**f. 46r**

makyn hir potage þ*er* w*yth* asmeche as wolde s*er*uyn hir for a too days

mete / & filledhir botel w*yth* good wyn */* and su*m*tyme sche ȝaf hir

an viii *•* bolendinys þ*er* to *•/* And þa*n* an oþ*er* man in Rome whech

was clepyd Marcelle bad hir to mete ii *•* days in þ*e* woke *•*

whos wyfe was gret w*yth* childe hyly desiryng to haue had

þ*i*s creatur to godmodyr to hir childe whan it had ben //

born */* & sche abood not so long in Rome */* & also þ*er* was

an holy mayden ȝaf þ*i*s creatur hir mete on þ*e* wednysday

oþ*er* days wha*n* sche was not p*ur*ueyd sche beggyd hir mete //

fro dor to dore .;.

**A**N oþ*er* tyme ryth as sche cam be a powr womanys

hows */* þ*e* powr woman clepyd hir into hir hows

& dede hir sytten be hir lytyl fyer *•* ȝeuyng hir wyn

to drynke in a cuppe of ston */* & sche had a lytel manchylde

sowkyng on hir brest *•* þe whech sowkyd o while on þ*e* moderys

brest */* an oþ*er* while it ran to þ*i*s creatur */* þe modyr syttyng

ful of sorwe & sadnes */*• þa*n* þ*i*s creatur brast al in to we//

pyng */* as þei sche had seyn owr lady & hir sone in tyme

of hys passyon */* & had so many of holy thowt*ys* */* þ*at* sche myth

neu*yr* tellyn þe haluendel */* but eu*yr* sat & wept plentyvowsly

a long tyme */* þ*at* þe powr woman hauyng co*m*passyon of hir //

wepyng */* p*re*yd hir to sesyn */* not knowyng why sche wept */*  þa*n*

owr lord Ih*es*u crist seyd to þ*e* creatur *•* Thys place is holy *•* And

þan sche ros up & went forth in Rome & sey meche pou*er*te

a mong þe pepyl */* & þa*n* sche thankyd god hyly of þ*e* pou*er*te þ*at*

sche was in *•/* trostyng þ*er* thorw to be p*ar*tyn*yr* w*yth* hem in m*er*yte */*

*/* þan was þ*er* a gret Ientylwoman in Rome p*re*yng thys c*re*atur

to be godmodyr of hir childe & namyd it aft*yr* Seynt B*ri*gypt

*/* for they haddyn knowlach of hir in hir lyue tyme */* & so //

sche dede • Sithyn god ȝaf hir g*ra*ceto hane gret lofe i*n* Rome

bothyn of men & of women & gret fauowr a mong the

pepyl •*/*  Whan þe Mayst*yr* & broþ*yr* of þe hospital of seynt //

Thom*a*s wher sche was refusyd be for tyme as is wretyn

be forn herd tellyn what lofe & what fauowr sche had

in þe cyte *•/* they p*re*yd hir þ*at* sche wolde come a geyn to hem *•*

**f. 46v**

& sche xulde be wolcomear */* þa*n* eu*yr* sche was beforn */* for þei //

weryn ryth sory þ*at* þei had put hir a wey fro hem */* & sche than//

kyd hem for her charite */* & dede her comawndment */* & whan

sche was comyn a ȝen to hem *•/* þei madyn hir ryth good /

cher & weryn rith glad of hir comyng [than fond sche þ*er*

hir þ*at* was hir mayden be for tyme */* & w*yth* ryght schulde a be

so stylle *•* dwellyng in þ*e* hospital *•* in meehe welth & p*ro*sp*er*yte

*/* for sche was kepar of her wyn • And þ*i*s creatur went su*m*//

tyme to hir for cawse of mekenes *•* & p*re*yd hir of mete &

drynke & þe mayden ȝaf hir w*yth* good wyl */* & su*m* tyme a grote

þ*er*to *•/* þa*n* sche co*m*pleyned to hir mayden & seyd */* þ*at* sche thowt

gret swem of her departyng */* & what slawndir & euyl word*ys*

men seyd of hir */* for þei wer a sundyr */•* but wold sche neu*yr*

þe raþ*ar* be a geyn w*yth* hir • Aft*yr*ward þ*i*s creatur spak w*yth* seynt

bryd*ys* mayden in Rome */* but sche cowd not vndirstondyn

what sche seyd •*/*  þa*n* had sche a man þ*at* eowde vndirstondyn

hir langage */* & þ*at* ma*n* tolde seynt Brygipt*ys* mayden *•* what

þ*i*s creatur seyde */* & how sche askyd aft*yr* seynt Brigypt

hir lady *•/* þa*n* þe mayden seyd þ*at* hir lady *•* seynt *•* B *••* was

goodly & meke to eu*er*ycreatur *•* & þ*at* sche had a lawhyng

cher •*/* and also þ*e* good man wher þ*i*s creatur was at hoste

telde hir */* þ*at* he knew hir hys owyn selfe *•/* but he wend li//

tyl þ*at* sche had ben so holy a woman as sche was */* for sche

was eu*yr* homly & goodly to alle creaturys þ*at* woldyn spekyn

w*yth* hir •*/* sche was in þe chawmbre þ*at* seynt *•* Bri *•* deyd in

& herd a dewche p*re*ste p*re*chyn of hir þ*er*in */* & of hir reuela//

cyonys */* & of hir man*er* of leuyng */* & sche knelyd also on þ*e*

ston on þe wheeh owr lord aperyd to Seynt B*ri*gypte *•* and

telde hir what day sche xuld deyn on */* & þ*i*s was on of sey*n*t

B*ri*gypt*ys* days þ*at* þ*i*s creatur was in hir chapel *•* whech

befor tyme was hir ehawmbr*e* þ*at* sche deyd in •*/* Owr lord

sent swech tempest*ys* of wynd*ys* & reynes & dyuers imp*re*s//

syons of eyrs þ*at* þei þ*at* wer in þe feld*ys* & in her labowr*ys*

w*yth* owtyn forth *•* wer co*m*pellyd to entyr howsys in socow//

ryng of her bodiis to enchewyn dyuers perellys •7*/* þorw //

**f. 47r**

swech tokenys þ*i*s creatur supposyd þ*at* owr lord wold hys holy

seynt*ys* day xulde ben halwyd */* & þe seynt had in mor wor//

shep þa*n* sche was at þ*at* tyme */* And su*m* tyme wha*n* þ*i*s creatur

wolde a gon þe stacyownys */* our lord owyr lord warnyd hir

on þe nyght beyng in hir bed þ*at* sche xulde not gon owte fer

fro hir ostel */* for he xulde sendyn gret tempest*ys* þ*at* day of leue//

nys & thunderys */* & so it was in dede • Ther wer so gr*e*t tem//

pest*ys* þ*at* ȝer of thunderys & leuenys of gret reynes & dyu*er*s

wederyngys */* þ*at* ryth elde men þ*at* tyme dwellyng in Rome sey//

dyn þei had neu*yr* seyn swech be forn */* þe leuenys wer so //

plentyuows & so brygth schynyng w*yth* inne her howsys */* þ*at*

þei wendyn verily it xulde a brent her howsys w*yth* content*ys*

*/* þan cryed þei vp on þe forseyd creatur */* to p*re*yfor hem •• fully

trustyng • þ*at* sche was þe s*er*uawnt of al myghty god / & thorw

hir p*ra*yerysþei xuldyn ben holpyn & socowryd •7/ þ*i*s creat*ur*

at her request p*re*yng owr lord of m*er*cy/ he answeryd in hir

sowle seying •/ dowt*yr* be not a ferd / for þ*er* xal no wedyr ne

tempest noyin þe / & þ*er*for mystrost me not / for I xal neu*yr*

disceyuen þe•And owr m*er*ciful lord cryst Ih*es*u as it plesyd

hym wythdrow þ*e* tempest*ys* p*re*seruyng þ*e* pepyl fro alle myscheuys .;.

