dispense a new Gospel of Salvation to lost Mankind; the Angel *Gabriel* was sent to a Virgin, espoused to a Man whose Name was *Joseph*, of the House of *David*, named MARY, to whom he said, *Hail thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: Blessed art thou amongst Women.* The Virgin being surpriz'd at this Salutation, the Angel bid her fear not; assuring her, that she, tho a Virgin, should conceive and bring forth a Son, named JESUS, who should be called *the Son of the Highest, who should reign over the House of* Jacob; *and whose Kingdom should have no End:* Adding, *That the Holy Ghost should come upon her, and the Power of the Highest should over-shadow her, and the Holy Child to be born, should be called the Son of God.* And *Mary* said, *Behold the Handmaid of the Lord, Be it unto me according to thy Word.*

LXXXII. *The* VISITATION.

NOW *Elizabeth*, the Wife of *Zacharias*, and Cousin of *Mary*, being miraculously with Child of *John the Baptist* in her old Age, and the Angel *Gabriel* acquainting *Mary* therewith, as a Proof of his Divine Mission, the Blessed Virgin went to pay a Visit to her Kinswoman; and as soon as *Elizabeth* heard her Voice, the Babe leaped in her Womb, and she was filled with the Holy Ghost, and said with a loud Voice, *Blessed art thou among Women! And Blessed is the Fruit of thy Womb: And whence is this to me, that the Mother of my Lord should come to me!* &c.

LXXXIII.

The Angel appeareth to the Shepherds.

AUGUSTUS *Cæsar* having commanded a general Taxation of all the World, *Joseph* and his espoused Wife *Mary* went up to *Bethlehem* to be taxed; and it happening that the Time of her Delivery arriving, she brought forth her first-born Son, and laid him in a Manger, there being no Room in the Inn. But tho no earthly Pomps attended the Birth of the Prince of Peace, and he was thus obscurely brought into the World, yet the Angel of God proclaimed the joyful Tidings to Men, and appeared to some Shepherds that were keeping their Flocks by Night, surrounded with the Glory of the Lord; and bid the Shepherds fear not; for in that Day a Saviour was born in the City of *David*, whom for a Sign, they should find wrapped in Swaddling Cloaths, lying in a Manger: And suddenly there was with the Angel, a Multitude of the Heavenly Host, praising God, and saying, *Glory be to God in the Highest, and on Earth Peace, Good Will towards Men.*

LXXXIV.

The CIRCUMCISION.

THE Shepherds going to *Bethlehem*, and finding the Child laid in a Manger, as the Angel had said, they divulged every where, to the Admiration of all that heard them, what they had seen and observ'd, and return'd glorifying and praising God. And when eight Days were accomplished for the Circumcising of the Child (according to the Law of *Moses*) his Name was called JESUS, which was so named of the Angel before he was conceived in the Womb.

The angel and ye Shepherds Luc: 2: 10

83

The Circumcision Luc: 2: 21

84

Luc: 2: 10. And ye angell said unto
them fear not: for behold I bring yo
Luc: 2: 21 And when eight dayes
were accomplished for the Cir:

Christ preacheth in a ship Mat: 13:2

85

The Canaan woman Math: 15:22

86

Mat. 13:2. And a great multitud gathard to gether unto him so that he went &c:
Math 15:22: And behold a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts &c

LXXXV. *CHRIST preacheth in a Ship.*

THE Bleſſed Jeſus, after this increaſing in Wiſdom and Stature, preached the Kingdom of God to the *Jews*, and went about healing the Sick, curing the Lame, reſtoring the Blind to Sight, and performing many Miracles; inſomuch, that the Fame of him ſpread throughout all the neighbouring Nations; and on a Time ſitting by the Sea-ſide, and ſeeing great Multitudes about him, he went into a Ship, and as they ſtood on the Shore, he ſpake many Things unto them in Parables; particularly the Parable of the Sower, who ſowed ſome Seed by the Way-ſide, which the Fowls of the Air devoured; ſome in ſtony Places, which periſh'd after it was ſprung up, for want of ſufficient Depth; ſome among Thorns, which choak'd it; and ſome upon good Ground, which produced an hundred-fold; alluding to the Word of God, ſown in the Minds of different Perſons of bad and good Inclinations.

LXXXVI. *The Woman of* CANAAN.

THE following Hiſtory is a pregnant Inſtance of the Efficaciouſneſs of a lively Faith, and an Encouragement to the contrite Heart to be inſtant and importunate in Supplications to the Almighty. —— Jeſus paſſing into the Heathen Coaſts, *Behold a Woman of* Canaan *cryed unto him, ſaying, Have Mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of* David; *my Daughter is grievouſly vexed with a Devil. But he anſwered her not a Word. And his Diſciples came and beſought him to ſend her away: But he ſaid, I am not ſent but unto the loſt Sheep of the Houſe of* Iſrael. *Then came ſhe, and worſhipped him, ſaying, Lord, help me! But he anſwered, It is not meet to take the Childrens Bread, and caſt it to Dogs. And ſhe ſaid, Truth, Lord: Yet the Dogs eat of the Crumbs which fall from their Maſter's Table. Then Jeſus ſaid unto her, O Woman, great is thy Faith! Be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her Daughter was made whole from that very Hour.*

LXXXVII.

