

2 Chronicles 1:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 1

King Solomon's solemn offering at Gibeon, 2Ch_1:1-6. His choice of wisdom is blessed by God, 2Ch_1:7-12. His strength and wealth, 1Ch_1:13-17.

Was strengthened, or *established* , after his seditious brother Adonijah and his partisans were suppressed; and he was received with the universal consent and joy of his princes and people.

2 Chronicles 1:2

Then Solomon spake, to wit, concerning his intention of going to Gibeon, and that they should attend him thither, as the next verse shows.

2 Chronicles 1:3

To the high place; upon which the tabernacle was placed; whence it is called *the great high place* , 1Ki_3:4.

2 Chronicles 1:4

He separated the ark from the tabernacle, and brought it to Jerusalem, because there he intended to build a far more noble and lasting habitation for it.

2 Chronicles 1:5

He put; either Moses, mentioned 2Ch_1:3, or Bezaleel, here last named, by the command and direction of Moses; or David, who may be said to put it there, because he continued it there, and did not remove it, as he did the ark from the tabernacle.

Sought unto it, i.e. sought the Lord and his favour by hearty prayers and sacrifices in the place which God had appointed for that work, Lev_17:3,4.

2 Chronicles 1:6

i.e. **Which altar**. But that he had now said, 2Ch_1:5, and therefore would not unnecessarily repeat it. Or rather, *who* ; and so these words are emphatical, and contain a reason why Solomon went thither, because the Lord was there graciously present to hear prayers and receive sacrifices.

2 Chronicles 1:7

In that night, after those sacrifices were offered.

Did God appear, in a dream, of which **See Poole** "1Ki_3:5", &c.

2 Chronicles 1:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 1:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 1:10

What one man is sufficient to govern so numerous a people?

2 Chronicles 1:11

The life of thine enemies, i.e. the taking away of their lives.

2 Chronicles 1:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 1:13

To the high place, or, *from the high place* ; for the Hebrew prefix *lamed* , which commonly signifies *to* , is sometimes put for the Latin *de* , which signifies *from* .

2 Chronicles 1:14

Of this and the three following verses, **See Poole** "1Ki_10:26", &c.

2 Chronicles 1:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 1:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 1:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 2

Solomon appointeth workmen to build the temple: his embassy to king Hiram for workmen and materials, promising to furnish

him with victuals, 2Ch_2:1-10. Hiram's kindness, 2Ch_2:11-16. Solomon numbereth and divideth the workmen, 2Ch_2:17,18.

i.e. A royal palace for himself and his successors. This whole chapter, for the substance of it, is contained in **1Ki 5**, and in the notes there it is explained, and the seeming differences reconciled.

2 Chronicles 2:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:3

Which words may be commodiously understood from the nature of the thing, and from the following words, such ellipses being frequent in the Hebrew. Or, without any ellipsis, the sense, being here suspended, is completed 2Ch_2:7, so send me, &c., the 4th, 5th, and 6th verses being inserted by way of parenthesis, to usher in and enforce his following request.

2 Chronicles 2:4

To dedicate it to him, i.e. to his honour and worship.

For the continual shew-bread; so called here and Num_9:7, because it was to be there continually, by a constant succession of new bread when the old was removed; of which see Exo_25:30 Lev_24:8.

2 Chronicles 2:5

The house which I build is great; for though the temple strictly so called, was but small, yet the buildings belonging to it, both above and under ground, were large and numerous.

2 Chronicles 2:6

The heaven of heavens cannot contain him: when I speak of building a great house for our great God, let none be so foolish to think that I mean to include or comprehend God within it, for he is infinite.

To burn sacrifice before him, i.e. to worship him there where he is graciously present.

2 Chronicles 2:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:9

See Poole "1Ch_2:5".

2 Chronicles 2:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:13

i.e. Who was my father's chief workman. Or, *Huram Abi* , a man so called; the prefix *lamed* being here only a note of the accusative case. See more on 2Ch_4:16.

2 Chronicles 2:14

The son of a woman of the daughters of Dan; of which **See Poole "1Ki_7:14"**.

My lord; so he calls David here, and Solomon in the next verse, either out of singular respect to their greatness and true worth; or because he was indeed tributary to them; or, at least, his country was nourished by their country, as it was afterwards, Act_12:20.

2 Chronicles 2:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 2:17

Wherewith David his father had numbered them; for David had not only numbered his own people, for which he smarted, **2Sa 24**; but afterward he numbered the strangers, not out of vanity, but that Solomon might have a true account of them, and employ them about his buildings, as he saw fit. Yet Solomon thought fit to

number them again, because death might have made a considerable alteration among them since David's numbering of them; and it behoved him to have an exact account of them.

2 Chronicles 2:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 3:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 3

The place and time of building the temple. The measure and ornaments thereof, 2Ch_3:1-9. The cherubims, 2Ch_3:10-13. The veil and the pillars, 2Ch_3:14-17.

Where the Lord appeared unto David; which place the Lord had consecrated by his gracious appearance there, 1Ch_21:26. Or, *which was showed unto David*, to wit, to be the place where the temple should be built; which God pointed out to him, partly by his appearance, and principally by his Spirit suggesting this to David at that time. **The place that David had prepared**, by pulling down the buildings which were upon it, or near it, by levelling the ground, and possibly by marking it out for the temple and courts, the dimensions whereof he very particularly and exactly understood by the Spirit of God. *In the threshing-floor*, i.e. in the place where that threshing-floor formerly stood.

2 Chronicles 3:2

Of this verse, and the rest of this chapter, **See Poole "1Ki_6:1"**.

2 Chronicles 3:3

Solomon was instructed; partly by his father David, and partly by the Spirit of God, which inspired and guided him in the whole work. Or, *these were Solomon's foundations*, the Hebrew verb being put for the noun, as it is elsewhere. The sense is, These were the measures of the foundations upon which he intended to build the temple.

After the first measure, i.e. according to the measure of the first and ancient cubit. By which it is evident that there were cubits of different sorts and sizes; which also appears from Eze_40:5 **43:13**. But how big those cubits were, and how much larger than the common cubits, and whether this was the cubit used by Moses in the building of the tabernacle, which seems most probable, or

some other and yet larger cubit, is not agreed among learned men, and cannot now be exactly known, nor is it of any great moment for us to know.

2 Chronicles 3:4

The height was an hundred and twenty; this being a kind of turret to the building. The breadth of it here omitted is expressed to be ten cubits, 1Ki_6:3.

2 Chronicles 3:5

The greater house, i.e. the holy place, which was thrice as large as the lesser house, or the holy of holies, which is called *the most holy house* , **Deu 8. See Poole "1Ch_28:11"**.

2 Chronicles 3:6

See Poole "1Ki_9:26", &c.

2 Chronicles 3:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 3:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 3:9

Of the nails, i.e. of each of the nails or heads of those nails whereby the plates were fastened to the boards.

The upper chambers; of which **See Poole "1Ch_28:11"**.

2 Chronicles 3:10

Of image work; made in the shape of young men or boys, as they commonly are. Or, *of movable work* ; so called because they were not fixed to the mercy-seat, as the Mosaical cherubims were, but stood upon their feet, as it is said here 2Ch_3:13, in a moving posture.

2 Chronicles 3:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 3:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 3:13

Heb. Towards the house, or rather, *that house* ; not the holy house, as divers understand it; for then their backs must have been turned towards the ark, which was indecent, and directly contrary to the posture of Moses's cherubims, which looked towards it; but *the most holy house* , which was last named, 1Ch_3:8, and of which he continues yet to speak; this posture being most agreeable to their use, which was with their wings to close in the ark and cover it, as it is expressly affirmed below, 1Ch_5:8.

2 Chronicles 3:14

The veil, to wit, the inner veil before the most holy place by comparing this with Exo_26:31 1Ki_6:21.

2 Chronicles 3:15

Before the house, i.e. before the holy house, or before the temple as this is explained, 1Ch_3:17, lest it should be understood of the most holy house, of which he had spoken before.

Thirty and five cubits high, to wit, both of them; of which **See Poole** "1Ki_7:15".

2 Chronicles 3:16

As in the oracle; as he had done, or like unto those which he made, in the oracle; of which see 1Ki_6:21. The particle *as* is oft understood, as Gen_49:9 Deu_33:22, &c.

An hundred pomegranates in each row, or two hundred in all, as it is said, 1Ki_7:20.

2 Chronicles 3:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 4

The altar of brass, 2Ch_4:1. The molten sea upon twelve oxen, 2Ch_4:2-5. The ten lavers, candlesticks, and tables, 2Ch_4:6-8. The courts, and the instruments of brass, 2Ch_4:9-18. The instruments of gold, 2Ch_4:19-22.

Quest. How could this be, when God had said, *Thou shalt not go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered*

thereon , Exo_20:26, and steps were necessary for so high an altar as this was?

Answ. 1. These steps were so made that there was no fear of this inconvenience.

2. That law was useful and fit when it was made; but afterwards, when the priests were commanded to wear linen breeches in their holy ministrations to cover their nakedness, Exo_28:42, it was not necessary.

3. Howsoever God could undoubtedly dispense with his own law, as here he did; for he it was that gave these dimensions for the altar.

2 Chronicles 4:2

A molten sea: of this and 2Ch_4:3-5, &c., **See Poole "1Ki_7:23"**, &c.

2 Chronicles 4:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:6

Ten lavers; of which see 1Ki_7:38, &c.

2 Chronicles 4:7

According to their form; either,

1. the form which was appointed for them by God, who signified it to David. Or rather,

2. The old form which God prescribed to Moses, Exo_25:31, &c., for so these were made. And this clause seems to be added here, because in many things there was a great variation from the old form, as in the posture of the cherubims, the height of the altar, and divers other things.

2 Chronicles 4:8

Ten tables; of which see 1Ki_7:48.

2 Chronicles 4:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:11

Of these and the following verses **See Poole "1Ki_7:40"**, &c.

2 Chronicles 4:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:16

His father, i.e. Solomon's father; the relative being put before the antecedent, which is not unusual in the Hebrew tongue. And he is so called here, because Solomon usually called him by that name, out of that great respect which he bore to him for his excellent art and service which he did for him; it being usual to call great artists and inventors of things by this name; of which see Gen_4:20,**21**. Or, *Huram Abiu* , or *Abif* , a man so called, or *Huram Abi* , as 2Ch_2:18.

2 Chronicles 4:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:19

Which were of gold; and so are distinguished from those ten tables mentioned 2Ch_4:8, which seems to have been made of silver. Compare 1Ch_28:16.

2 Chronicles 4:20

After the manner; according to the prescription of God to and by Moses.

2 Chronicles 4:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 4:22

To wit, in part; they were made of wood, 1Ki_6:30,2Ki_18:16, but covered with golden plates.

2 Chronicles 5:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 5

The dedicated treasures, 2Ch_5:1. The solemn induction of the ark into the oracle, 2Ch_5:2-10. Glory and praise is sung to God, who appeareth in a cloud, which filled the house, 2Ch_5:11-14.

Or, *even* (as that particle is oft understood) **the silver and the gold**, the remainder of those vast sums mentioned 1Ch_22:14.

2 Chronicles 5:2

Of this and the following verses, **See Poole "1Ki_8:1"**, &c.

2 Chronicles 5:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:9

When this history was first written: not when it was reviewed by Ezra, who made some additions to it; for after the return from Babylon neither staves nor ark were any more seen or heard of.

2 Chronicles 5:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:11

According to David's appointment, **1Ch 24 1Ch 25**, which was only for the ordinary service; but in extraordinary solemnities, such as this eminently was they all came together.

2 Chronicles 5:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 5:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 6

Solomon blesseth the people, and praiseth God. 2Ch_6:1-11. His excellent prayer, wherein he showeth the right use of the temple 2Ch_6:12-42.

This whole chapter, for the substance, and almost all the words of it, are explained **See Poole "1Ki_8:1"**.

2 Chronicles 6:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:5
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:6
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:7
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:8
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:9
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:10
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:11
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:12
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2 Chronicles 6:13
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2 Chronicles 6:14
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2 Chronicles 6:15
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2 Chronicles 6:16
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2 Chronicles 6:17
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2 Chronicles 6:18
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2 Chronicles 6:19

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2 Chronicles 6:20

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2 Chronicles 6:21

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2 Chronicles 6:22

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2 Chronicles 6:23

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2 Chronicles 6:24

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2 Chronicles 6:25

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2 Chronicles 6:26

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2 Chronicles 6:27

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2 Chronicles 6:28

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2 Chronicles 6:29

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2 Chronicles 6:30

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2 Chronicles 6:31

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2 Chronicles 6:32

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:33

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:34

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:35

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:36

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:37

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:38

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:39

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:40

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 6:41

O thou that sittest in the heavens. arise from the throne of thy glory, and come down into this place, which thou hast appointed for thy constant and fixed habitation, from which thou wilt not remove, as formerly thou hast done, from place to place.

Thou and the ark, i.e. thou in the ark.

Of thy strength; which is the sign and instrument of thy great power put forth from time to time on the behalf of thy people.

Let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, i.e. let them be adorned and encompassed on every side with thy protection and benediction. For he seems rather to speak of the salvation afforded to the priests, than of that which by God's blessing on the priests' labours is conferred upon the people; this being a prayer for God's blessing upon the whole community, consisting of priests and people.

Let thy saints rejoice in goodness, i.e. let them have cause of rejoicing and thanksgiving for the effects of thy goodness imparted unto them.

2 Chronicles 6:42

Of thine anointed, i.e. of me, who by thy command and appointment was anointed the king and ruler of thy people: do not deny my present requests, nor send me back from the throne of thy grace with a sad heart and dejected countenance.

The mercies of David thy servant, i.e. those which thou hast promised to David and to his house for ever.

2 Chronicles 7:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 7

Fire from heaven, and a glory in the temple, witness the Divine acceptance: the people worship, 2Ch_7:1-3. Solomon's solemn sacrifice, 2Ch_7:4-7. Having kept the feast of tabernacles, and the feast of the dedication of the altar, he dismisseth the people, 2Ch_1:8-11. God appeareth to Solomon; promiseth his favour on obedience; else threateneth grievous judgments, 1Ch_7:12-22.

The fire came down from heaven, in token of God's acceptance of his prayer. **See Poole "Lev_9:24"; See Poole "1Ki_18:38"**, &c. The glory of the Lord, i.e. the cloud, which was the sign of God's glorious and gracious presence.

2 Chronicles 7:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:3

The cloud first came down upon the house, and then entered into the house, and was seen both within it by the priests, and without it by the people.

2 Chronicles 7:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:6

When David praised by their ministry; for David composed the psalms or hymns, 1Ch_16:7, and appointed them to be sung by the Levites, and instrumental music to be joined to their voices.

2 Chronicles 7:7

Of this and verses 8-10, **See Poole "1Ki_8:61"**, etc.

2 Chronicles 7:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:13

If I command the locusts, i.e. use my authority and power over them to cause them to do so. A metaphor elsewhere used in reference to unreasonable creatures, as 1Ki_17:4 Amo_9:3, who are not properly capable of a command, or of obedience.

2 Chronicles 7:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:15

Or, that shall be made in or towards this place ; for he speaks of the answers which he will give to the prayers which shall be made here. Heb. *of this place* .

2 Chronicles 7:16

Of this verse and the rest of this chapter, **See Poole "1Ki_9:3"**, &c.

2 Chronicles 7:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 7:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 8

Solomon's buildings, 2Ch_8:1-6. The heathen who remained in the land he maketh tributaries; but the Israelites rulers, 2Ch_8:7-11. His yearly solemn sacrifices: he appointeth to the priests and Levites their places, 2Ch_8:12-16. The navy fetcheth gold from Ophir, 2Ch_8:17,**18**.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:2

Which Hiram had restored to Solomon; which Solomon gave to Hiram, who not being pleased with them, 1Ki_9:12,**13**, here returns them to him again.

2 Chronicles 8:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:4

Of this and the following verses, **See Poole "1Ki_9:17"**, &c.

2 Chronicles 8:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:11

Not because every place where once the ark came was thereby consecrated to God, and might not after the ark was gone be put to any common use; for then both the house of Obed-edom and all other places where the ark either rested or passed were made holy thereby, and unlawful for men to dwell in; but either,

1. Because she was a woman, and attended by many other women, who besides the common pollutions of all, are subject to many and frequent ceremonial pollutions peculiar to their sex, and either she, or at least many of her followers, might be heathens at this time; and therefore he thought it indecent that such persons should come as it were in God's stead, and succeed him in the place where he had dwelt. Or,

2. He speaks not of the time when the ark was gone, but whilst it was there; and these words contain a reason not of the more remote words, why he now *brought her up thither*, but of the words immediately preceding, why

he built this house

for her; because the ark was now in the house of David, which therefore, ought to be kept pure and free from the very danger and appearance of pollution.

2 Chronicles 8:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:14

The man of God, i.e. a prophet inspired by God in these matters, whose commands therefore are the commands of God.

2 Chronicles 8:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 8:16

All the work of Solomon was prepared; all the materials were procured, and in all points squared, and fitted, and completed beforehand.

2 Chronicles 8:17

Of this and the next verse, **See Poole** "1Ki_9:26", &c.

2 Chronicles 8:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 9

The queen of Sheba visiteth Solomon, and admireth his wisdom; giveth and receiveth presents, 2Ch_9:1-12. Solomon's gold; his targets, and shields, 2Ch_9:13-16. The throne of ivory, 2Ch_9:17-19. His vessels; his presents, 2Ch_9:20-21. His chariots and horses; his tributes; his reign and death, 2Ch_9:25-31.

Almost all this chapter is contained in **1Ki 10**, where it is explained.

