**f. 31r**

Than þ*i*s creatur cam be a cherch & went in to make hir p*ra*yer &

sche p*re*yde w*yth* al hir hert w*yth* gret wepyng & many teerys for help

& socowr ageyn her enmys A noon owyr lord seyd to hir mende

Drede þe nowt dowt*yr* þi felawshep xal non harm han whyl

þ*u* art in her cu*m*pany •• And so blyssed mote owyr lord ben in alle

hys werkys þei wentyn forth in safte to constawns .;.

**U**han þ*i*s creatur & hir felawshep was come to c*on*stawns •

sche herd tellyn of an englysch frer A mayst*yr* of

diuinite & þe Popys legat was in þ*at* Cite • þan

sche went to þat worshepful man & schewyd ~~hir~~ hym hire

lyfe fro þe begynnyng vn to þ*at* owyr • as ny as sche mygth

in co*n*fessyon be cause he was þe Popys legate & a worshep//

ful clerk • & aft*yr* sche teld hym what disese sche had wyth

hir felawshep •• Sche teld hym also what g*ra*c*e* god ȝaf hir

of co*n*tricyon & co*m*pu*n*ccyon of swetnes & deuocyon & of //

many dyuers reuelacyons • whech owyr lord had reuelyd

vn to hir • & þe dred • þ*at* sche had of Illusyons • & deceyt*ys* of

hir gostly enmys • wher for • sche leuyd in gret drede • desy//

ryng to putte hem a way • & non for to felyn • ȝyf sche myth

w*yth*stonde hem / & whan sche had seyd • þe worshepful clerke

ȝaf hir word*ys* of gret comfort • & seyd • it was þe werke of

þe holy gost • comawndyng & chargyng hir to obey hem •

& receyue hem whan god wold ȝeue hem • & no dowt han

for þe deuyl hath no powyr to werkyn swech grace in a

sowle •/ & also he seyd he wold supportyn hir aȝen þ*e* euyl

wyl of hir felawschep •• Aft*yr*ward whan it lykyd hir fe//

lawshep • þei p*re*ydeþ*i*s worthy doctowr to dyner •• And þ*e*

doctowr teld so þe forseyd creatur • warnyng hir to syttyn

at þe mete in hys presens • as sche dede in hys absens •

& kepyn þe same man*er* of gou*er*nawns • þ*at* sche kept whan

he was not þer •• Whan tyme was comyn þ*at* þei schulde

syttyn at mete eu*er*y man toke hys place as hym liked •

þe worshepful legat & docto*wr* • fyrst sett • & sythen oþ*er* • &

at þe last þe seyd creatur at þe bor*dys* ende syttyn[g]

**f. 31v**

& no word spekyng • as sche was won to do • whan þe legate was

not þer • þan þelegate seyd vnto hir • why ar ȝe no myryar &

sche sat stylle & answeryd not as hym self had comawndyd

hir to do • Whan þei had etyn •• þe co*m*pany mad gret co*m*pleynt

vp on þ*i*s creatur • to þe legate • & vttyrly sche xulde no leng*ar*

be in her co*m*pany • les þa*n* he wolde comawndyn hir to etyn

flesch • as þei dedyn • & levyn hir wepyng • & þ*at* sche xulde

not speke so mech of holynes •/ þa*n* þ*e* worshepful docto*wr* seyde

Nay serys I wyl not don byd hir etyn flesch whyl sche may

absteyne hir • & ben þ*e* bett*yr* disposyd to louyn owyr lord • of /

whech of ȝow alle þ*at* mad avowe to gon to Rome barfote •

I wolde not dispense w*yth* hym of hys vow • whyl he myth

fulfillyn it • ne I wyl not byddyn hir etyn flesch whyl //

owyr lord ȝeuyth hir strength to absteyne • As for hyr we//

pyng it is not in my power to restreyn it • for it is þe

ȝyft of þe holy gost • As for hir spekyng I wyl p*re*yhir to

sesyn • tyl sche comyth þ*er* men wyl her hir w*yth* bett*yr* wyl

þa*n* ȝe wyl do • The hei company was wroth & in gret Angyr

þei ȝouyn hir ou*yr* to þe legate • & seyden vttyrly • þei woldy*n*

no mor medyl w*yth* hir •• he ful benyngly & goodly receyued

hir • as þow sche had ben hys modyr • & receyued hir golde

a bowte • xx • pownd & ȝet on of hem w*yth*helde wrongfully

abowte • xvi • pownd • & þei w*yth*heldyn also hir mayden &

wolde not letyn hir gon w*yth* hir maystres / not w*yth*stondy*n*g

sche had behestyd hir maystres & sekyrd hir þ*at* sche xulde

not forsake hir for no need •• And þe legate ordeyned for

þ*i*s creatur & made hir chawnge as sche had ben hys

modyr •/ þa*n* þ*i*s creatur went into a cherche & p*re*yd ow*yr*

lorde to ordeyn hir a ledar • & a non owyr lord spak to hir

& seyd þ*u* xalt haue rygth good help • & a good ledar •• & a//

swythe aft*yr* þ*er* cam to hir an olde man w*yth* a whyte berde •

he was of deuynschir • & he seyd Damsel wyl ȝe p*re*yme

for godd*ys* lofe & for owyr ladys • to gon w*yth* ȝow • & ben ȝo*wr*

[gy]de for ȝo*wr* cuntre men han forsake ȝow • Sche askyd what //

**f. 32r**

was hys name • he seyde my name is willyam wever Sche p*re*yd

hym at þe reu*er*ens of god & of owyr lady þ*at* he wolde helpyn hir

at hir nede • & sche xulde wel rewardyn hym for hys labowre •

& so þei wer a cordyd •/ þa*n* went sche to þe legate & telde hym

how wel owyr lord had ordeynd for hir • & toke hir leue of

hym & of hir cu*m*pany • þ*at* so vngoodly had refusyd hir • & also

of hir mayden whech was bowndyn to a gon w*yth* hir • sche

toke hir leue w*yth* ful heuy cher & rewful • hauyng gret heuy

nes in as meche as sche was in strawnge cu*n*tre • & cowde

no langage ne þema*n* þ*at* xuld ledyn hir neyþ*yr* •• & so þeman

& sche went forth togydder in gret drede & heuynes •/ as

þei went to gydder þeman seyd vnto hir • I am a ferde

þ*u* xalt be take fro me & I xal be betyn for þe& forberyn

my tabbarde •• Sche seyd Willyam dredyth ȝow not • god xal

kepyn vs rygth wel • And þ*i*s c*re*atur had eu*er*y day mend of þ*e*

gospel • whech tellyth of þewoma*n* whech was takyn in

A vowtre & browt be forn owyr lord • & þa*n* sche p*re*yde lord

as þow dreve a wey hir enmys so dryfe a wey my*n* enmys •

& kepe wel my chastite • þ*at* I vowyd to þe• & lateme neu*yr* be

defowlyd for ȝyf I be lord I make mynavow I wyl neu*yr* //

come in Inglonde whil I leue •/ þa*n* went þei forth day be

day & met w*yth* many Ioly men • & þei seyd non euyl worde

to þ*i*s creatur • but ȝouyn hir& hyr man mete & drynke

& þegood wyvys • þ*er* þeiweryn at inne leyden hir in her

owyn bedd*ys* for godd*y*slofe in many plac*ys* þ*er* þei come • &

owyr lord vysitehir w*yth* gret g*ra*ce of gostly co*m*fort as sche

went be þewey / & so god browt hir forth tyl sche cam

to boleyn deg*ra*ce & aft*yr* þ*at* sche was come þedyr ca*m* hir

oþ*er* felawshep þedyr also whech had for sakyn hir be for •

& whan þei herdyn sey þ*at* sche was come to boleyn er þa*n*

þei • þa*n* had þei gret wondyr & on of her felawshep cam

to hir • p*re*yng hir to gon to hys felaschep & asayn ȝyf þei

woldyn receyuen hir a geyn into her felawshep & so //

sche dede •7[ ȝyf ȝe wyl gon in owyr felawshep • ȝe must

makyn a new comnawnt • & þ*at* is þ*i*s •7[ ȝe schal not s[peke]

**f. 32v**

of þe gospel wher we come • but ȝe schal syttyn stylle • & makyn

mery as we don boþin at mete • & at soper • Sche co*n*sentyd & was

receyuyd a geyn in to hir felawshep / þa*n* went þei forth to Venyce

& þ*ei* dwellyd þ*er* xiii • wek*y*s / & þ*i*s creatur was howselyd eu*er*y son//

day • in a gret hows of nu*n*nys • & had gret cher a mong hem

wher owyr m*er*cyful lord cryst Ih*es*u visite þ*i*s creatur w*yth* gret

deuocyon & plentyuows terys • þ*at* þe good ladiis of þ*e* place

wer mech a m*er*ueylyd þ*er* of • Sythyn it happyd as þ*i*s creatur

sat at mete w*yth* hir felawshep • þat sche rehersyd a text of

a gospel • lych as sche had leryd be for tyme w*yth* oþ*er* goode

word*y*s • And a non hir felawshep seyd sche had brokyn co//

menawnt • & sche seyd ȝa serys forsoþ*e* I may no leng*ar* hold

ȝow comenawnt • for I must ned*ys* speke of my lord Ih*es*u

c*ri*st / þow al þ*i*s world had forbodyn it me / & þ*an* sche toke

hir chawmbr & ete a lone • vi • wok*ys* • vn to þ*e* tyme þ*at* owyr

lord mad hir so seke • þ*at* sche wend to a be ded • & sythyn so//

deynly he mad hir hool aȝen •/ & al þ*e* tyme hir mayden

let hir a lone / & mad þe cu*m*panyes mete & wesch her cloþ*i*s

& to hir maystres whom sche had behestyd servyse sche //

wolde no dele attende .;.