The Buyers and Sellers whipt out of the Temple.

OUR Bleſſed Saviour having ridden triumphantly into *Jeruſalem*, with the Acclamations of the Multitude, *He went into the Temple of God, and caſt out all them that ſold and bought in the Temple, and overthrew the Tables of the Money-changers, and the Seats of them that ſold Doves; and ſaid unto them, it is written, My Houſe ſhall be called the Houſe of Prayer, but ye have made it a Den of Thieves. And the Lame and the Blind came unto him in the Temple, and he healed them. And when the Chief Prieſts and Scribes ſaw the wonderful Things that he did, and the Children crying in the Temple, and ſaying* Hoſannah *to the Son of* David, *they were ſore diſpleaſed, and ſaid unto him, Heareſt thou what theſe ſay? And Jeſus ſaid unto them, Yea; have ye not read, Out of the Mouth of Babes and Sucklings thou haſt perfected Praiſe.*

LXXXVIII.

The Laſt JUDGMENT.

CHRIST having commanded his Diſciples to watch, becauſe they knew not when the Son of Man ſhould come, proceeded to give a Deſcription of the laſt Great Day: *When the Son of Man*, ſays he, *ſhall come in his Glory, and all the Holy Angels with him, then ſhall he ſit upon the Throne of his Glory. And before him ſhall be gather'd all Nations; and he ſhall ſeperate them one from another, as a Shepherd divideth his Sheep from the Goats: And he ſhall ſet the Sheep on his Right Hand, but the Goats on the Left. Then ſhall the King ſay unto them on his Right Hand, Come, ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the Foundation of the World*, &c. *Then ſhall he ſay alſo unto them on the Left Hand, Depart from me, ye Curſed, into everlaſting Fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels*, &c.

The buyers & sellers whipt out. Mat: 21:

87

The last Iudgment Mat 25: 13

88

Mat: 21:12 And Iesus went into the
Temple of God and cast out all them &c
Mat: 25: 13 Watch therefore for yee know
neither ye day nor ye houre wherein &c

The palsy cured Mar: 2: 4.

89

Iesus transfigured Mar. 9: 2.

90

Mar: 2: 4 And when they saw they
cold not come nigh unto him &c:
Marg: 2: And after six dayes Iesus taketh
wth him Peter Iames and Iohn and &c:

LXXXIX.

CHRIST *healeth one Sick of the Palsy.*

OUR Saviour having enter'd into *Capernaum*, preached the Word to a prodigious Multitude that was assembled to hear him; and they brought to him a Man sick of the Palsy to be cured; but not being able to come nigh him for the Crowd, they uncover'd the Roof where he was, and let down the Bed, with the Palsy Man upon it; Jesus seeing their Faith, told the sick Man, His Sins were forgiven him: This disgusting the Scribes, who said, No-one could forgive Sins but God, and that he blasphem'd; Jesus ask'd whether was easier, to say to the Sick, *Thy Sins be forgiven thee:* Or to say, *Arise, and take up thy Bed and Walk*? He then as a Proof of his Power to forgive Sins, said to the sick Man, *Arise, and take up thy Bed, and go thy Way into thine House. And immediately he arose, took up the Bed, and went forth before them all, insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this Fashion!*

XC.

The TRANSFIGURATION.

AND Jesus took with him *Peter*, and *James*, and *John*, and led them up into an high Mountain apart by themselves; and he was transfigured before them. *And his Raiment became Shining, exceeding white as Snow, so as no Fuller on Earth can white them. And there appeared unto them* Elias *with* Moses; *and they were talking with* Jesus. *And there was a Cloud that overshadowed them; and a Voice came out of the Cloud, saying, this is my beloved Son! Hear him.* The three Disciples were extremely surprized at this glorious Sight, and after having recover'd themselves, they looked about, and saw no Man there but their Master; who descending the Mount with them, charged them not to mention what they had seen to any one, till after he was risen from the Dead.

XCI.

CHRIST's *Head anointed.*

NOW when Jesus *was in* Bethany, *in the House of* Simon *the Leper, there came unto him a Woman having an Alabaster-Box of very precious Ointment, and poured it on his Head, as he sat at Meat. But when his Disciples saw it, they had Indignation, saying, To what Purpose is this Waste? For this Ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the Poor.* Jesus *said unto them, Why trouble ye the Woman? For she hath wrought a good Work upon me: For ye have the Poor always with ye; but me ye have not always. For in that she hath poured this Ointment on my Body, she did it for my Burial. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this Gospel shall be preached in the whole World, there shall also this that this Woman hath done, be told for a Memorial of her.*

XCII.

The RESURRECTION.