2 Chronicles 9:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:8

King for the Lord, i.e. in the Lord's name and stead, both in general, because all kings have and hold their kingdoms from God, and act as his viceregents and deputies; and in a special manner, because he sat in God's own throne and ruled over God's peculiar people, and did in a singular and eminent manner maintain the honour and worship of God in his land, and in the eyes of all the world besides.

2 Chronicles 9:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:12

Besides that which she had brought; besides what he gave her of his royal bounty, as it is expressed, 1Ki_10:13, which was in compensation for her presents, as is here noted.

2 Chronicles 9:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:23

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:24

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:25

Four thousand stalls, to wit, greater stalls, in each of which were ten stalls, in all forty thousand stalls, as it is in 1Ki_4:26, **See Poole "1Ki_4:26"**.

2 Chronicles 9:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:28

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:29

Iddo the seer, mentioned also 1Ch_12:15, supposed to be the same who is called *Obed* , 2Ch_15:1. This, and the other prophets mentioned, were also historians, and wrote some annals or histories of their times; out of which these sacred and canonical books were taken, either by these or other prophets.

2 Chronicles 9:30

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 9:31

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 10

Rehoboam made king. The Israelites by Jeroboam request a relaxation, 2Ch_10:1-5. Rehoboam refusing the old men's counsel, by the advice of young men, answereth them roughly, 2Ch_10:6-15. Ten tribes revolting, kill Hadoram, and make Rehoboam to flee, 2Ch_10:16-19.

The contents of this chapter are in **1Ki 12**\$, where see the notes.

2 Chronicles 10:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:3

And they sent; or, *for* (as that particle is oft used, as hath been noted before) *they had sent* , &c. So this is the reason why he returned, as was said, 2Ch_10:2.

2 Chronicles 10:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

" 2 Chronicles 10:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 10:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 11

Rehoboam raising an army to subdue Israel, is forbidden by Shemaiah, 1Ch_11:1-4. He strengtheneth his kingdom with forts and provision, 2Ch_11:5-12. The priests and Levites, and such as feared God, forsaken by Jeroboam, who turneth idolater, strengthen the kingdom of Judah, 2Ch_11:13-17. The wives and children of Rehoboam, 2Ch_11:18-23.

Of this verse, and verses 2-4, **See Poole** "1Ki_12:21".

2 Chronicles 11:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:5

Built cities, i.e. repaired, and enlarged, and fortified them; as building is oft used in Scripture, as hath been formerly proved; for these cities, or divers of them, were built before, as appears from Jos_10:10 **12:15 15:21,33,35,58 19:42.**

2 Chronicles 11:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:12

In every several city, to wit, so fortified, as he said, 2Ch_11:11

2 Chronicles 11:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:14

They would not suffer them to instruct and assist the Israelites in the worship and service of God, nor to go up to Jerusalem to worship in their courses; and these priests would not join with them in the worship of the calves, as they were desired and commanded to do; and therefore they willingly forsook all their patrimonies and possessions for God's sake.

2 Chronicles 11:15

Or,

for the high places, both for the devils (i.e. the Baals, or false gods, which divers of his people worshipped, whom he permitted and encouraged to do so, giving them liberty to do any thing but to serve God at Jerusalem)

and for the calves. So he erected two sorts of high places, some for Baal, and some for the true God, whom he pretended and would be thought to worship in and by the calves.

2 Chronicles 11:16

Such as set their hearts to seek the Lord God of Israel; such as loved and feared God in truth, and with their whole heart.

2 Chronicles 11:17

This honourable mention of Solomon, as a pattern of piety, is a considerable evidence of his true repentance before his death; of which **See Poole** "1Ki_11:43".

2 Chronicles 11:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 11:22

To be ruler among his brethren; he declared him his successor, and gave him the dominion over his brethren; wherein (if he was not the first-born, as it seems to be implied, because this is mentioned as an effect of his superlative love to his mother) he transgressed that law, Deu_21:15,**16**, unless God was pleased to dispense with it at this time.

2 Chronicles 11:23

Dispersed of all his children: lest his other sons should after his death unite their counsels and forces together against Abijah, he wisely dispersed them into several and distant places, and under pretence of honouring them with the government of them, he made them prisoners in a sort, appointing several persons to observe their motions, and prevent their combinations.

Unto every fenced city, agreeable to their quality, that their restraint might be more easy to them.

Desired many wives; either,

1. For his children; or rather,
2. For himself, by comparing this with 2Ch_11:21.

2 Chronicles 12:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 12

Rehoboam, forsaking the Lord, is punished by Shishak, 2Ch_12:1-4. Shemaiah reproveth him: he with the princes repenteth; is preserved in his kingdom; but is spoiled of the treasures of the temple, and of his royal palace, 2Ch_12:5-12. His reign and death, and Abijah his son is made king, 2Ch_12:13-16.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:2

In the fifth year; presently after the apostacy of the king and people, which was in his fourth year, by comparing this with 2Ch_11:17.

2 Chronicles 12:3

The Lubims; a people of Africa bordering upon Egypt; of whom **See Poole "2Ch_16:8"; See Poole "Dan_11:43"; See Poole "Nah_3:9".**

The Sukkiims; a people living in tents, as the word signifies; and such there were not far from Egypt, both in Africa and in Arabia.

The Ethiopians; either those beyond Egypt, or the Arabians.

2 Chronicles 12:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:7

They humbled themselves; which though they did but forcedly, yet God was pleased so far to regard it, as to mitigate their calamity.

My wrath shall not be poured out; I will give some stop to the course of my wrath, which was ready to be poured forth upon them to their utter destruction.

2 Chronicles 12:8

That they may experimentally know and feel the difference between my yoke and the yoke of a foreign and idolatrous prince, and what mischief they have done to themselves by forsaking me and my service.

2 Chronicles 12:9

Upon which condition, and Rehoboam's submission to him, he delivered up to him the fenced cities of Judah, which he had

taken, 2Ch_12:4. But of this and the two next verses, **See Poole** "1Ki_14:26", &c.

2 Chronicles 12:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:12

Heb. *There were good things* . The meaning is either,

1. Though there were many corruptions in Judah, yet there were also divers good things there, which were not in Israel, as the word and ordinances, and pure worship of God, prophets and ministers of God's institution, and divers truly religious people. And so this is an additional reason why God would not destroy them. Or,

2. Notwithstanding this loss, they began to recruit themselves, and to regain some degree of their former prosperity; whence it follows, 2Ch_12:13, So, there being some respite given, and peace being restored, *Rehoboam strengthened himself* , &c.

2 Chronicles 12:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 12:14

Prepared not, or *directed not* , or *settled not* , &c, i.e. although he humbled himself, and seemed penitent for a season, and professed the true religion and worship of God; yet he quickly relapsed into his former sins, because he was not sincere nor serious in his actions, and his heart was not right with God.

2 Chronicles 12:15

Concerning genealogies; in an historical account written by him of the genealogies and actions of the kings of Judah.

2 Chronicles 12:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 13:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 13

Abijah warreth against Jeroboam king of Israel. 2Ch_2:1-3; declareth the right of his cause, 2Ch_13:4-12; trusteth in God; overcometh Jeroboam, 2Ch_13:13-20. His wives and children, 2Ch_13:21,22.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 13:2

Michaiah the daughter of Uriel, called *Maachah the daughter of Absalom*, 1Ki_15:2. She might be daughter to one, and granddaughter to the other; or the proper and natural daughter of the, one, and the other's by adoption, of which there are instances in Scripture; or the same person might be called Uriel and Absalom: see 1Ki_15:2.

2 Chronicles 13:3

Abijah set the battle in array against Jeroboam. We need not scrupulously inquire into the lawfulness of this war, for this Abijah, though here he makes a fair flourish, and maintained the better cause, yet was indeed an ungodly man, 1Ki_15:3, and therefore minded not the satisfaction of his conscience, but only the recovery of his parent's ancient dominions.

2 Chronicles 13:4

Upon Mount Zemaraim; some commodious place whence his voice might be heard by Jeroboam, and some of his host, who possibly were pitched in the valley. Or the two armies being pitched near to one another, Abijah might desire a parley, before they fight; whereupon Jeroboam, and some of his commanders and soldiers, might draw near to him, and stand below him at the bottom of the hill, where they might hear his speech; which Jeroboam was the more willing to do, that in the mean time he might *cause an ambushment to come behind* Abijah and his army, as he did, 2Ch_13:13, whilst he was quietly standing before them, and seemed to hearken to any terms of accommodation which might be offered.

2 Chronicles 13:5

i.e. By a perpetual covenant, which thy usurpation can not disannul. For the phrase, **See Poole** "Num_18:19".

2 Chronicles 13:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 13:7

The children of Belial; such as have cast off the yoke and obedience which they owed both to God and to their king.

When Rehoboam was young; not in age, for he was then forty-one years old, but in his kingdom, which he had but newly obtained, and in experience in politic, and especially in military, affairs, to which he was wholly a stranger, as having been born and bred up in a time of great peace and security.

Tender-hearted, i.e. cowardly and fearful, who durst not adventure to chastise the rebels as he should have done. But therein Abijah forgets his duty, both to his father, whom he falsely traduceth; and to God, by whose express command Rehoboam was restrained from the war against Israel, which otherwise he had both courage and resolution to prosecute, as appears from the history, 1Ki_12:21.

2 Chronicles 13:8

The kingdom of the Lord in the land of the sons of David; that kingdom which was not set up by vain men in pursuance of their own ambition and discontent, as yours was, but ordained and established by God himself in the house of David.

And ye be a great multitude, or *because* (that Hebrew particle being oft so used) *ye be* , &c. This he mentions partly as the ground of their confidence, that they had more tribes and a greater host; and partly as a presage of their downfall, which trusting to the arm of flesh is.

And there are with you golden calves, or, *but* there are, &c. There is that among you which may damp your courage and confidence: you worship those images which God abhors and severely forbids.

For gods, or *for God* , as that plural word is most commonly used, i.e. instead of God, to give them the name of God, as Exo_32:4, and that worship which is peculiar to him.

2 Chronicles 13:9

To consecrate himself, i. e. to make himself a priest. See Poole "Lev_7:37".

That are no gods; that have nothing of the nature or power, though you give them the name of gods.

2 Chronicles 13:10

The Lord, Heb. *Jehovah* , the only true and great God.

We have not forsaken him; we maintain his honour and worship, which you have ungratefully rejected.

2 Chronicles 13:11

The pure table; so called, because it was made of pure gold, Exo_25:23,24.

The candlestick; he saith *table and candlestick* , though there were ten of each, 2Ch_4:7,8; either,

1. Because Shishak had carried away all but one. Or,
2. The singular number is put for the plural, as 1Ki_7:48, and oft elsewhere. Or,
3. Because ordinarily there was but one of each used at a time for those uses.

To burn every evening; and from evening to morning continually, Lev_24:2,3; for which end one candlestick was sufficient, and it is very improbable that all the candlesticks were used every night.

We keep the charge of the Lord our God: this he saith, though he was an ungodly king; either because he flattered himself and fancied that his keeping up the external worship of God would make full satisfaction for the errors of his life; or that he might hereby encourage his own soldiers, and convince or terrify his enemies.

2 Chronicles 13:12

With sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you; upon the sounding whereof God hath solemnly promised to assist his people, Num_10:9.

Fight ye not against the Lord God of your fathers; you have not only us for your enemies, but God, even the God whom your fathers honoured and served, to their own great comfort and benefit.

2 Chronicles 13:13

Whilst Abijah was discoursing, Jeroboam takes the advantage of it to lay an ambush.

2 Chronicles 13:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 13:15

By strengthening the hearts and hands of the men of Judah, and taking away the spirits and power of their enemies; and, it may be, by some extraordinary assistance.

2 Chronicles 13:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 13:17

A vast number: but it hath been oft observed and recorded by sacred and profane historians, that in those ancient times there were very numerous armies, and oftentimes very great slaughters; and if this slaughter was more than ordinary, there is nothing strange nor incredible, because the Almighty God fought against the Israelites.

2 Chronicles 13:18

They put their trust in him, and confidently expected help from him; which is a disposition of heart that God prizeth and taketh kindly. See 2Ki_18:5 2Ch_20:20 Psa_22:4 Dan_3:28.

2 Chronicles 13:19

Beth-el; which Jeroboam recovered afterwards, as appears by the course of the history, though it be not particularly mentioned,

which is the case of many other considerable things. And in the mean time it is very probable, that when Jeroboam's host was discomfited, and he expected that Abijah would pursue his victory, he removed the golden calf from Beth-el, which lay near Abijah's kingdom, to some safer place.

Ephrain; a city so called, possibly the same which is mentioned Joh_11:54, or that which is called Ophrah, Jud_8:27.

2 Chronicles 13:20

The Lord struck him, i.e. Jeroboam, as appears from the contrary condition of Abijah described in the next verse. Him God might strike, either with vexation and horror of mind; or with some painful and lingering, but incurable, disease, like that of Jehoram, which tormented him two years together, and at last killed him, 2Ch_21:19.

He died; not presently, but a year or two after this time.

2 Chronicles 13:21

Not now after this victory, for he died presently after it; but in the whole time of his life, before he was king and afterward.

2 Chronicles 13:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 14:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 14

Asa is made king; he destroyeth idolatry, 2Ch_14:1-5. Having peace, he strengtheneth his kingdom with forts and armies, 2Ch_14:6-8. In a strait, calling on God, he overthroweth Zerah, and spoileth the Ethiopians, 2Ch_14:9-15.

i.e. There was no open war, either by Baasha or others; only there were secret grudges and private hostilities between his and Baasha's subjects, 1Ki_15:16.

2 Chronicles 14:2

Of this and the next verse, **See Poole "1Ki_15:11" See Poole "1Ki_15:12"**

2 Chronicles 14:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 14:4

By his royal edicts he required them to worship God, and him only, and to practise all which the laws of Moses required of them.

2 Chronicles 14:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 14:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 14:7

Yet before us, i.e. in our power, as that phrase is oft used. **See Poole "Gen_13:9"**.

2 Chronicles 14:8

Asa had an army; which, as it seems, he had now gathered together upon the information of Zerah's design against him.

2 Chronicles 14:9

The Ethiopian; or, *the Arabian*, as the Hebrew word *Cush* is commonly used, as hath been noted before; these being much nearer to Asa than the Ethiopians, who also could not have come to Asa but through Egypt, which probably the king of Egypt would not permit him to do.

Mareshah; a city upon and within the borders of Judah, Jos_15:44.

2 Chronicles 14:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 14:11

It is nothing with thee, i.e. there is no difference, nor no difficulty, with thee. *In thy name*; by thy commission, in confidence of thy assistance, and for the maintenance of thy honour, and service, and people.

2 Chronicles 14:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 14:13

Gerar; a city of the Philistines, who probably were confederate with them in this design.

2 Chronicles 14:14

They smote all the cities round about Gerar; partly because they had joined with Zerah in this war, and partly because the Ethiopians had sheltered a great part of the remains of the army in them.

2 Chronicles 14:15

The tents of cattle, i.e. the dwellers in tents, which were either a part of Zerah's company, or joined with them, or had come along with them to furnish that great host with necessary provisions, which their custom of dwelling in tents made them more capable of doing.

2 Chronicles 15:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 15

Asa, with Judah and many of Israel, moved by Azariah the prophet, renew a solemn covenant with God, 2Ch_15:1-15. He removeth Maachah his mother for her idolatry; bringeth the hallowed things again into the temple; and enjoyeth a long peace, 2Ch_15:16-19.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 15:2

The Lord is with you, to defend you against all your enemies, as now you have seen, and you may hereafter expect, if you persist in that good course into which you are entered.

If ye forsake him, he will forsake you: but let not this victory make you presumptuous or self-confident, for you are upon your good behaviour; and if you leave God, he will leave and destroy you after he hath done you good.

2 Chronicles 15:3

Heb. *For many days* have been to Israel

without the true God, & c, i.e. they have long lived without the sound knowledge and worship of the true God. The prophet confirms his foregoing exhortation, and the threatening annexed to it, that if they forsook God, he would forsake them, from the usual manner of God's dealing with Israel formerly, and therefore in the same case they may expect the same usage. *Israel* , here mentioned and propounded as an example, is here understood, either,

1. Specially of the ten tribes, distinguished by that name from the kingdom of Judah; whose condition had been, since Jeroboam's revolt, and now was such in some measure, as is here described, they having been, and still being, without God and his true worship, and therefore exposed to many vexations, and wars, and miseries. But these had not as yet turned unto God, or sought him, nor was God yet found of them, as is said of this Israel, 2Ch_15:4. Nor had they as yet been exercised with those grievous and continual vexations, and wars, and mutual destructions of which he here speaks, 2Ch_15:5,6, and which in succeeding times they felt; for except that one blow which they had from Abijah, **2Ch 13**, we read of none other great mischiefs which befell them. Or rather,

2. Generally of the whole nation of Israel in former times, and especially in the times of the judges; to which all that follows suits very well; for then many times they were, though not wholly and universally, yet in a very great measure, and for the generality of them, without God, and his law, and teaching priests, as plainly appears from divers passages in the Book of the Judges; and then indeed they were brought to all the exigencies and calamities here following; then they had grievous wars, both foreign and domestic; and then they did sometimes turn to the Lord and sought him, and he was found of them, and did raise up judges and saviours to them; of which see **Jud 2** at large, and Jud_3:9, Jud_3:15 **10:10**, &c.

2 Chronicles 15:4

When they did turn, i.e. Israel, mentioned 2Ch_15:3.

2 Chronicles 15:5

In those times; when Israel lived in the gross neglect and contempt of God, and his law and worship.

No peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in; men could not go abroad about their private occasions without great danger; as it was in the days of Shamgar, Jud_5:6, which is a good comment upon this text.

Of the countries, Heb. *of these countries* , i.e. the divers parts of the land of Israel, both within and without Jordan.

2 Chronicles 15:6

Nation was destroyed of nation, i.e. one part of the people of Israel destroyed the other by civil wars; of which see instances, Jud_9:23, &c.; Jud_12:1, &c. As all the people of Israel are called a nation, so the several tribes and families of them are sometimes called nations, as Gen_17:4 Eze_2:3 Act_4:27, compared with Psa_2:1.

2 Chronicles 15:7

Be ye strong therefore; go on therefore courageously and resolutely to maintain God's worship, and to root out idolatry, as you have begun to do; for this is the only right method of preserving yourselves from such calamities as your predecessors have felt.

Let not your hands be weak; be not discouraged with the opposition which you may possibly meet with.

Your work shall be rewarded; what you do for God and for his honour and service shall not go unrequited.

2 Chronicles 15:8

Of Oded the prophet, to wit, of *Azariah* , 2Ch_15:1, who was also called by his father's name *Oded* . Or *Oded* may be here put patronymically for the son of *Oded* ; as David is put for Christ the Son of *David* , Jer_30:9, and elsewhere; and *Moses* for the sons of *Moses* , Psa_90:1. Or here is an ellipsis of the relative word, of which there are many instances both in sacred and profane authors; as 2Sa_21:19, the brother of *Goliath* ; Mat_4:21, *James* the son of *Zebedee* ; Luk_24:10, *Mary* the mother of *James* , by

comparing Mar_15:40 Joh_19:25, *Mary* the wife of *Cleophas* , and many other places. And so this place may be thus read,

when Asa heard these words, even the prophecy of the son of Oded the prophet. And this ellipsis is the more easy and tolerable, because this defect might be well enough understood and supplied out of 2Ch_15:1. Though some understand this to be another prophecy of Oded the father, which is not here expressed, which Azariah his son repeated to them for the confirmation of his own prophecy.

He took courage; for it required great courage to put away all the idols, to which so great a number of his people were to this day addicted, and, among others, *Maachah the queen* , *his mother* , whom for this reason he deposed, 1Ki_15:13.

The cities which he had taken, to wit, Abijah his father; which was easily understood from 2Ch_13:19. Or, *which had been taken* ; the active word being oft so used impersonally for the passive, as Hebricians know.

Renewed the altar of the Lord; which had been either decayed through age and long use of it, or broken by his idolatrous mother's means. Or, *he consecrated* or *dedicated the altar* , &c.; which possibly had been polluted by idolaters, and now needed some purification.

2 Chronicles 15:9

Out of Simeon; which tribe, though they had their inheritance out of the portion of Judah, did for the generality of them revolt to Jeroboam with the other tribes, as appears from many passages of Scripture; which they might conveniently do, because their portion bordered, as on one side upon that of Judah, so on the other side upon that of Dan; and therefore might indifferently join with the one or other, as they saw fit.

They fell to him, to wit, from the king of Israel.

2 Chronicles 15:10

In the third month, to wit, of the sacred year, in which the feast of weeks or of pentecost fell; of which see Exo_23:16 Deu_16:9.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa. Asa had peace but ten years, 2Ch_14:1; after which probably there were some bickerings and skirmishes, which seem to have been composed; and after that Zerah comes against him, and is discomfited. Upon this great success many of the Israelites fall to him, and in his fifteenth year he calls this assembly.

2 Chronicles 15:11

Taken from Zerah and his accomplices, 2Ch_14:13, &c.

2 Chronicles 15:12

They entered into a covenant; they engaged themselves by a serious and solemn covenant before the Lord and this great assembly.

2 Chronicles 15:13

Whosoever should obstinately refuse to pay unto God that solemn worship which he required at his temple in Jerusalem, or should disown God, or serve other gods,

should be put to death, by virtue of all those laws which command that such persons should be *cut off*, and in pursuance of that law, Deu_17:2. Compare Heb_10:28.

2 Chronicles 15:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 15:15

All Judah rejoiced, i.e. a great number of the people, as such general expressions are frequently understood; for none doubt but there were many dissemblers and ungodly men at this time among them.

2 Chronicles 15:16

Of this and the following verses, **See Poole "1Ki_15:2", See Poole "1Ki_15:10", See Poole "1Ki_15:14", See Poole "1Ki_15:15".**

2 Chronicles 15:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 15:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 15:19

For though there were continual skirmishes between Asa and Baasha and their people *all their days* , 1Ki_15:16, yet it did not break forth into an open war till Asa's thirty-fifth year, i.e. till that was ended. But how this thirty-fifth year is to be computed, See Poole "2Ch_16:1".

2 Chronicles 16:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 16

Asa maketh a league with the Syrians against the king of Israel, 2Ch_16:1-6; for which the prophet reproving him, he putteth him into prison, 2Ch_16:7-10. He is sick, and seeketh to the physicians, and not to God: his death and burial, 2Ch_16:11-14.

Of the reign of Asa; or, *of the kingdom of Asa* , i.e. of the kingdom of Judah, which was now Asa's kingdom; or from the time of the division of the two kingdoms. Rehoboam reigned seventeen years, 2Ch_12:13; Abijah three years, 2Ch_13:2; Asa had now reigned fifteen years, 2Ch_15:10; all which, put together, make up the thirty-five years mentioned 2Ch_15:19. And in the next year Baasha wars against him; and the ground of war was the defection of many of his subjects to Asa, 2Ch_15:9, whom Asa endeavours to engage, together with his own subjects, by an oath and a covenant, to be true and faithful to God, and consequently to himself; which was done in his fifteenth year, 2Ch_15:9, **10**; and therefore in his sixteenth year, called here the thirty-sixth year of his kingdom, he commenceth an open war against him. If it be objected, *That the reign or kingdom of Asa* is otherwise understood of the time of Asa's personal reign, (as I may call it,) 2Ch_15:10; the answer is obvious, That there are many instances in Scripture (some of which have been formerly given, and others will be given in their proper places) where the same word or phrase is taken differently, and that in the very same chapter and history. And particularly this variety is elsewhere used, both by sacred and profane writers, in the computation of the years of princes, which are sometimes reckoned from the beginning of their reign, and sometimes from other remarkable times and occurrences. Titus Nebuchadnezzar's years are sometimes

computed from the beginning of his reign, as 2Ki_25:8 Jer_52:12,**29,30**, and sometimes from his complete conquest of Syria and Egypt, &c., as that passage, Dan_2:1, *In the second year of Nebuchadnezzar* , is by the general stream of interpreters understood. Thus Ahaziah's years, which doubtless were usually computed from the time of his birth, are computed from another head, 2Ch_22:2, **See Poole "2Ch_22:2"**. And the like differences are observed in computing the years of some of the Syrian monarchs and Roman emperors; and particularly of Augustus, the years of whose reign are variously accounted by the Roman historians; sometimes from his first consulship, sometimes from the time of the triumvirate, and sometimes from that famous victory at Actium, where he utterly overthrew his competitor, and made himself sole and unquestionable emperor. And therefore it is not strange if it be so here. And that it must necessarily be thus understood, appears from hence, that it cannot be the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa in his own person, because Baasha began to reign in Asa's third year, 1Ki_15:28, and reigned only twenty-four years, and consequently died in Asa's twenty-sixth or twenty-seventh year, as it is said he did, 1Ki_15:8. **That he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah;** that he might keep his subjects from revolting to Asa, as he perceived they began to do, 2Ch_15:9, and keep Asa's subjects from coming into his dominions to seduce his people from their obedience to him.

2 Chronicles 16:2

This verse, and 2Ch_16:3-6, are explained 1Ki_15:18, &c.

2 Chronicles 16:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 16:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 16:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 16:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 16:7

And so reserved to be a scourge to thy kingdom and posterity hereafter; whereas if he had joined with Baasha against thee, thou shouldst have overthrown them both, and prevented all that mischief which that monarch will do one day to thy family.

2 Chronicles 16:8

The Lubims; either the Libyans in Africa; or another people, possibly descended from them, but now seated in some part of Arabia.

2 Chronicles 16:9

Whose heart is perfect, i.e. upright and sincere, as thine is not.

Object. *The heart of Asa* is said to be *perfect all his days* , 2Ch_15:17.

Answ. He was perfect and sincere in the things there spoken of, in the establishment of the outward worship of God; but not in the inward worship of God, trusting, and fearing, and loving him with all his heart, of which he here speaks. Or thus, He was perfect or sincere in the general course of his life, though in some particulars, whereof this is one, his heart did not perfectly cleave to God, as it should have done.

Thou shalt have wars with Baasha, 2Ch_16:4.

2 Chronicles 16:10

In a prison-house, or, *in the house of the stocks* ; in which the feet, or, as some of the Hebrews say, the necks of the prisoners were locked up. See Jer_20:2 **29:26**.

2 Chronicles 16:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 16:12

He did not humble himself before God, nor earnestly desire his help, but put all his confidence in the skill and faithfulness of his physicians, of whom, it seems, he had great experience.

2 Chronicles 16:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 16:14

Laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours, as the manner of those nations was. See Gen_50:2 2Ch_21:19.

They made a very great burning, to wit, of precious spices; thereby testifying their thankfulness for many benefits which they enjoyed under his government, and their respect to him notwithstanding his miscarriages.

2 Chronicles 17:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 17

Jehoshaphat is made king; reigneth well and prospereth, 2Ch_17:1-6. He sendeth Levites with the princes to teach Judah, 2Ch_17:7-9. He is feared by the nations round about, who bring him presents and tribute; his greatness, captains and armies, 2Ch_17:10-19.

Against the king and people of Israel, who had molested the kingdom of Judah with wars *all the days of Asa* , after that sin of his mentioned 2Ch_16:2, &c.

2 Chronicles 17:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:3

In the first ways, which David walked in before he fell into those horrid sins of murder and adultery. Or, *in the ways of David* , and his *father 's first ways* . For the beginning of Asa's reign was laudable, as we have seen, though he declined at last. For it seems more probable that this passage is a reflection upon Asa, whose last ways were much his worst, and of whose repentance we have no evidence, than upon David, who, though he fell dreadfully in the matter of Uriah, yet did manifestly repent of it, and return to his first and holy course of life, in which also he continued until death; having this character given him by the Holy Ghost after his death, that he did right in all things, saving that of Uriah, 1Ki_15:5.

2 Chronicles 17:4

i.e. Their worship of the calves, or other idols.

2 Chronicles 17:5

Judah brought to Jehoshaphat presents; as subjects in those times and places used to do to their kings, as a token of their respect and subjection to them. See 1Sa_10:27 1Ki_10:25 2Ch_32:23.

2 Chronicles 17:6

His heart was lifted up above all discouragements, and difficulties, and fears, by which men's hearts use to be cast down: he was valiant and resolute for God and his ways.

He took away the high places and groves, to wit, such only wherein idols were worshipped, as appears by comparing this with 2Ch_20:33. And though Asa had done this before, yet either he did not do it thoroughly, or the Jews (who were many of them mad upon their idols) had secretly made new ones, in the latter part of his reign, when he grew more infirm in body, and more remiss in God's cause.

2 Chronicles 17:7

To teach in the cities of Judah; to inform the people of their duty, and of the king's pleasure. As judges or justices of peace teach or instruct the people in the laws of the land, when they deliver their charges upon the bench; so did these princes in the king's name admonish and require the people to observe and obey the laws of God, which were the principal laws of that land; the particular explication and enforcement whereof they left to the Levites and priests here following, who were sent for this end, and accordingly taught the people, 2Ch_17:9.

2 Chronicles 17:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:10

Justly concluding from this singular piety that God would eminently appear for him, and against all those who had ill will to him, which was their case. For even the heathens could not but

observe that the kings of Judah were either prosperous or unhappy, accordingly as they served God or forsook him.

2 Chronicles 17:11

Some of the Philistines; who had been subjects to this kingdom ever since David's time, but, it seems, had neglected this duty in the times of his predecessors, but now were moved by their own fears to perform it.

The Arabians brought him flocks; either because he had upon some just occasion waged war against them, and subdued them, though the particulars of it be not described in Scripture; or because they voluntarily put themselves under his protection, in recompence whereof they sent him those presents; or only as a free acknowledgment of their respects to him.

2 Chronicles 17:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:13

He had much business in the cities of Judah; partly to repair and fortify them, and furnish them with all necessary provisions; and partly to purge out all the relics and seeds of idolatry and injustice, which were more secretly and subtly managed in the cities than in the country, and which were first and most in the cities, and thence spread their infection into the country about them. See Jer_2:28.

2 Chronicles 17:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:15

Next to him; either,

1. After his death, as his successor in the same command. And the like is supposed concerning Jehozabad, 2Ch_17:18. Or rather,
2. Next to him in place and authority; or, at least, in power and the numbers of his host.

2 Chronicles 17:16

As volunteers and auxiliaries, to be ready upon occasion, as the service of God and the king should require. Possibly these or most of them were the strangers which had come out of Israel into the kingdom of Judah in Asa's days, and probably since that in his time.

2 Chronicles 17:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 17:19

These above mentioned were the trained bands or auxiliaries; whose chief officers waited upon the king to receive his commands, and to raise and bring in all or part of their forces to the service of the king and kingdom, as need required.

2 Chronicles 18:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 18

Jehoshaphat, joined in affinity with Ahab, is persuaded to go with him against Ramoth-gilead, 2Ch_18:1-3. Ahab, seduced by false prophets, according to the word of Micaiah, is slain there, 2Ch_18:4-34.

For Jehoram, his eldest son, married Athaliah, Ahab's daughter, 2Ch_21:6 2Ki_8:18. This chapter is for substance the same with **1Ki 22**, where it is explained.

2 Chronicles 18:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:6
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:7
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2 Chronicles 18:8
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2 Chronicles 18:9
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:10
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2 Chronicles 18:11
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2 Chronicles 18:12
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2 Chronicles 18:13
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2 Chronicles 18:14
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2 Chronicles 18:15
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2 Chronicles 18:16
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2 Chronicles 18:17
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2 Chronicles 18:18
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2 Chronicles 18:19
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2 Chronicles 18:20
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2 Chronicles 18:21
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2 Chronicles 18:22
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2 Chronicles 18:23
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2 Chronicles 18:24
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2 Chronicles 18:25
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2 Chronicles 18:26
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2 Chronicles 18:27
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2 Chronicles 18:28
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2 Chronicles 18:29
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2 Chronicles 18:30
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2 Chronicles 18:31
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2 Chronicles 18:32
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:33
No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 18:34

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 19:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 19

Jehoshaphat, reprov'd by the prophet Jehu, visiteth his kingdom, 2Ch_19:1-4. His instructions to the judges, 2Ch_19:5-7; to the priests and Levites, 2Ch_19:8-11.

Safe, being miraculously delivered from eminent danger, as was related, 2Ch_18:31,**32**.

2 Chronicles 19:2

Jehu the son of Hanani the seer; of whom see 1Ki_16:1.

Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? was this agreeable to thy duty and love which thou professest to God and godliness, that thou hast entered into so strict an alliance and friendship with wicked Ahab, my sworn enemy, and given such assistance to him?

Therefore is wrath upon thee from before the Lord; therefore God is angry with thee, and will chastise thee for this miscarriage: which he did, partly, by stirring up the Moabites and others to invade him, **2Ch 20**; partly, by permitting his eldest son Jehoram to kill all his brethren, 2Ch_21:4; and principally, by bringing that sore and almost general destruction upon his grandchildren by Jehu, 2Ki_9:27 **10:13,14**, which was the proper fruit of his alliance with Ahab.

2 Chronicles 19:3

There are good things found in thee, i.e. good works proceeding from an honest heart; which God more regards than this particular error; and therefore though he will chasten thee, yet he will not utterly destroy thee. Or, *directed or set thy heart*, i.e. thou hast sought and served God with all thy heart, and not feignedly, as many others do. And this work of preparing or directing his heart is here ascribed to Jehoshaphat, as elsewhere it is attributed to God, Pro_16:1 Phi_2:13, because it is man's action, but performed by God's grace, preventing, enabling, and inclining him to it.

2 Chronicles 19:4

He went out again; once he went by his officers, 2Ch_17:7, &c., now he went in his own person.

From Beer-sheba to Mount Ephraim, i.e. through his whole kingdom, whereof these were the two bounds.

Brought them back unto the Lord; such of them as had revolted from God to idols, he reclaimed by his good counsel and example, and by the instructions of the Levites and priests, whom doubtless now he carried with him, as he sent them before with his officers of state.

2 Chronicles 19:5

In every city, for itself and the country adjacent, that justice might be administered with the most ease and convenience to the people, and they might not all be forced to go up to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 19:6

You represent God's person, to whom judgement belongeth, and you have your commission and power from God, and not from man only; and your administration of justice is not only for man's good, but also for God's honour and service.

Who is with you; both to observe your carriage, and to defend you against all those enemies whom the impartial exercise of justice may provoke.

2 Chronicles 19:7

And therefore you who are in God's stead, and do his work, and must give an account to him, must imitate God here. Of

respect of persons, see Deu_10:17 Job_34:19 Act_10:4.

No taking of gifts; so as to pervert judgment for them, by comparing this with Exo_23:8 Deu_16:19 Pro_17:23.

2 Chronicles 19:8

The chief of the fathers of Israel; who were not priests and Levites, but such persons of other tribes as were most eminent for their dignity, ability, and integrity. But whether these persons made up one court, called the *Sanhedrim*, by which all causes ecclesiastical and civil were decided; or there were two distinct

courts, the one ecclesiastical, consisting of the *priests and Levites* ; the other civil, consisting of *the chief of the fathers of Israel* ; belongs to another place to determine, and requires more words than the nature of this work can permit.