**A**lso þis cu*m*pany whech had putt þ*e* forseyd creatur fro

her tabyl • *þat* sche xulde no leng*ar* etyn among hem •

ordeynd a schip for hem self to seylyn in • þ*e*i bowty*n*

vessellys for her wyn • & ordeyned hem beddyng for hem

selfe • but nothyng for hir •7 Than sche seyng ther vnkynd//

nesse went to þ*at* same man wher þei haddyn ben / & p*ur*ueyd

for hyr beddyng as þei had don / & cam þ*er* þei weryn / and

schewyd hem how sche had don • p*ur*posyng to seylyn w*yth* hem

in þ*at* schyp whech ~~f~~ þei had ordeyned •• Sithyn as þ*i*s creatur

was in co*n*templacyon owyr lord warnyd hir in hir mende •

/þ*at* sche xuld not seylyn in þ*at* schip & he assyngned hir an//

oþ*er* schip • a galey • þ*at* sche xulde seylyn in • Than sche told þis to

su*m*me of þe cu*m*pany / & þei teld it forth to her felawshep •

[& þ]an þei durst not seyl in þ*e* schip which þ*e*i had ordeyned •

**f. 33r**

/ & so þei seldyn a wey her vessellys whech þei had ordeyned

for ther wynys • & wer ryth fayn to comyn to þe galey • þ*er* sche

was • & so þow it wer a geyn her wyl sche went forth w*yth* hem

in her cu*m*pany • for þei durst non oþ*er*wysedon Whan it was

tyme to makyn her bedd*ys* þei lokyd up her cloþ*i*s & a p*re*ste wech

was in her cu*m*pany • toke a wey a schete fro þe forseyd c*re*atur •

& seyd it was hys • Sche toke god to wytnesse *þat* it was hire

schete • Than þe p*re*steswor a gret othe • & be þe boke in hys

hand þ*at* sche was as fals • as sche mygth be • & dispysed hir •

& al to rebukyd hir • & so sche had eu*yr* mech tribulacyon •

tyl sche cam to Ih*e*r*usa*l*e*m / & er sche cam þ*er* • sche seyd to hem

þat sche supposyd þei weryn grevyd *wyth* hir • I p*re*yȝow serys beth

in charite w*yth* me • for I am in charite w*yth* ȝow & forȝeuyth me þ*at*

I haue grevyd ȝow • be þe wey / & ȝyf any of ȝow hath any þ*•*ng

trespasyd a ȝens me •• god forȝeue it ȝow / & I do [ & so þei went

forth in to þe holy lond tyl þei myth se Ier*usa*l*e*m •• And whan þ*i*s

creatur saw Ier*usa*l*e*m ^ rydyng on an asse sche thankyd god w*yth*

al hir hert p*re*yng hym • for hys m*er*cy• þ*at* lych as he had browt

hir to se þ*i*s erdly cyte Ier*us*al*e*m he wold grawntyn hir g*ra*ce

to se þ*e* blysful cite ^of Ier*usa*l*e*m abouyn ^.s. þ*e* cyte of heuyn •• Owyr

lord Ih*es*u cryst answeryng to hyr thowt • grawntyd hir to

haue hir desyr • þa*n* for ioy þ*at* sche had & þe swetnes þ*at* sche

felt • in þe dalyawnce of owyr lord • sche was in poynt to a

fallyn of hir asse • for sche myth not beryn þe swetnesse &

g*ra*ce• þ*at* god wrowt in bir sowle •/ þa*n* tweyn pylgrymys of

duchemen went to hir & kept hir fro fallyng of whech þ*e* on

was a p*re*ste•and he put spyc*ys* in hir mowth to comfort hir •

wenyng sche had ben seke • & so þei holpyn hir forth to Ier*usa*l*e*m •

And whan sche cam þ*er* sche seyd • Serys I p*re*yȝow beth nowt

displesyd • þow I weþe sore in þ*i*s holy place wher owyr lord

Ih*es*u crist was qwyk & ded • Than went þei to þe tempyl

in Ier*usa*l*e*m & þei wer latyn in on þ*e* to on day at evynsong tyme

& ^ abydyn þ*er*intil þ*e* next day at euynsong tyme •/ þan þe *//*

ffrerys lyftyd up a cros & led þepylg*ri*mys abowte • fro [on]

place to an oþ*er* wher owyr lord had sufferyd hys [peynys]

**f. 33v**

and hys passyons eu*ery* man & woman beryng a wax candel

in her hand /& þefrerys alwey as þeiwent abowte • teld hem

what owyr lord sufferyd in eu*er*yplace / & þeforseyd creatur

wept & sobbyd so plentyvowsly • as þowsche had seyn owyr

lord wyth hir bodyly ey • sufferyng hys passyon at þ*at* tyme •

befor hir in hyr sowle sche saw hym v*er*ily be contemplacy//

on • & þ*at* cawsyd hir to haue co*m*passion • & whan þei cam

vp on to þemownt of Caluarye sche fel down • þ*at* sche //

mygth not stondyn • ne knelyn • but walwyd & wrestyd w*yth*

hir body • spredyng hir armys a brode • & cryed w*yth* a lowde

voys • as þowhir hert xulde a brostyn • asundyr • for in

þeCite of hir sowle sche saw veryly & freschly how

owyr lord was c*ru*cified • beforn hir face sche herd and

saw in hir gostly sygth þ*e* mornyng of owyr lady • of sen

Iohn • & mary mawdelyn • and of many oþ*er* þ*at* louyd owyr

lord & sche had so gret co*m*passyon • & so gret peyn to se

owyr lord*ys* peyn • þ*at* sche myt not kepe hir self fro krying

& roryng þow sche xuld a be ded • þ*er*for •And þ*i*swas þ*e* fyrst

cry þ*at* eu*yr* sche cryed in any co*n*templacyon • And þ*i*sman*er*

of crying enduryd many ȝerys aft*yr* þ*i*styme for ~~þ~~ owt

þ*at* any man myt do / & þ*er*forsufferyd sche mych despyte

& mech rep*re*fe • þe cryeng was so lowde & so wondyrful

þ*at* it made þepepyl a stoynd • les þan þeihad herd it

be forn • & er elly þ*at* þeiknew þecawse of þecrying •/ &

sche had hem so oftyn tymes • þ*at* þeimadyn hir ryth //

weyke in hir bodyly myghtys • & namely yf sche herd

of owyr lord*ys* passion / & su*m*tyme whan sche saw þe //

crucyfyx • er yf sche sey a man had a wownde er a best •

wheþ*yr* it wer •• er ȝyf a man bett a childe • be for hir • er

smet an hors • er an oþ*er* best w*yth* a whippe •[ ȝyf sche myth

sen it er heryn it hir • thowt sche saw owyr lord be

betyn er wowndyd • lyk as sche saw in þe man • er in þ*e*

best • as wel in þe feld • as in þe town / & be hir selfe

[alon]e as wel as a mong þe pepyl •• ffyrst whan sche

**f. 34r**

had hir crying*ys* at Ier*usa*l*e*m sche had hem oftyn tymes • & in Rome

also / & whan sche come hom in to Inglonde • fyrst at hir comyng

hom it comyn but seldom as it wer onys in a moneth •’•

sythen onys in þe weke • aftyrward cotidianly / & onys sche had

xiiii • on o day •/ & an oþ*er* day sche had vii • & so as god wolde

visiten hir Su*m*tyme in þe cherch • su*m*tyme in þe strete • su*m*tym

in þe chawmbre • su*m*tyme in þe felde whan god wold sendy*n*

hem • for sche knew neu*yr* tyme ne owyr whan þei xulde

come & þei come neu*yr* w*yth*owtyn passyng gret swetnesse

of deuocyon • & hey co*n*templacyon / & as sone as sche p*ar*cey//

vyd þ*at* sche xulde crye • sche wolde kepyn it in as mech as

sche myth • þ*at* þe pepyl xulde not an herd it • for noyng

of hem • for su*m*me seyd it was a wikkyd spiryt vexid hir

su*m* seyd it was a sekenes • su*m* seyd sche had dronkyn to mech

wyn •• su*m* bannyd hir •• su*m* wisshed • sche had ben in þ*e* hauyn

su*m* wolde sche had ben in þese in a bottu*m*les boyt • And

so ich man as hym thowte •7[ oþ*er* gostly men louyd hir

& fauowrd hir þe mor •• Su*m* gret clerk*ys* seyden owyr lady

cryed neu*y*r so • ne no seynt in heuyn •• but þei knewyn ful //

lytyl what sche felt / ne þei wolde not beleuyn • but þ*at*

sche myth an absteynd hir fro crying • yf sche had wold •

And þ*er*forwhan sche knew þ*at* sche xulde cryen • sche kept it

in as long as sche mygth • & dede al þ*at* sche cowde to //

withstond it / er ellys to put it a wey til sche wex as blo as

any leed / & eu*yr* it xuld labowryn in hir mende mor and

mor • into þe tyme • þ*at* it broke owte • & whan þe body myth

ne lengar enduryn þe gostly labowr • but was ou*yr* come

w*yth* / þ*e* vnspekabyl lofe þ*at* wrowt so feruently in þ*e* sowle

þa*n* fel sche down • & cryed wondyr lowed / & þe mor þ*at* sche

wolde labowryn to keþe it in • er • to put it a wey • mech

þe mor xulde sche cryen • & þe mor lowder • And þ*us* sche

dede in þe mownt of caluarye as it is wretyn befo[rn]

Sche had so very co*n*templacyon in þ*e* sygth of hir s[owle]

f. 34v

as yf crist had hangyn be for hir bodily eye in hys manhode / &

whan thorw dispensacyon of þe hy m*er*cyof owyr souereyn sa//

vyowr c*ri*st Ih*es*u / it was grawntyd þ*i*s crcatur • to beholdyn so

verily hys p*re*cyows tendyr body • al to rent • & toryn • w*yth* scorg*ys*

mor ful of wownd*ys* • þa*n* eu*yr* was duffehows of holys hangy*n*g

vp on þ*e* cros • w*yth* þe corown of thorn upon hys heuyd •/ hys

blysful hand*ys* hys tendyr fete nayled to þe hard tre / þe

reuerys of blood flowyng owt plentevowsly of eu*er*y membr*e*

/ þe gresly & grevows wownde in hys p*re*cyows syde • schedy*n*g

owt blood & wat*yr* for hir lofe & hir saluacyon / þa*n* sche fel

down & cryed w*yth* lowde voys wondyrfully • t*ur*nyng & wres//

tyng hir body • on eu*er*y syde • spredyng hir armys a brode •

as ȝyf sche xulde a deyd • & not cowde kepyn hir fro crying

And þese bodily mevyng*ys* for þe fyer of lofe þ*at* brent so

feruently in hir sowle • w*yth* pur pyte & co*m*passyon • It is

nowt ^not to be m*er*ueyled ȝyf þ*i*s creatur cryed & made

wondirful cher & cuntenawns • whan we may se eche

day at eye boþ*e* men and women • su*m*me for los of werdly

good • su*m* for affeccyon of her kynred • er for werdly fren//

shepys thorw ou*yr* fele stody & erdly affeccyon / & most

of alle for inordinat lofe • & fleschly affeccyon / ȝyf her

frend*ys* er partyn fro hem / þei wyl cryen & roryn and

wryngyn her hand*ys* • as ȝyf þei had no wytte • ne non

mende / & ȝet wetyn þei wel i now þ*at* þei displesyn //

god / & ȝyf a man cownsel hem to leevyn er seesyn of

her wepyng er crying / þei wyl seyn þ*at* þei may not •/ þei

louyd her frend so meche / & he was so gentyl & so kende

to hem þ*at* þei may be no wey forȝetyn hym •7/ how meche

mor myth þei wepyn cryen & roryn / ȝyf her most

belouyd frend*ys* wer w*yth* vyolens takyn in her sygth • &

w*yth* al man*er* of rep*re*fe browt be for þe Iuge wrongfully

co*n*demnyd to þe deth / & namely so spyteful a deth as o*wr*

m*er*cyful lord suffyrd for owyr sake • how schuld þei suf//

[fyr y]t • No dowt but þei xulde boþ*e* cry & rore & wrekyn

**f. 35r**

hem ȝyf þei myth / & ellys men wold sey þei wer no frend*ys* •Alas

alas for sorwe þ*at* þe deth of a creatur whech hat oftyn synned

& trespasyd a geyn her maker • xal be so vnmesurabely mor//

nyd & sorwyd • & it is offens to god & hyndryng to þ*e* sowlys

on eche side • And þe co*m*passyfe deth of owyr savyowr • be þ*e*

whech we arn alle restoryd to lyfe • is not had in mende

of us vnworthy & vnkende wretchys [ne not we wylle

supportyn owyr lord*ys* owyn secretariis • whech he hath in//

dued w*yth* lofe • but raþ*ar* detractyn hem & hyndryn hem •

in as mech as wþei may .;.