JUDAS having betrayed our Saviour with a Kiss, and he having been sentenced to Death, by *Pilate*, and crucified between Two Thieves, as is more particularly related in our XCIII, XCIV, XCV, and XCIXth Histories, his Body was deliver'd to *Joseph* of *Arimathea*, who wrapt it in fine Linnen, and laid him in a Sepulchre, which was hewn out of a Rock, and rolled a Stone against the Door of it. Now *Mary Magdalene*, and *Mary* the Mother of *James* and *Salome*, seeing where he was laid, took Spices in order to anoint his Body, and while they were ruminating how they should get the Stone remov'd, found it miraculously rowl'd away, and they were surprized with the Sight of a young Man on the Right Hand, cloathed all in white, who told them, Christ was risen, and bid them tell his Disciples so, and that they should see him in *Galilee*, as he himself had promised before his Crucifixion.

Cheifi head anointed Mat: 26:7

91

His resurrection Mar: 16:1.

92

Mat: 26:7. There came unto him a woman having an alablaster box &c:
Mar: 16:1. And when ye Sabath day was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary &c

Iesus brought before Pilate Luk. 23. 1.

93

The Iews crown him wth thorns Ioh. 19. 2.

94

Luk 23. 18 And they cried out all at once saying away with this man &c:
Ioh 19. 2: And the soldiers platted a crown of thornes and put it on his head &c:

XCIII. JESUS *brought before* PILATE.

WE shall now give some further Particulars from the other Evangelists of the Sufferings, Death, and Resurrection of our Blessed Lord, besides the former History, which we extracted from St. *Mark*'s Gospel. St. *Luke* tells us, That Jesus being seized by Order of the Chief Priests, was led to *Pilate*, the *Roman* Governor of *Judea*, and accused of perverting the Nation, of forbidding the Payment of Tribute to *Cæsar*, and of calling himself a King. But *Pilate* finding no Fault in him, sent him to *Herod*, who return'd him back to *Pilate*; and as they were before at Enmity together, this Piece of Civility, reconciled them to each other. *Pilate* did all he could to save Jesus; and it being the Custom to pardon a Malefactor on Occasion of their Great Feast, he proposed to chastise him, and let him go: But the harden'd *Jews* were so clamorous for his Death, that to appease them, *Pilate* was oblig'd to consent to it, and instead of the Blessed Jesus, released *Barabbas*, a Murderer, and a seditious Person, and deliver'd into their mercileſs Hands, the Lord of Life and Glory.

XCIV. CHRIST *crowned with Thorns.*

ST. *John* acquaints us, That before *Pilate* deliver'd Jesus into the Hands of the *Jews*, he caused him to be scourged, and that the Soldiers in Derision, platted a Crown of Thorns, and put it on his Head, and having put on him a purple Robe, they mocked him, and said, *Hail, King of the Jews;* bowing the Knee to him, and smiting him with their Hands. *Then came Jesus forth, wearing the Crown of Thorns, and the Purple Robe; and* Pilate *saith unto them, Behold the Man.* And the Chief Priests and Officers cry'd out, *Crucify him, crucify him! Pilate*, finding he could not prevail to save him, took Water and washed his Hands, saying, *I am innocent of the Blood of this just Person; see ye to it.* The *Jews* answer'd, *His Blood be on us and on our Children.* And this Curse, in a terrible Manner, has remain'd upon them to this Day.

XCV. *The* CRUCIFIXION.

CHRIST being thus deliver'd into the Hands of his inveterate Enemies, they carry'd him to a Place called *Golgotha*, where they crucified him between two common Malefactors. And *Pilate* caused the following Title to be fixed to the Cross of Jesus, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. And the Soldiers divided his Garments amongst them; but his Coat being without Seam, they cast Lots for it; that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, *They parted my Raiment among them; and for my Vesture they did cast Lots.* Thus was the Lord of Life put to Death by the barbarous *Jews*, his Mother, and her Sister, and *Mary* the Wife of *Cleophas*, and *Mary Magdalene*, standing by the Cross, and lamenting a Catastrophe so deplorable to them; but which was to be the Seal of Redemption to lost Sinners, and an Expiation for the Transgressions of Mankind.

XCVI. CHRIST's RESURRECTION.

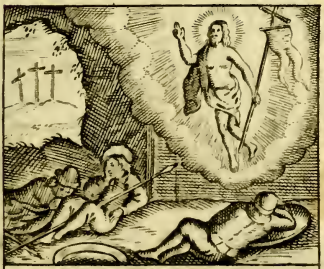
WHEN *Peter* and *John* were informed, that the Body of our Lord was not to be found in the Sepulchre wherein he was laid, they hasted thither, and saw the Linnen in which it was wrapped, and the Napkin that was about his Head; which made them believe it was taken away; for as yet, they knew not the Scripture, that he must rise from the Dead. And what made them more surpriz'd was, because *Pilate* had order'd a Watch to be set, and a very great Stone to be rolled against the Door, which was also sealed, by way of Precaution, lest, as the *Jews* suggested to him, the Body shou'd be stollen by his Disciples. But an Angel from Heaven removed the Stone, whose Countenance was like Lightning, and his Raiment white as Snow, who acquainted the Women of our Saviour's Resurrection, as has been mentioned in our XCII History.