**T**han thorw þe p*ro*uysyonof owr m*er*cyful lord c*ri*st

Ih*es*u / þ*er* was comyn a p*re*stea good man owte of

Inglond in to Rome / w*yth* oþ*er* felawshep speryng &

inqwyryng diligently aft*yr* þe seyd creatur • whom he had

neu*yr* seyn • be forn / ne sche hym •/ but whil he was in Ing//

lond / he herd tellyn of swech a woman was at Rome / w*yth*

þe whech he longyd hyly to spekyn / ȝyf god wolde g*ra*wntyn

hym g*ra*ce/*•* Wher for whyl he was in hys owyn lond he p*ur*po//

syng to se þ*i*s creatur • Whan he thorw þ*e* sufferawns of

owr lord myght come þ*er* sche was / p*ur*ueyd golde to bryng

hir in releuyng of hir • ȝyf sche had nede •/ þa*n* be inqwy//

ryng he cam in to þ*e* place wher þ*at* sche was / & ful hu*m*bely

& mekely he clepyd hir modyr / p*re*ying hir for charite

to receyuen hym as hir sone •• Sche seyd þ*at* he was wolcom //•

**f. 47v**

to god & to hir as to hys owyn modyr / so be holy dalyawns &

co*m*munycacyon • sche felt wel he was a good man / & þa*n* sche

discuryng þ*e* p*re*uyteof hert / reuelyd what g*ra*cegod wrowt in

in hir sowle • thorw hys holy inspiracyon & su*m*what of hir

man*er* of leuyng •/ þa*n* wolde he no lengar suffyr hir to beggy*n*

hir mete fro dore to dore / but p*re*yid hir to eten w*yth* hym &

hys felawshep / les þa*n* good men & women be þ*e* wey of

charite & for gostly comfort wolde p*re*yn hir to mete /• þan

he wolde þ*at* / he xulde take it in þe name of owr lord •• And

ellys sche ete w*yth* hym & w*yth* hys felawschep eu*er*yday / & //

ȝaf hir golde sufficiently to come hom w*yth* in to Inglond

And þa*n* was fulfilled þ*at* owr lord seyd to hir a lityl be forn

gold is to þe warde / & so it was in dede / thankyd be alle

myghty god • Than su*m*me of hir felaws whech sche had

ben w*yth* at Ier*usa*l*e*m • comyth to þ*i*s good p*re*stenewly come to

Rome • co*m*pleynyng of hir • & seyd þ*at* sche was schreuyn at

a p*re*ste whech cowde not vndirstondyn hir langwage

ne hir co*n*fessyown Than þis good p*re*ste trostyng to hir

as to hys modyr / desyryng þe helth of hir sowle • Askyd

of hir yf hir co*n*fesso*wr* vndirstod hir wha*n* sche spak to hy*m*

er not • Good sone I beseche ȝow p*re*yth hym to dyne w*yth*

ȝow & w*yth* ȝo*wr* felawys / & late me be p*re*sent / & þa*n* xal ȝe

knowyn þe trewth / hyr co*n*fesso*wr* was p*re*ydto mete & wha*n*

tyme cam sett & s*er*uyd w*yth* þ*i*s goodp*re*ste & hys felaschep

/ þe seyd creatur beyng p*re*sent / þe good p*re*ste of Inglonde

dalying & comownyng in herowyn langage englysch •

/ þe duche p*re*ste a worthyclerke as is wretyn be forn •//

co*n*fesso*wr* to þe seyd creatur • satt al stille in a man*er* of he//

uynes • for cawse he vndirstodnot what þei seyden in

englysch • les þa*n* þei spokynlatyn / & þei dede it in p*ur*pose

hys vnwetyng / top*re*uyn ȝyf he vndirstod englysch er not

At þe last þeseyd creatur seyng & wel vndirstondyng

þ*at* hir co*n*fesso*wr* vndirstod not her langage • & þ*at* was tediows

tohym •[ þa*n* in p*ar*tyto comfort hym •/ & in p*ar*tyer ellys

mech mor • to preuyn þe werk of god •/ sche telde in hyr

**f. 48r**

owyn langage in englysch a story of holy writte whech as

sche had le^rnyd of clerk*ys* whil sche was at hom in Inglond •/ for

sche wolde spekyn of no vanyte ne of no fantasiis Than þei

askyd hir co*n*fesso*wr* • ȝyf he vndirstod þ*at* sche had seyd & he a non

in latyn telde hem þ*e* same word*ys* þ*at* sche seyd be forn in

englisch / for he cowde neyþ*yr* speke englysch ne vndirstondyn

englisch / saue only aft*yr* hir tu*n*ge/& þa*n* þei had gret m*er*uayle /

for þei wist wel þ*at* he vndirstod what sche seyde / & sche vn//

dirstod what he seyd / & he cowde vndirstonde non oþ*er* englysch

man / so blyssed mote god ben þ*at* mad an Alyon to vndirston//

dyn hir wha*n* hir owyn cu*n*tre men had forsakyn hir & wolde

not heryn hir co*n*fessyon les þa*n* sche wolde a left hir wepy*n*g

& spekyng of holynes / & ȝet sche myth not wepyn but wha*n*

god ȝaf it hir / & oftyn tymes he ȝaf it so plentyuowsly

þ*at* sche cowde not w*yth*stonde it •/ but þ*e* mor þ*at* sche wolde a w*yth*//

stonde it er þut it a wey / þe mor strongly it wrowt in hir

sowle / w*yth* so holy thowt*ys* / þ*at* sche xulde not sesyn • Sche xulde

sobbyn & cryen ful lowd al a geyn hir wyl þ*at* many ma*n*

& woman also wondryd on hir þ*er*fore .;.

**S**vm tyme whan þe forseyd creatur was at sermow//

nys wher duchemen & oþ*er* men p*re*chyd techyng þ*e*

lawys of god •/ sodeyn sorwe & heuynes ocupying

hir hert • cawsyd hir to compleyn w*yth* mornyng cher for lak

of vndirstondyng / desyryng to be refreschyd w*yth* su*m* cru*m*me

of gostly vndirstondyng / vn to hir most trustyd & entyrlyest

belouyd souereyn lord crist Ih*es*u • Whos melydiows voys swet//

test of alIe sauowrys • softly sowndyng in hir sowle / seyd /

I xal p*re*che þe & teche þe my selfe / for þ*i* wyl & thy desyr

is acceptabyl vn to me •7/ þa*n* was hir sowle so delectabely

fed w*yth* þe swet dalyawns of owr lorde & so fulfilled of

hys lofe / þ*at* as a drunkyn man sche t*ur*nyd hir fyrst on þ*e*

o syde & sithyn on þ*e* oþ*er* w*yth* gret wepyng & gret sobbyng •

vn mythy to kepyn hir selfe in stabilnes / for þ*e* vnqwen//

chabyl fyer of lofe [underlined in red] whech brent ful sor in hir sowle •7

**f. 48v**

/ þan meche pepyl wonderyd up on hir Askyng hir what sche eyled

/ to whom sche as a creatur al wowndyd w*yth* lofe / & as reson had //

fayled cryed w*yth* lowde voys •/ þe passyon of crist sleth me •/ þe

good women hauyng co*m*passyon of hir sorwe / & gretly m*er*ue//

lyng of hir wepyng & of hir crying • meche þe mor þei louyd

hir / & þ*er*for þei desiryng to make hir solas & comfort aftyr

hir gostly labowr / be sygnys & tokenys for sche vndirstod //

not her speche / p*re*yid hir and in a man*er* compellyd hir to comy*n*

hom to hem willyng þ*at* sche xulde not gon fro hem • Than

owr lord sent hy~~m~~r [overwritten] g*ra*ce to han gret lofe & gret fauowr of

many p*er*sonys in Rome bothyn of Religyows men & oþ*er*

Su*m* religyows comyn to swech p*er*sonys of hyr cunt*re*men

as louyd hir & seyden / þ*i*s woman hath sowyn meche good

seed in Rome sithyn sche cam hydir • þ*at* is to sey • schewyd

good exampyl to þe pepyl wher thorw þei louyn god mor

þan þei dede be forn • On a tyme as þ*i*s creatur was

in a chirche at Rome wher þe body of seynt Ierom lyth

biriid ^v [insert below] to þ*i*s creaturys gostly sygth aperyng seynt Ierom •’

seyd to hir sowle •• Blissed art þow dowt*yr* in þ*e* wepyng

þ*at* þ*u* wepyst for þ*e* peplys synnes / for many xal be sauyd

þ*er*by • And dowt*yr* drede þ*e* nowt • for it is a synguler & a

specyal ȝyft þ*at* god hath ȝouyn þe • a welle of teerys /

þe whech xal neu*yr* man take fro þe •• W*yth* swech man*er* of da//

lyawns he hily comfortyd hir spirit*ys* / & also he made

gret p*re*ysyng & thankyng to god • for þe g*ra*ce þ*at* he wrowt

in hir sowle / for les þa*n* sche had an had sweche gostly

comfort*ys* it had ben vnpossybyl hir to a boryn þ*e* schamys

& wonderyng*ys* • þe whech sche suffyrd pacyently & mekely

for þe grace þat god schewyd in hyr .;.

whech was myraculosly t*ra*nslatyd fro Bedlem in to *þ*at

place / & þ*er* now is had in gret worshep • be syden þ*e* place

wher seynt lauerawnce lyth beriid a~b

**W**han tyme of estern er ellys paske was come &

go þ*i*s creatur w*yth* hir felawschep p*ur*posyng to gon

a geyn in to her owyn natyf lond / it was telde

hem þ*at* þ*er* wer many theuys be þ*e* wey whech wolde spoyl //

**f. 49r**

hem of her g^oodys & þ*er*auentur slen hem / þa*n* þe seyd creatur w*yth* many

a bitt*yr* teer of hir eye / p*re*yd to owr lord Ih*es*u crist Seying •’ Crist Ih*es*u

