

*six Years.* So when *Jotham* upbraids the *Shechemites* with the Obligation they had to *Gideon*, who had been their Judge and Ruler, he tells them, *he fought for you, and adventured his Life for, and delivered you out of the Hands of Midian, Judg. 9. 17.* Nothing mentioned of him, but what he did as a General: and indeed that is all is found in his History, or any of the rest of the Judges. And *Abimelech* particularly is called King, tho at most he was but their General. And when, being weary of the ill Conduct of *Samuel's* Sons, the Children of *Israel* desired a King, like all the Nations, to judge them, and to go out before them, and to fight their Battles, *1 Sam. 8. 20.* God granting their Desire, says to *Samuel*, *I will send thee a Man, and thou shalt anoint him to be Captain over my People Israel, that he may save my People out of the Hands of the Philistines, chap. 9. ver. 16.* as if the only Business of a King had been to lead out their Armies, and fight in their Defence; and accordingly at his Inauguration, pouring a Vial of Oil upon him, he declares to *Saul*, that the Lord had anointed him to be Captain over his Inheritance, chap. 10. ver. 1. And therefore those, who after *Saul's* being solemnly chosen, and saluted King by the Tribes at *Mispah*, were unwilling to have him their King, make no other Objection but this, *How shall this Man save us?* ver. 27. as if they should have said, This Man is unfit to be our King, not having Skill and Conduct enough in War, to be able to defend us. And when God resolved to transfer the Government to *David*, it is in these Words, *But now thy Kingdom shall not continue: The Lord hath sought him a Man after his own Heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be Captain over his People, chap. 13. ver. 14.* As if the whole Kingly Authority were nothing else but to be their General: And therefore the Tribes who had stuck to *Saul's* Family, and opposed *David's* Reign, when they came to *Hebron* with Terms of Submission to him,