**W**han þis creatur w*yth* hir felawshep cam to þ*e* grave

wher owyr lord was beriid • a non as sche entryd þ*at*

holy place sche fel down • w*yth* hir candel in hir

hand • as sche xuld a deyd for sorwe • & sythen sche ros vp

a geyn w*yth* gret wepyng • & sobbyng • as þow sche had seyn

owyr lord beriid euen be for hir •/ þa*n* sche thowt sche saw

owyr lady in hir sowle • how sche mornyd & how sche wept

hir sonys deth / & þa*n* was owyr ladiis sorwe hir sorwe / &

so ~~owyr lady~~ ou*yr* al wherþ*at* eu*yr* þ*e* frerys led hem in þ*at* holy

place / sche alwey wept & sobbyd wondyrfully / and specialy

whan sche cam þ*er* owyr lord was nayled on þ*e* cros / þ*er* cryed

sche & wept w*yth*owtyn mesur / þ*at* sche myth not restreyn

hir self • Also þei comyn to a ston of marbyl þ*at* owyr lord

was leyd on whan he was takyn down of þe cros / & þ*er*

sche wept w*yth* gret co*m*passyon hauyng mend of owyr lord*ys*

passyon • Aft*yr* ward*ys* sche was howselyd on þ*e* mownt of

caluarye / & þan sche wept sche sobbyd sche cryed so lowde

þ*at* it wondyr ^then to heryn it •• sche was so ful of holy thowt*ys* &

medytacyons & holy co*n*templacyons in þ*e* passyon of ow*yr*

lord Ih*es*u crist • & holy dalyawns • þ*at* owyr lord Ih*es*u crist

dalyed to hir sowle • þ*at* sche cowde neu*yr* exp*re*ssyn hem aft*yr*

so hy & so holy þei weryn •/ Meche was þ*e* grace þ*at* owyr lord

schewyd to þ*i*s creatur whyl sche • iii • wekys was in Ier*usa*l*e*m

An oþ*er* day erly in þe morwenyng þei went a geyn[es to]

**f. 35v**

gret hyllys / & her gydes teld wher owyr lord bare þe cros on

hys bakke • & wher hys modyr met w*yth* hym • & how sche swo//

wnyd & how sche fel down • & he fel down also • & so þ*e*i went

forth al þ*e* for noone • tyl þei ca*m* to þe mownt • Syon • And

eu*yr* þ*i*s creatur wept Abundawntly • al þe wey • þ*at* sche went •

for co*m*passyon of owyr lord*ys* passyon •/ In þe Mownt Syon

is a place wher owyr lord wesch hys disciplys fete • & a lityl

þ*er* fro • he mad hys mawnde w*yth* hys disciplys • And þ*er* forþ*i*s

creatur had gret desyr to be howselyd in þ*at* holy place •//

wher owyr m*er*cyful lord crist Ih*es*u fyrst Sacryd hys p*re*cyows

body in þ*e* forme of bred / & ȝaf it to hys discipulys • And so

sche was w*yth* gret deuocyon w*yth* plentevows teerys & wyth

boystows sobbyng*ys* • for in þ*i*s place is plen*yr* remyssyon &

so is in oþ*er* • iiii • placys in þe tempyl •[ on is in þe Mownt

of caluarye • An oþ*er* at þe g*ra*uewher owyr lord was beriid

/ þe thridde is at þe marbyl ston þ*at* hys p*re*ciows body was

leyd on whan it was takyn of þe cros •/ þe ferd is • þ*er* þ*e*

holy cros was beriid • & in many oþ*er* placys of Ier*usa*l*e*m •

And whan þ*i*s creatur cam in to þe place þ*er* þ*e* apostelys

receyued þe holy gost / owyr lord ȝaf hir gret deuocyon

Aft*yr*ward sche went to þe place þ*er* owyr lady was beriid

/ & as sche knelyd on hyr knes þe tyme of tweyn messys

heryng • owyr lord Ih*es*u crist seyd on to hir • þ*u* comyst not

hedyr dowt*yr* for no nede but for meryte & for mede • for

thy synnes wer for ȝouyn þ*e* er thow come her • & þ*er*for þ*u*

comyst/ hedyr for incresyng of þi mede & of þi meryte

& I am wel plesyd w*yth* þe dowt*y*r for þ*u* stondist vnd*yr* obedy//

ens of holy cherch • & þ*at* þ*u* wylt obey þ*i* confesso*wr* & folwyn

hys cownsel • whech thorw auctorite of holy cherch hath

asoyld þe of þi synnes • & dispensyd w*yth* þe þ*at* þ*u* schuldist

not go to Rome • ne to seynt Iamys les þa*n* þ*u* wyl þ*i*n

owyn selfe / not w*yth*stondyng al þ*i*s I comawnde þ*e* in þe //

name of Ih*es*u dowt*yr* þ*at* þ*u* go vysite þ*e*s holy plac*ys* • & do

[as] I byd þe • for I am a boue al holy cherch & I xal gon

[wythþe] & kepyn þe rygth wel • Than owyr lady spak to hir //

**f. 36r**

sowle • on þ*i*s man*er* seying • Dowt*yr* wel art þ*u* blyssed • for my

sone Ih*es*u xal flowyn so mech grace in þe þ*at* al þe world xal

wondryn of þe •• be not aschamyd my derworthy dowt*yr* • to re//

ceyue þe ȝyft*ys* whech my sone xal ȝeuyn þe • for I telle þe

in trewth þei xal be gret ȝyft*ys* •þ*at* he xal ȝeue þ*e* •/ & þ*er*fore

my derworthy dowt*yr* be not aschamyd of hym þ*at* is þi god •

þi lord • & þi lofe / no mor þa*n* I was whan I saw hym han//

gyn on þe cros my swete sone Ih*es*u • for to cryen & to

wepyn for þe peyn of my swete sone Ih*es*u crist / ne Mary

Mawdelyn was not aschamyd to cryen & wepyn for my

sonys lofe And þ*er*for dowt*yr* ȝyf þ*u* wylt be p*ar*tabyl in //

owyr Ioye • þ*u* must be partabil in owyr sorwe •/ þes swet

spech & dalyawns • had þ*i*s creatur at owyr ladiis *gra*ue•

& mech mor þa*n* sche cowde eu*yr* rehersyn •• aft*yr*ward sche

rood on an asse to Bedlem / & wha*n* sche cam to þe tempyl

& to þe crybbe wher owyr lord was born •/ sche had

gret deuocyon mech spech & dalyawns in hyr sowle •

& hy gostly co*m*fort • w*yth* mech wepyng & sobbyng • So þ*at*

hir felaws wold not latyn hir etyn in her cu*m*pany •

& þ*e*rfor sche ete hir mete be hir selfe alone • And þ*an*

þe grey frerys whech had led hir fro place to place /

/ receyued hir into hem & sett hir w*yth* hem at þ*e* mete •

þ*at* sche xuld not etyn alone • And on of þe ffrerys as//

kyd on of hir felawshep ȝyf þ*at* ^she wer þe woman of

Inglond þe which þei had herd seyd • spak w*yth* god •/ & wha*n*

þ*i*s ca*m* to hir knowlach • sche wist wel þ*at* it was trewth

þ*at* owyr lord seyd to hir / er sche went owt of Inglond

Dowt*yr* I xal makyn al þe werld to wondryn of þe / &

many man & many woman xal spekyn of me for

lofe of þe & worshepyng me in þe .;.

**A**N oþ*er* tyme þ*i*s creaturys felawshep wold gon

to flod of Iurdon / & wold not letyn h[ir] g[on]

w*yth* hem •/ þan þ*i*s creatur p*re*yd owyr l[ord Ihesu]