in whom is al my trost as thow hast be hyte me many tymes

befor • þ*at* þ*er* xulde no man be disesyd in my cu*m*panye / & I was

neu*yr* deceyued ne defrawdyd in þi p*ro*mysse / as long as I fully

& trewly trostyd on to þ*e* •/so here þe p*re*yerys of þin vnworthy

s*er*uawnt / al holy trustyng in þi m*er*cy • & grawnt • þ*at* I & myn

felawschep w*yth*owtyn hyndryng of body er of catel / for of owr

sowlys lord haue þei no powr • may gon hom a geyn in to

owr lond lych as we come hedyr / for þi lofe / & late neu*yr*

owr enmiis haue no powr ouyr us lord ȝyf it plese þ*e* •/ as

þ*u* wilt so mot it be •• Than owr lord Ih*es*u crist seyd to hir mende

Drede þe not dowt*yr* /for þ*u* & alle þ*at* ben in thy cu*m*pany xal gon

as safe as ȝyf þei wer in seynt petrys cherch Tha*n* thankyd

sche god w*yth* alle hir spirit*ys* & was bold a now to go wher god

wolde / & toke hir leue of hir frend*ys* in Rome & most specyaly

of hir gostly ffadyr • Whech for owr lord*ys* lofe had supportyd hir

& socowrd hir ful tendirly • a geyn þ*e* wykked wyndys of hir

invyows enmyis • whos dep*ar*tyng was ful lamentabyl as wyt//

nessyd wel þe pur wat*yr* drop*ys* rennyng down be her chekys

Sche fallyng on hyr knes receyued þe benefys of hys blyssy*n*g

& so dep*ar*tyd a sundyr • Whom charite ioyned bothyn in oon

thorw • þ*e* whech þei trostyd to metyn a geyn whan owr lord

wolde • in her kendly cu*n*t*re* / Wha*n* þei wer passyd þ*i*s wretchyd

wordelys exile • And þ*us* sche & hir felaschep passyd forth in to

Inglond ward And wha*n* þei wer a lityl wey owte of Rome

& þe good p*re*stewhech as is beforn wretyn þ*i*s creatur had

receyued as for hir owyn sone / had mekyl drede of enmyis

Wher for he seyd on to hir Modyr • I drede me to be deed &

slayn w*yth* enmyis Sche seyd nay sone ȝe schal far ryth wel

& gon saf be þ*e* g*ra*ceof god •/ & he was wel comfortyd w*yth* hyr

word*ys* / for he trustyd meche in hir felyng*ys* and mad hir as

good cher be þe wey • as ȝyf he had ben hir owyn sone born

of hir body •/ & so þei cam forth to medylborwgh & þa*n* hir

felaschep wolde takyn her Iurne in to Inglond ward on þ*e*

sunday •/ þa*n* þ*e* good p*re*yste cam to hir seying • Modyr • wyl ȝe gon //

**f. 49v**

wyth ȝo*wr* felaschep er not • on þ*i*s good day • & sche seyde nay sone / it

is not my lord*ys* wille þ*at* I xulde gon so sone hens / & so sche abood

stylle w*yth* þe good p*re*ste& su*m*me oþ*er* of þe felaschyp tyl þe satyrday

aftyr / And mech of her felaschep went to schip on þ*e* sonday •/ on

þe fryday aft*yr* as þ*i*s creatur went to sportyn hir in þe felde

& men of hir owyn nacyon w*yth* hir / þ*e* whech sche informyd in

þe lawys of god as wel as sche cowde / & scharply sche spak

a geyns hem for þei sworyn gret othys / & brokyn þ*e* comaw//

ndment of owr lord god / & as sche went þ*us* dalying w*yth* hem

/ owr lord Ih*es*u crist bad hir gon hom in haste to hir hostel

for þ*er* schulde come gret wederyng & p*er*lyows / þa*n* sche hyed

hir homward*ys* w*yth* hir felaschep / & as sone as þei come hom

to her hostel þe wederyng fel as sche felt be reuelacyon

And many tymes as sche went be þe wey / & in þe feldys / þ*er*

fel gret leuenys • w*yth* hedowsthu*n*derys • gresely & greuows •

þ*at* sche feryd hir þ*at* itxulde a smet hir to deth / & many gret

reynes whechcawsyd in hir gret drede & heuynes •/ þa*n* owr

lordIh*es*u crist seyd to hir / why art thow a ferd whil I am

w*yth* þe / I am as mythy to kepyn þ*e* her in þe felde as in þe

strengest chirche in alle þ*i*s worlde / & aftyr þ*at* tyme sche //

was not so gretly a ferd as sche was be forn / for eu*yr* sche had

gret trust in hys m*er*cy / blyssed mote he be þ*at* comfortyd hir

in eu*er*y sorwe • And sithyn it happyd an englysch man to come

to þ*i*s creatur & swor a gret oth •/ sche heryng þ*at* oth • wept •

mornyd • & sorwyd • w*yth* owtyn mesur • not of powr to restreyn

hir selfe fro wepyng & sorwyng / for as meche as sche sey

hir broþ*yr* offendyn owr lord god al mygthy & lytyl heed wold

takyn to hys owyn defawte .;.

**O**n þe next day be tymes come to þ*i*s creatur þ*e* good

p*re*ste whech was as hir sone • & seyd • Modyr good ty//

dyng*ys* we haue good wynd thankyd be god / & a non

sche ȝaf p*re*ysyng to owr lord / & p*re*yd hym ofhys m*er*cy to g*ra*wn//

tyn hem good p*er*seuerawns of wynde & wederyng • þ*at* þei //

myth come hom in safte •• And it was answeryd & comawn//

dyd in hir sowle þ*at* þeixuld gon her wey in þe name of Ih*es*u •

Whan þe p*re*steknew þat sche wolde al gat*ys* gon forth he seyd //

**f. 50r**

Modyr her is no schip • her is but a lityl hecke • Sche answeryd

a geyn • Sone god is as mythy in a lityl schip as in a gret schip •

for I wyl go þ*er*in be þe leue of god And whan þei wer in þ*e* lityl

schip it be gan to waxin gret tempest*ys* & dyrke wedyr •/ þa*n* þei

cryed to god for *gra*ce& m*er*cy / & a non þe tempest*ys* sesyd & þei //

had fayr wedyr & seyled al þe nygth on ende / & þe next day

tyl evyn song tyme / & þa*n* þei cam to londe / & whan þei wer

on þe londe / þe forseyd creatur fel downe on hir knes kyssy*n*g

þe grownde / hyly thankyng god þ*at* had browt hem hom in

safte Than had þ*i*s creatur neiþ*yr* peny ne halfpeny in

hir purse / & so þei happyd to meten w*yth* oþ*er* pilg*ri*mys / whech

ȝou*yn* hir • iii • halfpenys • in as meche as sche had in comow//

nyng telde hem good talys / & þa*n* was sche rygth glad &

mery for sche had su*m* good / þ*at* sche myght offeryn in þe

worshep of þ*e* Trinite • Whan sche come to Norwych as •

sche dede whan sche went owt of Inglond ward / & so wha*n*

sche cam þ*er* sche offeryd *wyth* rygth good wylle / & sithyn

went sche w*yth* hir felaschep to þe vykary of seynt Steuenys

Maist*yr* Richard castyr • Whech leuyd þ*at* tyme & he led hem

w*yth* hym to þe place þ*er* he went to boorde / & mad hem ryth

good cher / & he seyd to þe forseyd creatur •• Margery •’ I m*er*ueyl

how ȝe can be so mery & han had so gret labowr / & ben

so fer hens • Syr for I haue gret cawse to ben mery and to

Ioyn in owr lorde / þ*at* hath holpyn me & socowryd me • &

browt me a geyn in safte •• blyssed & worshepyd mot he //

be & so þei dalyed in owr lord a good while / & had ful

goodly cher / & þan þei tokyn her leue / & sche went to an a

Ankyr • Whech was a Monke of a fer cuntr*e* • & dwellyd in

þe chapel of þe felde / he bar a name of gret p*er*feccyon /

& be for tyme had louyd þ*i*s creatur ryth meche • And

sithyn thorw euyl langage þ*at* he herd of hir he t*ur*nyd

al a ȝens hir / & þ*er*forsche went to hym • in p*ur*poseto mekyn

hyr selfe / & drawyn hym to charite / ȝyf sche myth •/ Whan

sche was come to hym he wolcomyd hir hom schortly • & //

**f. 50v**

askyd wher sche had don hir chylde / þ*e* whech was begotyn & born

whilsche was owte / as he had herd seyde • And sche seyd • ser

þe same childe þ*at* god hath sent me • I haue browt hom / for //

god knowyth I dede neu*yr* sithyn I went owte wher thorw I

xulde haue a childe •/ & •wolde he• not leuyn hir for nowt þ*at*

sche cowde sey • And neu*yr* þe lesse ȝet sche lowly & mekely

schewyd hym for trust þat sche had in hym / how it was

owr lord*ys* wyl þ*at* sche xulde be clad in white clothyng •/ &

he seyd god forbede it / for sche xulde þa*n* make al þ*e* world

to wondyr on hir • And sche seyd a ȝen Ser I make no fors

so þ*at* god be plesyd þ*er*w*yth •* Than he bad hir comyn a ȝen to

hym & be gou*er*nyd be hym / & be a good p*re*ste hite ser Ed//

warde •/ & sche seyd sche xulde wete first ȝyf it wer þe

wil of god er not / & þ*er*w*yth* sche toke hir leue at þ*at* tyme

& as sche went fro hym ward be þe wey / owr lord seyde

to hir sowle I wil not þ*at* þ*u* be gou*er*nyd be hym & sche

sent hym worde what answer sche had of god .;.

