

CONTENTS.

xxvii

CHAPTER XVI.

The Story of Samuel—Samuel called by God—Instructed in the priesthood by Eli—Israelites are defeated by the Philistines—The sins of Eli's two sons—The Philistines capture the ark—The calamities that followed it—The ark returned—A terrible punishment for profanation of the ark—Israel is delivered through the prayers of Samuel—The Israelites demand a king—Saul ordained king, 186-194

CHAPTER XVII.

The Reign of Saul—His first battle—Jonathan's great valor—Samuel's advice to the people—Saul's expedition against the Amalekites—Saul's sin against God—Samuel's prophecies the downfall of Saul—David appointed Saul's successor—David plays the harp to drive away Saul's melancholy, . . . 195-203

CHAPTER XVIII.

The Story of David—He slays the giant—Saul jealous of David—David compelled to flee for his life—A second time he escapes Saul's vengeance—David in exile—Saul renews the hunt for David—David refuses to revenge himself—David again spares Saul's life—The sin and deception of David—Saul consults the witch of Endor—David driven out of the Philistine camp—The death of Saul, 204-225

CHAPTER XIX.

David is Proclaimed King—Assassination of Abner—David laments for Abner—Assassination of Ish-bosheth—David lays siege to Jerusalem—Rebuilding of Jerusalem—David commits a great sin—War with the Philistines—David brings the ark to Jerusalem—David prosecutes a war for spoils—David adopts Jonathan's son—His war with the Ammonites—David's greatest iniquity—Nathan condemns David—David's punishment—Ammon conceives a passion for Tamar—Absalom murders his brother—Absalom's rebellion—Death of Absalom—David's lamentations—David remits the offenses of his enemies—Battles with the Philistine giants—David is punished for numbering the people, 226-253

CHAPTER XX.

David Prepares to Build a Temple—Adonijah's ambition to succeed David—David's last charge to Solomon—God's great gift to Solomon—Adonijah and Joab slain—Solomon restores a contested child—Building the temple—Dedication of the temple—Building of the king's palace—Solomon visited by the Queen of Sheba—Solomon bows down to idols—Israel is divided—Golden images set up by Jeroboam—Jerusalem captured—The temple spoiled—Downfall of Jeroboam—Asa's great victory—Baasha's war with Asa—Ahab's wicked reign—The miracles of Elijah—Elijah before Ahab—Elijah persecuted by Jezebel—Ahab has Naboth stoned to death—Siege of Samaria—Jehoshaphat's reign—God performs a miracle, 254-288

CHAPTER XXI.

Ahaziah's Reign and Death—The messengers destroyed by fire—Elijah translated to heaven—A league against the Moabites—Miracles wrought by Elisha—An army sent to apprehend Elisha—Miraculous termination of a famine—Jehu anointed king—Terrible death of Jezebel—Destruction of the worshippers of Baal—The youngest king of Israel—A dead body brought to life—Amaziah's great victories—Jeroboam's prosperous reign—The Assyrian invasion, 289-311

CHAPTER XXII.

The Story of Jonah—Jonah is ordered to go to Nineveh—Disobeys God—Starts to Joppa by sea—The storm—He is thrown overboard—Swallowed by a great fish—Vomited on to land—He preaches in Nineveh—The city is converted—Jonah's anger—Captivity of Israel—Hezekiah's reign—Miraculous destruction of Sennacherib's army—Hezekiah escapes death by a miracle—Capture of Manasseh—Josiah kills the false prophets—Amon is murdered—Josiah becomes king—Josiah slain in battle—Destruction of Jerusalem—The rule of Jehoiachin—Captivity of Judah—Zedekiah's eyes burned out, 312-319