**f. 36v**

þ*at* sche myth gon w*yth* hem / & he bad þ*at* sche xuld go w*yth* hem •7/

wheþ*yr* þei wold er not / and þa*n* sche went forth be þe g*ra*ce

of god / & askyd hem no leue • Whan sche cam to þe flood

of Iurdan / þe wedyr was so hoot • þat sche wend hir feet

schuld a brent for þe hete þ*at* sche felt • Sithyn sche went

forth w*yth* hir felawschep to þe mownt qwarentyne • þ*er*

owyr lord fastyd fowrty days • & þ*er* sche p*re*yd hir felaw//

shep to helpyn hir up on to þe mownt / & þei seyd nay

for þei cowd not wel helpyn hem self • þan had sche

mekyl sorwe / for sche myth not comyn on þe hille • and

a non happyd a Saraȝyn • a welfaryng man to comyn

by hir & sche put a grote in hys hand • makyng to hym

a token for to bryng hir onto þe mownt / & as swythe

þ*e* saraȝyn toke hir vndyr hys arme • & led hir up on to

þe hey mownt wher owyr lord fastyd fowrty days / þa*n*

was sche sor a thryste & had no comfort of hirfelashyp

/ þan god of hys hey goodnes meuyd þe grey ffrerys w*yth*

compassyon & þei comfortyd hir • whan hircu*n*tremen

wolde not knowyn hir • & so sche was eu*yr* mor strengthyd

in þe lofe of owyr lord / & þe mor bold to suffyr shamys

& rep*re*uys for hys sake in eu*er*y place þ*er* sche cam / for þ*e*

grace þ*at* god wrowt in hir of wepyng sobbyng and

crying / þe which g*ra*ce sche myth not w*yth*stonde • whan god

wold send it / & eu*yr* sche p*re*uyd hir felyng*ys* trewe / & þo

behest*ys* þ*at* god had be hyte hir whil she was in Inglond

and in oþ*er* plac*ys* • Also þei fellyn to hir in effect lych as

sche had felt beforn / & þ*er*for sche durst þe bettyr rece//

yuen swech spechys & dalyawns / & þe mor boldly wer//

kyn þ*er* aftyr • Sithyn whan þ*i*s creatur was comy*n* down

of þe mownt as god wold / sche went forth to þ*e* place

þ*er* seynt Ion Baptyst was born / & sythyn sche went

to betanye þ*er* Mary & Martha dwellyd / & to þe grave

[þ*er*]La[ȝer] was beriid / & reysed fro deth in to lyfe • And sche

[was also] in þe chapel þ*er* owyr blyssed Lord aperyd to //

**f. 37r**

hys blysful modyr on estern day at Morwyn fyrst of alle

oþ*er* /& sche stode in þe same place þ*er* Mary Mawdelyn stode

whan crist seyd to hir Mary why wepyst þ*u* •/ And so sche was

in many mo plac*ys* þa*n* be wretyn / for sche was iii wekys

in Ier*usa*l*e*m& in þe cuntreys þ*er* a bowtyn / & • sche had euer

gret deuocyon as long as sche was in þ*at* cu*n*tre / and þ*e*

ffrerys of þe tempyl mad hir gret cher / and ȝouyn hir many

gret relyk*ys* / desiryng þ*at* sche schuld a dwellyd stille amongs

hem ȝyf sche had wold • for þe feyth þei had in hir • Also þ*e*

Saraȝines mad mych of hir • & conueyd hir • & leddyn hir • a//

bowtyn in þ*e* cuntre wher sche wold gon / & sche fond alle

pepyl good on to hir & gentyl / saf only hir owyn cu*n*tre//

men • And as sche cam fro Ie*rusa*l*e*mward vnto Rafnys •’•

/ þan wold sche a t*ur*nyd a geyne to Ier*usa*l*e*mfor þ*e* gret g*ra*ce&

gostly comfort • þ*at* sche felt whan sche was þ*er* /& for to p*ur*//

chasyn hir mor p*ar*don•And þa*n* owyr lord comawndyd hir

for to gon to Rome / & so forth hom into Inglond / & seyd

vn to hir •/ Dowt*yr* as oftyn tymes as þ*u* seyst or thynkyst

worshepyd be alle þo holy^ plac*ys* in Ier*usa*l*e*m þ*at* crist suffyrde

bitt*y*r peyn & passyon in •’/ þ*u* schalt haue þe same p*ar*don

as ȝyf þ*u* wer þ*er* w*yth* þi bodily p*re*sens • bothyn to þ*i* self &

to alle þo þ*at* þ*u* wylt ȝeuyn it to • And as sche went forth

vn to Venyce • mych of hir ferachep was ryth seke / & eu*yr*

owyr lord seyd to hir •• Drede þe not dowt*yr* þ*er* schal no ma*n*

deyin in þe schip þ*at* þ*u* art in / & sche fond hir felyngys

ryth trewe • And whan owyr lord had browt hem a geyn

to venyce in safte / hir cu*n*tre men forsokyn hir • & went

a way fro hir • leuyng hir a lone • & su*m*me of hem seyden

þ*at* þei wold not go w*yth* hir • for an hundryd pownd • And

whan þei wer gon a wey fro hir • þan owyr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st

þ*at* eu*yr* helpyth at nede • & neu*yr* forsakyth hys s*er*uaw[nt þat]

trewly trostith to hys m*er*cy • seyd to hys creatur •• D[rede]

þ*e* not dowt*yr* for I xal ordeyn for þ*e* ryth wel & br[yng þe]

**f. 37v**

in safte to Rome & hom a geyn in to Inglond w*yth*owtyn ony

velany of þi body [ȝyf thow wilt be clad in white clothys

& weryn hem as I seyd to þ*e* whil þ*u* wer in Inglond • Than

þ*i*s creatur beyng in gret heuynes & gret diswer answeryd

a ȝen in hir mende / ȝyf þ*u* be þe spiryt of god þ*at* spekyst

in my sowle / & I may p*re*uyn þe for a trew spiryt w*yth* cown//

sel of þ*e* chirche I xal obey þ*i* wille • And ȝyf þ*u* bryng me

to Rome in safte I xal weryn white clothys / þow alle þ*e*

world schuld wondyr on me for þi lofe •• Go forth dowt*yr*

in þe name of Ih*es*u / for I am þe spirit of god / þ*e* whech

xal helpyn þe • at al thy nede • gon w*yth* þ*e* & supportyn þe •

in eu*er*y place / & þ*er*for mystrost me not • þ*u* fondist me //

neu*yr* deceyuabyl / ne I bid þ*e* no thyng do • but þ*at* whech is .

worshep to god & p*ro*fyte to thy sowle / ȝyf þ*u* wilt do þ*er*

aft*yr* • And I xal flowyn on þe gret plente of g*ra*ce Than

a non as sche lokyd on þe on syde • sche sey a powyr //

man sittyng • whech had a gret cowche on hys bakke •

hys cloþ*i*s wer al for clowtyd • & he semyd a man of • l •

wynt*yr* age •/ þa*n* sche went to hym & seyde • Gode man

what eyleth ȝo*wr* bak • he seyd damsel it was brokyn in

a sekenes • Sche askyd what was hys name / & what

cu*n*treman he was • he seyd hys name was Richard •

& he was of Erlond • Than thowt sche of hir co*n*fessorys

wordys • whech was an holy ankyr • as is wretyn be for

þ*at* seyd to hir whil sche was in Inglond • in þ*i*s maner •

Dowt*yr* whan ȝo*wr* owyn felawshep hath forsakyn ȝow •

god xal ordeyn a broke bakkyd man • to lede ȝow forth

þ*er* ȝe wil be •• Than sche w*yth* a glad spirit seyde vn to hym

Good Richard ledith me to Rome & ȝe xal be rewardyd

for ȝo*wr* labo*wr* •• Nay damsel he seyd I wot wel þ*i* cu*n*tremen

han forsakyn þe / & þ*er*forit wer hard to me to ledyn þ*e* •

[for t]hy cu*n*tre men han bothyn bowys & arwys • w*yth* þe

[whec]h þei myth defendyn bothyn þe & hem self •• And

[I haue] no wepyn save a cloke ful of clowt*ys* / & ȝet I //

**f. 38r**

drede meþ*at* myn enmys xul robbyn me / & p*e*rauentur takyn

þ*e* awey fro me / & defowlyn thy body & þ*er*forI dar not ledyn

þe • for I wold not for an hundryd pownd þ*at* þ*u* haddyst a vy//

lany in my cu*m*pany •/ & þa*n* sche seyd a ȝen • Richard dredith ȝow

not god xal kepyn vs boþen ryth wel • & I xal ȝeue ȝow

too noblys • for ȝo*wr* labowr • þa*n* he co*n*sentyd & went forth

w*yth* hir • Sone aft*yr* þ*er* cam too grey ffrerys • & a woman þ*at*

cam w*yth* hem fro Ier*usa*l*e*m/ & sche had w*yth* hir an asse þ*e* whech

bar a chyst • & an ymage þ*er*in• mad aft*yr* our lord • And þa*n*

seyd Richard to þe forseyd creatur •/ þ*u* xalt go forth wyth

þes too men & woman & I xal metyn w*yth* þ*e* at morwyn

& at euyn •/ for I must gon on my p*ur*chase & beggyn

my leuyng / & so sche dede aft*yr* hys cownsel & went //

forth w*yth* þ*e* frer*ys* • & þe woman / & non of hem cowde vn//

dirstand hir langage / & ȝet þei ordeyned for hir eu*er*yday

mete drynke & hcrborwe / as wel as he dedyn for hem

selfe / & raþ*ar* bett*yr* • þ*at* sche was eu*yr* bownden to p*re*yfor hem •

/ & eu*er*yeuyn & morwyn • Richard w*yth* þ*e* broke bak cam

& co*m*fortyd hir as he had p*ro*mysed •• And þe woman the

which had þ*e* ymage in þe chist • whan þei comyn in

good citeys • sche toke owt þe ymage owt of hir chist

& sett it in worshepful wyf*ys* lappys • & þei wold puttyn

schirt*ys* þ*er*up on & kyssyn it • as þei it had ben god hym

selfe / & whan þe creatur sey þe worshep & þ*e* reu*e*rens

þ*at* þei dedyn to þe ymage / sche was takyn w*yth* swet deuo//

cyon & swet meditacyons / þ*at* sche wept w*yth* gret sobbyng

& lowde crying / & sche was meuyd in so mych þe mor

as whil sche was in Inglond • sche had hy meditacyons

in þe byrth & þe childhode of crist / & sche thankyd

god for as mech as sche saw þ*e*s creaturys han so gret

feyth in þ*at* sche sey w*yth* hir bodily eye / lych as sche had

be forn w*yth* hir gostly eye •/ Whan þes good women seyn

þ*i*s creatur wepyn sobbyn & cryen so wondirfully &

**f. 38v**

mythtyly • þ*at* sche was n*er*hand ou*yr*comyn þ*er*w*yth* •/þa*n* þei ordeyned a

good soft bed / & leyd hir þ*er*up on /& co*m*fortyd hir as mech as

þei myth for owyr lord*ys* lofe • blyssed mot he ben .;.