**A**nd þan p*re*yid sche to god seying / as wostly lorde

as it is thy wille þ*at* I xulde be clad in white / as wostly

grawnt me a tokne of leuyn thu*n*dyr & reyn

So þ*at* it hyndir ne noy no thyng / þ*at* I vnworthy may þ*e* raþ*ar* •

fulfillyn thy wil • Than owr lord answeryd & seyd vn to

hys vnworthy s*er*uawnt •• Dowt*yr* •dowte it not þ*u* xalt haue

þ*at* tokyn be þe thryd day & so it was •/ on þe fryday next

folwyng erly in þe morwenyng as sche lay in hir bed

sche sey gret leuyn • sche herd gret thu*n*dyr • & gret reyn

folwyng / & as swyþ*e* it passyd a wey & was fayr wedir

a geyn / & þa*n* sche p*ur*posyd hir fullych to weryn white cloþ*i*s

saf sche had neiþ*yr* gold ne syluer to byen w*yth* hir clothyng

And þa*n* owr lord seyd to hir sowle I xal ordeyn for þe •

þan went sche forth to a worshepful man in Norwich

/ to whom sche was ryth wolcome & had gret chere • And as

þei sat to gedyr tellyng good talys •/ eu*yr* owr lord seyde in

hir sowle / speke to þ*i*s man / speke to þ*i*s man •/ þa*n* sche seyd

to þ*at* worshepful man •• Wolde god ser þ*at* I myth fyndyn

**f. 51r**

a good man whech wolde lendyn me • ii • nobelys tyl I myth

payn hym a geyn to byen me clothys ^þ*er*w*yth* And he seyde þ*at* wil I do

damsel gladly • What clothys wil ȝe weryn • Ser sche seyde white

cloþ*i*s w*yth* þe leue of god •/ so þ*i*s good man bowt white cloth

& dede makyn hir a gowne þ*er*of• & an hood • a kyrtyl • & a cloke •

And on þe satyrday whech was þe next day at euyn he browt

hir þ*i*s clothyng / & ȝaf it hir for godd*ys* lofe / & meche mor good//

nes he dede to hir for owr lord*ys* lofe crist Ih*es*u be hys reward

& haue m*er*cyup on hys sowle / & on alle cristen • And on þe

Trinite sunday next folwyng sche was howselyd al in white /

& sithen hath sche sufferyd meche despyte / & meche schame /

in many dyuers cu*n*treys Cyteys & townys thankyd be god

of alle •• And sone aft*yr* hir husbond cam fro lynne vn to //

Norwych to se how sche ferd & how sche had sped & so went

þei hom to gedyr to lynne /• And sche in schort tyme aftyr

fel in gret sekenes • in so mech þ*at* sche was anoyntyd •/ for

dowt of deth & sche desired / yf it wer þe wil of god þat

sche myth sekyn seynt Iamys / er sche deyid & suffyr mor

schame for hys lofe / as he had hyte hir befor þ*at* sche xuld

do • And þa*n* owr lord Ih*es*u crist seyd to hir in hir sowle / þ*at*

sche xuld not dey ȝet • And sche wend hir selfe þ*at* sche xulde not

a leuyd / for hir peyn was so gret • And hastily aft*y*rwarde

sche was heyl & hoyl / & þa*n* it drow in to wynt*yr*warde and

sche had so meche colde / þ*at* sche wist not what sche myth do

for sche was powr / & had no mony & also sche was in

gret dette Than suffyrd sche schamys & rep*re*uys for weryng

of hir white clothys / & for sche cryed so lowde whan owr

lord ȝaf hyr mende of hys passyon • And for þ*e* compassyon

þ*at* sche had of owr lord*ys* passyon / sche cryed so wondyr lowde

& þei ^ had neu*yr* herd hir cryed be fore tyme / & it was þ*e* more

m*er*ueyl on to hem / for sche had hir fyrst cry at Ier*usa*l*e*m •/ as

is wretyn be forn • And many seyd þ*er* was neu*yr* seynt in

heuyn þ*at* cryed so as sche dede /• Wherfor þei woldyn co*n*cludyn

þ*at* sche had a deuyl w*yth*inne hir whech cawsyd þ*at* crying / & so

þei seyden pleynly & meche mor euyl • And al sche toke pa //

**f. 51v**

cyently for owr lord*ys* lofe / for sche wist wel þ*at* þe Iewys seyd meche

wers of hys owyn p*er*sone • þa*n* men dede of hir / & þ*er*for sche toke it

þ*e* mor mekely / su*m* seyde þ*at* sche had þe fallyng euyl for sche w*yth*

þe crying wrestyd hir body turnyng fro þe o syde in to þ*e* oþ*er*

& wex al blew & al blo • as it had ben colowr of leed / & þa*n* folke •

spitted at hir for horro*wr* of þe sekenes / & su*m* scornyd hir and

seyd • þ*at* sche howlyd as it ben a dogge / & bannyd hir & cursyd

hir / & seyd þ*at* sche dede meche harm a mong þ*e* pepyl •• And þa*n*

þei þ*at* be forn tyme had ȝouyn hir bothyn mete & drynke for

godd*ys* lofe / now þei þut hir a wey & bodyn hir þ*at* sche xulde

not come in her plac*ys* / for þ*e* schrewyd talys þ*at* þei herd of

hir • And aft*yr*ward whan tyme cam þ*at* sche wolde gon to

seynt Iamys / sche went to þ*e* best frend*ys* þ*at* sche had in lynne

& telde hem hir entent / how sche p*ur*posyd to gon to seynt

Iamys / ȝyf sche myth han good to gon w*yth* /but sche was

powr and awt meche dette •/ and hir frend*ys* seyden to hir //

Why haue ȝe ȝouyn a wey ȝo*wr* good / & oþ*er* mennys also • Wher

schal ȝe now haue so meche good as ȝe owe • And sche seyd

a ȝen owr lord god schal helpyn ryth wel / for he fayld me

neu*yr* in no cu*n*tre / & þ*er*forI trust hym ryth wel • And sode//

ynly cam a good man & ȝaf hir fowrty pens • & w*yth* su*m*

þ*er*ofsche bowt hir a pylche / & eu*yr* owr lord seyd to hir •

Dowt*yr* stody þow for no good / for I xal ordeyn for þ*e* / but

eu*yr* stody þow to loue me / & kepe þi mende on me / for I

schal go w*yth* þe wher þow gost • as I haue hite þ*e* be forn

And aft*yr*warde þ*er* cam a woman a good frend to þ*i*s c*re*atur

& ȝaf hyr vii • marke / for sche xulde p*re*yfor hir wha*n* þat

sche come to seynt Iamys / & þa*n* sche toke hir leue at hir

frend*ys* in lynne p*ur*posyng hir forward in al þ*e* hast þ*at* sche myth

[& þa*n* was it seyd in lynne þ*at* þ*er* wer many theuys be þe wey

þan had sche gret drede *þat* þei xulde robbyn hir & takyn hir

golde a wey fro hir •/ And owr m*er*cyful lord comfortyng hir

seyd on to hir •/ go forth dowt*yr* in þe name of Ih*es*u / þ*er* xal no

thef han powyr ou*yr* þe • Than went sche forth & cam to //

f. 52r

Brystowe on þe Wednysday in Whitson weke • and þ*er* fond sche redy

the a [e on a] broke bakkyd man whech had ben w*yth* hir at Rome / Whom sche left

in Rome whan sche cam þens too ȝer befor þ*i*s tyme / & whil //

they wer in Rome sche borwyd certeyn golde of hym / & be þe

byddyng of god sche ȝaf a wey to powr pepil al þ*e* mony þ*at*

sche had / & þ*at* sche had borwyd of hym also • as is wretyn be forn •

/ & than whil sche was in Rome sche hite hym to payn hym

a geyn in Bristowe at þ*i*s tyme / & so was he come thedyr

for hys payment •/ And owr lord Ih*es*u crist had so ordeyned

for hir as sche went to Bristowe ward þ*at* þ*er* was ȝouyn hir

so meche mony / þ*at* sche myth wel payn þe forseyd man •

al þ*at* sche awt hym / & so sche dede blissed be owr lord þ*er*for/

And þa*n* sche lay stille in bristowe be þe byddyng of god / for

to a byden schepyng • vi • wok*ys* /in as mech as þ*er* wer non

englisch schepys þ*at* myth seylen þedyr / for þei wer a restyd

& takyn up for þe kyng • And oþ*er* pilgrymes þ*at* wer at Bristowe

desiryng to spedyn her Iurne • went a bowte fro port to port

& sped neu*yr* þe mor / & so þei cam a geyn to Bristowe • whyl

sche lay stille / & sped bett*yr* þa*n* they / for al her labowr • And

whil sche was thus stille in Bristowe aft*yr* þ*e* byddyng of

god [ owr m*er*cyful lord crist Ih*es*u visityd hys creatur w*yth* many

holy meditacyons • & many hy co*n*templacyonys • & many

swet comfort*ys* •& þ*er* was sche howselyd eu*er*y sonday • w*yth* plen

tyuows terys & boystows sobbyng*ys* w*yth* lowde crying*ys* and

schille schrykyng*ys* / & þ*er*formany man & many woman ~

wondyrd up on hir • skornyd hir & despised hir • bannyd

hir & cursyd hir • seyde meche euyl of hir • Slawndryd hir

& born hyr on hande þ*at* sche xulde a seyd thyng whech þ*at* sche seyd

neu*yr* & þa*n* wept sche ful sor for hir synne p*re*yng god of m*er*cy

& forȝeuenes for hem •7/ seying to owr lord •/ lord as þ*u* seydyst

hangyng on þe cros for þi crucyfyerys •• ffadyr forȝeue hem

þei wite not what þei don / so I beseche þe • forȝeue þ*e* pepyl

al scorne & slawndrys & al þ*at* þei han trespasyd ȝyf it be

thy wille / for I haue des*er*uyd meche mor & meche more am //

I worthy .;.

**f. 52v**

**O**N corp*us* xr*ist*i day aft*yr* as þ*e* p*re*stys born þ*e* sacrament a bowte

þ*e* town w*yth* solempne p*ro*cessyon • w*yth* meche lyth & gret sole*m*p//

nyte / as was worthy to be do /• þ*e* forseyd creatur folwyd

ful of terys & deuocyon • w*yth* holy thowt*ys* & meditacyon sor wepy*n*g

& boystows sobbyng / & þa*n* þ*er* cam a good woman be þ*i*s creatur

& seyd / damsel god ȝef us g*ra*ce to folwyn þ*e* steppys of owr lord

Ih*es*u crist / þan þ*at* worde wrowt so sor in hir herte / & in hir

mende • þ*at* sche myth not beryn it • þ*at* sche was fawyn to takyn

an hows & þ*er* sche cryed / I dey • I dey • & roryd also wondirfully •

þ*at* þ*e* pepil wonderyd up on hir • hauyng gret m*er*ueyl what hir

eyled / And ȝet owr lord mad su*m*me to lofe hir & cherschyn

hir ryth meche / & haddyn hir hom boþ*e* to mete & to drynke

/ & haddyn ful gret gladnes to heryn hir dalyin in owre

lord • And so þ*er* was a man of newe Castel hys name was

Thom*a*s Marchale • whech ofte tymes bad þ*i*s creatur to mete

for to heryn hir dalyawns / & he was so drawyn be þ*e* good

word*ys* þ*at* god þut in hir to sey • of co*n*tricyon & co*m*punccyon •

of swetnes • & of deuocyon • þ*at* he was al meuyd as he had

ben a newe man • w*yth* terys of co*n*t*ri*cyon & co*m*punccyon • boþ*e*

days & nyghtys / as owr lord wolde visiten hys hert w*yth* g*ra*ce

/ þ*at* su*m* tyme whan he went in þ*e* feldys he wept so sor for hys

synnes / & hys trespas þ*at* he fel down & myth not beryn it /

& telde þe forseyd creatur • þ*at* he had ben a ful rekles man &

mys gou*er*nyd / &þ*at* sore rewyd hym / thankyd be god / And þan

he blyssed þ*e* tyme þ*at* he knew þ*i*s creatur / & p*ur*posyd hym fully

to be a good man • Also he seyd to þe seyd creatur • Modyr

I haue her • x • marke • I p*ra*yȝow þ*at* it be ȝo*wr* •as ȝo*wr* owyn / for I

wil helpyn ȝow to seynt Iamys w*yth* godd*ys* g*ra*ce • And what

þ*at* ȝe byd me ȝeuyn to any powr man er woman • I wyl do

ȝo*wr* byddyng • Al wey o peny for ȝow an oþ*er* for my selfe •

Than as it plesyd owr lord he sent a schip owte of Breteyn

in to Bristowe • whech schip was madredy & arayd for to

seylen to seynt Iamys • And þa*n* þe seyd Thom*a*s Marchale

went & payd þ*e* mayst*yr* for hym selfe & for þ*e* seyd creatur

/ þan was þ*er* Richeman of Bristowe whech wolde not late þ*e*

seyd creatur seylen in þ*at* schip •/ for he held hir no good woma*n* •

**f. 53r**

And þan sche seyd to þ*at* Rycheman Syr yf ȝe þut me owt of þe

schip / my lord Ih*es*u xal þut ȝow owt of heuyn • ffor I telle ȝow

ser owr lord Ih*es*u hath no deynte of a ryche man • les þa*n* he

wil be a good man & a meke man / & so sche seyde many scharp //

wordys on to hym w*yth* owtyn any glosyng er flateryng / & þa*n*

owr lord seyd to hir in hir sowle • Thow xalt han thy wylle

& gon to seynt Iamys • at þi desyr • And a non aft*yr* sche was

putt vp befor þ*e* Bischop of Worcetyr þ*at* lay • iii • myle beȝondy*n*

bristowe & moneschid to aper be for hym þ*er* he lay •• Sche ros

up erly on þe next day & went to þe place • wher he lay hym

selfe ȝet beyng in bedde / & happyd to metyn on of hys wor//

schepfulest men in þ*e* town / & so þei dalyid of god / & whan he

had herd hir dalyid a good while / he p*re*yd hir to mete / & sithyn

he browt hir in to þ*e* Bischopys halle / & whan sche cam in to

þe halle sche saw many of þe Bischopys men al to raggyd •

& al to daggyd in her clothys •/ sche lyftyng vp hir hande •’