For the judgment of the Lord, i.e. for sacred matters concerning the laws, and worship, and service of God.

For controversies; for matters of difference between man and man.

When they returned to Jerusalem, i.e. when Jehoshaphat and his company were returned to Jerusalem, then he made this order concerning establishing judges there. But so this last clause may seem superfluous and tautological, being more than implied in the beginning of the verse. Or rather,

when they, i. e. the causes and controversies last mentioned, *shall return* , or *be returned* , to Jerusalem, i.e. when the causes shall be so difficult that the judges ordained in every city cannot determine them; or, *when your brethren that dwell in every city shall come to you* , as it is expressed, 2Ch_19:10, appealing from their city courts, to the great court or council at Jerusalem; of which **See Poole** "Exo_18:26"; **See Poole** "Deu_1:17"; **See Poole** "Deu_17:8". As for the phrase, not only persons, but things, are said to *return* , or *be returned* , as *blood* , 1Ki_2:33, and *clouds* , Ecc_12:2, and *reproach* , Hos_12:14. If it be further objected, that these causes were never brought to Jerusalem before, and therefore cannot be properly said to be returned thither; that may be answered both from the usage of our law, wherein such causes are said to be returned to Westminster, which never were there before; and from the use of Scripture, wherein sinners are commonly said to *return to the Lord* , though they had never been with the Lord in that sense before, but were estranged from God even from the womb till the time of their conversion. And *the dust* , i.e. man's body, is said to *return to the earth* , Ecc_12:7, though it was never there before.

2 Chronicles 19:9

Passing such sentences with your mouths, as your own minds and consciences, upon the hearing of the parties, shall judge to be just,

and not acting against your own consciences for carnal motives, as corrupt judges do.

2 Chronicles 19:10

Between blood and blood; of which See Poole "Deu_17:8".

Between law and commandment, statutes and judgments; when any debates or differences shall arise about the meaning of any of God's laws, one party possibly putting this, and the other a quite differing sense upon the same place, or one alleging one place, and the offer another place, which may seem to clash with it.

Ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against the Lord; ye shall not only give a righteous sentence for what is past, but ye shall admonish the offender, and others, to take better heed to themselves and their ways for the future.

This do, and ye shall not trespass; so you shall not bring guilt and wrath upon yourselves and others, which otherwise you will certainly do.

2 Chronicles 19:11

Is over you; shall be your president to direct and assist you.

In all matters of the Lord; in spiritual or ecclesiastical matters.

The ruler of the house of Judah; either,

1. The prince, or chief ruler, under the king, of the tribe of Judah, which is called

the house of Judah, 2Sa_2:4,7,10 1Ki_12:21,23 1Ch_28:4 Jer_13:11 Eze_4:6. Or,

2. The ruler of the king's house, which also seems to be called the house of Judah, 2Ch_22:10, and more fitly *the king's house of Judah*, Jer_22:6. And who so fit to manage the king's matters as the ruler of the king's house?

For all the king's matters; for civil causes or controversies which might arise either between the king and his people, or between subject and subject, which may be called *the king's matters*, because it was a principal part of his office to see them justly decided.

The Levites shall be officers before you; they shall be at your command to see your just sentences executed; which work was fitly committed to the Levites, as persons who might add their instructions to the corrections, and might work the guilty to an acknowledgment of their fault, and a submission to their punishment. And so this is an argument to encourage the judges to proceed courageously and vigorously in their work, because they had the Levites to stand by them and assist them.

The Lord shall be with the good, i. e. shall protect and bless good judges in their doing of good and just things.

2 Chronicles 20:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 20

Several armies come against Judah: Jehoshaphat in his fear proclaimeth a fast, 2Ch_20:1-4. His prayer, 2Ch_20:5-13. Jehaziel's prophecy, 2Ch_20:14-17. The enemies are overthrown, 2Ch_20:20-25. The people return in triumph, blessing God, 2Ch_20:26-30. His reign: his navy miscarrieth, 2Ch_20:31-37.

Other beside the Ammonites, to wit, the people that dwelt in Mount Seir, who were now confederate with them, as appears from 2Ch_20:10,**22,23**. Or this is the name of a peculiar people, called either *Mehumin* , of whom you read 2Ch_26:7 (and so there is only a transposition of two letters in the Hebrew word, which is not unusual in that language); or *Minoceans* , as the LXX. interpreters render this word; or *Ammonium* , or *Mehaammonim* , as it is in the Hebrew, (the two first letters being not prefixes, as they are commonly made, but part of the word or proper name of that people,) who, as it may seem, now dwelt in Mount Seir, being either of the old stock of the Edomites, or another nation since come in their stead or mixed with them. Others render the place thus, *for* (as the Hebrew *vau* is oft taken) *with them* (i.e. with the Moabites) were *the Ammonites, or children of Ammon* ; which may be distinctly noted, either to show the largeness of the confederacy, in which not only the Moabites were engaged, who dwelt near Jehoshaphat's kingdom, but the Ammonites also, who lived at a greater distance from him; or to intimate that the Ammonites being possibly instigated by the Syrians, their next neighbours, were the first beginners and chief promoters of the

war, and engaged both the Moabites and the inhabitants of Mount Seir in their quarrel.

2 Chronicles 20:2

From beyond the sea, to wit, the Dead Sea, beyond which Mount Seir lay.

On this side Syria, or, *and from Syria* , largely so called, and so it includes the Moabites and Ammonites. And it may be thus expressed, to intimate that they came by the instigation of the Syrians, who thought by this means to revenge themselves on Jehoshaphat for joining with Ahab against them.

2 Chronicles 20:3

Jehoshaphat feared; partly from human frailty, and partly from the remembrance of his own guilt, and the wrath of God denounced against him for it, 2Ch_19:2.

Set himself to seek the Lord: the phrase notes his settled resolution, seriousness, and earnestness in it, and the preparing and fixing his heart for it.

Proclaimed a fast; partly in token of his humiliation and penitence for his sins, and partly to make himself and his people more fervent in their prayers.

2 Chronicles 20:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:5

In the house of the Lord, largely so called, i.e. in one of the courts of the temple, even in the court of the people, and upon that brazen scaffold which Solomon had erected for such a purpose, 2Ch_6:13.

Before the new court, i.e. besides and before the priests' court; for there were but two courts belonging to the temple, as is noted 2Ki_21:5 **23:12**. And Jehoshaphat stood in the one, which must be that of the people; and before the other, which therefore can be no other than that of the priests', which is called the new court, because it had been lately renewed when the altar was renewed, 2Ch_15:8, as the command of love is called a new command,

Joh_13:34 1Jo_2:8, because it was so solemnly renewed, and revived, and reinforced by Christ.

2 Chronicles 20:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:7

i.e. To whom thou hast engaged thyself by covenant to be his friend, and the friend of his seed for ever, and therefore we trust thou wilt not forsake us his posterity.

2 Chronicles 20:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:9

The sword, judgment, or rather, *the sword of judgment*, or of vengeance, i.e. war, whereby thou judgest and punishest thy people for their sins. Compare Lev_26:25.

2 Chronicles 20:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:12

Thus he speaks, partly though he had great armies to be drawn together in due time upon great occasions, 2Ch_17:14, &c.; yet he seems to have been surprised by these men before his forces were in readiness to oppose them; and partly because he well knew, and piously and wisely considered, that no human forces, though numerous and valiant, were able to defend him without God's assistance, which he feared by his sins he had forfeited, and then he had really been as weak as water.

Our eyes are upon thee, looking to thee only for relief and succour.

2 Chronicles 20:13

Whom they used to present before the Lord in times of great distress, partly to stir up themselves to more fervent and faithful

prayers, that their eye, being upon their harmless and tender children, might affect their heart with a greater sense of their misery; and partly to move God to compassion, not as if he were capable of passions or changes upon such a sight, but because God hath declared himself that he will be prevailed with by such methods as these.

2 Chronicles 20:14

He was suddenly inspired by God with the following message.

2 Chronicles 20:15

God will fight for you, and he alone will do the work; you need not strike a stroke.

2 Chronicles 20:16

Go ye down from Jerusalem, where he and his army now were; which stood upon high ground.

2 Chronicles 20:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:18

Bowed his head with his face to the ground, in token of his reverence to God and his message, his belief of the promise, and his thankfulness for so great a favour.

2 Chronicles 20:19

The Levites stood up, by Jehoshaphat's appointment.

With a loud voice on high, i.e. with most loud voice, with heart and voice lifted up; whereby they showed their full assurance of the victory, as if it were already accomplished.

2 Chronicles 20:20

Believe his prophets, i.e. God's promise delivered to us by this prophet, and consequently all other predictions of the prophets that either have been or shall be.

So shall ye prosper: take heed, lest by your unbelief you frustrate God's promise.

2 Chronicles 20:21

With the people , i.e. with the elders or chief of the people; partly to take their advice about the expediency of the thing; and partly that they might excite and prepare themselves, and the people under them, to this great work of praising God.

He appointed singers unto the Lord; to the honour and service of God.

The beauty of holiness, or, *the glory* , or *magnificence* , or *majesty* of holiness, i.e. (by a vulgar Hebraism,) the Holy Majesty; a periphrasis of God. Or, *according to the beauty or magnificence of the sanctuary* , i.e. in the same comely order and magnificent manner as they used to do it in the temple; where the following song was usually sung, as 2Ch_5:13 **7:3,6**.

2 Chronicles 20:22

When they began to sing and to praise; so acceptable are the fervent prayers of God's people to God, and so terrible to their enemies.

Ambushments, or, *liers in wait* ; either,

1. The holy angels, who appeared in the shape of men, and possibly put on the appearances and visages of Moabites or Ammonites, and in that shape slew the rest, who supposing this slaughter to be done by a part of their own army, fell upon them, and so broke forth into mutual slaughters. Or,

2. God raised jealousies and animosities amongst themselves, which by degrees broke forth first into secret ambushments, which one party laid for another, and then into open hostilities and outrages to their utter destruction. So vain are all men's attempts against God, who needs none to destroy his enemies but themselves, and their own mistakes and passions, which he can when he pleaseth arm against them.

2 Chronicles 20:23

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:24

Toward the watch-tower; which stood upon the cliff of Ziz, mentioned above, 2Ch_20:16, or some other hill which looked toward the wilderness, where their enemies lay encamped, whose numbers, and order, and condition they could decry from thence.

2 Chronicles 20:25

Riches and precious jewels; which they brought with them, partly, to corrupt any of Jehoshaphat's officers as they saw occasion; partly, to procure necessaries for their vast army from time to time; and partly, because they came as to a triumph rather than to a fight, being secure and confident of the victory because of their great numbers, and especially because they thought to surprise Jehoshaphat ere he could make any considerable preparations against them; God also permitting them to be puffed up to their own destruction.

2 Chronicles 20:26

The valley of Berachah, Heb. *of blessing* ; so called from their solemn blessings and praises given to God in it upon this occasion.

2 Chronicles 20:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:28

To renew their praises in the court of the temple, the proper and usual place for it.

2 Chronicles 20:29

On all the kingdoms of those countries which were near, or which heard these things.

2 Chronicles 20:30

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:31

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:32

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:33

The high places where not taken away; not fully nor universally; of which **See Poole "2Ch_17:6"**. The fault was not in Jehoshaphat, but in the people, who, though they did worship the true God, yet would not be confined to the temple, but for their own conveniency, or from their affection to their ancient custom, chose to worship him in the high places; which Jehoshaphat was forced to connive at, lest those people, being debarred from that dearly-beloved practice, should fall into a neglect of God and his worship.

2 Chronicles 20:34

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 20:35

This is mentioned as an aggravation of his sin, after so great a favour and obligation laid upon him by God, and after he had been so sharply reprov'd and threaten'd by a prophet for the same thing, 2Ch_19:2; yet he relaps'd into the same sin; which proceeded partly from that near relation which was contracted between the two families, and partly from the sweetness and easiness of Jehoshaphat's temper, which could not resist the solicitations of others in such things as might seem indifferent. For he did not join with him in a war, as he did with Ahab, but in a peaceable way only, in a matter of trade and commerce. And yet God sharply reproveth and punisheth him for it, 2Ch_20:37, to show his great dislike and detestation of all friendly and familiar conversation of his servants and people with idolaters and professed enemies of God and of religion, as Ahaziah was, who is therefore thus stigmatized in the next words,

who did very wickedly. *Who did very wickedly* , or, *who did industriously, and maliciously, and constantly work wickedness* , as the Hebrew phrase implies, giving himself up to idolatry and all wickedness.

2 Chronicles 20:36

To make ships to go to Tarshish; of which See Poole "1Ki_10:22 22:48".

They made the ships in Ezion-gaber; of which see on 1Ki_9:26.

2 Chronicles 20:37

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 21.

Jehoram is made king, and slayeth his brethren, 2Ch_21:1-4. His wicked reign, 2Ch_21:5-7. Edom and Libnah revolt 2Ch_21:8-11. The prophecy of Elijah against him in writing, 2Ch_21:12-15. The Philistines and Arabians oppress him; his incurable disease, death, and burial, 2Ch_21:16-20.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:2

Azariah; two sons called by the same name, though doubtless distinguished by some additional title, which is not mentioned here, because it did not concern succeeding ages to know it. Though indeed there is a difference in their Hebrew names, the one being *Azariah*, the other *Azariahu*, *hu* being the last syllabic in his name, as in *Elihu* and others. *Jehoshaphat king of Israel*; so he is called, either,

1. Because he was so by right. Or,
2. Because he was king not only of Judah and Benjamin, but of a great number of Israelites, who had come into and settled themselves in his kingdom, in his and in his predecessor's days; who being a considerable, and the purest and best, part of Israel, may well be called Israel, being more truly and properly God's Israel than their apostate brethren, who were no longer worthy of that name. Or,
3. Because all his subjects were Israelites; and therefore he was **king of Israel**, though not of all Israel. Or,
4. With some reflection upon his memory for making so strict an alliance and friendship with the king of Israel, whose cause he

defended with his own and his kingdom's great hazard, as if he had been the king not so much of Judah as of Israel. And this may be the rather noted here, because here speedily follows a sad effect of that wicked and cursed match. Some say *Israel* was foisted into some copies by the transcriber instead of Judah, as it was first written.

2 Chronicles 21:3

Whom he conceived that he ought to prefer by virtue of that law of God, Deu_21:15, though otherwise he would not have done it, having probably ere this time perceived his perverse and wicked inclinations, and how much he was swayed by his idolatrous wife. Now he saw his error when it was too late.

2 Chronicles 21:4

He strengthened himself; he took courage and hardened his heart, as that word sometimes signifies.

Slew all his brethren with the sword; partly because they either did, or he knew that they would, oppose him in his wicked designs; and partly for his own security, lest his people, who, as he believed, would be highly exasperated with the execution of his counsels, should advance any of them to the throne, and depose him.

Of the princes of Israel; either,

1. Of Judah, here called Israel, or which **See Poole** "2Ch_21:2".
Or,

2. The princes or chief men of Israel, properly so called; not the princes of all Israel, or of the several tribes thereof, but the chief of those Israelites who, out of love to God and to the true religion, had forsaken their estates and worthy advantages in the kingdom of Israel, and were now incorporated with the kingdom of Judah. These he especially struck at, either,

1. Because his wife instigated him thereunto, both to punish them for their revolt from her father, and to deter others from following their example. Or,

2. Because he justly and truly thought these would be most firm and constant to and zealous for that religion which he was

resolved to oppose, being both by their conscience and interest obliged to it.

2 Chronicles 21:5

Of this, and 2Ch_21:6-10, **See Poole "2Ki_8:17"**.

2 Chronicles 21:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:7

Because of the covenant that he had made with David; for which, in 2Ki_8:19, it is for David his servant's sake, i.e. not for David's merits, but for God's free promise and covenant, as it is here explained.

2 Chronicles 21:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:10

To wit, publicly and avowedly, setting him at defiance, as the next verse shows. And this is mentioned, either,

1. As the reason why the priests, whose city Libnah was, forsook him, because he had forsaken God; or rather,
2. As the reason why God raised up so many enemies against him, both from abroad and at home.

2 Chronicles 21:11

He made high places; not to the Lord, whose sworn enemy he was, but to Baals, or false gods.

Caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication; not only by his counsel and example, but, as it follows, by force, by threats and penalties.

2 Chronicles 21:12

There came a writing to him from Elijah.

Quest. How could this be, when Elijah was rapt up to heaven in Jehoshaphat's time, 2Ki_2:3,11.

Answ. Either,

1. This was Elisha, or some other prophet called Elijah, because he acted in the spirit and power of Elijah, for which cause John the Baptist also is so called. Or rather,

2. This was really written by Elijah, who by the Spirit did clearly foresee and foretell the reign and acts of Jehoram, (as others did of Josiah, 1Ki_13:2, and Isaiah of Cyrus, Isa_45:3, long before they were born,) and in consideration thereof left this prophecy with Elisha, to be delivered in due time by him, or some other person in his name, and as from his mouth.

The Lord God of David thy father; whose name he mentions either to upbraid him with his degeneration from so worthy a parent; or to take off his presumption and confidence, which was grounded upon his being the son and successor of David, in whose posterity the crown was settled for ever by God's special appointment, and by the approbation of the people.

In the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father; whose wise counsel and good example thou hast despised.

2 Chronicles 21:13

More innocent, and righteous, and pious.

2 Chronicles 21:14

The Lord will smite thy people.

Quest. Why the people for his sin?