The Crucifixion. Ioh: 19 23

95

Christs resurrection Iohn 20: 1

96



Ioh: 19: 23. Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Iesus, took his garments:
Ioh: 20: 1 The first day of the weeke cometh Mary Magdalene early when &c

Lazarus raised XI. 38. John

97

He washeth ye disciples feet John: 13: 5

98

Iesus therefore again groaning in him-
selfe, cometh to ye graue. It was a &c
After that he powreth water in to a ba-
son and began to wash ye disciples &c

XCVII. LAZARUS *Raised.*

NOR was it to be wonder'd, that our blessed Saviour should rise from the Dead, whose Almighty Word, tho vested in Humanity, was able to raise others to Life. A signal Instance of this, he was pleased to give in raising *Lazarus*, the Brother of *Martha* and *Mary*, whom the Scripture says Jesus loved. This Person had been interred four Days, and was supposed to be turning to Corruption, when Christ came to his Grave; but as nothing is too great for Omnipotence, Jesus order'd them to remove the Stone that was laid over the Grave, and after a short Ejaculation to Almighty God, he cry'd with a loud Voice, *Lazarus, come forth!* And immediately he came forth bound Hand and Feet, with Grave-cloathing, and his Face was bound about with a Napkin; and Jesus commanded them to loose him, and let him go; which was accordingly done, and many of the *Jews*, who beheld this Miracle, were converted, and believed in Christ.

XCVIII. JESUS *washeth his Disciples Feet.*

WHEN the Time was near come, that our Blessed Lord should leave this World, and return to his Father, He, in order to give a Lesson of Humility to his Disciples, poured Water into a Bason, and washed their Feet, and wiped them with the Towel wherewith he was girded. But *Peter* making Objections to this Favour, Jesus told him, If he did not wash him, he had no Part with him; whereupon *Peter* said, *Lord, not my Feet only, but also my Hands and my Head!* Afterwards he proceeded to acquaint them with the Reason of his Condescension, saying, *Ye call me Master, and Lord: And ye say well; for so I am. If I then your Lord and Master, have washed your Feet, ye ought also to wash one another's Feet. For I have given you an Example, that ye should do as I have done to you,* &c.

XCIX. JESUS *nailed to the Cross.*

IT must needs be very affecting to sinful Man, when he contemplates the Sufferings which the Blessed Jesus underwent, in order to make an Atonement for our Transgressions: It was the most condescending Goodness in the Lord of Life, to leave the Right Hand of the Almighty, and the Regions of Eternal Blessedness, to become Man, and to vouchsafe to take upon himself our Infirmities, in order to effect the great Work of our Redemption; but voluntarily to subject himself to be despised, and reviled, to be betray'd, and seiz'd upon as a Criminal, to be mocked and scourged, spit upon, and insulted, and to be nailed to the ignominious Cross between two common Malefactors; and all this to save from Perdition, those very Miscreants who inflicted these Barbarities upon him; these are such amazing Instances of Goodness, that none but a JESUS could undergo: And ought to inspire us with stedfast Resolutions to adhere inviolably to his Laws, and his Precepts, that so we may be worthy Partakers of the Merits of his Sufferings, and not render his Sacrifice for our Redemption vain.

C. JESUS *appeareth to* Mary Magdalene.

ST. *John* in his Holy Gospel records, That as *Mary Magdalene* looked into the Sepulchre weeping, she saw two Angels in white, who asked her the Reason of her Tears? She told them, It was because they had taken away the Body of her Lord, and she knew not where they had laid him. Then turning herself, she saw Jesus standing, who said unto her, *Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou?* She supposing him to be the Gardiner, saith, *Sir, If thou have born him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.* Jesus saith unto her, *Mary!* she turned her self, and saith unto her, *Rabboni*, which is to say, *Master.* Jesus saith unto her, *Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father: But go to my Brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father, and to my God, and your God.*

Then nail Iesus to ye croſs. Ioh. 19.18

99

Ieſus appeareth to Mary Magdalen Ioh 20.15

100

Where they crucified him, and two oth
er with him on either ſide, one &c.
Ieſus ſaith unto her woman why
weep ſt thou, whom ſeekeſt thou. &c

Zacheus ye Publican Luke 19:2:

101

of Ceseres tribute Math: 22:15

102

Lu: 19:2: And behold there was a man named Zacheus which was &c
Then went the Pharisees and tooke counsell how they might &c.

CI. ZACCHEUS *the Publican.*

THE Zeal of *Zaccheus* the Publican, ought not to be pass'd over in Silence, tho we have not inserted it in its proper Place, before the Passion of our Blessed Lord. This Man was very rich, and the Chief among the Publicans, and as *Jesus* passed thro *Jericho*, he not being able, by Reason of the Crowd, to see him, being little of Stature, got up into a Sycamore Tree: As Jesus passed by, he cast up his Eyes, and said, Zaccheus, *make haste, and come down; for to Day I must abide at thy House.* And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. And *Zaccheus* said unto the Lord, *Behold, Lord, the Half of my Goods I give to the Poor; and if I have taken any Thing from any Man by false Accusation, I restore him fourfold.* And they all murmuring that he condescended to be a Guest to a Publican or Sinner, *Jesus* said, *This Day is Salvation to come to this House, forasmuch as he also is the Son of* Abraham. *For the Son of Man is come to seek, and to save that which was lost.*