blissed hir / & þa*n* þei seyd to hir • What deuyl eyleth þ*e* •/ sche //

seyd a ȝen •/ Whos men be ȝe •/ þei answeryd a ȝen þ*e* bischopys

men • And þa*n* sche seyd nay forsoþ*e* ȝe am lykar þe deuelys

men / þa*n* þei weryn wroth / & chedyn hir / & spokyn angrily vn

to hir / & sche suffryd hem wel & mekely / & sithyn sche spak

so sadly a geyn syn & her mysgou*er*nawns / þ*at* þei wer in sylens &

held hem wel plesyd • w*yth* hyr dalyawns / thankyd be god er þa*n*

sche left / And þa*n* sche went in to þe chirch And a bood the

comyng of þe bischop / & whan he ca*m* sche knelyd down &

askyd what was hys wille / & why sche was somownde to

come be for hym / it was to hir gret noye & hynderawns

/ in as meche as sche was a pilgryme / p*ur*posyng be þ*e* g*ra*ce

of god to seynt Iamys warde • Than þe Bischop seyde

Margery • I haue not somownd þe for I knowe wel I

now þ*u* art Iohn of B*ur*namys dowt*yr* of lynne / I p*ra*y þ*e* be

not wroth • but far fayr w*yth* me & I xal far fayr w*yth* the •

for þ*u* xalt etyn w*yth* me þ*i*s day • Syr sche seyd I p*re*yȝow

haue me excusyd / for I haue behestyd a good man in town

to etyn with hym to day • And þa*n* he seyd þu xalt etyn w*yth* //

**f. 53v**

me & he bothyn / & so sche a bood w*yth* hym tyl god sent wynde / þ*at* sche

myth seylen / & had gret cher of hym / & of hys meny also / & sithyn

sche was schreuyn to þ*e* Bischop / & þ*an* he p*re*yd hir to p*re*yfor hym

þ*at* he myth deyn in charite / for it was warnyd hy*m* be an holy

man whech had be reuelacyon • þat þ*i*s bischop xulde be ded w*yth*

inne þ*e* t*er*me of ii • ȝer / & it fel so in dede And þ*er*for he compley//

nyd to þ*i*s creatur & p*re*yde hir to p*re*yfor hym / þ*at* he myth deyin

in charite / At þ*e* last sche toke hir leue of hym / & he ȝaf hir

golde & hys blyssyng / & comawndyd hys mene to lede hir forth

in hir wey •• And also he p*re*yd hir whan sche come fro seynt //

Iamys a geyn / þ*at* sche wolde come vn to hym • And so sche went

forth to hir schip •• be for þ*at* sche entryd þe schip sche mad hir

p*re*yerys / þ*at* god xulde kepe hem & p*re*serue hem fro veniawns

tempest*ys* & perellys in þe se / þ*at* þei myth go & come in safte

for it was telde hir / ȝyf þei haddyn any tempest / þei woldyn

castyn hyr in þ*e* se / for þei seyd it was for hir / & þei seyde þ*e*

schip was þ*e* wers for sche was þ*er*in • And þ*er*for sche in hir p*re*yer

seyde on þ*i*s man*er* • Al mythy god crist Ih*es*u I beseche þ*e* for þi

m*er*cy ȝyf þ*u* wilte chastisyn me / spar me tyl I come a geyn

in to Inglond / & whan I come a geyn chastyse me / ryth as þ*u* //

wilte / & þa*n* owr lord grawntyd hir hir bone / & so sche toke //

hir schip in þe name of Ih*es*u / & seylyd forth w*yth* hir felaschip

Whom god sent fayr wynde & wedyr / so þ*at* þei comyn to seynt

Iamys on þ*e* seuenyth day • And þa*n* þei þ*at* weryn aȝen hir

whan þei wer at Bristowe / now þei made hir good cher / &

so þei abedyn þ*er* • xiiii • days in þ*at* lond / & þ*er* had sche gret cher

bothyn bodily & gostly • hy deuocyon & many gret cryes in

þ*e* mende of owr lord*ys* passion w*yth* plentyuows terys of

co*m*pasyon / & sithyn þei come hom a geyn to bristowe in

v • days / & sche abood not long þ*er* / but went forth to þ*e* blod

of hayles / & þ*er* was schrevyn & had lowde cryes & boystows

wepyng*ys* / & þan þ*e* reiigiows men had hir in a mongse hem

/ & mad hir good cher saf þei sworyn many gret othys &

horryble / & sche vndyrname hem þ*er*of / aft*yr* þ*e* gospel / & þ*er*of

had þei gret wondyr / neu*yr* þ*e* lesse su*m*me wer ryth wel plesyd

**f. 54**r

thankyd be god of his gooddnesse .;.

**S**ythyn ȝed sche forth to leycetyr & a good man also Thom*as*

Marchale of whom is wretyn be forn •/ And þ*er* sche cam

in to a fayr cherch wher sche behelde a crucyfyx ^ was þ*at*

petowsly poyntyd & lamentabyl to be heldyn / thorw whech be//

heldyng þe passyon of owr lord entryd hir mende wher thorw

sche ^began ^to meltyn & al to relentyn be terys of pyte & co*m*passy//

own / þa*n* þe fyer of lofe kyndelyd so ȝern in hir hert / þ*at* sche

myth not kepyn it p*re*uy/for whedyr sche wolde er not / it

cawsyd hir to brekyn owte w*yth* a lowde voys & cryen m*er*ueylows/

lyche & wepyn & sobbyn ful hedowslyche / þ*at* many a man and

woman wondryd on hir þ*er*for / Wha*n* it was ou*yr* comyn/sche

goyng owt at þe chirche dore / a man toke hir be þe sleue &

seyd damsel why weþist þ*u* so sor •/ ser sche seyd / it is not ȝow

to telle •/ & so sche & þe good man Thom*a*s Marchale went

forth & toke hir hostel / & þ*er* etyn her mete •/ Whan þei had

etyn / sche p*re*yd Thom*a*s Marchale to writyn a lettyr & sendyn

to hir husbond / þ*at* he myth fettyn hir hom / & wyl þ*e* lettyr

was in wrytyng / þe Osteler cam vp to hir chawmbyr in gret

hast & toke a wey hir scryppe / & bad hyr comyn ȝerne / and

spekyn w*yth* þe Meyr / & so sche dede / þa*n* þe Meyr askyd hir

of what cu*n*tre sche was / & whos dowt*yr* sche was • Syr sche

seyd • I am of lynne in Norfolke a good mannys dowt*yr* of

þe same lynne / whech hath ben Meyr fyve tymes of þat

worshepful burwgh •/ And aldyrman also many ȝerys / & I

haue a good man also a Burgeys of þe seyd town of lynne

to myn husbond • Aseyd þe Meyr seynt kateryn telde what

kynred sche cam of / & ȝet ar ȝe not lyche / for þ*u* art a fals

stru*m*pet / a fals loller / & a fals deceyu*er* of þe pepyl / & þ*er*for

I xal haue þe in p*re*son •/ And sche seyd a geyn I am as redy

ser to gon to p*re*son for godd*ys* lofe / as ȝe am redy to gon

to chirche • Whan þe Meyr had long chedyn hir • & seyd many

euyl & horybyl word*ys* on to hir / & sche be þ*e* g*ra*ce of Ih*es*u //

had resonabely answeryd hym to al þ*at* he cowde seyn •7/ þa*n*

**f. 54v**

he comawndyd þe Iaylerys man to ledyn hir to p*re*son / The Iaylerys

man hauyng co*m*passyon of hir w*yth* wepyng terys • seyd to þe Meyr •

Ser I haue non hows to þut hir inne les þa*n* I putte hir a mong

men •’ þa*n* sche ^was meuyd w*yth* co*m*passyon of þe man whech had co*m*passyon

of hir / p*re*yng for g*ra*ce & m*er*cy to þat man • as to hir owyn sowle / seyd

to þe meyr •/ I p*re*yȝow ser put me not a mong men / þ*at* I may ke//

pyn my chastite / & my bond of wedlak to myn husbond / as I am

bowndyn to do •/ & þa*n* seyd þe Iayler hys owyn selfe to þ*e* Meyr •

Ser I will be bowndyn to keþe þ*i*s woman in saf warde / tyl ȝe wyl

haue hir a geyn •/ Than was þ*er* a man of Boston / & seyd to þe

good wyfe þ*er* sche was at Ostel •/ forsoþ*e* he seyth in Boston • þ*i*s

woma*n* is holdyn an holy woman / & a blissed woman •/ þa*n* þe

Gayler toke hir in to hys a warde / & led hyr hom in to hys owy*n*

hows / & þut hir in a fayr chawmbyr / schetyng þ*e* dor w*yth* a key

/ & comendyng hys wyfe þ*e* key to kepyn •/ neu*yr* þe lesse he lete

hir gon to chirche • whan sche wolde & dede lete [overwritten] hir etyn at hys

owyn tabyl / & mad hir ryght good cher • for owr lord*ys* lofe •

þankyd be almygthy god *þer*of.;.

**T**han þe sty"ward of leycetyr a semly man / sent for

þe seyd creatur • to þe Gaylerys wyfe / & sche for hir

husbond was not at hom / wolde not late hir gon •

to no man / styward ne oþ*er •*/Whan þ*e* gayler knew þ*er*of •he cam

hys p*ro*pyr p*er*sone / & browt hir befor þe sty"warde •/ þe Styward

a non as he sey hir spak latyn vn to hir " many p*re*st*ys* stondy*n*g

a bowtyn • to here what sche xulde say / & oþ*er* pepyl also /• Sche

seyd to þe stywarde •/ spekyth englysch yf ȝow lyketh for I vndyr//

stonde not what ȝesey •/ þe Styward seyd vn to hir þ*u* lyest

falsly inpleyn englysch •/ þa*n* seyd sche vn to hym a ȝen ••Syr

askyth what qwestyon ȝe wil in englysch / &thorw þ*e* g*ra*ce //

of my lord Ih*es*ucryst I xal answerynȝoW resonabely þ*er*to•

And þa*n* askyd he manyqwestyonys to þ*e* whech sche answe//

ryd redily & resonabely / þ*at* he cowde getyn no cawse a geyn

hir • Than þe Stywarde toke hir be þe hand / & led hir in to hys

chawmbyr / & spak many fowyl rebawdy word*ys* vn to hir / p*ur*po//

syng & desyryng / as it semyd hir / to opressyn hir & for lyn

hir / & þa*n* had sche meche drede & meche sorwe crying hym

**f. 55r**

m*er*cy *•*/sche seyd • Ser for þ*e* reu*er*ens of al mythy god sparyth //

me for I am a mannys wife •• And þan seyd þe stywarde / þ*u* xalt

telle me wheþ*yr* þ*u* hast þ*i*sspeche of god er of þe devyl / er ellys þ*u*

xalt gon to p*re*son •• Ser sche seyd for to gon to p*re*son I am not

a ferd for my lord*ys* lofe / þe whech meche mor suffyrd for my

lofe / þa*n* I may for hys •/ I p*ra*yȝow doth as ȝow thynkyth þ*e* beste therin

The stiwarde seyng bir boldenes þ*at* sche dred no p*re*sonyng he

stro^gbelyd w*yth* hir • schewyng vn clene tokenys / & vngoodly cu*n*//

tenawns / Wher thorw he frayd hir so mech / þ*at* sche telde hy*m*

how sche had hyr speche / & hir dalyawns of þ*e* holy gost / & not

of hir owyn cu*n*nyng /• And þa*n* he al a stoyned of hir word*ys* •

left hys besynes & hys lewydnes / seying to hir as many

man had do be forn •/ eyþ*yr* þ*u* art a ryth good woman / er ellys

a ryth wikked woman •/ & delyueryd hir a geyn to hir gayler •

& he led hyr hom a geyn w*yth* hym •• Sithyn þei tokyn • ii • of hyr

felaws þ*at* went w*yth* hyr on pylg*ri*mage þe on was Thomas Marchale [u in red]

