

CHAP. III.

3 The rest of their prayer & confession contained in that book, which Baruch writ and sent to Hierusalem. 30 Wisdome was shewed first to Iacob, and was seene vpon the earth.

Lord almighty, God of Israel, the soule in anguish, the troubled spirit crieth vnto thee.

2 Heare O Lord, and haue mercy: for thou art mercifull, and haue pittie vpon vs, because we haue sinned before thee.

3 For thou endurest for euer, and we perish vtterly.

4 O Lord almighty, thou God of Israel, heare now the prayers of the dead Israelites, and of their children, which haue sinned before thee, and not hearkened vnto the voice of thee their God: for the which cause these plagues cleaue vnto vs.

5 Remember not the iniquities of our forefathers: but thinke vpon thy powder and thy name, now at this time.

6 For thou art the Lord our God, and thee, O Lord, will we praise.

7 And for this cause thou hast put thy feare in our hearts, to the intent that we should call vpon thy name, and praise thee in our captivity: for * we haue called to minde all the iniquity of our forefathers that sinned before thee.

8 Behold, we are yet this day in our captivity, where thou hast scattered vs, for a reproch and a curse, and to be subiect to payments, according to all the iniquities of our fathers which departed from the Lord our God.

9 Heare, Israel, the commandements of life, giue care to vnderstand Wisdome.

10 How happeneth it, Israel, that thou art in thine enemies land, that thou art waken old in a strange country, that thou art defiled with the dead:

11 That thou art counted with them that goe downe into the graue:

12 Thou hast forsaken the fountaine of Wisdome.

13 For if thou hadst walked in the way of God, thou shouldst haue dwelled in peace for euer.

14 Learne where is Wisdome, where is strength, where is vnderstanding, that thou mayest know also where is length of daies, and life, where is the light of the eyes and peace.

15 Who hath found out her * plate: * Job, 28. 12. 20.

16 Where are the princes of the heathen becomte, and such as ruled the beasts vpon the earth.

17 They that had their pastime with the foules of the aire, and they that hooded by siluer and gold wherem men trust, and made no end of their getting:

18 For they that brought in siluer, and were so careful, and whose workes are vnsearchable,

19 They are vanished, and gone downe to the graue, and others are come by in their steads.

20 Young men haue seene light, and dwelt vpon the earth: but the way of knowledge haue they not knowen,

21 No: vnderstood the pathes thereof, nor laid hold of it: their children were farre off from that way.

22 It hath not bene heard of in Chanaan: neither hath it bene seene in Theman.

23 The Agarenes that seek Wisdome vpon earth, the marchants of Heran, and of Theman, the authors of fables, and searchers out of vnderstanding: none of these haue knowen the way of Wisdome, or remember her pathes.

24 O Israel, how great is the house of God: how large is the place of his possession:

25 Great, and hath none end: high, and vnmeasurable.

26 There were the gyants, famous from the beginning, that were of so great stature, and so expert in warre.

27 Those did not the Lord chuse, neither gaue he the way of knowledge vnto them.

28 But they were destroyed, because they had no Wisdome, and perished through their owne foolishnesse.

29 Who hath gone by into heauen and taken her, and brought her downe from the clouds:

30 Who hath gone ouer the Sea, and found her, & wil bring her for pure gold:

31 No man knoweth her way, nor thinketh of her path.

32 But he that knoweth all things, knoweth her, and hath found her out with his vnderstanding: he that prepared the earth for euermore, hath filled it with fourfooted beasts.

33 He that sendeth forth light, and it goeth: calleth it agame, and it obeyeth him with feare.

34 The starres shined in their watches, and reioyced : when he calleth them, they say, Here we be, and so with cheerefulnesse they shewed light vnto him that made them.

35 This is our God, and there shall none other be accounted of in comparison of him.

36 He hath found out all the way of knowledge, and hath giuen it vnto Jacob his seruant, & to Israel his beloued.

37 *Afterward did he shew himselfe vpon earth, and conuerfed with men.

CHAP. IIII.

1 The booke of Commandements, is that Wisdom which was commended in the former chapter. 25 The Iewes are moued to patience, and to hope for the deliuerance.

This is the Booke of the commandements of God: and the Law that endureth for euer : all they that keepe it shall come to life : but such as leaue it, shall die.

2 Turne thee, O Jacob, & take heed of it : walke † in the presence of the light therof, that thou mayest be illuminated.

3 Giue not thine honour to another, nor the things that are profitable vnto thee, to a strange nation.

4 O Israel, happie are wee : for things that are pleasing to God, are made knowen vnto vs.

5 We of good cheare, my people, the memoriale of Israel.

6 We were sold to the nations, not for [your] destruction : but because you moued God to wrath, ye were deliuered vnto the enemies.

7 For ye prouoked him that made you, by *sacrificing vnto deuils, and not to God.

8 We haue forgotten the euerlasting God, that brought you by, and ye haue grieved Jerusalem that nourished you.

9 For when shee saw the wrath of God coming vpon you, she said, Hearken, O ye that dwell about Sion: God hath brought by me great mourning.

10 For I saw the captiuitie of my sonnes and daughters, which the euerlasting brought vpon them.

11 With ioy did I nourish them: but sent them away with weeping and mourning.

12 Let no man reioyce ouer me a widow, and forsaken of many, who for the finnes of my children, am left desolate :

because they departed from the Law of God.

13 They knew not his statutes, nor walked in the waies of his Commandements: nor trode in the pathes || of discipline in his righteousnesse.

14 Let them that dwell about Sion come, and remember ye the captiuitie of my sonnes and daughters, which the euerlasting hath brought vpon them.

15 For he hath brought a nation by on them from far : a shamelesse nation, and of a strange language, who neither reuerenced old man, nor pittied child.

16 These haue caried away the deare beloued children of the widow, and left her that was alone, desolate without daughters.

17 But what can I helpe you :

18 For he that brought these plagues vpon you, will deliuer you from the hands of your enemies.

19 Goe your way, O my children, goe your way : for I am left desolate.

20 I haue put off the clothing of || peace, and put vpon me the sackcloth of my prayer. I will cry vnto the euerlasting * in my dayes.

21 We of good cheare, O my children, cry vnto the Lord: & he shall deliuer you from the powder & hand of the enemies.

22 For my hope is in the Euerlasting that hee will saue you, and ioy is come vnto me from the holy one, because of the mercy which shall soone come vnto you from the euerlasting our Saviour.

23 For I sent you out with mourning and weeping: but God will giue you to mee againe, with ioy and gladnesse for euer.

24 Like as now the neighbours of Sion haue seene your captiuitie: so shall they see shortly your saluation from our God, which shall come vpon you with great glory, and brightnesse of the euerlasting.

25 O ye children, suffer patiently the wrath that is come vpon you from God: for thine enemy hath persecuted thee: but shortly thou shalt see his destruction, & shalt tread vpon his necke.

26 O ye || delicate ones haue gone rough wayes, and were taken away as a flocke caught of the enemies.

27 We of good comfort, O my children, and cry vnto God: for you shall be remembered of him that brought these things vpon you.

28 For as it was your minde to goe astray |

|| Or, of his discipline in righteousness.

|| Or, prosperitie.
|| Or, in the time of mine affliction.
* Ps. 116. 2.
and 137. 7.

|| Or, my dearelings.

* Pro. 8. 31.
Iohn 1. 14.

† Greeks, to the shining before the light there of.

* 1. Cor. 10. 20.