Answ. 1. Because the generality of them sinned in complying with his wicked and idolatrous commands through fear, 2Ch_21:11.

2. Because he suffered in his people's destruction: for as the honour, and safety, and strength of a king lies in the multitude and prosperity of his people, Pro_14:28; so when they are diminished and destroyed, the king is very much weakened and endangered by it.

Thy children and thy wives; whose lives shall go for the lives of thy brethren, 2Ch_21:4.

2 Chronicles 21:15

i.e. From day to day continually. Or, year upon year, i.e. one year after another, or for the space of two years, as the event shows, 2Ch_21:19. Heb. *days upon days* . *Days* are oft put for a *year* , as Exo_13:10 Lev_25:29 Num_9:22 Jud_17:10 1Sa_1:3 1Sa_27:7 Amo_4:4.

2 Chronicles 21:16

The Philistines; a people fully subdued and dispirited; but God now raiseth their spirits and courage to do his work.

Near the Ethiopians, Heb. *near the Cushites* , i.e. either the Ethiopians, from whom they were parted only by the Red Sea, each dwelling upon the opposite shores of it; or rather, a people in Arabia, frequently mentioned in Scripture, and so called, either for their likeness in colour and complexion to the Ethiopians properly so called, or because the one of these people were a colony of the other. But the Ethiopians above Egypt were far enough from these other Arabians, being separated from them by the Red Sea.

2 Chronicles 21:17

His sons also and his wives; whom also they slew, 2Ch_22:1, except Ahaziah and Athaliah, who possibly were hidden in some secret and safe place.

Jehoahaz; called also Ahaziah, which signifies the very same thing with Jehoahaz; and Azariah, 2Ch_22:6, whose signification is near akin to the other, all signifying *God 's taking* or helping of him.

2 Chronicles 21:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 21:20

Departed, Heb. *went* , to wit, *the way of all the earth* , as it is more fully expressed, Jos_23:14. Or, *to the land of darkness* , as Job_10:21,22. Or, *to his long home* , Ecc_12:5. Or, *went away* , to wit, out of this world; as this word is used, Job_14:20 Ecc_5:15 **6:4**; there being many such words and phrases used concerning death in the Old and New Testament, signifying that death is not an annihilation, but only a translation into another place and state. See Gen_15:15 Phi_1:23.

Without being desired, Heb. *without desire* ; which may belong either,

1. To himself; he had no desire of living longer, nor any pleasure in life, but was heartily weary of it, through his excessive pains: or rather,

2. To his people, who did not desire that he should live longer, but oft and heartily wished that he had died sooner; which contempt of him they showed both by making no burning for him, as they used to do for good and laudable kings, 2Ch_16:14, and by denying him burial among the kings, as it here follows. *Desire* is here put for a person or thing whose life or continuance is desirable or desired by others, as Isa_2:16 Eze_24:16,18,21,25 **Da 9:23 10:11,19**. And this is an emphatical expression, because it is usual with men to desire the deaths of some persons, whom afterward they lament and heartily wish that they were alive again, as they may have cause to do. But for this ungodly and unhappy prince, his people did not only in his lifetime wish his death, but afterwards they did not repent of those desires, nor wish him alive again, but rejoiced that they were delivered from so great a plague as he was to them.

2 Chronicles 22:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 22

Ahaziah is made king; reigneth wickedly, 2Ch_22:1-4. In his confederacy with Joram the son of Ahab he is slain by Jehu, 2Ch_22:5-9. Athaliah destroyeth all the seed royal, save Joash, who was hid, and usurpeth the kingdom, 2Ch_22:10-12.

Men that came with the Arabians ; either,

1. A cruel sort of men who came along with the Arabians, and therefore slew those whom the Arabians had spared, and only carried into captivity. Or,

2. The Philistines, who did accompany the Arabians in this expedition, 2Ch_21:16, who lived near the kingdom of Judah, and therefore thought to make as sure work as they could in destroying all the branches of the royal family, who otherwise, they expected, would recover strength, and revenge themselves upon them.

2 Chronicles 22:2

Forty and two years old was Ahaziah.

Object. He was then only twenty-two years old, as is affirmed, 2Ki_8:26. Besides, Joram his father died in his fortieth year, as is twice noted, 2Ch_21:5, **20**: how then can this be true?

Answ. 1. In the Hebrew it is, *a son of forty-two years*, &c., which is an ambiguous phrase; and though it doth for the most part, yet it doth not always, signify the age of the person, as is manifest from 1Sa_13:1, **See Poole "1Sa_13:1"**. And therefore it is not necessary that this should note his age (as it is generally presumed to do, and that is the only ground of the difficulty); but it may note either,

1. The age of his mother Athaliah; who being so great, and infamous, and mischievous a person to the kingdom and royal family of Judah, it is not strange if her age be here described, especially seeing she herself did for a season sway this sceptre. Or rather,

2. Of the reign of that royal race and family from which by his mother he was descended, to wit, of the house of Omri, who reigned six years, 1Ki_16:23; Ahab his son reigned twenty-two years, 1Ki_16:29; Ahaziah his son two years, 1Ki_22:51; Joram his son twelve years, 2Ki_3:1; all which, put together, make up exactly these forty-two years; for Ahaziah began his reign in Joram's twelfth year, 2Ki_8:25. And such a kind of computation of the years, not of the king's person, but of his reign or kingdom, we had before, 2Ch_16:1, **See Poole "2Ch_16:1"**. And so we have an account of the person's age in 2Ki_8:26, and here of the kingdom to which he belonged.

Answ. 2. Some acknowledge an error in the transcribers of the present Hebrew copies, in which language the numeral letters for twenty-two and forty-two are so like, that they might easily be mistaken. For that it was read twenty-two here, as it is in the Book of Kings, in other Hebrew copies, they gather from hence, that it is at this day so read in divers ancient Greek copies, as also in those two ancient translations, the Syriac and the Arabic, and particularly in that famous and most ancient copy of the Syriac, which was used by the church of Antioch in the primitive times, and to this day is kept in the church of Antioch, from which that most reverend, learned, pious, and public-spirited archbishop Usher did at his own great charge get another copy transcribed, in which he hath published to all the world that he found it here written *twenty and two years old* , &c. Nor doth this overthrow the authority of the sacred text, as infidels would have it, partly because it is only an historical passage, of no importance to the substantial doctrines of faith and a good life; and partly because the question here is not whether this text be true, but which is the true reading of the text, whether that of the generality of present copies, or that which was used in the ancient copies, which the ancient and venerable translators above mentioned did follow; for it seems unreasonable and uncharitable to think that all of them would have conspired to have changed the text, and put in *twenty and two* for *forty and two* , if they had so read it in their Hebrew copies. Nor can this open any great door to those innumerable changes which some have boldly and rashly made in the Hebrew text without any such pretence of authority, as there is for this, which as they are affirmed without reason, or authority, or necessity, so they may as easily be rejected. If all this will not satisfy our present infidels, I desire them only to consider what hath been hinted before upon such occasions, that many difficulties which did seem unanswerable, being now fully cleared by later writers, it is but reasonable to think that this may be so in after-times, either by finding of some Hebrew copies in which it may be twenty and two years, &c., or by some other way.

The daughter of Omri, i.e. of Omri's family; or of Ahab, Omri's son. Grandchildren are oft called sons and daughters, as Mat_1:1, Luk_3:26.

2 Chronicles 22:3

Being a crafty and an imperious woman.

2 Chronicles 22:4

After the death of his father; who, whilst he lived, seduced his son by his counsel and authority, and made other evil counsellors then unnecessary.

2 Chronicles 22:5

Went with Jehoram to war against Hazael; following the evil example of Jehoshaphat therein, **2Ch 18**, though he would not follow him in what was good. But of this and the following verses, see **2Ki_8:28,29 9:21,27**.

2 Chronicles 22:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 22:7

The destruction of Ahaziah was of God; by his providence so disposing occasions and Ahaziah's inclinations, that he should come at that season to receive his deserved judgment.

2 Chronicles 22:8

The sons of the brethren of Ahaziah; either properly so called; or the sons of his cousins or near kinsmen, who are oft called

brethren; for his brethren were slain, **2Ch_22:8**.

That ministered to Ahaziah; that came thither to wait upon their king Ahaziah, as is here implied, and withal to visit Joram and his children, as is noted, **2Ki_10:13**.

2 Chronicles 22:9

He sought Ahaziah; who, though wounded, had made an escape, **2Ki_9:27**.

He was hid in Samaria; either,

1. In the kingdom of Samaria, to wit, in Megiddo; or,
2. In the city of Samaria: and so he fled first to Megiddo; and not thinking himself safe there, he fled to Samaria; where he was taken, and sent thence by Jehu's order to Megiddo, where he

received the sentence of death. See more of this matter upon 2Ki_9:27.

They buried him; they gave his servants leave to carry him away to Jerusalem, and bury him there, 2Ki_9:28. Both God and men are oftentimes said to *do* what they and others do by their permission, when they could hinder them.

The house of Ahaziah, i.e. his posterity, because they were young and feeble, being ground between two millstones, the great and growing power of Jehu, and the craft and tyranny of Athaliah.

2 Chronicles 22:10

Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah: this, and 2Ch_22:11,12, are explained on 2Ki_11:1-3.

2 Chronicles 22:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 22:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 23

Jehoiada maketh Joash king, 2Ch_23:1-11. Athaliah is slain, 2Ch_23:12-15. The pure worship of God is restored, 2Ch_23:16-21.

Took the captains of hundreds; not all, but those here following, in whom he put most trust. But this chapter is almost all taken out of **2Ki 11**, where it is explained.

2 Chronicles 23:2

Gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah; partly because they could do this without any suspicion, upon pretence of some solemn feast; which time, it is probable, was chosen for this purpose; and partly because he knew them to be well affected to the cause of God and the king, to which they were obliged by the two firmest ties, conscience and interest.

The chief of the fathers of Israel, i.e. both of the two tribes, and of the ten tribes, all which are called Israel; and he useth the name of Israel rather than that of Judah, because there were now great

numbers of the other tribes incorporated with Judah; and these he esteemed more faithful than many of Judah, having given better proofs of the truth of their religion than they; and therefore he picked out of the chief men of the other tribes as well as of Judah and Benjamin.

2 Chronicles 23:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:4

Both that of Sur, 2Ki_11:6, and other doors adjoining or leading to it.

2 Chronicles 23:5

At the gate of the foundation; at the east gate, thought to be so called, because it stood lower than the rest of the doors, at the foot of the steps, by which they went up from the king's house to the temple.

In the courts; either,

1. In the two courts; and so by the people he understands as well the generality of the Levites, who had no particular stations allotted to them, as their brethren had, 2Ch_23:4,5, which were to be in the priests' court, as the people, who were in the court of the people: or,

2. In the court of the people, which may be called *courts*, the plural number being put for the singular, in regard of great amplitude, and divers quarters and partitions, into which it was or might be divided; as the temple is called sanctuaries, because of its division into divers parts, Lev_26:31.

2 Chronicles 23:6

Into the house of the Lord; strictly so called, as it is distinguished from the courts, into which others were permitted to come, 2Ch_23:5, to wit, into the holy place.

The priests, and they that minister of the Levites; they who are to minister in course, or by my present appointment.

The watch of the Lord, i.e. of the house of the Lord; as the phrase may be filled up out of this place and 2Ki_11:6. The sense

is, Let them stand in their court to prevent and oppose any person who shall endeavour violently to break into the house to seize upon the king, or to disturb their present work; which he expected Athaliah and her accomplices would do.

2 Chronicles 23:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:11

Jehoiada and his sons; and Zechariah among the rest, whom afterwards he ungratefully slew, 2Ch_24:21.

2 Chronicles 23:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:16

Between him, i.e. the Lord, as is sufficiently implied in the end of this verse, and plainly expressed 2Ki_11:17. Or, *between himself*; that the people might see that he brought them under no bond but what he would take upon himself.

That they should be the Lord's people, i.e. that every one in his place and station would maintain the law and worship of God, and root out all false worship; which they did in the next verse.

2 Chronicles 23:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:18

Appointed the offices of the house of the Lord by the hand or, as it is in the Hebrew, *put the offices of the house of the Lord into the hand*, i.e. he restored the priests and Levites, either,

1. To their places and offices, which possibly in the time of the idolatrous kings, and of Athaliah, had been disposed of to persons of other tribes, partly to gratify their wicked friends, and partly to bring God's house and worship into disgrace; or,

2. To the exercise of their offices, from which they had been in a great measure hindered.

2 Chronicles 23:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 23:20

Through the high gate, to wit, of the court belonging and leading to the king's palace.

2 Chronicles 23:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 24

Joash reigneth well all the days of Jehoiada, 2Ch_24:1-14. He dieth; is buried honourably; and Joash falleth to idolatry; slayeth Zechariah the son of Jehoiada, 2Ch_24:15-22. He is spoiled by the Syrians; slain by Zabad and Jehozabad: Amaziah succeedeth him, 2Ch_24:23-27.

A great part of this chapter is explained on **2Ki 12**.

2 Chronicles 24:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:5

Gather of all Israel, i.e. of all the Israelites that were in the kingdom of Judah. See 2Ch_15:17 **21:2**. To repair the house of your God from year to year; either,

1. Repair part of it every year till the reparations be perfected; or,
2. Gather it from year to year, till you get such a sum as may suffice for the work; for he supposed one or two years' collection would not suffice for the work, whether it were that collection of half a shekel for every man, of which see Exo_30:12,**13** 2Ki_12:14; or a voluntary contribution required for the present exigence of the temple by virtue of the command and example of Moses, who made such a collection for the building of the tabernacle, Exo_35:5; see also Neh_10:32; which he thought would not be any great sum, because of the great iniquity and impiety which yet had reigned for many years, and yet continued in the generality of the people of the land, the Levites not excepted, as the last clause of this verse shows.

2 Chronicles 24:6

Jehoiada the chief: it is observable, that he is not called the chief priest, or high priest, but only

the chief, or *&c the head* , which he might be in many other respects, either by reason of his near relation to the royal family; or because he was the chief of one of the twenty-four families; or because he had been the chief man in the contriving and bringing about of this great change, and the general of the forces employed about it. And *the high priest* seems to be mentioned as a distinct person from Jehoiada here, 2Ki_12:9,**10**; all which make it questionable whether Jehoiada was the high priest or no.

The collection, according to the commandment of Moses, Heb. *the collection of Moses* , i.e. such a one as he commanded or made in the like case; of which See Poole "2Ch_24:5". In like manner

we read of *the sins of Manasseh* , 2Ki_24:3, and of *the sin of Jeroboam* frequently.

2 Chronicles 24:7

The sons of Athaliah, to wit, Ahaziah and his brethren, before they were carried away captive, 2Ch_21:17, who did this by her instigation, as this phrase implies.

Had broken up the house of God; both broken up the treasuries, and defaced the house itself.

2 Chronicles 24:8

i.e. Of the court of the people, whither all manner of persons might come to offer.

2 Chronicles 24:9

i.e. A collection answerable to it; as they are said to be guilty of *the error of Balaam and gainsaying of Core* , Jud_1:11, who fell into sins of the same kind.

2 Chronicles 24:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:11

The chest was brought unto the king 's office , from the gate of the court into one of the chambers belonging to the temple, which was appointed by the king for this office.

2 Chronicles 24:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:14

Whereof were made vessels for the house of the Lord; because Athaliah and her sons had taken the old ones away, 2Ch_24:7.

2 Chronicles 24:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:16

He had done good in Israel, i.e. in Judah, which was an eminent part of Israel, and the only part of it which owned God, or was owned by God as his Israel, to whom therefore he oft appropriates this name, thereby signifying that the other tribes were unworthy of that honourable title, and had forfeited all their right in it to Judah. **See Poole "2Ch_21:2"**.

2 Chronicles 24:17

Made obeisance to the king; in that posture presenting their requests to him, that they might not be confined to unnecessary and troublesome journeys in coming to Jerusalem to worship, but might have the liberty which their forefathers enjoyed of worshipping God in the high places; which liberty, when once they had obtained, they knew they could then worship idols without observation or disturbance, which was the thing at which they aimed. And for the prevention of such abuses, God obliged all to worship him in one place.

2 Chronicles 24:18

By Hazael of Syria; of which see 2Ki_12:17,**18**

2 Chronicles 24:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:20

Above the people; in a higher place, that his voice and message might be the better heard.

2 Chronicles 24:21

They conspired, i. e. the people to whom he preached, who were easily corrupted by the examples of their apostate king and princes.

2 Chronicles 24:22

i.e. Make inquisition for my innocent blood; which he did not wish from any desire of private revenge, with which so wise and good a man would never be willing to die; but partly from a zeal to public justice, and the punishment of such gross wickedness; and partly to deter them, if possible, from completing their

murderous intentions. But these words may as well be rendered indicatively as optatively,

The Lord will look upon it, and

require it, i. e. he will examine this action, and require satisfaction from you for it.

2 Chronicles 24:23

At the end of the year; so soon did God hear the cry of his holy prophet's blood, and revenge it.

Destroyed all the princes of the people; that it might appear they were sent and directed by God to single out to destruction the first beginners and chief promoters of this general apostacy.

Unto the king of Damascus; to Hazael, the king of that part of Syria called Syria Damascena, from its capital city Damascus.

2 Chronicles

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:25

For the blood of the sons of Jehoiada, i.e. of Zechariah his son; the plural number *sons* put for the singular son, as it is frequently, both in Scripture, as Gen_46:7 Num_26:42, and in Cicero and other profane authors. Or he might kill other sons of Jehoiada with him, either because they owned him in what he had said, or lest they should revenge his death.