be forn seyd / þ*e* oþ*er* a man of Wisbeche / & þut hem bothyn in

p*re*son / for cawse of hyr •/ þa*n* was sche heuy & sory for ther distres •

& p*re*yd to god for ther delyuerawns • And þ*an* owr m*e*rcyful lord

crist Ih*es*u seyd to hys creatur ••Dowt*yr* I xal for thy loue so dispo//

syn for hem / þ*at* þe pepyl xal be ryth fayn to letyn hem gon •

& not longe kepyn hem •• And on þe next day folwyng / owr lord

sent sweche wederyng of leuenys thu*n*derys & reynes con//

tynuyng þ*at* al þ*e* pepyl in þ*e* town wer so afrayd / þei wist not

what to do •/ þei dreddyn hem it was for þei had þut þ*e* pylg*ri*//

mys in p*re*son / & þa*n* þe gou*er*norys of þe town went in gret

hast / & toke owt þo tweyn pilg*ri*mys • whech had leyn in p*re*son

al þe nyth be forn / ledyng hem to þ*e* gylde halle þ*e*r to be exa//

mynyd be for þ*e* Meyr / & þe worschepful men of þe town /

/ co*m*pellyng hem to sweryn ȝyf þe forseyd c*re*atur wer a woman

of þe ryth feyth & ryth beleue / co*n*tinent & clene of hir body /

er not / As fer as þei knewyn þei sworyn as witt*yr*ly god

xulde help hem at þ*e* day of dome / þ*at* sche was a good woma*n*

of þ*e* ryth feyth & ryth beleue / clene & chaste / in al hir gou*er*naw*n*s /

as fer as þei cowde knowyn in cher cu*n*tenawns in worde //

**f. 55v**

& in werke / and þan þe Meyr let hem gon whedyr þei wolde / and

a non þe tempest sesyd & it was fayr wedir worschepyd be owre

lord god / The pilg*ri*mys þei wer glad / þ*at* þei wer delyueryd / & durst

no lengar abydyn in leycetyr / but went • x • myle thens / & abood

þer / þ*at* þei myth haue knowlach what xulde be do w*yth* þe seyde

creatur / for whan þei bothyn wer þut in p*re*son / þei had telde

hyr hem selfe / þ*at* þei supposyd ȝyf þe Meyr myth han hys wil

he wolde don hir be brent .;.

**O**N a Wednysday þe seyd creatur was browt in to a chirch

of alle halwyn in leycetyr / in whech place be for þ*e*

hy awter was sett þe Abbot of leycetyr / w*yth* su*m*me of

hys chanownys / þe den of leicetyr a worthy clerke •/ Ther

wer also many ffrerys & p*re*yst*ys* •Also þe Meyr of þe same town

w*yt*h mech oþ*er* of lay pepyl / þ*er* was so meche pepyl þat þei stodyn

vp on stolys for to beheldyn hir / & wonderyn vp on hir •[ þe

sayd creatur lay on hir knes • makyng hir p*ra*yerys to al mythy

god / þ*at* sche myth han g*ra*ce / wytte & wysdam / so to answeryn / þ*at*

day / as myth ben most plesawns & worschep to hym •/ most

p*ro*fyth to hir sowle / & best exampyl to þe pepyl •/ Than þ*er* cam

a p*re*ste to hir & toke hir be þe hand / & browt hir be forn þe

Abbot & hys assessowrys / syttyng at þe Awter • The wheche

made dedyn [red dots] hir sweryn on a boke / þ*at* sche xulde answeryn trewly

to þe Artyculys of þe feyth / lych as sche felt in hem / & fyrst

þei rehersyd þe blysful sacrament of þe Awter / chargyng

hir to seyn ryth as sche beleuyd þ*er*in •/ Than sche seyd •’ serys

I beleue in þe sacrament of þe awter on þ*i*s wyse /• þ*at* what

man hath takyn þ*e* ordyr of p*re*sthode be he neu*yr* so vicyows

a man in hys leuyng / ȝyf he sey dewly þo word*ys* ouyr þ*e*

bred þ*at* owr lord Ih*es*u criste seyde whan he mad hys mawnde •

a mong hys disciplys þ*er* he sat at þe soper / I be leue þ*at* it

is hys very flesch & hys blood / & no mat*er*ial bred ne neuyr

may be vnseyd be it onys seyd /• & so sche answeryd forth to

alle þ*e* artycles / as many as þei wolde askyn hir / þ*at* þei wer

wel plesyd •/ þe Meyr whech was hir dedly enmy / he seyd

in fayth sche menyth not w*yth* hir hert / as sche seyth with

hir mowthe / and þe clerkys seyden to hym • Sir sche answeryth //

**f. 56**r

ryth wel to vs / þan þe Meyr alto rebukyd hir & rehersyd many rep*re*//

uows word*ys* & vngoodly / þe whiche is mor expedient to be co*n*celyd

þa*n* exp*re*ssyd / Sir sche seyde I take witnesse of my lord Ih*es*u crist

whos body is her p*re*sent in þe sacrament of þe Awter / þ*at* I neu*yr*

had part of mannys body in þ*i*s worlde in actual dede be wey

of synne / but of myn husbond*ys* body •/ Whom I am bowndyn to

be þe lawe of mat*ri*mony / & be whom I haue born xiiii • childeryn •

for I do ȝow to wetyn ser / þ*at* þ*er* is no ma*n* in þ*i*s worlde / þ*at* I lofe

so meche as god / for I lofe hym a bouyn al thynge / & ser I telle //

ȝow trewly / I lofe al men in god & for god /• Also ferþ*er*mor sche

seyd pleynly to hys owyn p*er*sone •• Sir ȝe arn not worthy

to ben a Meyr / & þ*at* xal I p*re*uyn be holy writte •/ for owr lord

god seyde hym self / er he wolde takyn veniawnce on þ*e* cyteys •

I xal comyn down & seen & ȝet he knew al thyng / & þ*at* was

not ellys sir / but for to schewe men as ȝe ben þ*at* ȝe schulde

don non execucyon in ponischyng / but ȝyf ȝe had knowy*n*g

be forn / þ*at* it wer worthy for to be don / & syr ȝe han do •

al þe contrary to me þ*i*s day / for syr ȝe han cawsyd me myche

despite / for thyng þ*at* I am not gilty in / I p*ra*ygod for ȝeue ȝow

it • Than þe Meyr seyde to hir I wil wetyn why þow gost in

white clothys / for I trowe þow art comyn hedyr to hane a wey

owr wyuys fro us / & ledyn hem w*yth* þe •/ Syr sche seyth ȝe xal

not wetyn of my mowth why I go in white clothys / ȝe arn

not worthy to wetyn it •/ but ser I wil tellyn it to þes worthy

clerkys / w*yth* good wil be þ*e* man*er* of co*n*fessyon Avyse hem ȝyf þei

wyl telle it ȝow • Than þe clerkys p*re*yd þ*e* meyr to gon down

fro hem w*yth* þe oþ*er* pepyl •/ And whan þei weryn gon • Sche kne//

lyd on hir knes be for þ*e* Abbot & þe den of leycetyr / & a //

frer p*re*chowr a worschipful clerke / & telde þes • iii • clerkys •

how owr lord be reuelacyon warnyd hir / & bad hir weryn

white clothys / er sche cam at Ier*usa*l*e*m *•* And so haue I tolde my

gostly faderys •• And þ*e*rfor þei han chargyd me þ*at* I xulde

gon thus / for þei dar not don a geyn my felyng*ys* for dred

of god • And ȝyf þei durste þei wolde ful gladlych • And þ*er//*

for serys ȝyf þe Meyr wil wetyn why I go in whyte •’/ ȝe //

**f. 56v**

may seye ȝyf ȝow likyth / *þat* my gostly faderys byddyn me gon so

/ & þan xal ȝe make no lesyngg*ys* / ne he xal not knowe þ*e* trewth

So þ*e* clerk*ys* clepyd up a ȝen þe Meyr & teldyn hym in cownsel

þ*at* hir gostly faderys had chargyd hir to weryn white cloþ*i*s / & sche

had bowndyn hir to her obediens / Than þe Meyr clepyd hir

to hym seying / I wil not letyn þ*e* gon hens / for thyng þ*at* þow

canst seyn les þa*n* þ*u* wil gon to my lord of lynkoln for a lett*yr* /

/ in as meche as þ*u* art in hys Iurisdiccyon / þ*at* I may be dischar//

gyd of þe Sche seyd ser I dar speke to my lord of lyncolne

ryth wel / for I haue had of hym rith good cher a for þ*i*s tyme

And þa*n* oþ*er* men askyd hir ȝyf sche wer in charite with þ*e* Meyr

/ & sche seyd ȝa •/ & with alle creaturys •• And þa*n* sche obeyng hir

to þe Meir / p*re*yd hym to ben in charite w*yth* hy~~m~~r / w*yth* wepyng

terys / & forȝeuyn hir any thyng / þ*at* sche had displesyd hym

And he ȝaf hir goodly word*ys* for a while / þ*at* sche wend al had

ben wel / & he had ben hir good frende /• but aft*yr*ward sche

wist wel it was not so / & þ*us* she had leue of þe Meir for to

gon to my lord of lyncolne / & fettyn a lett*yr* be þ*e* whech

þe Meyr schulde be excusyd .;.