**T**he forseyd creatur had a ryng • þe whech owyr lord

had comawndyd hir to do makyn • whil she was at

hom in Inglond / & dede byd hir g*ra*vynþ*er*up on Ih*esu* c*rist* est

amor me*us* •[underlined by RIA] Sche had mech thowt how sche xulde kepe þ*i*s

ryng fro theuys / & stelyng as sche went be þe cu*n*treys / for

sche thowt sche wold not a lost þe ryng for a thowsand

pownde & meche mor / be cause þ*at* sche dede it makyn be

þe byddyng of god / & also sche weryd it be hys byddyng

for sche p*ur*posyd befor tyme er þa*n* sche had it be reuelacyon

• neu*yr* to a weryd ryng • And as it happyd hir to be herberwyd

in a good mannys hows & many neyborwys comyn in

to cheryn hir for hir p*er*feccyon & hir holynes / & sche ȝaf

hem þe mett of crist*ys* g*ra*ve/ þe whech þei receyued ful

goodly hauyng gret Ioy • þ*er*of/ & þankyd hir hyly þ*er*fore •

Sithen þ*i*s creatur went to hir chawmbre / & let hir ryng

hang be hir purs stryng whech sche bar at hir brest • In

þe morwenyng • on þe next day • whan sche wold a takyn

hir ryng • it was go • sche myth not fyndyn it •/ þa*n* had

sche mekyl heuynes & compleyned to þe good wyfe of þ*e*

hows • seying in þ*i*s wyse • madam my bone maryd ryng

to Ih*es*u crist as ho seyth it is a wey The good wyfe vn//

dirstondyng what sche ment • p*re*yde hir to p*re*yfor hir • and

sche ~~con~~ chongyd hir cher & hir cu*n*tenawns wondyrly

as thow sche had ben gylty •/ þan þ*i*s creatur toke a candel

in hir hand / & sowt al a bowtyn hir bed • þ*er* sche had leyn

al nygth • And þe good wyfe of þe hows toke an oþ*er* candel

in hir hand & bisyed hir to sekyn also a bowte þ*e* bed / & at

þe last sche fonde þe ryng vndyr þe bed on þe bord*ys* And

w*yth* gret ioye sche telde þe //wyfe// good / þ*at* sche had fownde*n*

[h]ir ryng • þan þe good wyfe obeyng hir / p*re*yd þ*i*s creatur //

**f. 39r**

of forȝeuenes / as sche cowde bone cristian p*re*yp*ur* me •7

Aft*yr*ward þ*i*s creatur ca*m* to Assyse / & þ*er* sche met w*yth* a frer meno*wr*

an englysch man & a solempne clerke / he was holdyn / sche

tolde hym of hir man*er* leuyng of hir feling*ys* of hir reue//

lacyons & of þe g*ra*ce þ*at* god wrowt in hir sowle be holy

inspiracyons & hy co*n*templacyons / & how owyr lord daly//

ed to hir sowle in a man*er* of spekyng •/ þan þ*e* worshep//

ful clerke seyd • þ*at* sche was mech beholdyn to god •/ for //

he seyd he had neu*yr* herd of non sweche in þ*i*s worlde

leuyng for to be so homly w*yth* god be lofe • & homly da//

lyawnce as sche was •/ thankyd be god of hys ȝyftys •

for it is hys goodnes & no mannys m*er*yte/*•* Vp on a

tyme as þ*i*s creatur was in cherche at Assyse • þ*er* was

schewyd owyr ladys kerche • whech sche weryd her in

erth w*yth* gret lygth & gret reu*er*ens / þa*n* þ*i*s creatur had

gret deuocyon • sche wept sche sobbyd • sche cryed • w*yth* gret

plente of teerys & many holy thowt*ys* • Sche was þ*er* also

on lammes day whan þ*er* is gret pardon of plen*yr* remys//

syon for to p*ur*chasyn g*r*ace m*er*cy & forȝeuenes for hir self

for alle hir frend*ys* for alle hir enmys & for alle þe

sowlys in p*ur*gatory / & þ*er* was a lady was comyn fro

Rome to p*ur*chasyn hir pardon hir name was Margar*e*t

florentyne / & sche had w*yth* hir many knygt*ys* of rood*ys* •7

Many gentyl women & mekyl good caryage •/ than

Richard þe brokebakkyd man • went to hir p*re*yng hir

þ*at* þ*i*s creatur mygth gon w*yth* hir to Rome • & hym self

also • for to be kept • fro perel of theuys • And þ*an* þat

worshepful lady receyued hem • in to hir cu*m*panye • &

let hem gon w*yth* hir to Rome as god wolde • Whan þ*e*

forseyd creatur was comyn in to Rome / & þei þat

weryn hir felaws be forn tyme & put hir owt of her

cu*m*pany weryn in Rome also / & herd tellyn of swech a

woman was come þedyr •/ þei had gret wondir how

**f. 39v**

sche cam þ*er* in safte • And þa*n* sche went & ordeynd hir white

clothys • & was clad al in white / liche as sche was comawn//

dyd for to do ȝerys be forn in hir sowle be reuelacyon

/ & now it was fulfilt in effect / þa*n* was þ*i*s creatur re//

ceyued in to þe hospital of Seynt *Thomas* of Cawnt*yr*//

bery in Rome / & þ*er* was sche howselyd eu*er*y sonday w*yth*

gret wepyng • boistows sobbyng • & lowde crying / & was

hyly belouyd w*yth* þe Mayst*yr* of þe hospital • & w*yth* alle //

hys breþ*yr* • And þa*n* thorw steryng of hyr gostly enmy

þ*er* cam a p*re*ste þ*at* was holdyn an holy man in þ*e* hospi//

tal / & also in *o*þ*er* plac*ys* of Rome / þe whech was on of

hir felaws & on of hir owyn cu*n*tre men / & not wyth//

stondyng hys holynes •/ he spak so euyl of þ*i*s creatur &

slawndryd so hir name • in þe hospital / þ*a*t thorw hys euyl

langage sche was put owte of þe hospital þ*at* sche //

myth no lengar be schrevyn ne howselyd þ*er* in .;.

**W**han þ*i*s creatur sey sche was forsakyn &

put fro a mong þe good men / sche was ful

heuy / most for sche had no co*n*fesso*wr* •/ ne myth

not be schrevyn þa*n* as sche wolde / þa*n* p*re*yde sche owyr

lord of hys m*er*cyþ*at* he wolde disposyn for hir • as was

most plesawns vn to hym w*yth* gret plente of teerys / & sithyn

sche clepyd on to hir þe forseyd Richard w*yth* þ*e* broke bak p*re*yng

hym to go ouyr to a cherch a ȝen þe hospital / & enfor//

myn þe p*er*son of þ*e* chyrche of hir man*er* of gou*er*nawnce •

/ & what sorwe sche had • & how sche wept for sche myth

not be schrevyn • ne howselyd / & what co*m*pu*n*ccyon and

cont*ri*cyon sche had for hir synnes • Than Richard went

to þe person / & enformyd hym of þ*i*s creatur / & how ow*yr*

lord ȝaf hir co*n*tricyon & co*m*pu*n*ccyon w*yth* gret plente of

teerys / & how sche desired to be howseld eu*er*y sonday •

ȝyf sche myth / & sche had no p*re*ste to be schrevyn to • And

þan þ*e* person heryng of hir co*n*tricyon & co*m*pu*n*ccyon was

ryth glad / & bad sche xulde come to hym in þe name

[of] Ih*es*u / & sey hir co*n*fiteor / & he xulde howseln hire //

**f. 40r**

hys owyn self for he cowde not vndyrstond non englysch

Than owyr lord sent Seynt Iohn þe evangelyst to

heryn hir co*n*fessyon & sche seyd benedicite & he seyd d*omi*n*u*s

verily in hir sowle þ*at* sche saw hym & herd hym in hire

gostly vndirstondyng • as sche xuld a do an oþ*e*r p*re*ste• be

hir bodily wittys Than sche teld hym alle hir synnes •

& al hir heuynes w*yth* many swemful teerys / & he herd

hir ful mekely & benyngly / & sythyn he enioyned hir

penawns • þ*at* sche xuld do for hir trespas / & asoyled hir

of hir synnes w*yth* swet word*ys* / & meke word*ys* / hyly stren//

gthyng hir to trostyn in þe m*er*cyof owyr lord Ih*es*u

crist / & bad hir þ*at* sche xulde receyuen þe sacrament

of þe awt*er* /in þe name of Ih*es*u / & sithyn he passyd a//

wey fro hir • Wha*n* he was go / sche p*re*ydw*yth* al hir hert •

alle þe tyme as sche herd hir messe / lord as wistly as þ*u* art

not wroth w*yth* me • grawnt me a welle of teerys wher

thorw I may receyue þi p*re*cyowsbody • w*yth* al man*er* terys of

deuocyon / to þi worshep & encresyng of my m*er*yte/ for

þ*u* art my Ioye lord • my blysse • my comfort / & alle þ*e* t*re*sor

þ*at* I haue in þ*i*s world / for oþ*er* werdlys Ioye • coueyt I non

but only þe / & þ*er*for my derworthy lord & my god • forsake //

me not • Than owyr blysful lord crist Ih*es*u answeryd to

hir sowle / & seyd mM[redM overwritten on small m]y derworthy dowt*yr* I swer be myn

hy Mageste • þat I xaI neu*yr* forsakyn þe [& dowt*yr* þ*e* mor

schame • despite • & rep*re*fe þ*at* þ*u* sufferyst for my lofe / þe bett*yr*

I lofe þe • ffor I far liche a man • þ*at* louyth wel hys wyfe •

/ þ*e* mor enuye þ*at* men han to hir • þ*e* bett*yr* he wyl arayn hir •

in despite of hir enmys / & ryth so dowt*yr* xal I faryn w*yth* þe •

Inno thyng þ*at* þ*u* dost dowt*yr* ne seyest • þ*u* mayst no bett*yr*

plesyn god • þ*an* to beleuyn þ*at* he louyth þe ffor ȝyf it were

possybyl þ*at* I myth wepyn w*yth* þe I wold wepyn w*yth* þ*e* dowt*yr*

for þe co*m*passion þ*at* I haue of þe •• Tyme xal come wha*n* þ*u*

xalt holdyn þeryth wel plesyd • for it schal be verifyed

in þe /• þe comown p*ro*uerbe þ*at* men seyn •/ he is wel blyssed //

**f. 40v**

þat may sytten on hys wel stool / & tellyn of hys wo stool / & so

xalt þ*u* don dowt*yr* / & al þ*i* wepyng & þi sorwe xal t*ur*nynin to Ioy

& blysse / þ*e* whech þ*u* xalt neu*er* mysse .;.