2 Chronicles 24:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 24:27

The greatness of the burdens laid upon him; either the severe prophecies against him, which are oft called *burdens* ; of which one instance is recorded, and there might be others that are not recorded; or the great judgments of God upon him, both by the Syrians, 2Ch_24:23,24, and by great diseases, 2Ch_24:25.

2 Chronicles 25:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 25

Amaziah beginneth to reign well; slayeth his father's murderers, 2Ch_25:1-4. Having hired an army of Israelites against the Edomites, at the word of a prophet he dismisseth them, 2Ch_25:5-10; and with his own people overthroweth the Edomites: the Israelites in their return home spoil, 2Ch_25:11-13. Amaziah serveth the gods of Edom, and despiseth the admonition of the prophet, 2Ch_25:14-16. He provoketh Joash to his overthrow, 2Ch_25:17-21. His reign; he is slain by conspiracy, 2Ch_25:25-28.

Of this verse, and ver. 2-4, **See Poole** "2Ki_14:1", etc.

2 Chronicles 25:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:6

Out of Israel; out of the kingdom of the ten tribes.

2 Chronicles 25:7

The Lord is not with Israel; he hath forsaken them, and for their sakes will curse thy forces, if thou joinest thyself with them.

2 Chronicles 25:8

Be strong for the battle; take courage, and strengthen thyself as much as thou canst. It is an ironical concession, like that, *Go, and prosper* .

2 Chronicles 25:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:10

Their anger was greatly kindled against Judah; because they were both disgraced by this rejection, and disappointed of that prey and spoil which they hoped to gain, whereas now they were sent away empty; for the one hundred talents probably were given to their officers only to raise men for this service; that sum being otherwise too small to be distributed into so many hands.

2 Chronicles 25:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:13

Unto Beth-horon, to wit, Beth-horon the lower, which was in the tribe of Benjamin; and from thence to Samaria; either,

1. To the city of Samaria; for the kings of Judah had taken divers places within the kingdom of Israel. Or,
2. To the kingdom of Samaria; Beth-horon and all other places between that city and their own kingdom.

Smote, i.e. killed, as that word is generally understood.

Three thousand of them; not three thousand cities, but three thousand persons dwelling in them, who possibly opposed them in taking the spoil, which was the thing they sought.

2 Chronicles 25:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:15

Therefore thou art not only ungrateful and impious, but also ridiculously foolish, in offending that God whose power and goodness thou hast now found, and in worshipping such gods of whose impotency thou hast had late experience.

2 Chronicles 25:16

Art thou made of the king's counsel? who art thou that presumest to direct and govern my affairs, without my commission?

Why shouldest thou be smitten? provoke me no further, lest I cause thee to be killed for thy sauciness.

I know that God hath determined to destroy thee: this he might know, either by the plain and positive rules of God's word, as Pro_29:1, or by the suggestion of God's Spirit.

2 Chronicles 25:17

Amaziah took advice, i.e. about the injury which the Israelites had done to his people, 2Ch_25:13, and how he should repair it. But of this and the following verses **See Poole** "2Ki_14:8", &c.

2 Chronicles 25:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:20

It came of God, who gave him up to his own error and passion, in order to his ruin.

2 Chronicles 25:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:23

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:24

In the house of God with Obed-edom, i. e. with Obed-edom's posterity, to whom the custody of the sacred treasures was committed. See 1Ch_26:15.

2 Chronicles

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 25:28

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 26

Uzziah is made king; reigneth well in the days of Zechariah, and prospereth, 2Ch_26:1-15. He invadeth the priest's office; is smitten with a leprosy, 2Ch_26:16-21. He dieth, and Jotham succeedeth him, 2Ch_26:22,**23**.

Uzziah; called also *Azariah* , 2Ki_14:21; both names signifying the same thing, God's strength, or help. See of this, and 2Ch_26:2-4, on 2Ki_14:21,**22 15:2,3**.

2 Chronicles 26:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:4

To wit, for a time, but not perfectly nor constantly, which was Amaziah's case also.

2 Chronicles 26:5

He sought God, i.e. he persisted in the true religion and worship of God.

In the days of Zechariah; as long as he lived. Compare 2Ch_24:2. who had understanding; who was a very knowing and experienced person. Or, *who made him understanding* ; or, *who instructed him* ; who was his tutor and teacher, and had great

authority and influence upon him; and so restrained him from those exorbitancies to which he was otherwise inclined.

In the visions of God; either,

1. In prophetic visions, which he either received from God himself, or understood and explained the prophetic visions of others, which was a special gift of God; of which see Gen_41:15 Dan_1:17 **2:19**. Or,

2. In the law and word of God, which sometimes cometh under that name, as Pro_29:18 Isa_22:1,5.

2 Chronicles 26:6

Gath had been taken by Hazael in the days of Joash his grandfather, 2Ki_12:17, but was either relinquished by him, because it lay so far from his other dominions; or retaken by the Philistines, who had now repaired its fortifications, and kept it.

2 Chronicles 26:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:10

He built towers in the desert; partly to guard his cattle from the inroads and depredations which the Arabians were accustomed to make; and partly to give notice of the approach of any enemy, and to give some stop to their march on that side.

2 Chronicles 26:11

That went out to war by bands, i.e. some bands at one time, and some at another, as occasion required. **See Poole "1Ch_27:1", See Poole "2Ch_13:14".**

2 Chronicles 26:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:16

But when he was strong; when he was strengthened in his kingdom, and free from the fear of any enemy.

Into the temple of the Lord; into the holy place, where the altar of incense stood, and into which none but the priests might enter, much less offer incense.

2 Chronicles 26:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:18

They withstood Uzziah; Heb. *stood up against Uzziah* ; not by force, or laying hands upon him to restrain him, for in the next verse you still find the censer in his hand; but only by admonition and reproof, which here follows.

Neither shall it be for thine honour from the Lord God; expect that God will punish thee, or put some brand of infamy upon thee, for this presumption. But this they express modestly, and by a figure called *meiosis* , where more is meant than is expressed, because they considered that he to whom they spake, though an offender, was their lord and sovereign.

2 Chronicles 26:19

Uzziah was wroth with the priests. The leprosy even rose up in his forehead; so as he could not hide his shame; though it is probable it was also in the rest of his body.

From beside the incense altar; by a stroke from an invisible hand coming from the altar, that he might be assured that this was the effect of God's just displeasure against him.

2 Chronicles 26:20

They thrust him out; not by force, as was noted on 2Ch_26:18, which needed not, for he voluntarily hasted away, as it follows; but by vehement persuasions and denunciations of God's further judgments upon him, if he did not depart. Some suppose that the earthquake, mentioned Amo_1:1 Zec_14:5, happened upon this occasion, as another token of God's displeasure against this unparalled arrogancy.

2 Chronicles 26:21

Unto the day of his death: God would have this leprosy to be incurable, as a lasting monument of his anger against such presumptuous invaders of the priest's office.

Dwelt in a several house; as he was obliged to do by law, Lev_13:16, which he durst not now resist, being under the hand and stroke of God, and under the fear of further and worse plagues, if he did so.

For he was cut off; so the following words are a reason of the former; he dwelt in a several house, because he might not come into the temple or courts, nor consequently into any public assembly, or the society of others. Or, and therefore, as the Hebrew *chi* often signifies; and the particule *and* is oft understood. So it is an inference from the next foregoing words, He was a leper, and therefore he was cut off, &c. He who could not content himself with God's allowance, but usurped the priest's place and office, is now deprived of the privilege of the meanest of his people. A just and most suitable judgment.

2 Chronicles 26:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 26:23

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 27:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 27

Jotham reigneth well; prospereth, 2Ch_27:1-4; rendereth the Ammonites tributaries: his reign. Ahaz succeedeth him, 2Ch_27:5-9.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 27:2

He entered not into the temple of the Lord, to wit, to offer incense. But seeing this was not commendable, how is this mentioned as an exception from the foregoing character, that he did as his father did in that which was right, &c.?

Ans. It is an exception only from the last clause, where also one word may be supplied out of the foregoing words, as is most usual in Scripture; thus, He did

according to all that his father Uzziah did; then it fitly follows, howbeit, &c., i.e. except in his miscarriages.

2 Chronicles 27:3

He built, i.e. repaired it; for it was built before, 2Ch_11:5.

The high gate, otherwise called *the new gate* , Jer_36:10.

The wall of Ophel; a tower upon or near the wall of Jerusalem, which probably he fortified, as his father had done other towers, 2Ch_26:9.

2 Chronicles 27:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 27:5

The king of the Ammonites, it seems, endeavoured to shake off the yoke which from David's time had been put upon them.

2 Chronicles 27:6

Or, *directed his ways* , i.e. his counsels and actions, by the rule of God's law.

2 Chronicles 27:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 27:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 27:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 28

Ahaz reigning ill, 2Ch_28:1-4, is smitten by the Syrians, and by the Israelites, 2Ch_28:5-7, who carry away captives; which, by the advice of a prophet, they return, 2Ch_28:8-15. Ahaz sendeth to the king of Assyria for help against the Philistines and Edomites, but obtainth none, 2Ch_28:16-21. His great idolatry, 2Ch_28:22-25. he dieth, and Hezekiah is king, 2Ch_28:26,27.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:2

To worship his Baalim, or false gods, in and by them.

2 Chronicles 28:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:5

The Lord his God: God was his God, though not by covenant and grace, and special relation, which Ahaz had renounced, yet by his sovereign dominion over him; for God did not forfeit his right by Ahaz's denying it.

2 Chronicles 28:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:9

i.e. In a most high and fierce manner. A usual hyperbole, withal signifying that their rage did cry aloud, and was heard to heaven, from whence it would pull down vengeance upon them.

2 Chronicles 28:10

Which, if not repented of, may bring down the like vengeance upon your own heads.

2 Chronicles 28:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:15

Which were expressed by name; which were appointed to take care about the management of this business.

2 Chronicles 28:16

The kings of Assyria, i.e. the king; the plural number for the singular; either,

1. Because he was a great king and a king of kings; as the elephant, or, as others think, the crocodile, is called *behemoth*, which signifies *beasts*, **Job 40**, because of his vast bulk and eminency above other beasts. Or,

2. Because he wrote to divers of the kings or great princes, who may be called kings in a more general signification of the word, and indeed are so called, Isa_10:8, *Are not my princes altogether kings?*

2 Chronicles 28:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:18

The low country; that part of Judah which was towards the sea, and towards the Philistines' land.

The south of Judah; of which see Jos_15:21.

2 Chronicles 28:19

He made Judah naked; taking away their ornament and their defence and strength, to wit, their treasures, which he sent to the Assyrian to no purpose; their frontier towns, and other strong holds, which by his folly and wickedness were lost; their religion, and the Divine protection, which was their great and only firm security, which by his sins he forfeited. **See Poole "Exo_32:25"**.

2 Chronicles 28:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:21

Distressed him, or, *straitened him* , by robbing him of his treasures. *But he helped him not, but strengthened him not* ; a most emphatical expression: for though he weakened his present enemy the Syrian, as is related, 2Ki_16:9, yet really, and all things considered, he did not strengthen Ahaz and his kingdom, but rather weaken them; for by the removing the Syrian, who, though a troublesome neighbour, was a kind of bulwark to him, as to many other enemies, he smoothed the way for himself, a far more dangerous and mischievous enemy, as appears by his invasion of Judah in the very next king's reign.

2 Chronicles 28:22

That monster and reproach of mankind, that unteachable and incorrigible prince, whom even grievous afflictions made worse, which commonly make men better. This is he whose name deserves to be remembered and detested for ever. Or, *king Ahaz was the same* , no changeling, not a whit better by all the methods which God used with him.

2 Chronicles 28:23

Which smote him; or, *which had smitten him formerly* , i.e. had enabled their worshippers, the Syrians, to smite him, as he fondly imagined; which yet he saw confuted, having now found by experience that they could not save them from the Assyrian power.

2 Chronicles 28:24

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:25

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 28:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 29

Hezekiah's good reign: he restoreth religion; exhorteth the Levites, 2Ch_29:1-11. They sanctify themselves, and cleanse the house of God, 2Ch_29:12-19. He offereth solemn sacrifices, with songs of praise, and the congregation add their offerings, 2Ch_29:20-36.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:3

Which Ahaz his father had shut up, 2Ch_28:24.

2 Chronicles 29:4

Which was before the eastern gate of the temple.

2 Chronicles 29:5

That filthy altar, which Ahaz had put in the place of God's altar, 2Ki_16:11, &c., and the idols or other abominable or polluting things which were there.

Out of the holy place; the temple, or the priests' court, which also is called a holy place, Lev_6:16 **10:13** Num_28:7.

2 Chronicles 29:6

Either,

1. Metaphorically; they have wilfully, and obstinately, and contumeliously forsaken God, and his house and worship; that posture being a signification of contempt. Or,

2. Literally and properly. For Ahaz having removed the altar of God into a by-place, **2Ki 16**, and directing his worship towards the east, after the manner of the heathens, whom he designed to follow; and not to the west, as the Israelites did by God's command, in which quarter the ark was; he must needs consequently turn his back upon the altar, and house, and ark of God.

2 Chronicles 29:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:8

To astonishment and to hissing, i.e. to such calamities as all that see and hear of shall be astonished at, and hiss at those who by their own sin and folly have brought such miseries upon themselves. **See Poole "1Ki_9:8"**.

2 Chronicles 29:9

Or *were* , though they were presently released, **2Ch_28:5,14,15**.

2 Chronicles 29:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:11

My sons; so he calls them indifferently, though many of them were elder than himself, because he was by his tender love and affection, as he was by his office obliged to be, a nursing-father to them. See **Isa_49:23**.

Be not now negligent, in sanctifying yourselves and the temple, **2Ch_29:5**, and in quickening and preparing yourselves and the people to God's service.

2 Chronicles 29:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:16

The inner part of the house of the Lord; not the holy of holies, into which only the high priest might enter, and that but once in a year; but the holy place.

Into the court, to wit, the priests' court, called here the court, by way of eminency.

2 Chronicles 29:17

In sixteen days purging the house, and porch, and courts, and all the chambers belonging to the temple. This is noted to imply partly the universal abuse and defilement of all the parts of it by Ahaz, which required so much time to remove; and partly the diligence of the priests in this work.

2 Chronicles 29:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:21

The number of seven is famous and customary in sacred matters, and is here used in regard of the vast numbers and various kinds of sins, the guilt whereof yet lay upon the kingdom, which was now to be expiated. Indeed, in case of one particular sin of ignorance done by the people, there was but one bullock to be offered, Lev_4:13,14, but here the sins were many and presumptuous, &c.

A sin-offering for the kingdom; to make atonement for the sins of the king, and the royal family, and the court.

For the sanctuary; for all the idolatry and uncleanness wherewith the temple had been polluted, which, as it had been cleansed

naturally by the priests' hands, so now was to be purged morally by sacrifices.

For Judah; for the sins of all the people of Judah.

2 Chronicles 29:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:23

i.e. The king and the elders of the congregation in the name of the whole congregation.

2 Chronicles 29:24

For all Israel, i.e. for Judah and Benjamin, and all the rest of the tribes, whereof a considerable number were now in his dominions.

2 Chronicles 29:25

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:28

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:30

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:31

Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the Lord; now that you have reconciled yourselves and the house to God's favour, and that he is willing and ready to accept your sacrifices.

Burnt-offerings; wherein there was more generosity than in the ether sacrifices, because they were wholly burnt and offered to God, and the people had no share in them as they had in the rest.

2 Chronicles 29:32

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 29:33

i.e. All the offerings consecrated to God besides the burnt-offerings already mentioned.

2 Chronicles 29:34

The priests were too few, to wit, such as were sanctified and fit for their work, as the following words show; for otherwise the number of the priests was more than sufficient for this employment.

They could not flay all the burnt-offerings; and much less all the other sacrifices, which were more numerous; the flaying whereof was the priest's proper work, Lev_1:5,6.

The Levites did help them; necessity excusing their deviation from the rule, as it hath excused others in like cases.

2 Chronicles 29:35

And also the burnt-offerings were in abundance; or,

for the burnt-offerings were to be offered also in abundance. So it is a reason why *the priests could not flay all the burnt-offerings*, as was said, 2Ch_29:34, because there was so much other work for them; for the burnt-offerings were not only to be flayed, but also to be offered, to wit, wholly, and with them

the fat of peace-offerings, & c.

2 Chronicles 29:36

It was, as a very great, so a sudden change, that the people, who but the other day were so ready to comply with wicked Ahaz in his idolatrous and impious prescriptions, were now so free and forward in God's service; whereby it plainly appeared to be the work of the Almighty God changing their hearts by his Holy Spirit.

2 Chronicles 30:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 30

Hezekiah proclaimeth a solemn passover for Judah and Israel, 2Ch_30:1-12. They, having destroyed the altars of idolatry, keep

the feast fourteen days, 2Ch_30:13-26. The priests and Levites bless the people, 2Ch_30:27.

To all Israel; whereby he understands all the persons of the ten tribes, who were now settled in his kingdom; as appears by their contradistinction to Ephraim and Manasseh here following. **To Ephraim and Manasseh,** i.e. to all the remainders of the ten tribes, 2Ch_30:5, who are here synecdochically expressed by the names of Ephraim and Manasseh, as elsewhere by the name of Ephraim only. But he names these two tribes, because they were nearest to his kingdom, and a great number of them had long since, and from time to time, joined themselves to the kingdom of Judah, 2Ch_15:8,9, and therefore he had most hopes of success amongst them. **That they should come to the house of the Lord at Jerusalem;** admonishing them of their duty to God, and persuading them to comply with it.