**S**O sche went fyrst to þe Abbey of leycetyr in to

þe chirche /• And as sone as þ*e* Abbot had aspyed hir

he of hys goodnes / w*yth* many of hys breþ*yr* cam for

wolcomyn hir •/ Whan sche sey hem comyn a non in hir sowle

sche beheld owr lord comyng w*yth* hys apostelys / & sche was so

raueschyd in to co*n*templacyon w*yth* swetnes & deuocyon / þat

sche myth not stondyn a geyns her comyng /as curtesy wolde /

/ but lenyd hir to a peler in þe chirche / & held hir strongly

þ*er*b*y* / for dred of fallyng / for sche wold a stondyn & sche myth

not / for plente of deuocyon / whech was cawse þ*at* sche cryed

& wept ful sor / Whan hir criyng was ou*yr* comyn•/þe Abbot

p*re*yd hys breþ*yr* / to haue hir in w*yth* hem & co*m*fortyn hir / and so

þei ȝouyn hir ryth good wyn / & madyn hir ryth good cher

/ þan sche gat hir a lett*yr* of þe Abbot / to my lord of lyncolne

in to record what co*n*u*er*sacyon sche had ben / þe tyme þ*at* sche

was in leicetyr •/ And þe deen of leicetyr was redy to recor//

dyn & witnessyn w*yth* hir also / for he had gret co*n*fidens þat

**f. 57r**

owre lord louyd hir / & þ*er*for he cheryd hir ful hily in hys owyn

place /• And so sche toke leue of hir sayd sone ^ p*ur*posyng forth to lyncoln

ward / w*yth* a man whech hite patryk / þ*at* had ben w*yth* hir at seynt Iamys

be for tyme •/ and as þ*i*styme he was sent be Thom*a*s Marchale be//

forn seyd fro Melton Mowmbray to leycetyr / for to inqwir & se

how it stod w*yth* þe same creatur •/ for þe forseyd Thom*a*s Marchal

feryd meche / þ*at* sche xuld a be brent / & þ*er*forhe sent þ*i*s man

patryk to p*re*uyn þe trewth / & so sche & Patryk w*yth* many good

folke of leicetyr comyn to cheryn hir / thankyng god þat had

p*re*s*er*uydhir / & ȝouyn hir þ*e* victory of hir enmyis / wentyn

forth owt at þe townys ende & madyn hir ryth good cher

/ behestyng hir yf eu*yr* sche come a geyn sche xuld han bett*yr* cher

a mong hem þa*n* eu*yr* sche had be forn •/ Than had sche for//

ȝetyn & left in þ*e* towne a staf of a Moyses ȝerde whech sche

had browt fro ler*usa*l*e*m•/& sche wold not a lost it for • xl • s •/ þa*n*

went patryk a ȝen in to þ*e* towne for hir staffe / & hir scryppe

& happyd to metyn w*yth* þe Meyr • And þe Meir wolde a putte

hym in p*re*son *•*/so at þe last he scapyd of hard / & left þ*er* hir //

scrippe •/ þa*n* þe forseyd creatur a bood þ*i*s man in a blynd woma//

nys hows / in gret heuynes / dredyng what was fallyn of hym

for he was so long •/ at þe last þ*i*s man ca*m* rydyng forby þ*er* þat

sche was •/ Whan sche sey hym sche cryed patryk sone / Wher ha

ȝe ben so long fro me •/ ȝa ȝa modyr seyd he / I haue ben in //

gret p*er*il for ȝow / I was in poynt to a ben put in p*re*sonfor

ȝow •/ & þe meyr hath gretly turmentyd me for ȝow / & he hath

takyn a wey ȝo*wr* scrippe fro me •• Agood patryk seyd sche be

not displesyd for I xal p*re*y for ȝow / & god xal rewardyn ȝo*wr*

labowr ryth wel it is al for þe best /• Than patryk set hir

up on hys hors & browt hir hom in to melton mowmbray

in to hys owyn hows wher was Thom*a*s Marchale be for wrety*n*

& toke hir down of þe hors hyly þankyng god / þ*at* sche was

not brent •/ so þei enioyed in owr lord al þ*at* nyth •/ And aft*yr*ward

sche went forth to þe byschop of lyncolne þ*er* he lay þ*at* tyme /

/ sche not verily knowyng wher he was • met a worschepful man

*wyth* a furryd hood / a worthy officer of þe bischopys •/ whech //

**f. 57v**

seyd vn to hir •/ damsel knowyst þ*u* not me no sir sche seyd forsoþ*e* •/ &

ȝet þow wer beholdyn he seyd / for I haue su*m*tyme mad þ*e* good cher

Sir I trust þ*at* ȝe dedyn •/ ȝe dedyn for godd*ys* lofe / & þ*er*forI hope he

xal ryth wel rewardyn ȝow /• And I p*re*yȝow heldyth me excusyd

for I take lytil heed of a mannys bewte / er of hys face / & þ*er*for

I forȝete hym meche þa sonar •/ And þa*n* he teld hir goodly wher

sche xulde haue þ*e* Bischop •/ And so sche gat hir a lett*yr* of þ*e* Bischop

to þe Meyr of leycetyr / monyschyng hym • þ*at* he xulde not vexy*n*

hir / ne lettyn hir to gon & comyn / whan sche wolde • Than

þ*er* fellyn gret thu*n*derys & leuenys & many reynes • þ*at* þ*e* pepil

demyd / it was for veniawns of þe sayd creatur / gretly desy//

ryng þ*at* she had ben owt of þ*at* cu*n*tre / & sche wolde in no wise

gon thens tyl þ*at* sche had hir scryppe a geyn /• Wha*n* þ*e* seyde

Meyr receyued þe forseyd lettyr he sent hir • hir skryppe / &

leet hir gon in safte wher sche wolde /• iii • wokys • sche was

lettyd of hir Iurney • be þ*e* Meyr of leycetyr / er he wold lety*n*

hyr gon owt þ*at* Cooste •/ þa*n* sche hyryd þe forseyd man

patryk / to gon w*yth* hir in þ*e* cu*n*tre & so went þei forth to

ȝorke .;.

**W**han sche was com ^i*n* to ȝorke sche went to an Ancres •

wheche had louyd hir wel / er sche went to Ier*usa*l*e*m /• to

han knowlach of hyr gostly encres • Also desiryng

for mor gostly co*m*municacyon / to etyn w*yth* þ*e* ancres þ*at* day

no thyng ellys but bred & watyr / for it was on owr ladiis

euyn •/ And þe Ancres wolde not receyuen hir for sche had herd

telde so mech euyl telde of hir •/ so sche went forth to oþer

fremd folk / & þei ~~d~~ made hir rith good cher for owr lord*y*s lofe

On a day as sche sat in a chirche of ȝorke owr lord Ih*es*u //

crist seyd in hir sowle • Dowt*yr* þ*er* is meche t*ri*bulacyon to þe

warde •/ sche was su*m*del heuy & abaschyd þ*er*of/ & þ*er*forsche //

syttyng stille answeryd not /• Than seyd owr blissed Lord a //

ȝen • What • dowt*yr* / art þ*u* euyl payd for to suftyr mor t*ri*bulacyon

for my lofe •/ ȝyf þ*u* wilte no mor suffyr / I xal take it a wey

fro þe •/ And þa*n* seyd sche a ȝen •/ Nay good lord late me be

at þi wille / & make me mythy & strong for to suftyr al //

**f. 58r**

þ*at* eu*yr* þ*u* wilt þ*at* I suffyr / and grawnt me mekenes & pacyens þ*er*w*yth* •

And so fro þ*at* tyme forwarde / þ*at* sche knew it was owr lord*ys* wille •

þ*at* sche xulde suffyr mor t*ri*bulacyon / sche receyued it goodly wha*n*

owr lorde wolde send it • & thankyd hym hily þ*er*of • beyng ryth

glad & mery þ*at* day þ*at* sche suffryd any disese • And be p*ro*cesse of

tyme / þ*at* day whech sche suffyrd no t*ri*bulacyon / sche was not

mery ne glad / as þ*at* day • whan sche suffyrd t*ri*bulacyon Sithy*n*

as sche was in þ*e* Mynster at of [overwrite] ȝorke forseyd / a clerk cam

to hir seying • Damsel • how long wil ȝe a bydyn her •• Ser

sche seyd I p*ur*pose to abyden þes • xiiii • days / & so sche dede •

& in þ*at* tyme many good men & women p*re*yd hir to mete •

& madyn hir ryth good cher • & wery*n* ryth glad to heryn hyr

dalyawns / hauyng gret m*er*ueyle of hir speche / for it was

fruteful •/ & also sche bad many enmyis whech slawndryd

hir • scornyd hir • & despysed hir • of whech • o p*re*st cam to //

hir whil sche was in þe seyd Mynstyr / & takyng hir be

þe coler of þe gowne seyd •/ þ*u* wolf • what is þ*i*s cloth þ*at*

þ*u* hast on / sche stod stylle & not wolde answeryn in hir

owyn cawse /• childer of þ*e* Monastery goyng be syde seyd

to þe preste /• ser it is wulle /• þ*e* p*re*ste was a noyed for sche

wolde not answer / & began to sweryn many gret oþis •/ þa*n*

sche began to spekyn for godd*ys* cawse / sche was not a ferd •

sche seyd / ser ȝe xulde kepe þ*e* comawndment*ys* of god & not

sweryn so n*ec*gligently as ȝe do • The p*re*ste askyd hir whoo [w over h]

kept þ*e* comawndment*ys* •/ sche seyd ser þei þ*at* kepyn hem ••

/ þa*n* seyd he •’ kepyst þ*u* hem •’ Sche seyd a geyn • syr it is

my wille to kepyn hem / for I am bownde þ*er*to / & so ar ȝe

& eu*er*y man þ*at* wil be sauyd •/ at þe last whan he had long

Iangelyd w*yth* hir he went a wey p*re*uyly er sche was war

þ*at* sche wist not wher he be cam .;.