**A**N oþ*er* tyme as þ*i*s creatur was at seynt Ionys cherch

lat*er*anens be for þe awt*er* heryng þe messe / hir thowt

þ*at* þe p*re*stewhech seyd messe • semyd a good man / &

deuowte / sche was sor mevyd in spiryt / to speke w*yth* hym / þa*n*

sche p*re*yd hir man w*yth* þe brokyn bak • for to gon to þe p*re*ste&

p*re*y*n* hym to spekyn w*yth* hir / þa*n* þe p*re*stevndirstod non englysch

/ ne wist not what sche seyd & sche cowde non oþ*er* langage

þa*n* englisch / & þ*er*for þei spokyn be an int*er*p*re*towr/ a man þat

telde her eyþ*yr* what oþ*er* seyde • Than sche p*re*yd þ*e* p*re*ste in þ*e*

name of Ih*es*uþ*at* he wolde makyn hys p*re*yeris to þ*e* blysful

Trinite • to owirlady • & to alle þe blissed seynt*ys* in hevyn ••

Also sterynoþ*er* þ*at* louedyn owir lord to p*re*ynfor hym / þ*at* he

myth han grace to vndirstondyn hir langage & hir speche

/ in swech thyng*ys* • as sche thorw þe grace of god wold seyn

& schewyn vn to hym •/ þe p*re*ste was a good man & of hys

birth he was a dewcheman / a good clerke & a wel lernyd

man / hily belouyd / wel cherschyd & myche trostyd in Rome

And had on of þe grettest office of any p*re*stein Rome / desy//

ryng to plese god folwyd þe cownsel of þ*i*s creatur / & mad

hys p*ra*erys to god deuowtly as he cowde eu*er*y day / þ*at* he myth

han g*ra*ce • to vndirstandyn what þe forseyd creatur wolde

seyn to hym / & also he mad oþ*er* louerys of owyr lord to p*re*y

for hym [þ*us* þei p*re*yd therten dayd • & aft*yr* therten days • þe

p*re*ste cam a geyn to hir • to p*re*uyn þe effect of her p*re*yerys •

/ & þa*n* he vndirstod what sche seyd in englysch to hym / & sche

vndirstod what þ*at* he seyd / & ȝet he vndirstod not englisch

þ*at* oþ*er* men spokyn / þow þei spokyn þe same word*ys* þ*at* sche spak

/ ȝet he vndirstod hem not • les þa*n* sche spak hir selfe Than

was sche co*n*fessyd to þ*i*s p*re*ste of alle hir synnes / as ner as

hir mende wold s*er*uyn hir • fro hir childhode • vn to þ*at* owre •

/ & receyued hir penawns ful Ioy fully / & sithyn sche schewyd //

**f. 41r**

hym þe secret thyng*ys* of reuelacyonys • & of hey co*n*templacyons •

/ & how sche had swech mend in hys passyon / & so gret co*m*passyon

whan god wolde ȝeue it / þ*at* sche fel down þ*er*w*yth* & myth not beryn it •

/ þa*n* sche wept bitt*yr*ly • sche sobbyd boistowsly • & cryed ful lowde •

& horybly • þ*at* þe pepil was oftyn tymes a ferd • & gretly a//

stoyned • demyng sche had ben vexyd w*yth* su*m* euyl spiryt ~~er~~

~~a sodeyn sekenes~~ / not ^beleuyng it was þ*e* werk of god / but raþ*ar*

su*m* euyl spiryt • er a sodeyn sekenes • er ellys symulacyon

& ypoc*ri*sy • falsly feyned of hir owyn self •• The p*re*ste had

gret trost þ*at* it was þe werk of god / & wha*n* he wolde mys//

trostyn •/ owyr lord sent hym swech tokenys be þe forseyd

creatur of hys owyn mysgou*er*nawns & hys leuyng • þe

whech no man knew but god & he / as owyr lord schewyd

to hir be reuelacyon / & bad hir tellyn hym • þ*at* he wist wel

þ*er*byhir felyng*ys* wer trewe / & þa*n* þ*i*s p*re*ste receyued hir ful mekely

& reuerently as for hys modyr / & for hys syster / & seyd he wolde

supportyn hir a ȝen hir enmys / & so he dede • as long as sche

was in Rome / & sufferd many euyl word*ys* & meche t*ri*bulacyon •

& also he forsoke hys office • be cawse þ*at* he wolde supportyn

hir in hir sobbyng & in hir crying • whan alle hir cu*n*tremen

had forsakyn hir • for þei weryn eu*yr* hir most enmys / & cawsyd

hir mych heuynes in eu*er*y place þ*er* they comyn / for þei wold

þ*at* sche schuldc neyþ*yr* a sobbyd ne cryed / & sche myth nowt

chesyn • but þ*at* wolde þei not belevyn & þ*er* þei wer eu*yr* ageyn

hir • & ageyn þe good man • whech supportyd hir / & þa*n* þ*i*s good

man seyng þ*i*s woman so wondirfully sobbyn & cryin and

specialy on sondays wha*n* sche xuld ben howselde a mong

alle þe pepyl / p*ur*posyd hym to p*re*uyn wheþ*yr* it wer þ*e* ȝyfte

of god as sche seyd • er ellys hir owyn feynyng by ypoc*ri*sy

as þe pepyl seyd / & toke hir a lone an oþ*er* sonday in to

an oþ*er* chirche whan mes was don & alle þ*e* pepil was hom •’

[no man wetyng þ*er*of saf hym self & þe clerk only / & wha*n*

he schulde howselyn hir sche wept so plentyvowsly & sobbyd

& cryed so lowde / þ*at* he was astoyned hym self / for it semyd

to hys heryng • þat sche cryed neu*yr* so lowde befor þ*at* tyme •/

**f. 41v**

& þan he beleuyd fully þ*at* it was þe werkyng of þe holy gost / &

neiþ*yr* feynyng • ne ypocrise of hir owyn self / & þa*n* aft*yr*ward he

was not abasshyd to heldyn w*yth* hir & to spekyn a ȝens hem þ*at*

wolde defamyn hir & spekyn euyl of hir / tyl he was detrac//

tyd of þe enmys of vertu / nerhand as mech as sche / & þat

lykyd hym wel to suffir tribulacyon for godd*ys* cawse / &

meche pepyl in Rome þ*at* wer disposyd to vertu • lovyd

hym meche þ*e* mor • & hir also • & oftyn tymes p*re*yd hir to

mete / & madyn hir ryth gret cher / p*re*yng hir to p*re*y for hem

/ & eu*yr* hir owyn cu*n*tremen • wer obstynat • & specyaly a p*re*ste

þ*at* was amonx hem / he steryd meche pepyl a ȝen hir •

& seyd mech euyl of hir / for sche weryd white clothyng //

mor þa*n* oþ*er* dedyn whech wer holyar • & bett*yr* þa*n* eu*yr* was

sche as hym thowt [þe cawse of hys malyce was • for

sche wold not obeyn hym / & sche wist wel it was a geyn

þe helth of hir sowle for to obeyn hym ashe wolde

þat sche xulde a don .;.

**T**han þe good man þe duche p*re*ste þ*at* sche was schr//

vyn on to / thorw þe steryng of þe englysch p*re*ste

whech was hir enmye • Askyd hir yf sche wolde

be obedient vn to hym er not • And sche seyd ȝa syr • Wyl

ȝe don þa*n* as I schal byd ȝow don • w*yth* ryth good wyl sire

I charge ȝow þan • þ*at* ȝe leue ȝo*wr* white clothys & weryth

a geyn ȝo*wr* blak clothys / & sche dede hys comawndme*n*t •

& þa*n* had sche felyng / þ*at* sche plesyd god w*yt*h hir obediens

Than suffyrd sche many scornys of wyfys of Rome •’

/ þei askyd hir ȝyf malendrynes had robbyd hir / & sche

seyd nay Madame • Sythen as sche went on pylg*ri*mage

it happyd hir to metyn w*yth* þe p*re*ste • þat was hir enmye &

he enioyid gretly • þ*at* sche was put fro hir wille / & seyd

vn to hir I am glad þ*at* ȝe gon in blak clothyng • as ȝe wer

wont to do / And sche seyd a ȝen to hym • ser owyr lord

wer not displesyd thow I weryd whyte clothys / for he

**f. 42r**

wyl þ*at* I do so Than þe p*re*ste seyd to hir a ȝen now wote I

wel þ*at* þ*u* hast a deuyl w*yth*inne þe / for I her hym spekyn in þe

to me • A good ser I p*ra*yȝow dryuyth hym a way fro me / for

god knowyth I wolde ryth fawyn don wel & plesyn hym yf

I cowde • And þa*n* he was ryth wroth & seyd ful many schr//

wyd wordys / & sche seyd to hym ser I hoþe I haue no deuyl

w*yth*inne me / for ȝyf I had a deuyl w*yth*in me • wetyth þe wel •

I schuld ben wroth w*yth* ȝow / & sir me thynkyth • þ*at* I am

no thyng wroth w*yth* ȝow for no thyng • þ*at* ȝe can don on

to me • And þa*n* þe p*re*ste p*ar*tyd a wey fro hir w*yth* heuy cher •

And þa*n* owyr lord spak to þ*i*s creatur in hir sowle & seyd •

Dowt*yr* drede þe not • what þ*at* eu*yr* he sey onto þ*e* / for thow

he renne eu*er*y ȝer to Ier*usa*l*e*mI haue no deynte of hym •/ for

as long as he spekyth ageyns þe • he spekyth a geyns

me / for I am in þe / & þ*u* art in me •/ & herby mayst thow

knowyn þ*at* I suffyr many schrewyd word*ys* •/ for I haue ofty*n*

tymes seyd to þe þ*at* I schuld be newe c*ru*cifyed in þe / be

schrewyd word*ys* / for þ*u* schalt non oþ*er* wyse ben slayn þa*n*

be schrewyd word*ys* sufIeryng • ffor þ*i*s p*re*ste þ*at* is thyn enmy

he is but an ypocryte • Than þ*e* good p*re*ste hir co*n*fesso*wr* bad

hir be v*er*tu of obediens / & also in party of penawns þ*at*

sche xulde s*er*uyn an hold woman • þ*at* was a poure creatur

in Rome / & sche dede so • sex wekys / sche s*er*uyd hir as sche wolde

a don owyr lady / & sche had no bed to lyn in / ne no clothys

to be cured w*yth* •saf hir owyn mentyl / & þa*n* was sche ful

of vermyn / & suffyrd gret peyn þ*er*wyth •• Also sche fet hom

watyr & stykkys in hir nekke / for þe poure woman / and

beggyd mete and wyn bothyn for hir • And whan þ*e* pour

womans wyn was sowr þ*i*s creatur hir self drank þ*at*

*s*owr wyn / & ȝaf þe powr woman good wyn • þ*at* sche //

had bowt for hir owyn selfe .;.