CII. *Of paying* TRIBUTE *to* CÆSAR.

ONE of the great Accusations of the *Jews* against our Blessed Lord, to induce *Pontius Pilate* the Governor of *Judea*, to put him to Death, was, That he had forbid paying Tribute to *Cæsar:* The very contrary to this was the Truth; for when the Pharisees had consulted together to entrap him in his Talk, that they might have a Pretence to wreak their Malice on him, they came to him, flattering him, That they knew he taught the Way of God in Truth, and was no Respecter of Man; *Tell us, therefore,* said they, *what thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give Tribute to Cæsar, or not?* But Jesus perceiving their Wickedness, said, *Why tempt ye me, ye Hypocrites? Shew me the Tribute Money.* And they brought him a Penny. And he saith unto them, *Whose is this Image and Superscription?* They answer'd, *Cæsar's*: He said, *Render therefore unto* Cæsar, *the Things that are* Cæsar's, *and unto God, the Things that are God's.*

CIII. CHRIST *beareth the Cross.*

ST. *Luke* acquaints us, That after *Pilate* had given *Jesus* to the Will of the *Jews*, as they led him away, they laid hold of one *Simon* a *Cyrenian*, and put the Cross on him, that he might bear it after *Jesus*. And there followed him a great Company of People, and of Women, which also bewailed him, and lamented him. But *Jesus* turning unto them, said, *Daughters of* Jerusalem, *weep not for me, but weep for your selves, and for your Children. For behold the Days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the Barren, and the Wombs that never bore, and the Paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the Mountains, Fall on us; and to the Hills, cover us. For if they do these Things in a green Tree, what shall be done in the dry?*

CIV. *The* ASCENSION.

OUR Saviour after his Resurrection, having remained on Earth Forty Days, being seen of his Disciples, and speaking to them of the Things pertaining to the Kingdom of God, after this, assembled them on the Mount called *Olivet*, and there assured them, that they should in a few Days receive the Holy Ghost, and be Witnesses to him, both in *Jerusalem*, and in all *Judea*, and in *Samaria*, and unto the uttermost Part of the Earth. And when he had spoken these Things, while they beheld, he was taken up, and a Cloud received him out of their Sight. And while they looked stedfastly towards Heaven, as he went up, behold, two Men stood by them, in white Apparel; who said unto them, *Ye Men of* Galilee, *Why stand ye gazing up into Heaven? This same* Jesus *which is taken up from you into Heaven, shall so come, in like Manner as ye have seen him go into Heaven.* Then return'd they unto *Jerusalem*, from the Mount *Olivet*, to wait there for the Promise of God, according to the Command of their blessed Master.

Christ heareth his cross Luke 23. 26

103

The ascension of Christ Acts 1. 9.

104

And as they led him away they laid hold upon one Simon &c.

And when he had spoken these things while they beheld he was taken &c.

Act: 2:1

The coming of ye holy Ghost

105

Ananias and Sapphira Act: 5:1.

106

And when ye day of Penteôst was fully
come they were all with one &c:
But a certain man named Ana-
nias with Sapphira his wife &c

CV. *The Coming of the* HOLY GHOST.

THE Apostle having chosen by Lot *Matthias* to fill up the vacant Place of *Judas*, who had betrayed his Lord, and went afterwards and hanged himself, so that he burst asunder in the midst, and all his Bowels gushed out; on the Day of Pentecost, they assembled all together in one Place, and suddenly there came a Sound from Heaven, as of a rushing mighty Wind, and it filled all the House where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them eleven Tongues, like as of Fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other Tongues, as the Spirit gave them Utterance. At the Rumor of this Prodigy, a mix'd Multitude of several Nations assembled together, and in the greatest Amazement, said one to another, *Behold, are not all these that speak* Galileans? *And how hear we every Man in our own Tongue, wherein we were born!* Parthians *and* Medes, *and* Elamites, *and the Dwellers in* Mesopotamia, *&c.*

CVI. ANANIAS *and* SAPPHIRA.

AFTER the Apostles had received the Holy Ghost, they performed several great Miracles in the Name of Jesus, and converted many Thousands to the Faith of Christ, who constantly followed them; and lived all in common, and wanted nothing, for those who had Estates and Possessions sold them, and brought the Money to the Apostles, who divided it equally among the Faithful. But a certain Man named *Ananias*, with his Wife *Sapphira*, having sold their Possessions, and kept back Part, brought it to the Apostles, pretending it was the Whole. This being an Endeavour by a Lye to impose on the Holy Ghost, *Peter* severely rebuked *Ananias*, so that he fell down dead at his Feet; and his Wife coming in afterwards, not hearing what had happen'd, insisted in the same Story, and also fell down dead, as her Husband had done; and left a terrible Example of the Wickedness of a counterfeit Zeal for God's Glory, *&c.*