2 Chronicles 30:2

Which was against the common rule and practice, but was justified by that supreme law of necessity, and by a just impediment, which made the doing of this in its proper time, to wit, the fourteenth day of the first month, impossible, because the temple was not cleansed nor they prepared till that time was past, 2Ch_29:3,17. Compare Num_9:10,11.

2 Chronicles 30:3

They could not keep it at that time, which God had appointed for it, Exo_12:6; one reason whereof was evident in itself, because the temple was not then purified and prepared; to which he adds two other reasons.

The priests had not sanctified themselves sufficiently, to wit, in such manner and degree as was fit, nor in such numbers as were necessary for the flaying and offering of so many thousands of paschal offerings, as appears, because they were not sufficient for those offerings, which were comparatively few, 2Ch_29:32-34.

Neither had the people gathered themselves together to Jerusalem; as they used and ought to do at that time from all places; which now they could not do, because neither the thing

was agreed upon, nor the people summoned thither, till the proper time was past.

2 Chronicles 30:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:5

They established a decree; they fixed this resolution. In such sort as it was written, i. e. so as God had commanded them to do it, to wit, that all the males in Israel should do it; which express command of God they ought to have obeyed, rather than the wicked commands or edicts of men to the contrary; which was both the judgment and practice of the priests and Levites, and other godly Israelites, as is manifest from 2Ch_15:8, &c.

2 Chronicles 30:6

To wit, Pul and Tilgath-pilneser, who had carried their brethren away captives, 2Ki_15:19,**29** 1Ch_5:26 2Ch_28:20.

2 Chronicles 30:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:8

Yield yourselves unto the Lord, Heb. *give the hand to him* , i.e. submit yourselves to him by obeying his command, and renew your covenant with him; both which things were done amongst men by this ceremony of giving the hand. See 1Ch_29:24 Eze_10:19 Eze_17:18.

Which he hath sanctified for ever; not for a transient and temporary use, but as long as the state and church of Israel had a being, whatsoever alterations should happen therein.

2 Chronicles 30:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:10

They laughed, i.e. the generality of the ten tribes; who by long want of meat had now lost all their appetite to God's ordinances, and from a neglect were now fallen into a contempt and derision of them; for which they paid dear. For about six years after their

refusal of this offer of grace they were all carried captive, 2Ki_18:1,10.

2 Chronicles 30:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:12

i.e. God by the power of his grace inclined their hearts to a unanimous compliance with God's and the king's will. And this is mentioned as the reason of this wonderful change wrought in these men, who had lately been utterly averse from God's worship, and wholly given up to idolatry; as was noted before on 2Ch_29:36.

2 Chronicles 30:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:14

The altars, to wit, of burnt-offerings; because they are distinguished from the *altars of incense* here following; both which were removed and destroyed, partly because all the Israelites were confined to the altars of the temple, and partly because these altars were erected to idols.

2 Chronicles 30:15

The priests and the Levites were ashamed; their negligence and remissness being upbraided by the great and general alacrity and forwardness of the people.

2 Chronicles 30:16

The priests sprinkled the blood of the sacrifices upon the altar, Lev_1:5. Which they received of the hand of the Levites, who flayed and killed the sacrifices which the priests, if they had been sanctified, should have done, as it was observed before, 2Ch_29:34.

2 Chronicles 30:17

That were not sanctified; that had more desire to come to the passover, than care and diligence to cleanse and prepare themselves for it. Now these persons were either,

1. The priests, who were before taxed with uncleanness and unpreparedness. Or rather,

2. *The people* , as is implied in the word

congregation, and expressed in the next verse, and confirmed by the reason here following.

The Levites had the charge of the killing, because many of the people were unclean, and therefore many more sacrifices were to be offered for their purification than the priests could kill. Of the passovers, i.e. either,

1. The paschal lambs: which the Levites here offered, because of the impurity of many of the masters of families, who otherwise, as some think, should have killed the paschal lambs in their own houses, Exo_12:3. Or,

2. The other sacrifices which accompanied the passover, which also are called by the same name, as is evident from Deu_16:2,3, where **See Poole "Deu_16:2"**, **See Poole "Deu_16:3"**; which the Levites here killed for the reason now mentioned.

For every one that was not clean; so far as they could make any discovery of their uncleanness, either by their own confession, or otherwise. But there were many whose uncleannesses were not known, and therefore did not cleanse themselves, as is said, 2Ch_30:18, as they ought to have done.

2 Chronicles 30:18

Otherwise than it was written: they had so eager a desire to partake of this ordinance, that, rather than neglect it, they would venture upon it with some ceremonial uncleanness upon them.

2 Chronicles 30:19

i.e. With that ceremonial purification which was required of them that came into God's sanctuary. So he calls it, to distinguish from that moral and internal purity which they are here acknowledged to have.

2 Chronicles 30:20

From their uncleanness; which itself was a spiritual disease, and which probably produced a disease, or distemper, or trouble in

their minds and consciences; which also had formerly brought, and might justly now bring, even outward diseases upon the body, or, at least, guilt, which is a disease upon the soul; from all which the Lord was pleased now to heal them, by pardoning this their sin, and accepting them and their services, as if they had been clean; which it is likely God was pleased to manifest by some outward sign, possibly by fire from heaven consuming the sacrifices; which was the usual token of God's approbation, as hath been formerly noted more than once.

2 Chronicles 30:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:22

Spake comfortably unto all the Levites; encouraged them to a cheerful and diligent attendance upon their holy ministrations by the promise of his favour and utmost care for them, which he faithfully performed, 2Ch_31:4, &c.

That taught the good knowledge of the Lord; who by their office were to instruct and build up the people in the knowledge and fear of God; which is mentioned as the cause of his respect and kindness to them, which was *for their work 's sake* , as it is said, 1Th_5:13.

Making confession: either,

1. Confessing their sins; which work was to accompany many of their sacrifices; of which see Lev_5:5 **16:21**. Or rather,
2. Confessing God's goodness, or praising of God, which oft goes under this name, as 1Ch_16:8,**24**, which also seems to be more proper work for this season of joy.

2 Chronicles 30:23

Not in the same manner as they had done the former, with offering new paschal lambs, and eating only unleavened bread, (of which there is not the least intimation in the text,) but only in the solemn worship of God, by sacrifices, and prayers, and praises, and public instruction of that great congregation *in the good knowledge of the Lord* ; which was so dear to Hezekiah, 2Ch_30:22, and at this time most seasonable and necessary for the people, after so long

and dismal a night of ignorance, superstition, and idolatry, as both Israel and Judah had been involved in.

2 Chronicles 30:24

Hezekiah did give to the congregation; first to God, to whom the parts appointed were offered in way of thanksgiving; and then to the people, who feasted upon the relics, as the offerer used to do in peace-offerings; and Hezekiah, who was the offerer, gave away his right in the remains of the sacrifices to the people.

A thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep; which generosity is the more considerable, because it was in the beginning of his reign, when he found the royal exchequer exhausted and empty; and when he had been at great expense about the cleansing and refitting of the temple, and making preparations for this great feast.

A great number of priests sanctified themselves; having now both more time and further need of sanctifying themselves to offer these numerous sacrifices.

2 Chronicles 30:25

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 30:27

The priests the Levites; those of the Levites who were priests also; for to them only this work belonged, 1Ch₂₃:13. Or, *the priests and the Levites* ; for as the Levites did some other part of the priests' work at this time, it is not strange if they did this also. Or the priests might *ble*ss by solemn pronounciation of the blessing, and the Levites by their acclamations, or with their musical instruments.

Blessed the people; either commended them for their great zeal and diligence in God's service; or rather, solemnly prayed to God to bless them; and their prayer was not in vain, as the following words show.

2 Chronicles 31:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 31

The people forward in destroying idolatry: Hezekiah ordereth the courses of the priests and Levites; and provideth for their work and maintenance, 2Ch_31:1-4. The people forward in offerings and tithes, 2Ch_31:5-10. Hezekiah appointeth officers to dispose of the tithes, 2Ch_31:11-19; his sincerity, 2Ch_31:20,21.

In Ephraim also and Manasseh; either,

1. In those cities belonging to Ephraim and Manasseh, which the kings of Judah had formerly taken from the kings of Israel. Or,

2. In the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. For although these were a part of Hoshea's kingdom, yet Hezekiah presumed to do this, partly, by virtue of the law of God, to which both Israel and Judah owed subjection, which commanded the extirpation of these things out of the whole land of Canaan; partly, by the special impulse and direction of God's Spirit, which sometimes did put persons upon heroical and extraordinary actions, not to be drawn into imitation; and partly, because he knew that Hoshea contented himself with the worship of the calves, and did not practise that great idolatry which his predecessors had used, and therefore would patiently suffer the breaking of these images of Baal, and the things belonging to them; which is all that was done at this time.

2 Chronicles 31:2

i.e. Within the gates of the house of the Lord; which is here called

tents, partly because all houses are oft so called, as Jud_19:9 **20:8** Psa_69:25; and partly because the host of the Lord, to wit, the priests and Levites, frequently so called, encamped there, and kept their stations and orders there by course.

2 Chronicles 31:3

For the burnt-offerings; which had hitherto been, and were to be, taken out of the treasures of the temple which were collected from the people, 1Ch_26:20 Neh_10:32,**33**; but that he might ease them in their present poverty, which his predecessor had brought upon them, and engage them to a more cheerful attendance upon God's service, he took the burden upon himself.

2 Chronicles 31:4

i.e. Freed from worldly cares and distractions, and enabled to give up themselves entirely to the serious study of God's law, in which many of them were ignorant, and to the instruction, and direction, and quickening of the people in their several duties.

2 Chronicles 31:5

As soon as the commandment came abroad; either,

1. As soon as the report of this command of the king, 2Ch_31:4, was got abroad into other parts. Or,

2. As soon as the king enlarged and extended that command to all the parts of his kingdom, which, 2Ch_31:4, was confined to them that dwell in Jerusalem. *Honey* , or, *dates* , as the Hebrew writers generally, and many other learned Hebricians, understand this word, which is given to them because of the sweetness of their taste, in some sort resembling honey. For the law requires no tithes but of the fruits of trees, or of the earth, or of beasts.

2 Chronicles 31:6

Also the tithe of oxen and sheep; they brought in not only the same tithes which the dwellers in Jerusalem did, to wit, of *corn, and wine, and oil* , &c., which they had in their own storehouses in that city; but also oxen and sheep, which were more proper to the country; for *under the cities of Judah* are comprehended the suburbs and territories adjacent and belonging to them, as is evident from the nature of the thing, and the law of God.

And the tithe of holy things: this may be taken either,

1. By way of explication, *even the tithe of holy things* , &c. Or rather,

2. By way of addition,

the tithe of all holy things which were consecrated unto the Lord, whether by vow, or voluntary promise, or otherwise; as the tithes of gains by merchandise, or spoils of war, &c.; of which see Gen_14:20 **28:22** Num_31:28,**30**.

2 Chronicles 31:7

In the third month, to wit, of the sacred year, Exo_12:2 in which their harvest began.

In the seventh month; in which their harvest ended and the feast of tabernacles was kept, Exo_23:16 Lev_23:34.

2 Chronicles 31:8

They blessed the Lord; both for giving such plentiful provisions to his land in this year, and for giving his people such liberal and pious hearts towards this good work.

And his people Israel; they praised them for their forwardness and faithfulness in it.

2 Chronicles 31:9

How it came to pass that no more of their provision was spent, and that there yet remained such great heaps of it.

2 Chronicles 31:10

The chief priest of the house of Zadok; either,

1. The high priest, called also Zadok, 1Ch_6:12, because he was of his line and family. Or,

2. The chief priest, or the head of that family of Zadok, or of Eleazar; as there was another chief priest of the family of Abiathar, or of Ithamar; see 2Sa_8:17 1Ch_24:3; but both subject to the high priest.

Since the people began to bring the offerings; which they did from the beginning of the harvest, according to the manner.

The Lord hath blessed his people in an extraordinary degree.

2 Chronicles 31:11

In the house of the Lord; largely so called, to wit, in the courts, or in the chambers adjoining to the house.

2 Chronicles 31:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 31:13

Overseers under the hand of Cononiah and Shimei his brother, i.e. to dispose of those provisions by their direction, and to be accountable to them therein.

The ruler of the house of God; either the supreme ruler, to wit, the high priest; or the chief ruler under him, and in his stead, being appointed by him to inspect this work. See above, 2Ch_31:10 1Ch_9:11 Jer_20:1.

2 Chronicles 31:14

Toward the east; at the east gate of the Lord's house; of which **See Poole "2Ch_23:5"**.

To distribute to the priests and Levites, to whom they were appropriated by God.

The most holy things, to wit, the remainders of the free-will-offering, Lev_2:3,10, the sin-offering and trespass-offering, Lev_6:18,22 **Le 7:1**, and the shew-bread, Lev_24:9.

2 Chronicles 31:15

These were intrusted with the receiving and distributing of the several portions belonging to the priests who abode in their several cities, whilst their brethren came up to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 31:16

From three years old and upward; to whom a portion of these things was allotted, as is here implied.

Unto every one that entereth into the house of the Lord; that were capable of entering thither and doing service there, which they were at twenty years old, as is expressed here, 2Ch_31:17, and 1Ch_23:24, through the whole company of the priests and Levites.

2 Chronicles 31:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 31:18

This is alleged as a reason why their wives and children were provided for out of the holy things, because they sequestered

themselves from worldly affairs, by which they might otherwise have provided for their families, and entirely devoted themselves to holy administrations.

2 Chronicles 31:19

The priests, which were in the fields; who are opposed to those that lived in or resorted to the great city Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 31:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 31:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 32

Sennacherib invading Judah, Hezekiah fortifieth himself, 2Ch_32:1-8; and sendeth letters to Isaiah concerning the blasphemies of Sennacherib, 2Ch_32:9-20. An angel destroyeth the host of the Assyrians, 2Ch_32:21-23. Hezekiah's sickness and sign of recovery, 2Ch_32:24; and waxing proud, is humbled by God, 2Ch_32:25,**26**. His wealth and error, 2Ch_32:27-31. His death and successor, 2Ch_32:32,**33**.

After these things, and the establishment thereof; an emphatical preface, signifying, that notwithstanding all his pious care and zeal for God, yet God saw fit to exercise him with a sore trial and calamity; which yet he turned to his great honour and advantage. He designed and bragged that he would win them all, and did actually win many of them, 2Ki_18:13.

2 Chronicles 32:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:3

To stop the waters of the fountains, with earth or other things cast into them; and withal to derive the waters by secret paths and pipes under ground to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 32:4

Which was a scarce commodity in this country, and the want of it might much annoy the Assyrian army.

2 Chronicles 32:5

The wall that was broken by Joash, 2Ch_25:23, and not since repaired.

Up to the towers; either,

1. As high as the towers, or the tops of the wall. Or,

2. As far as the two towers, or gates, which were made in the form of towers, and had the use of towers, to wit, that of Ephraim and the corner gate, both mentioned above, 2Ch_25:23. Or, *brought up* engines or instruments of defence *upon the towers* .

Millo; of which see 1Ki_9:24 **11:27**.

2 Chronicles 32:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:9

Of this and the following verses, **See Poole "2Ki_18:17"**, &c.; **See Poole "2Ki_19:10"**, &c.

2 Chronicles 32:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:15

Seeing I have destroyed so many nations, and some of them stronger than you, in spite of all their gods, it is not probable that your God should defend you, which none of the rest could do for their people.

2 Chronicles 32:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:23

Or, *of all those nations* which were not very remote from Canaan, and heard these matters.

2 Chronicles 32:24

Of which see a more particular account 2Ki_20:1.

2 Chronicles 32:25

His heart was lifted up, for that prodigious victory over the Assyrians, above, 2Ch_32:21, and for his miraculous restoration from sickness, and the confirmation of that work by a strange and

supernatural motion of the sun, and by the honour since done him by an embassy from the great and potent king of Babylon; all which probably raised in him too great an opinion of himself, as if these things were done, if not by his power, yet, at least, for his piety and virtues. And instead of walking humbly with God, and giving the glory of all entirely to him, he took the honour to himself, and vain-gloriously showed his riches and precious treasures to the Babylonish ambassadors, 2Ki_20:12, &c.

Upon Judah and Jerusalem; who might justly be punished for Hezekiah's sin, because they followed him in it, as they confess in the next verse.

2 Chronicles 32:26

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:28

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:29

He provided him cities, Heb. *he made* , &c. Either he purchased them to himself by his gold or silver; or he repaired, and fortified, and beautified them for the honour and safety of his kingdom. But the former sense seems to agree better with the following words.

2 Chronicles 32:30

The upper water-course of Gihon; a rivulet near Jerusalem consisting of two streams, the upper, which was brought into one pool, called *the upper pool* , Isa_7:3; and the lower, which was brought into another, called *the lower pool* , Isa_22:9. The former he diverted and brought by secret pipes into Jerusalem, which was a work of great art, and labour, and policy, and therefore is here commended.

Brought it straight down; whereas before it fetched a compass, and thereby might have been beneficial to the Assyrian host.

2 Chronicles 32:31

God left him, to wit, to himself, and his own impotency and corruption. God withdrew from him those supplies and assistances of his Spirit which would certainly and effectually have kept him from that sin, and suffered Satan to tempt him, and him to fall into the sin of pride and ostentation.

That he might know; either,

1. That God might know it. So it is spoken of God after the manner of men; whereof we have had many instances. Or,

2. That Hezekiah might know that he had infirmities and sins as well as virtues; and therefore that the great mercies which he had received were not the effects of his own merits, as he might be prone to believe, but of God's free grace.