**A**S þ*i*s creatur was in þ*e* postelys cherch at Rome

on seynt katerynes day þe fadyr of hevyn seyd

to hir • Dowt*yr* • I am wel plesyd w*yth* þ*e* • in as meche

as þ*u* beleuyst in alle þe sacrament*ys* of holy chirche / & in //

**f. 42v**

al feyth þ*at* longith þ*er*to[& specialy for þ*at* þ*u* beleuyst in manhode

of my sone / & for þe gret co*m*passyon þ*at* þ*u* hast of hys bitt*yr* passy//

on • Also þ*e* fadyr seyd to þ*i*s creatur • Dowt*yr* I wil han þe weddyd

to my godhede • for I schal schewyn þ*e* my p*re*uyteys & my cown//

selys / for þ*u* xalt wonyn w*yth* me w*yth*owtyn ende / þa*n* þ*e* creatur

kept sylens in hir sowle / & answeryd not þ*er*to/ for sche //

was ful sor aferd of þegodhed / & sche cowde no skylle of

þe dalyawns of þ*e* godhede / for al hir lofe & al hir affec//

cyon • was set in þe manhode of crist / & þ*er*ofcowde sche

good skylle / & sche wolde for no thyng a partyd þ*er*fro •

Sche was so meche affectyd to þe manhode of crist

/ þ*at* whan sche sey women in Rome beryn children in her

armys / ȝyf sche myth wetyn þ*at* þei wer ony men childre*n*

sche schuld þa*n* cryin roryn & wepyn as þei sche had

seyn crist in hys childhode • And yf sche myth an had

hir wille • oftyn tymes • sche wolde a takyn þ*e* childeryn

owt of þe moderys armys & a kyssed hem • in þ*e* stede

of criste • And ȝyf sche sey a semly man sche had gret

peyn to lokyn on hym •/ les þa*n* sche myth a seyn hym

þ*at* was boþ*e* god & man / & þ*er*for sche cryed many tymes &

oftyn whan sche met a semly man • & wept & sobbyd ful

sor in þ*e* manhod of crist • as sche went in þe stret*ys* at

Rome / þ*at* þei þ*at* seyn hir wondryd ful mych on hir / for þ*e*i

knew not þe cawse / & þ*er*for it was no wondyr • ȝyf sche

wer stille & answeryd not þ*e* ffadyr of hevyn • whan he

teld hir þ*at* sche xuld be weddyd to hys godhed Tha*n* seyd

þe secu*n*de p*er*sone crist Ih*es*u whoys manhode sche louyd

so meche • to hir • What seyst þ*u* Margery dowt*yr* • to my //

fadyr • of þes word*ys* þat he spekyth to þ*e* / art þ*u* wel ple//

syd þ*at* it be so • And þa*n* sche wold not answeryn þ*e* secu*n*de

p*er*sone • but wept sylaucg? wondir sor • desiryng to haue stille hy*m*

selfe / & in no wyse to be departyd fro hym • Than þe

secu*n*de p*er*sone in T*ri*nite answeryd to hys fadyr for hir •

& seyde • ffadyr haue hir excused for sche is ȝet but ȝong •

& not fully lernyd • how sche xulde answeryn • And þan //

**f. 43r**

þe fadyr toke hir be þe hand ^gostle in hir sowle / be for þe sone • & þe

holy gost • & þe modyr of Ih*es*u • and alle þ*e* xii apostelys • & seynt

Kateryn • & seynt Margarete • & many oþ*er* seynt*ys* & holy v*ir*gynes

w*yth* gret multitude of awngelys • seying to hir sowle • I take

þe Margery for my weddyd wyfe / for fayrar for fowelar •

for richar • for powerar •• so þ*at* þ*u* be buxom & bon*yr* to do what

I byd þe do •/ for dowt*yr* þ*er* was neu*yr* childe so buxom to þ*e*

modyr • as I xal be to þ*e* boþ*e* in wel & in wo / to help þ*e* and

co*m*fort þe / & þ*er*toI make þe suyrte • And þa*n* þe modyr of

god & alle þ*e* seyntys þ*at* wer þ*er* p*re*sentin hir sowle •’ p*re*yd*e* þ*at*

þei myth haue mech Ioy to gedyr • And þa*n* þ*e* creatur

w*yth* hy deuocyon w*yth* gret plente of terys thankyd god of

þ*i*s gostly comfort / heldyng hir self in hir owyn felyng

ryth vnworthy / to any swech g*ra*ceas sche felt •/ for sche //

felt many gret comfort*ys* boþe gostly co*m*fort*ys* & bodily co*m*fort*ys*

Su*m* tyme sche felt swet smellys w*yth* hir nose •/ it wer swett*ar*

hir thowt þa*n* eu*yr* was ony swet erdly thyng þ*at* sche smel//

lyd be forn / ne sche myth neu*yr* tellyn how swet it wern

for hir thowt sche myth a leuyd þ*er*by / ȝyf they wolde a

lestyd • Su*m* tyme sche herd w*yth* hir bodily erys sweche //

sownd*ys* & melodiis þ*at* sche myth not wel heryn what a /

man seyd to hir in þ*at* tyme •’/ les he spoke þe lowder •/ þes

sownd*ys* & melodiis had sche herd ny hand eu*er*y day / þe //

terme of • xxv • ȝere whan þ*i*s boke was wretyn & spe

cialy whan sche was in deuowt p*ra*yer • Also many tymes

whil sche was at Rome & in Inglond boþ*e* • sche sey wyth

hir bodily eyne many white thyng*ys* flying al a bowte

hir on eu*er*y syde as thykke in a man*er* as mot*ys* in the

su*n*ne • it weryn ryth sotyl & co*m*fortabyl / & þ*e* brygtare

þ*at* þe sunne schyned •/ þ*e* bett*yr* sche myth se hem • Sche //

sey hem many dyuers tymes / & in many dyuers plac*ys* •

boþe in chirche & in hir chawmbr*e* •/ at hir mete & in hir

p*ra*erys / in felde / & in towne / bothyn goyng & syttyng •//

**f. 43v**

And many tymes sche was a ferde / what þei myth be / for sche ~~sy~~

sey hem as wel on nytys in dyrkenes • as on day lygth • Than

whan sche was a ferde of hem / owir lord seyd on to hir • Be þ*i*s

tokyn dowt*yr* • be leue it is god þ*at* spekyth in þe / for wher so god

is heuyn is & wher þ*at* god is þ*er* be many awngelys / & god is

in þe • & þ*u* art in hym / & þ*er*for be not aferde dowt*yr* / for þes

be tokyn • þ*at* þ*u* hast many awngelys abowte þ*e* / to kepyn þ*e*

boþ*e* day & nygth / þ*at* no deuyl xal han power ou*yr* þ*e* / ne non

euyl man to der þe /• þan fro þ*at* tyme forwarde sche vsyd to seyn

whan sche saw hem comyn / Benedict*us* q*ui* venit in no*m*i*n*e d*omi*ni •

Also owr lord ȝaf hir an oþ*e*r tokne / þe whech enduryd abowty*n*

xvi • ȝer / & it encresyd eu*yr* mor & mor / & þ*at* was a flawme of

fyer wondir hoot & delectabyl / & ryth co*m*fortabyl / nowt

wastyng but eu*yr* incresyng of lowe / for thow þ*e* wedyr //

wer neu*yr* so colde sche felt þe hete brennyng in hir brest •

& at hir hert • as v*er*ily as a man schuld felyn þ*e* mat*er*ial

fyer ȝyf he put hys hand or hys fynger þ*er*in • Whan sche

felt fyrst þe fyer of loue brennyng in her brest sche was

a ferd þ*er*of •/ & þa*n* owr lord answeryd to hir mend & seyde

Dowt*yr* be not a ferd / for þ*i*s hete is þe hete of þ*e* holy gost

/ þe whech schal bren a wey alle þi synnes / for þ*e* fyer of lofe

qwenchith alle synnes •• And þ*u* xalt vndirstondyn be þ*i*s to//

kyn þ*at* þe holy gost is in þ*e* •• And þ*u* wost wel wher þ*at* eu*yr* þe //

holy gost is þ*er* is þe• fadir & wher þe fadyr is • þ*er* is þ*e* sone •

And so þ*u* hast fully in þi sowle al þe holyt*ri*nite / þ*er*forþow

hast gret cawse to louyn me rythwel •/ & ȝet þ*u* xalt han

grett*ar* cawse • þa*n* eu*yr* þ*u* haddystto louyn me / for þ*u* xalt

heryn þ*at* þ*u* neu*yr* herdist& þu xalt se • þ*at* þ*u* neu*yr* sey •• & þ*u* xalt

felyn þ*at* þ*u* neu*yr* feltist / for dowt*yr* þ*u* art as sekyr of þe lofe

of god / as god is god • Thy sowle is mor sekyr of þe lofe of

god •’/ þa*n* of þin owyn body / for þ*i* sowle xal p*ar*tyn fro thy

body •/ but god xal neuyr p*ar*tyn fro þi sowle / for þei ben onyd

to gedyr w*yth* owtyn ende / þ*er*for dowt*yr* þ*u* hast as gret cawse

to be mery as any lady in þ*i*s werld / & ȝyf þ*u* knew dowt*yr*

how meche þ*u* plesyst me wha*n* þ*u* suffyrst me wilfully to //

**f. 44r**

spekyn in þe •/þ*u* schuldist neu*yr* do oþ*er*wys •/ for þ*i*s is an holy lyfe

& þetyme is ryth wel spent •/ ffor dowt*yr* þ*i*s lyfe plesyth me //

mor þa*n* weryng • of haburion or / of þehayr / or fastyng of

bred & wat*yr* •• for ȝyf þ*u* seydest eu*er*y day a thowsand pat*er* nost*er* •

þ*u* xuldist not plesyn me so wel as þ*u* dost wha*n* þ*u* art in

silens & sufferyst me to speke in thy sowle .;.