CVII. PHILIP *baptizeth the* EUNUCH.

PHILIP having converted *Samaria*, and great Multitudes of People to the Faith of Chriſt, as he was going from *Jeruſalem* to *Gaza*, according to the Direction of an Angel of the Lord, met with an Eunuch of great Authority, and chief Treaſurer to *Candace*, Queen of *Æthiopia*, who was ſitting in his Chariot, and reading in *Eſaias* the Prophet, theſe Words, *He was led as a Sheep to the Slaughter, and like a Lamb dumb before his Shearer, ſo opened he not his Mouth*, &c. *Philip* asking the Eunuch, If he underſtood what he read? The Eunuch anſwered No, and deſired him to come into his Chariot, and explain that Text to him: *Philip* complying with his Requeſt, preached to him Jeſus ſo powerfully, that the Eunuch was converted, and as they rode, being come to a certain Water, he prevailed on *Philip* to alight, and baptize him into the Faith of Chriſt, profeſſing his Belief, that Jeſus was the Son of God. Which being done, *Philip* was caught away by the Spirit of God, and the Eunuch ſaw him no more, but went on rejoycing.

CVIII. PETER *let out of Priſon by an* ANGEL.

HEROD ſeeing the great Progreſs made by the Apoſtles in Chriſtianity, raiſed up a Perſecution againſt them, and killed *James* the Brother of *John* with the Sword, and cauſing *Peter* to be apprehended, he caſt him into Priſon, intending after *Eaſter* to bring him forth to the *Jews*, who were pleaſed with his Cruelties towards the new Chriſtians. But the Night before *Herod* intended to bring him forth, an Angel of the Lord bid *Peter* ariſe, and follow him, and his Chains fell from off his Hands: And tho the Keeper kept Watch without, as two Soldiers did within, and tho he was to paſs two Wards, and an Iron Gate, yet he following the Angel, eſcaped undiſcovered of them all, the Iron Gate opening of its own Accord at the Angel's Approach.

Philip baptized ye Euuch Acts: 38:

107

Peter led out of Prison Act: 12: 7

108

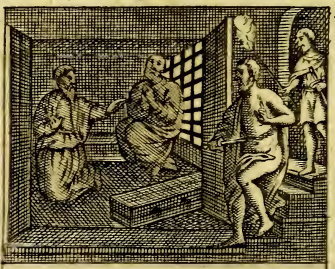
And hee comanded ye Chariot to sta-
nd still and they went down &c.
And behold ye Angell of ye Lord
came upon him and a light &c

Sauls converſion Act: 9: 4

109

The Taylor converted Act: 16: 27

110



And he fell to ye earth and heard
a voye saying unto him Saul, &c
And ye keeper of ye priſon awaking
out of his ſleep and ſeeing the &c:

CIX. SAUL's CONVERSION.

AMONG all the Perſecutors of the firſt Chriſtians, no one exerted himſelf ſo vehemently againſt them as *Saul*, who was alſo called *Paul*, and became afterwards the great Apoſtle of the Gentiles. He, as the Scripture ſays, breathing out Threatnings and Slaughter againſt the Diſciples of the Lord, obtained Letters from the High-Prieſt, to the Synagogues of *Damaſcus*, that he might bring bound to *Jeruſalem*, all that he found profeſſing the Religion of Jeſus. But as he came near to *Damaſcus*, there ſuddenly ſhone round about him a Light from Heaven, and he fell to the Earth, and heard a Voice, ſaying to him, Saul, Saul, *Why perſecuteſt thou me?* And he ſaid, *Who art thou, Lord?* And the Lord ſaid, *I am Jeſus whom thou perſecuteſt? It is hard for thee to kick againſt the Pricks.* Upon this, reſigning himſelf to the Divine Direction, he went to *Damaſcus*, and after he had remained blind three Days, was reſtored to Sight by *Ananias*; and from the bloodieſt Perſecutor, became the moſt zealous Confeſſor and Apoſtle.

CX. *The* JAYLOR *Converted.*

PAUL after this, in the Name of the Lord, cauſed a Spirit of Divination to depart from a Damſel poſſeſſed with it, whoſe Maſters being uſed to make Gain by her Means, were ſo inraged at it, that they procured *Paul* and *Silas* to be beaten with many Stripes, and thrown into Priſon. At Midnight the Jaylor having been alarmed with a great Noiſe, and an Earthquake which had burſt open the Priſon Doors, imagined all his Priſoners had eſcaped, and was going to make himſelf away: But *Paul* calling out to him, aſſured him, they were all there, and ſo prevented his Deſign. Whereupon the Jaylor was converted to the Faith of Chriſt, and he and all his Family were baptized, and *Paul* received great Kindneſs from him, and was ſoon deliver'd from his Confinement with Honour.

