with him, killed the boy and seized the kingdom. But at the entreaty of the assembly he sent a very large ransom, and bought the said Isaac out of the hands of the Latins. Isaac came to Cyprus, took it, and was proclaimed king. He ruled over it for seven years, and not only utterly despoiled the land, and perpetually harassed the lives of its rich men, but every day he hounded and oppressed its nobles, so that all lived in distress, and sought how by any means they might protect themselves against him.

While things were so, lo, the Englishman lands in Cyprus, and forthwith all ran unto him! Then the king, abandoned by his people, gave himself also unto the hands of the English. Him the English king bound in irons, and having seized his vast treasures, and grievously wasted the land, sailed away to Jerusalem, leaving behind him ships to strip the country and to follow him. But king Isaac of Cyprus he shut up in chains in a castle called Marcappus. The wicked wretch achieved nought against his fellow wretch Saladin, but achieved this only, that he sold our country to the Latins for two hundred thousand pounds of gold. Whereon great was the wailing, and unbearable the smoke, as was said before, which came from the north. He that would tell of them at length, the time shall fail him.

The state of our country now is no better than that of the raging sea under a great storm and tempest. Nay it is worse than a wild sea. For a calm succeeds the wildness of the sea, but here day by day the tempest increases, and its fury knows no end. Unless indeed it hear "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed" (Job xxxviii. 11). In the book of Leviticus (xxvi.) are clearly written the evils which have come upon us, to wit, wars and defeats; our seed is without fruit, the labour of our hands the enemy hath devoured it, and our strength is become a thing of nought, and we few in number, and an alien people hath waxed many in our land. Ye have walked contrary unto Me, saith God, and I will walk contrary unto you also in fury. Even so it is.

τῆς βασιλείας· δυσωπηθεὶς δὲ παρὰ τῆς συγκλήτου βουλῆς στέλλει πάμπολλα λύτρα, καὶ ἐξωνεῖται ἐκ Λατίνων τὸν ῥηθέντα Ἰσαάκιον· ὃς ἐλθὼν ἐν τῇ Κύπρῳ κρατεῖ αὐτήν, καὶ φημίζεται βασιλεύς, καὶ κρατεῖ αὐτὴν ἐπὶ χρόνους ζ, ἐκάκωσε δὲ οὐ τὴν χώραν ἁπλῶς καὶ τῶν πλουσίων τοὺς βίους καθόλου διήρπασεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοὺς ἰδίους ἄρχοντας αὐτοῦ ποινηλατῶν καθ' ἑκάστην καὶ θλίβων, ὥστε πάντας ἐν ἀμηχανίᾳ διάγειν, καὶ τρόπον τινὰ ἐπιζητοῦντας φυλαξάσθαι ἀπ' αὐτοῦ.

Τούτων δὲ οὕτως ἐχόντων, ἰδού, καὶ Ἰγκλίτερ προσβάλλει τῇ Κύπρῳ, καὶ θᾶττον πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔδραμον πάντες· τότε ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐρῆμος ἐναπομείνας λαοῦ, προὔδωκε καὶ αὐτὸς χερσὶ τῶν Ἰγκλιτέρρων· ὃν καὶ δήσας σιδήροις, καὶ τοὺς αὐτοῦ θησαυροὺς διαρπάσας σφόδρα πολλούς, καὶ τὴν χώραν σκυλεύσας δεινῶς, ἀποπλεῖ πρὸς Ἱερουσαλήμ, πλοῖα καταλείψας τοῦ σχιδεύειν τὴν χώραν, καὶ στέλλειν ὄπισθεν αὐτοῦ· τὸν δὲ βασιλέα Κύπρου Ἰσαάκιον κατακλείει σιδηροδέσμιον ἐν καστέλλῳ καλουμένῳ Μαρκάππῳ· κατὰ δὲ τοῦ ὁμοίου αὐτῷ Σαλαχαντίνου ἀνύσας μηδέν, ὁ ἀλιτήριος ἤνυσε τοῦτο καὶ μόνον, διαπράσας τὴν χώραν Λατίνοις χρυσίου χιλιάδων λιτρῶν διακοσίων· διὸ καὶ πολὺς ὁ ὀλολυγμὸς καὶ ἀφόρητος ὁ καπνός, ὡς προείρηται, ὁ ἐλθὼν ἐκ τοῦ βορρᾶ, περὶ ὧν ὁ θέλων δηλῶσαι κατὰ μέρος καὶ ὁ χρόνος ἐπιλείψει.

Μαινομένης θαλάσσης ἐκ πολλῆς τρικυμίας καὶ πολλῆς καταιγίδος οὐδὲν ἀποδέει νῦν τὰ τῆς χώρας ἡμῶν· μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ χεῖρον ἀγρίας θαλάσσης· ἐκείνης γὰρ τὴν ἀγριότητα διαδέχεται γαλήνη· ἔνθα δὲ ὁ κλύδων καθ' ἑκάστην ἐπαύξει, καὶ τὸ μαγδαῖον αὐτοῦ τέλος οὐκ ἔχει· εἰ μή που ἀκούσειε, Μέχρι τούτου ἐλεύσῃ, καὶ οὐκ ὑπερβήσῃ, ἀλλ' ἐν σεαυτῇ συντριβήσεταί σου τὰ κύματα. Ἐν τῇ Λευϊτικῇ βίβλῳ γέγραπται διαρρηδὴν τὰ ἐν τῇ γῇ ἡμῶν συναντήσαντα πήματα, ἤτοι πόλεμοι, ἧτται, σποραὶ διὰ κενῆς, ὑπ' ἐναντίων ἐδωδή, καρπὸς καμάτων ἡμῶν· καὶ ἡ ἰσχὺς ἡμῶν ἐγένετο εἰς οὐδέν· καὶ ἐγενόμεθα ὀλιγοστοί· καὶ λαὸς ἀλλότριος ἐπληθύνθη ἐν τῇ γῇ ἡμῶν· ἐπορεύθητε πρός με πλάγιοι, λέγει ὁ θεός, κἀγὼ πορεύσομαι πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἐν θυμῷ πλαγίῳ· καὶ γὰρ οὕτως ἔχει· εἰ μή πω γάρ τις νοσήσας χολανεῖ, οὐδ' ὁ ἰατρὸς