**H**Astyng dowt*yr* is good for ȝong be gynnars • & discrete

penawns • namly þ*at* her gostly fadyr ȝeuyth hem er

inioyneth hem for to do • And for to byddyn many

bedys it is good to hem þ*at* can no bett*yr* do / & ȝet it is not p*ar*fyte•

but it is a good wey to p*er*feccyon ward •/ for I telle þ*e* dowt*yr* þei

þ*at* arn gret fastarys & gret doers of penawnce • þei wold þ*at*

it schuld ben holdyn þebest lyfe •• Also þei þ*at* ȝeuyn hem to sey

many deuocyons •/ þei wold han þ*at* þe best lyfe • And þei þat

ȝeuyn mech almes • þei wold þ*at* þat wer holdyn þe best lyfe •

And I haue oftyn tymes dowt*yr* teld þe •’/ þ*at* thynkyng • wepyng •

& hy co*n*templacyon •’ is þe best lyfe in erthe •• And *þu* xalt haue

mor m*er*yte in heuyn • for o ȝer of thynkyng in þi mende •’

/ þa*n* for an hundryd ȝer of p*re*yng w*yth* þi mowth & ȝet þ*u* wylt

not leuyn me for þ*u* wilt byddyn many bedys • whedyr I wil

or not •• And ȝet dowt*yr* I wyl not be displesyd w*yth* þ*e* whedir

þ*u* thynke •’ sey or speke for I am alwey plesyd w*yth* þe • And

ȝyf I wer in erde as bodily as I was er I deydon þe cros •

I schuld not ben a schamyd of þe as “oþ*er*” many[reversed words] men ben •/ for

I schuld take þe be þe hand a mongsþe pepil • & make þ*e*

gret cher •/ þ*at* þei schuldyn welknowyn þ*at* I louyd þ*e* ryth wel /

for it is co*n*uenyent• þe wyf to be homly w*yth* hir husbond • be

he neu*yr* so gret a lorde • & sche so powr a woman wha*n* he weddyth

hir •/ ȝet þei must ly to gedir • & rest to gedir in Ioy & pes •7//

[Ryght so mot it be twyx þe & me / for I take non hed what

þ*u* hast be •’/ but what þ*u* woldist be • And oftyn tymes haue //

I telde þe • þ*at* I haue clene forȝoue þ*e* alle thy synnes •/ þ*er*fore

most I nedys be homly w*yth* þe / & lyn in þi bed *wyth* þe • Dowt*yr*

thow desyrest gretly to se me / & þ*u* mayst boldly whan þ*u* art

in þi bed take me to þe as for þi weddyd husbond / as thy

derworthy derlyng / & as for thy swete sone •/ for I wyl be //

**f. 44v**

louyd as a sone schuld be louyd w*yth* þe modyr / & wil þ*at* þ*u* loue me dowt*yr*

as a good ^wife owyth to loue hir husbonde / & þ*er*for þ*u* mayst boldly take

me in þe armys of þi sowl / & kyssen my mowth • myn hed • & my

fete • as swetly as thow wylt / & as oftyn tymes as þ*u* thynkyst on //

me / er woldyst don any good dede to me / þ*u* schalt haue þe same

mede in heuyn // as ȝyf þ*u* dedist it to myn owyn p*re*cyows body

whech is in heuyn •/ for I aske no mor of þebut þin hert / for to

louyn me þat louyth þe / for my lofe is eu*yr* redy to þe • Than sche //

ȝaf thankyng & p*re*ysing to owr lord Ih*es*u crist / for þe hy grace

& m*er*cyþ*at* he schewyd vn to hir vnworthy wrech Thys creatur

had diuers tokenys in hir bodily heryng • on was a man*er* of

sownde as it had ben a peyr of belwys blowyng in hir ere

Sche beyng abasshed þ*er*ofwas warnyd in hir sowle no fer

to haue / for it was þe sownd of þe holy gost / & þa*n* owyr lord

t*ur*nyd þ*at* sownde in to þe voys of a dowe/ & sithyn he t*ur*nyd it in //

to þe voys of a lityl bryd / whechis callyd a reedbrest •/ þ*at* song

ful merily oftyn tymes inhir ryght ere / & þa*n* schuld sche

eu*yr* mor han gretgrace aft*yr* þ*at* sche herd swech a tokyn • And sche

had been vsed to swech tokenys a bowt xxv • ȝer at þ*e* writyng

of þ*i*s boke Than seyd owr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st to hys creatur •/ be

þes tokenys mayst þ*u* wel wetyn / þ*at* I loue þe for þ*u* art to

me a very modir • & to al þ*e* world / for þ*at* gret charite þ*at* is in þ*e* •

& ȝet I am cawse of þ*at* charite my self / & þ*u* xalt haue gret

mede þ*er*for in heuyn .;.

**D**Owt*yr* for þ*u* art so buxom to my wille • & cleuyst as

sore on to me / as þe skyn of stokfysche cleuyth to a //

mannys hand*ys* wha*n* it is sothyn / & wilt not forsake

me • for no schame þ*at* any man can don to þe / & þ*u* seyst also • þ*at*

þow I stod be forn þe • myn owyn p*er*sone • & seyd to þe • þ*at* þ*u* xuldist

neu*yr* han my lofe •/ ne neu*yr* comyn in heuyn / ne neu*yr* sen my

face •/ ȝet seist þ*u* dowt*yr* • þ*at* þ*u* woldist neu*yr* forsake me in erthe •

/ ne neu*yr* lofe me þe lesse •/ ne neu*yr* do þe lesse besynes to plese

me / thow þ*u* xuldyst lyeg [g overwritten on e] in helle w*yth*owtyn ende / for þ*u* maist not

forber my lofe in erthe / ne þ*u* can han non oþ*er* comforth but

me only • Whech am I •• þi god / & am al Ioy / & al blysse to þ*e* •/ þ*er*fore

I sey to þe derworthy dowt*yr* / it is vnpossybyl þ*at* any swech sowle

**f. 45r**

schuld be dampnyd or departyd fro me • whech hath so gret meknes //

& charite to me / & þ*er*for dowt*yr* drede þe neu*yr* / for alle þe gret behest*ys* • þ*at* I

haue behite to þe & to alle thyn & to alle thy gostly fader*ys* • xal euer

be trewe & trewly fulfilled • whan tyme comyth • haue no dowt þ*er* of

An oþ*er* tyme whil sche was in Rome a lityl be for cristemes / owr

lord Ih*es*u criste comawndyd hir to gon to hir gostly fadyr wens//

lawe be name / & byddyn hym ȝeuyn hir leue to weryn a geyn hir

white clothys / for he had put hir þ*er* fro / be vertu of obediens / as

is wretyn be forn / & wha*n* sche teld hym þe wyl of owr lord •’•

he durst not onys sey nay / & so weryd sche white clothys eu*yr*

aft*yr* Than owr lord bad hir þ*at* sche xuld at cristemes • gon hom

a geyn to hir ostys howse • þ*er* sche was at hostel be for tyme

/ and þa*n* sche went to a powr woman whech sche s*er*uyd at þ*at* tyme

be þ*e* byddyng of hir co*n*fesso*wr* •/ as is be forn wretyn & telde þ*e* powr

woma*n* • how sche must gon fro hir / & þa*n* þ*e* powr woman was ryth

sory & mad gret mone for hir departyng /• & þa*n* þ*i*s creatur teld

hir how it was þ*e* wil of god • þ*at* it schuld be so / & þa*n* sche toke it þ*e*

mor esily •/ Aft*yr*ward as þ*i*s creatur was in Rome owr lord bad

hir ȝeuyn a wey al hir good / & makyn hir bar / for hys lofe •/ &

a non sche w*yth* a feruent desyr to plesyn god / ȝaf awey swech

good as sche had & sweche as sche had borwyd • Also of þ*e* broke//

bakkyd man þ*at* went w*yth* hir • Whan he wist how þ*at* sche had ȝouyn

a wey hys good / he was gretly mevyd & euyl plesyd / for sche

ȝaf a wey hys good / & spak ryth scharply to hir / & þa*n* sche seyd

vn to hym / Richard be þ*e* g*ra*ce of god we xal comyn hom in to

Inglond ryth wel / & ȝe schal come to me in brystowe in þ*e*

Whitsunwoke / & þ*er* xal I pay ȝow ryth wel / & trewly / be þ*e* g*ra*ceof

god •/ for I trust ryth wel þ*at* he þ*at* bad me ȝeuyn it a wey for

hys lofe wil help me to payn it a geyn & so he dede .;. :~

**A**fftyr þ*at* þ*i*s creatur had thus ȝouyn a wey hir good

& had neyther peny / ne half peny to helpyn hir

self w*yth* / as sche lay in seynt Marcellys chirche in

Rome thynkyng & stodying wher sche xuld han hir leuyng

in asmech as sche had no sylu*er* to cheys hir w*yth* þal •’/ owrlord

answeryd to hir mende & seyde •’/ Dowt*yr* þ*u* artnot ȝet so powr //

**f. 45v**

as I was whan I heng nakyd on þe cros for thy lofe / for þ*u* hast

clothys on thy body / & I had non • And thow hast cownseld oþ*er* men

to benpowr for my sake / & þ*er*for þ*u* must folwyn thyn owy*n* cownsel

/ but drede þ*e* not dowt*yr* / for þ*er* is gold to þeward / & I haue hyte

þe be for tyme / þ*at* I wolde neu*yr* fayl þe / & I xal p*re*yn myn owyn

modir / to beggyn forþ*e* / for þ*u* hast many tymes beggyd for //

me & for mymodir also / & þ*er*for drede þe not I haue frend*ys*

ineu*er*y cu*n*tre / & xal make my frend*ys* to co*m*fort þe •/ Wha*n* owr

lord had thus swetly dalyed to hir sowle / sche thankyd hy*m*

of þ*i*s gret co*m*forte / hauyng goodtrost • it xuld be as he seyd

Sythen sche risyng upwent forth in þe strete [& met casu//

aly w*yth* a good man / & so they fellyn in good comunicacyon

as þei went to gedir • be þe wey / to whom sche had many

good talys & many good exhortacyonys • tyl god visited hy*m*

w*yth* terys of deuocyon & of co*m*pu*n*ccyon • to hys hey co*m*fort

& consolacyon / & þa*n* he ȝaf hir mony be þe whech sche was

wel releuyd & comfortyd a good while Tha*n* on a nyth

sche say in vision how owyr lady hir thowt sat at þe //

mete w*yth* many worshepful p*er*sonys • & askyd mete for hir •

And þa*n* thowt þ*i*s creatur þat owr lord*ys* word*ys* wer ful//

filled gostly • in þ*at* vision / for he behestyd þ*i*s creatur a lityl

be forn þ*at* he xuld p*re*yn hys modir to beggyn for hir •/ &

in schort tyme aft*yr* þ*i*s visyon / sche met w*yth* a worshepful

lady • dame Margarete fflorentyn þe same lady þ*at* browt

hir fro Assyse into Rome / & neiþ*yr* of hem cowd wel vn//

dirstand ~~b~~ oþ*er* • but be sy*n*gnys er tokenys / & in fewe comown

word*ys* *•* And þa*n* þe lady seyd onto hir • Margerya in pou*er*te

sche vndirstondyng what þe lady ment / seyd a ȝen •/ ȝa //

grawnt pou*er*te Madam •/ þa*n* þe lady comawndyd hir to etyn

w*yth* hir eu*er*y sonday & set hir at hir owen tabil a bouyn

hir self / & leyd hir mete w*yth* hir owyn hand*ys* • Than thys

creatur sat & wept ful sor / thankyng owr lord þ*at* sche was

so cheryd & cherisched for hys lofe / of hemþ*at* cowd not vn//

dirstond hir langage • Whan þei hadetyn þe good lady

vsed to takyn hir an hamper w*yth* oþ*er* stuffe / þ*at* sche myght //