CXI. *St.* PAUL *Accused before* FELIX.

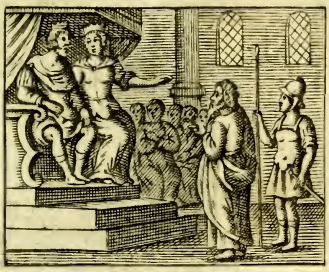
AFTER many Miracles perform'd by St. *Paul*, and proselyting great Numbers to the Christian Religion, he was at last apprehended at *Jerusalem*, by the *Jews*, and would have been put to Death, had it not been for the chief Captain of the *Romans* in that City, who finding the *Jews* implacably bent to destroy him, sent him under a Guard to *Cæsarea*, the Residence of *Felix*, and chief *Roman* Governor of *Judea*, who finding the *Jews* unable to prove any Thing worthy of Death against him, used him with Lenity; and after certain Days sent for him, his Wife *Drusilla*, a *Jewess*, being present, and heard him concerning the Faith in Christ; and as he reasoned of Righteousness, Temperance, and Judgment to come, *Felix* trembled, and answer'd, *Go thy Way for this Time; when I have a convenient Season, I will send for thee.* But after two Years, *Portius Festus* came into *Felix* Room, and *Felix*, willing to shew the *Jews* a Pleasure, left *Paul* bound.

CXII. St. PAUL *bit by a Viper.*

THIS great Apostle, had at last, no other Way left to escape the Malice of the *Jews*, but by appealing to *Cæsar* himself, and being put in a Ship, in order to be sent to *Rome*, they were overtaken by a violent Storm, in which having run the greatest Hazard, they were cast in Safety on the Island of *Melita*, now called *Malta*. The People of the Island shewed them great Kindness in their Distress, and made them a Fire to warm them; but when St. *Paul* had gather'd a Bundle of Sticks, and laid them on the Fire, a Viper came out of the Heat, and fasten'd on his Hand, which made the Company conclude him to be an ill Man, and that tho' he had escaped the Shipwreck, Vengeance suffer'd him not to live: But when they saw him shake off the Viper into the Fire, without receiving any Harm, they changed their Minds, and said he was a God. And he continued there three Months curing the Sick, and healing all manner of Diseases.

Paul accused Act: 24: 24.

111



Paul bit wth a Viper Act: 28: 3.

112

And after certain dayes when Felix came wth his wife Drusilla &c:
And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid &c:

The starr fall from heaven. 6.13

113

The tribes sealed Rev: 7:1.

114

6.13. And ye starr of heaven fell unto ye earth &c.
7.1. And after these things I saw four angels standing &c

CXIII. *The* STARS *fall from Heaven.*

THE bleſſed Evangeliſt St. *John*, aſſures us, that God ſignified to him by an Angel, the Things that muſt ſhortly come to paſs, which he therefore calls the *Revelation of Jeſus Chriſt*, and which we ſhall briefly recite in his very Words; not preſuming to offer at any Expoſition of thoſe Holy Myſteries, which have appeared ſo intricate to the greateſt Divines, that it was the Saying of a learned Man, that he never knew any one offer to expound this myſterious Book, *but it found him mad, or left him ſo.*

After the Evangeliſt had mentioned the Lamb opening five Seals, he proceeds: And when he had opened the ſixth Seal, lo! there was a great Earthquake, and the Sun became black, and the Moon Blood, and the Stars fell to the Earth, and the Heaven departed as a Scroul rolled together, and every Mountain and Iſland was moved out of their Places; and the Kings of the Earth, and mighty Men hid themſelves in Dens, and in the Rocks of the Mountains, and ſaid to the Rocks and Mountains, Fall on us, and hide us from the Face of him that ſitteth on the Throne, and from the Wrath of the Lamb; For the great Day of his Wrath is come, and who ſhall be able to ſtand?

CXIV. *The* TRIBES *ſealed.*

AND after theſe Things, I ſaw four Angels ſtanding on the four Corners of the Earth, holding the four Winds of the Earth, that the Wind ſhould not blow upon the Earth, nor the Sea, nor on any Tree. And I ſaw another Angel aſcending from the *Eaſt*, having the Seal of the living God, and he cried with a loud Voice to the four Angels, Hurt not the Earth, neither the Sea, nor the Trees, till we have ſealed the Servants of our God in their Forehead. And there were ſealed an Hundred and Forty and Four Thouſand of all the Tribes of the Children of *Iſrael.*

CXV.

The Graſs and Trees fired.

AND another Angel came and ſtood at the Altar, having a golden Cenſer, and the Angel filled the Cenſer with Fire of the Altars, and caſt it into the Earth, and there were Noiſes and Thunderings, and Lightnings, and an Earthquake. And the ſeven Angels which had the ſeven Trumpets prepared themſelves to ſound. The firſt Angel ſounded, and there followed Hail and Fire mingled with Blood, and they were caſt upon the Earth; and the third Part of Trees was burnt up, and all green Graſs was burnt up.

CXVI.

The Seven Angels ſound.