2 Chronicles

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 32:33

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 33

Manasseh's wicked reign, 2Ch_33:1-10. His captivity, 2Ch_33:11. His prayer and reformation, 2Ch_33:12-17. His acts, 2Ch_33:18,**19**, and death, 2Ch_33:20. Amon's wicked reign; is slain by his servants, 2Ch_33:21-24. They being slain, Josiah succeedeth him, 2Ch_33:25.

This and the following verses, to ver 11, are taken out of 2Ki_21:1 &c.

2 Chronicles 33:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:8

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:11

Among the thorns; in some thicket where he thought to hide himself from the Assyrians till he could make an escape, as the Israelites formerly used to do, 1Sa_13:6. Or, *with hooks* ; a metaphorical expression. Or, *in his forts* , i.e. in one of them.

Carried him to Babylon; either therefore Esar-haddon, Sennacherib's successor, had recovered Babylon from Merodach-baladan; or rather, the king of Babylon is here called

the king of Assyria, because at this time he had added Assyria to his empire; who having been informed by his ambassadors of the great riches which were in Hezekiah's treasures at Jerusalem, which he was desirous to enjoy; and withal, being assured of Manasseh's degeneracy from the piety and virtue of his father, and from that God whose power alone made Hezekiah formidable, he thought this a fit season to invade Manasseh's kingdom; which he did with success.

2 Chronicles 33:12

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:13

i.e. He was convinced by his own experience of God's power, justice, and goodness, that Jehovah alone was the true God, and not those idols which he had worshipped, by which he had received great hurt, and no good.

2 Chronicles 33:14

He built a wall; he repaired and strengthened that wall which Hezekiah had built, 2Ch_32:5, and which possibly the king of Assyria, when he last took Jerusalem, had caused to be thrown down, either wholly or in part.

On the west side of Gihon; on the west side of the city of David, to which Hezekiah had brought this water-course down, 2Ch_32:30, into the great pool which he had made to receive it; and possibly this wall was built to secure the free use of it to the citizens when they should be distressed or besieged by an enemy.

Compassed about Ophel with a wall. Of Ophel see before, 2Ch_27:3.

2 Chronicles 33:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:16

That thereby he might, as far as he could, repair the injuries which he had done to God by his impious commands, 2Ch_33:9.

2 Chronicles 33:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:18

i.e. Of Judah, oft called Israel, as hath been noted before. He speaks not of that part of the canon, called the

Book of Kings, for these things are not mentioned there; but of their public records, where all things were particularly mentioned, and whence the most important things were taken by the prophets, and put into those canonical books

2 Chronicles 33:19

Or rather, *of Hosai* , a writer so called; for when the sacred penmen make a reference, they constantly refer us to some particular book or certain author, as to *the chronicles of the kings of Israel* , or *Judah* ; to *the prophecy of Ahijah* , or *Oded* , &c.

2 Chronicles 33:20

In his own house, i.e. in his garden; of which See Poole "2Ki_21:18".

2 Chronicles 33:21

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:22

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:23

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:24

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 33:25

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 34

Josiah's good reign, 2Ch_34:1,2. He destroyeth idolatry, 2Ch_34:3-7. He repairs the temple, 2Ch_34:8-13. The book of the law found, 2Ch_34:14-22. Huldah prophesieth the destruction of Jerusalem, 2Ch_34:23-28. Josiah's covenant with God, 2Ch_34:29-33.

Of this chapter, see the notes on **2Ki 22 2Ki 23**.

2 Chronicles 34:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:3

While he was yet young; in the sixteenth year of his age, when he was entering into the age and state of temptations and youthful lusts, and had the administration of his kingdom wholly in his

own hand and power and none to rebuke or restrain him; yet even then he begins to be religious in good earnest.

2 Chronicles 34:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:6

Even unto Naphtali; which was in the utmost and northern borders of the kingdom of Israel. For it must be remembered that the ten tribes were now gone into captivity; and those who were come in their stead were weak and few, and not able to withstand the power of Josiah.

2 Chronicles 34:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:8

The land and the house; the house of God, called the house by way of eminency.

2 Chronicles 34:9

i.e. The Levites, who had gone abroad through all Josiah's kingdom to gather money for this good use, and now came with it to Jerusalem, to lodge it in the treasuries of the Lord's house.

2 Chronicles 34:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:11

To floor the houses, i.e. the chambers joining on the temple, or within the courts.

2 Chronicles 34:12

Or, all these here named were *skilful in instruments of music* ; which may be here mentioned, either to their commendation, that they were fit for and careful and diligent in this employment, wherewith they were now intrusted, no less than in their own

proper work; or to intimate, that as they were skilful, so they were exercised in both their employments, and did successively oversee the work, and praised God with their voices and instruments for his gracious and powerful help in carrying on the work.

2 Chronicles 34:13

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:14

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:21

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2 Chronicles 34:22

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2 Chronicles 34:23

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2 Chronicles 34:24

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2 Chronicles 34:25

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2 Chronicles 34:26

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2 Chronicles 34:27

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2 Chronicles 34:28

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:29

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:30

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:31

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 34:32

To stand to it; to own or maintain it, or persist in it, as this phrase is used, Deu_25:1. He caused them to engage themselves by an oath or covenant, that they would observe and obey the laws of God, as his godly predecessors had formerly done, and which indeed they were before obliged to do. They complied with God's and the king's command, as to the outward acts of God's worship, though not with an upright heart, as appears by the history.

2 Chronicles 34:33

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 35

Josiah keepeth a solemn passover, 2Ch_35:1-19. He provoketh Pharaoh-necho, and is slain at Megiddo, 2Ch_35:20-24. Lamentations for Josiah, 2Ch_35:25-27.

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:3

Which were holy; or, and *which were holy* .

In the house; in the temple; or in the holy of holies; whence, it may seem, it had been removed, either,

1. By some of the wicked and idolatrous kings of Judah, possibly by Josiah's father Amon; which peradventure may be implied by that expression, 2Ch_33:23, *Amon trespassed more and more* , i.e. more than he or his father Manasseh had done, which seems to point at some very enormous crime committed by him. Or,

2. By Josiah's order, that the temple might be thoroughly repaired, both in the holy place, and in the most holy place, which some of the idolatrous kings of Judah, it may be, had defaced or defiled; and therefore it was to be searched in order to its reparation; and to that end it might seem fit to remove the ark: and upon this occasion Hilkiah might find the original book of the law, which was written by the hands of Moses, and by God's command was laid beside the ark, and upon the removal of the ark was easily discovered.

It shall not be a burden upon your shoulders; or, that it might *not be a burden* , &c. So these words are to be joined with the former, as the reason why Solomon built this house, that the ark might have a constant and fixed habitation, and not need to be carried from place to place upon their shoulders, as it had been done whilst it was in the tabernacle. And withal, this is mentioned as an argument to quicken them to the more diligent service of God in their present work, because they were freed from that troublesome part of their office which lay upon their forefathers.

2 Chronicles 35:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:5

Stand in the place, or, *minister* , as that word is frequently used, in the court of the priests, which is so called elsewhere, as hath been noted before.

After the division of the families of the Levites, i.e. according to the several families both of the people, whom he calls their brethren, lest they should despise them, or grudge to serve them, and of the Levites. For the passover was to be eaten by the several families according to their numbers, Exo_12:3. And therefore he commands these persons, that when the paschal lambs were brought to them to be killed, as they were, 2Ch_35:7-9, they might so order the matter, that they might be distributed to the several families, whether of the Levitical or other tribes.

2 Chronicles 35:6

Prepare your brethren, by purifying them, and quickening them to fit themselves for so great and solemn a work.

2 Chronicles 35:7

Lambs and kids, for either of these might be used for the paschal-offering, Exo_12:5.

Three thousand bullocks, which were to be offered after the lambs, upon the several days of the feast of unleavened bread.

2 Chronicles 35:8

His princes; not the political, but ecclesiastical princes, or the chief of the priests and Levites, whose names here follow.

To the priests and to the Levites, for the use of any of the families of any of them, as need should be; for they supposed the 30,000 which the king had given were not sufficient for all the families. Or, the king gave his cattle to the people only, or principally, for they only are mentioned for that gift, 2Ch_35:7. And therefore these persons here named give their cattle not only to *the people*, but also to *the priests and to the Levites*, as it is here expressed. And the Levites being not yet sufficiently provided for, some of their brethren, named 2Ch_35:9, gave 5000 more peculiarly *unto the Levites*, as is there said.

Rulers of the house of God; for so they were; Hilkiyah being the high priest, and the other the two chief priests, of the two lines of Eleazar and Ithamar, who many times were to officiate in the high priest's stead, and were in power and dignity next to him, and

were in some sort joint commissioners with him in ruling the affairs of the temple.

2 Chronicles 35:9

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:10

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:11

Which they did, though properly it belonged to the priests, because the priests, who were sanctified, were not sufficient for that work, there being so many thousands of the cattle; and they were fully employed in the killing of the sacrifices and the sprinkling of the blood, which was more properly the priests' work than the other.

2 Chronicles 35:12

They removed the burnt-offerings, i.e. those cattle which were to be offered for burnt-offerings, to wit, some of the lesser cattle; for these also might be offered as burnt-offerings, Lev_1:10. And hence it may seem that all these small cattle were not given to the people to be eaten by them for their paschal lambs, but that some of them were to be offered as burnt-offerings for the people. And these they put apart by themselves, partly lest they should be confounded with them which were for another use; and partly that they might not be hindered from that which was their present and more immediate work, as it follows,

that they might give, to wit, the paschal lambs or kids.

To offer unto the Lord: these words may belong either,

1. To the more remote words, *the burnt-offerings* , the other words being to be put within a parenthesis, or there being a trajection in the words, which is frequent in Scripture, and which is here observed by some learned interpreters. Or,

2. To the last words, and to the paschal lambs, which they were first *to offer to the Lord* , by killing them and sprinkling the blood, as was noted before, and then to be *given* to the people; though the giving be here mentioned before the *offering* , such transpositions

being usual in Scripture and other authors. *So did they with the oxen* , to wit, as they did with the lesser cattle, of which see the first note on this verse. They removed those oxen which were to be offered as burnt-offerings, from those which were to be offered as peace-offerings.

2 Chronicles 35:13

The other holy offerings; those from which the burnt offerings were removed, 2Ch_35:12, to wit, the peace-offerings, part of which fell to the share of the offerer, who was Josiah, and by his gift to the people.

2 Chronicles 35:14

Afterward they made ready, to wit, the paschal lambs, and their part of the peace-offerings.

2 Chronicles 35:15

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:16

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:17

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:20

When Josiah had prepared the temple; when he and his people hoped that God was reconciled, and the foundation of a solid and lasting happiness was laid, their hopes were quickly blasted. So much are men oft mistaken in their judgments about the designs of God's counsel and providence.

Charchemish; which the Assyrian had lately taken from the king of Egypt; of which he boasts, Isa_10:9.

2 Chronicles 35:21

Against the house wherewith I have war, Heb. *against the house or family of my war* , i.e. against the house of the king of Assyria, between whom and me there is war.

God commanded me; either his false god by their lying priests; or the true God, either,

1. By some prophet; for God's prophets used sometimes to deliver or send commands from God to heathen kings. Though it is not probable either that Pharaoh would regard the command of the true God; or that a prophet of the Lord would not acquaint Josiah with this message; or that Josiah would oppose Pharaoh in a war undertaken by God's command. Or rather,

2. By a dream, as God spoke to another heathen king, Abimelech, Gen_20:3. Though it is not impossible that he pretended this for his own advantage, that Josiah might not assist his enemies.

2 Chronicles 35:22

Josiah would not turn his face from him; being peradventure encouraged to do so by a misinterpretation of that promise made to him, 2Ch_34:28,

Thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace: thus God overrules the errors and miscarriages of men to the accomplishment of his own counsels.

Disguised himself; changed his habit, that he might not give his enemies the advantage of aiming at his person, which he wisely thought they would do, that being a likely course to end their trouble, as indeed it proved.

Unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God; either,

1. Which Pharaoh sent to him in the name of God, or as coming from God's month. Or rather,

2. Which Pharaoh received from the month of God, who was pleased some way or other to impart his mind to him; and which Pharaoh acquainted him with by the command of God. And therefore Josiah is here blamed for not hearkening to this message. Although, if he sinned herein, it was only a sin of ignorance, for he did not know that God had spoken this to Pharaoh, and was not

bound to believe his testimony, which he had good reason to suspect in this matter. Yet, methinks, he ought so far to have regarded it, as to have inquired the mind of God about it; which he neglected to do, and therefore he cannot be wholly excused, and is here taxed for it.

2 Chronicles 35:23

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:24

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 35:25

In their lamentations to this day; in all their succeeding lamentations for their public calamities, and for the ruin of their city, and temple, and state, and church they remembered Josiah's death as their first and most fatal blow, and as that which opened the flood-gates to all their following miseries, and it was ordained that they should do so, as the next words intimate.

In the lamentations; either in that canonical book of Jeremiah's Lamentations, or in some other volume of mournful ditties, made by divers persons upon occasion of their following calamities, which is since lost.

2 Chronicles 35:26

His goodness; either,

1. His piety towards God and his house. Or,

2. His benignity, clemency, and kindness towards all his subjects, being of a most tender disposition and carriage both towards God, 2Ch_34:27, and towards men. But the former seems principally intended, because it best agrees both with the history of Josiah, which is wholly taken up with the former, and speaks little or nothing of the latter, and with the following words; and it doth not disagree with the Hebrew word *hesed*, which though it doth most frequently express kindness to men, yet sometimes it notes a man's piety to God and his house, as is manifest from Neh_13:14.

2 Chronicles 35:27

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:1 2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 36

Jehoahaz succeeding is deposed by Pharaoh, and carried to Egypt, 2Ch_36:1-4. Jehoiakim's wicked reign; his captivity into Babylon, 2Ch_36:5-8. Jehoiachin likewise, 2Ch_36:9,**10**. Zedekiah's wicked reign; his contempt of the prophet, and rebellion against Nebuchadnezzar, 2Ch_36:11-13. Jerusalem's destruction, 2Ch_36:14-21. The proclamation of Cyrus, 2Ch_36:22,**23**.

The contents of this chapter, for the substance of them, are explained **See Poole "2Ki_23:31"**, &c.; also **2Ki 24 2Ki 25**; what is peculiar to it shall be here opened, so far as is necessary.

2 Chronicles 36:2

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:3

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:4

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:5

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:6

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:7

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:8

That which was found in him; that crime of rebellion against the king of Babylon, which for a time he kept in his own breast; but when he saw fit, he discovered it, and was convicted of it. See 2Ki_24:1.

2 Chronicles 36:9

Jehoiachin was eight years old; of which **See Poole "2Ki_24:8"**, where he is said to be eighteen years old.

2 Chronicles 36:10

When the year was expired, Heb. *at the return of the year* , i.e. at the beginning of the next year, according to the sacred account of the Hebrews, at the spring of the year, the time when kings go forth to battle, as is elsewhere said, when Nebuchadnezzar, among others, went forth to settle and enlarge his conquests.

Zedekiah his brother; largely so called, for this was his uncle, or his *father 's brother* , as he is called, 2Ki_24:17, being the son of Josiah. See 1Ch_3:15 Jer_1:3.

2 Chronicles 36:11

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:12

Humbled not himself by repentance for his past errors, and obedience to God's express commands, which he would not yield to through the pride of his heart, as is intimated by this phrase, and expressed Jer_38:19.

2 Chronicles 36:13

Who had made him swear by God; who had required and forced him to swear fealty and constant obedience to him by the true God, whom he had served, and whom he called upon to be a witness against him if he broke his oath. So his rebellion was aggravated with perjury, and horrid contempt of God. Compare Eze_17:18. Hardened his heart, i.e. he added obstinacy and incorrigibility to his sins.

2 Chronicles 36:14

The people transgressed very much; they were universally corrupt, and therefore God justly brought upon them a general destruction.

2 Chronicles 36:15

Rising up betimes, and sending, i.e. sending them early and diligently, as a careful householder who riseth betimes about his business, and pursues it till night come. God sent them many prophets and messages, some at the very beginning of their

apostacy, and others afterward, as they proceeded in their impiety, until the very day of their captivity.

2 Chronicles 36:16

They mocked the messengers of God; of which see instances, Eze_11:3 **20:49**.

Misused his prophets; imprisoning and persecuting them, as they did Jeremiah. Or, *seduced themselves by his prophets*, i.e. by their prophecies, which they perverted or misconstrued. An eminent instance we have in this, that because Jeremiah prophesied that Zedekiah should be led to Babylon, Jer_32:5, and Ezekiel, that he should not see Babylon, Eze_12:13, therefore they believed neither, as the Hebrew writers relate.

Till there was no remedy; because the people would not repent, and God would not pardon them.

2 Chronicles 36:17

In the house of their sanctuary; either in Jerusalem, which was the dwelling-place of God's sanctuary; or, *in the house which was their sanctuary*; as *the river of Euphrates*, Gen_15:18, is the river which is Euphrates. It is probable they killed them in the very courts and house of God, to which some of them fled for refuge, such places being esteemed sacred and inviolable by the heathens themselves.

2 Chronicles 36:18

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:19

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:20

No text from Poole on this verse.

2 Chronicles 36:21

Had enjoyed her sabbaths, i.e. had rested from the labour of the husbandmen in ploughing and harrowing it, &c., the people that should have managed it being destroyed. Of the phrase, **See Poole "Lev_25:2"**.

To fulfil threescore and ten years; that so the seventy years' captivity prophesied of by Jeremiah might be accomplished.

2 Chronicles 36:22

This and the next verse are repeated in the beginning of the next book, where they will be more fitly explained.

2 Chronicles 36:23

No text from Poole on this verse.