AND the 2d Angel ſounded, and the third Part of the Sea became Blood, and the 3d Part of the Creatures in the Sea died, and the 3d Part of the Ships were deſtroy'd. And the third Angel ſounded, and there fell a great Star from Heaven called *Wormwood* upon the 3d Part of the Rivers and Fountains, and many Men died of the Waters, becauſe they were bitter. And the 4th Angel ſounded, and the 3d Part of the Sun, Moon, and Stars were darken'd. And the 5th Angel ſounded, and a Star fell from Heaven unto Earth, and to him was given the Key of the Bottomleſs Pit, out of which aroſe a Smoke, and out of the Smoke Locuſts, which had the Power of Scorpions, to torment for five Months all thoſe Men who had not the Seal in their Forheads. And the 6th Angel ſounded, who had Cords to looſe the four Angels which were bound in the great River *Euphrates*, with intent to ſlay the 3d Part of Men. But in the Days of the Voice of the 7th Angel, when he ſhall begin to ſound, the Myſtery of God ſhall be finiſh'd, as he hath declared to his Servants the Prophets.

The corn, grass, & trees, fired 8. 7

115

The seven Angels sounds 8: 2

116

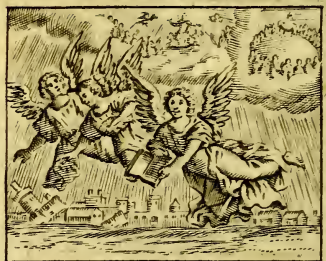
8: 7: The first angell sounded and there followed hail &c.
8: 2: And I saw ye seven angel which stood before god &c.

Satan's rage Rev.: 13: 1

117

Rev: 14. 1. The lamb on Sion

118



13: 1: And I stood upon y^e^ Sand of y^e^ sea and saw a beast rise up out of: &c
14: 1: And I looked & loe, a Lamb stood on ye mount Sion, &c .

CXVII.

Satan's Rage; or, The Beast with Seven Heads.

ST. *John* then tells us, That he stood upon the Sand of the Sea, and saw a Beast like a Leopard rise up out of the Sea, having Seven Heads and Ten Horns, and upon his Head the Name of *Blasphemy*: That his Feet were as the Feet of a Bear, and his Mouth as that of a Lyon, with which he blasphem'd the Name of God, and his Tabernacle: That Power was given him over all Kindred, Tongues and Nations, and that all those whose Names were not written in the Book of Life, worshipped him. He declares, That he saw another Beast coming up out of the Earth, as this did out of the Sea, having Two Horns like a Lamb, and he spoke as a Dragon, and perform'd great Wonders, making Fire come down from Heaven, in the Sight of Men, whom he deceived by his Miracles, and caused all, both Small and Great, Rich and Poor, Free and Bond, to receive a Mark in their Right Hand, or in their Foreheads, that no Man might Buy or Sell, save he that had the Mark or Name of the Beast.

CXVIII.

The LAMB *on* SION.

AND lo, a Lamb stood on the Mount *Sion*, and with him an Hundred Forty and Four Thousand, having his Father's Name written in their Foreheads— And in their Mouth was found no Guile. And I saw another Angel fly in the midst of Heaven, having the everlasting Gospel, saying with a loud Voice, *Fear God, and give Glory to him, for the Hour of his Judgment is come*—— And there followed another Angel, saying, Babylon *is fallen, is fallen.*—— And the third Angel followed, saying with a loud Voice, *If any Man worship the Beast and his Image, and receive his Mark, the same shall drink of the Wine of the Wrath of God, and he shall be tormented with Fire and Brimstone.*

CXIX. *The* EARTH *Reaped.*

AND I looked, and behold, a white Cloud, and upon the Cloud one ſat like unto the Son of Man, having on his Head a golden Crown, and in his Hand a ſharp Sickle. And an Angel cry'd with a loud Voice to him that ſat on the Cloud, *Thruſt in thy Sickle, and reap—— for the Harveſt of the Earth is ripe——* And he thruſt in his Sickle, and the Earth was reaped. And another Angel came out of Heaven, having alſo a ſharp Sickle; to whom a third Angel cried, *Thruſt in thy ſharp Sickle, and gather the Cluſters of the Vine of the Earth, for her Grapes are full ripe.* And the Angel did ſo, and gathered the Vine of the Earth, and caſt it into the great Wine-preſs of the Wrath of God. And the Wine-preſs was troden without the City, and Blood came out of the Wine-preſs, *&c*

CXX. *The* VIALS *of* WRATH.

SEVEN Angels having received ſeven golden Vials full of the Wrath of God, the firſt poured out his Vial upon the Earth; the ſecond upon the Sea; the third upon the Rivers and Fountains of Water; the fourth, upon the Sun; the fifth, upon the Seat of the Beaſt; the ſixth, upon the great River *Euphrates*; and the ſeventh, upon the Air; and they were followed with ſeven different and terrible Effects of God's Wrath upon that Part of Mankind which worſhipped the Beaſt, and mighty Earthquakes, and Thunderings, and Lightnings ſucceeded. St. *John* tells us alſo, That he ſaw three unclean Spirits, like Frogs, come out of the Mouth of the Dragon, being Spirits of Devils, working Miracles, which go forth unto the Kings of the Earth, to gather them to the Battle of the great Day of God Almighty.

F I N I S.

The earth reaped Rev: 14 14:

119

The vials of wrath Rev: 16: 1

120

14: 14: And I looked and behold a white cloud & upon the cloud &c
16: 1: And there came one of ye seven angels &c.

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