**A**n oþ*er* tyme þ*er* cam a gret clerke on to hir / askyng

þes word*ys* how þei xuld ben vndirstondyn •/ Crescite

& multiplicamini • Sche answerynge seyd • ser þes

word*ys* ben not vndirstondyn only of begetyng of chyldren //

**f. 58v**

bodily / but also be p*ur*chasyng of vertu whech is frute gostly / as be

heryng of þe word*ys* of god / be good exampyl ȝeuyng / be mekenes

& paciens • charite & chastite / & swech oþ*er* /for pacyens is more

worthy þa*n* myraclys werkyng • And sche thorw þ*e* g*ra*ceof god

answeryd so þ*at* clerke / þ*at* he was wel plesyd • And owr lord of

hys m*er*cyeu*yr* he mad su*m* men to louyn hir • & supportyn hir •

/ & so in þ*i*s cite of ȝorke / þ*er* was a docto*wr* of diuinyte Maist*yr*

Iohn Aclom •/ also a chanown of þ*e* mynst*yr* • Syr Iohn kendale

& an oþ*er* p*re*ste whech song be þ*e* bischopys g*ra*ve / þes wer hir

good frend*ys* of þe spiritual te •/ so sche dwellyd stille in þ*at*

cite xiiii • days / as sche had seyd be forn & sumdel mor / & on //

þe sundays sche was howseld in þe Mynster / w*yth* gret wepy*n*g

boistows sobbyng & lowde crying / þ*at* many ma*n* m*er*ueyled

ful meche / what hir eyled •/ so aft*yr*ward þ*er* ca*m* a p*re*ste a wor//

schepful clerke he semyd / & seyd vn to hir / Damsel þ*u* seydest

whan þ*u* come first hedyr þ*at* þ*u* woldyst abydyn her but xiiii •

days •/ ȝa ser w*yth* ȝowr leue I seyd þ*at* I wolde abydyn her xiiii

days / but I seyd not þ*at* I xulde neiþ*yr* abydyn mor her • ne les

but as now ser I teIle ȝow trewly I go not ȝet •/ þan he sett

hir a day comawndyng hir for to aperyn beforn hym

in þe chapelhows And sche seyd þ*at* sche wolde obey hys mo//

nycyon w*yth* a good wil •/ Sche went þa*n* to Maistyr Iohn Aclom

þe forseyd doctowr / p*re*yng hym to be þ*er* on hir p*ar*t*y* /& so he //

was / & he toke gret fauowr a mongys hem alle • Also an//

oþ*er* maistyr of diuinite had behestyd hir to a ben þ*er* w*yth* hir •

but he drow on bakke tyl he knew how þe cawse xulde gon

Whedyr w*yth* hir or a ȝen hir •/ þ*er* was meche pepil þ*at* day in þ*e*

chapetilhows of þ*e* Mynst*yr* / to her & se what xulde ben seyd

er do to þe forseyd creatur • Whan þe day cam sche was

al redy in þe Mynst*yr* to come to hir answer Than cam

hir frend*ys* to hir & bodyn hir ben of good cher •/ sche than//

kyng hem seyd so sche xulde • And a swythe cam a p*re*st*e*

ful goodly & toke hir be þe arme for to helpyn hir thorw

þ*e* prees of þe pepil / & browte hir be forn a worschepful

doctowr / þe whech had monyschyd hir be forn for to Apery*n* //

**f. 59r**

beforn hym in þe chapetyl hows as þ*i*s day in ~~ȝo~~k ȝorke Min//

styr • And w*yth* þ*i*s docto*wr* setyn many oþ*er* clerk*ys* ful reu*er*ende & wor//

shepful / of þe whech clerk*ys* su*m*me louyd þe sayd creatur ryth

wel /• þa*n* seyd þ*e* worschepful docto*wr* / to hir •/ Woma*n* what dost þ*u*

her in þ*i*s cu*n*tre •• Syr I come on pilg*ri*mage to offyr her at

seynt William •/ þa*n* seyd he a ȝen •/ hast þ*u* an husbond •/ sche

seyd • ȝa • hast þ*u* any lett*yr* of recorde /• Sir sche seyd myn hus//

bond ȝaf me leue w*yth* hys owyn mowthe •/ Why fare ȝe þ*us*

w*yth* me mor þa*n* ȝe don w*yth* oþ*er* pilg*ri*mys / þ*at* ben her • wheche

han no lett*yr* no mor þa*n* I haue •/ syr them ȝe latyn gon • in peys •

& qwyet & in reste / & I may no rest haue a mong*ys* ȝow /• And

syr • ȝyf her be any clerke a mong*ys* ȝow alle / þ*at* can p*re*uynþ*at* I

haue seyd any worde oþ*er* wise þa*n* I awt for to do / I am redy

for to amende it w*yth* good wille /• I wil neiþ*y*r meynteyn erro*wr*

ne heresy / for it is my ful wil to holdyn as holy chirche //

holdith / & fully to plesyn god •/ þa*n* þe clerk*ys* examynde hir in

þe articles of þe feyth / & in many oþ*er* poynt*ys* • as hem likyde /

/ to þe whech sche answeryd wel & trewly / þ*at* þei myth haue

non occasyon in hir word*ys* / for to disesyn hir / thankyd

be god • And þa*n* þe docto*wr* whiche satt þ*er* as ^a Iuge somownd

hir to apere be for þe Erchebischop of ȝorke / & telde hir

what day at a towne hite Cowoode / comawndyng hir to

be kept in p*re*son tyl þe day of hir aperyng come /• Than //

þe seculer pepil Answeryd for hir & seyde sche xulde not

comyn in p*re*son/for þei woldyn hem self vndirtakyn for hir •

/ & gon to þe Erchebischop w*yth* hir / & so þe clerk*ys* seyd no mor

to hir at þ*at* tyme / for þei resyn up & wentwher þei wolde

& letyn hir gon wher sche wolde worschip *^*be to Ih*es*u • And sone

aft*yr* þ*er* cam a clerke vn tohir •/ on of þe same þ*at* had soty*n* a//

geyn hir / & seyd damsel / I p*re*yþe be not displesyd w*yth* me thow

Isat w*yth* þe doctowr a geyns þe / he cryed so up on meþat I

durst non oþ*er* wise don •/ And sche seyd Ser Iam not disple//

syd w*yth* ȝow þ*er*for *•* Than seyd he / I p*ra*yȝow þa*n* p*re*yth for me

Sir sche seyd I wil al redy .;.

**f. 59v**

**T**her was a monke xuld p*re*chyn in ȝorke / þ*e* whech had herd

meche slawndyr & meche euyl langage of þe sayd cre//

atur / & whan he xulde p*re*chyn • þ*er* was meche multitude

of pepil to heryn hym / & sche p*re*sent w*yth* hem / & so whan he was in

hys s*er*mown / he rehersyd many mater*ys* so openly / þ*at* þe pepil

conceyued wel it was for cawse of hir •/ Wher for hir frend*ys* þ*at*

louyd hir wel • wer ful sory & heuy þ*er*of/& sche was meche þe

mor mery / for sche had mat*er* to p*re*uyn hyr paciens & hir cha//

rite / wher thorw sche trostyd to plesyn owr lord c*ri*st Ih*e*su •7:~

/ Whan þ*e* sermown was don • A docto*wr* of dyuinyte whech louyd

hir wel w*yth* many oþ*er* also / come to hir / & seyd Margery how

haue ȝe don þis day • Sir sche seyd ryth wel blyssed be god

I haue cawse to be ryth mery & glad in my sowle / þ*at* I may any

thyng suffyr for hys lofe / for he suffryd mech mor for me •

A non aft*yr* cam a man whech louyd hir rith wel of good wil

w*yth* hys wife & oþ*er* mo • And led hir • vii • myle þens to þ*e* Erche//

bischop of ȝorke / & browt hir in to a fayr chawbyr Wher ca*m*

a good clerke seying to þe goodman whech had browt hir þed*yr*

Sir why haue ȝe & ȝowr wife browt þ*i*s woma*n* hedyr •/ sche

xal stelyn a wey fro ȝow & þa*n* xal ȝe han a velany of hir •/

/ þe good man seyd I dar wel say sche wil a bydyn / & ben at

hir answer w*yth* good wille / On þe next day sche was browt

in to þe Erchebischopys chapel / *&* þ*er* comyn many of þ*e* Erche//

bischopys meny • despisyng hir / callyng hir loller & heretyke /

& sworyn many an horrybyl othe / þ*at* sche xulde be brent •/ And

sche thorw þ*e* strength of Ih*es*u seyd a ȝen to hem •/ serys I drede

me ȝe xul be brent in helle w*yth* owtyn ende /• les þa*n* ȝe amende

ȝow of ȝowr othys sweryng / for ȝe keþe not þe comawnde//

ment*ys* of god •/ I wolde not sweryn as ȝe don for al þ*e* good

of þ*i*s worlde •/ þan þei ȝedyn a wey as þei had ben a schamyd

Sche þa*n* makyng hir p*ra*yer in hir mende / askyd g*ra*ce so to be

demenyd þ*at* day as was most plesawns to god / & p*ro*fyte to hir

owyn sowle / & good exampyl to hir euyn cristen •/ Owr lord

answeryng hir • seyd it xulde be ryth wel • At þe last þ*e* seyd

Erchebischop cam in to þ*e* Chapel w*yth* hys clerk*ys* & scharply //

**f. 60r**

he seyde to hir why gost þ*u* in white / art þ*u* a mayden Sche knelyng

on hir knes be for hym • seyd •/ nay ser • I am no mayden I am a wife /

he comawndyd hys mene to fettyn a peyr of feterys / & seyd sche //

xulde ben feteryd / for sche was a fals heretyke / & þa*n* sche seyd /

I am non heretyke / ne ȝe xal non p*re*u*e* me •/ þe Erchebisshop //

went a wey & let hir stondyn a lone Than sche mad hir p*ra*yers

to owr lord god al mythy / for to helpyn hir & socowryn hir //

ageyn alle hir enmyis • gostly & bodily • a long while & hir flesch

tremelyd & whakyd wondirly / þ*at* sche was fayn to puttyn hir

hand*ys* vndyr hir cloþ*i*s / þ*at* it schulde not ben aspyed • Sythyn þ*e*

Erchebischop ca*m* a geyn in to þ*e* chapel w*yth* many worthy clerk*ys*

a mong*ys* whech was þ*e* same docto*wr* whech had examynd hir be forn /

And þe Monke þ*at* had p*re*chyd a geyn hir a lityl tyme be forn i*n* ȝorke /

Su*m* of þe pepil askyd whedyr sche wer a cristen woman er a

Iewe •/ su*m* seyd sche was a good woma*n* / & su*m* seyd nay • Than þe

Erchebischop toke hys see • & hys clerk*ys* also iche of hem in hys

degre / meche pepil beyng p*re*sent •• And in þ*e* tyme whil / þ*e* pepil

was gaderyng to gedyr / & þe Erchebischop takyn hys see •/ þe

seyd creatur stod al behyndyn makyng hir p*re*yerys for help

& socowr ageyn hir enmiis • w*yth* hy deuocyon • so long • þ*at* sche

meltyd al in to teerys / & at þe last sche cryed lowde þ*er*with /

þ*at* þe Erchebischop & his clerk*ys* • & meche pepil had gret wondyr

of hir / for þei had not herd swech crying be forn •/ Whan hir

crying was passyd sche cam be forn þ*e* Erchebischop & fel down

on hir kneys • The Erchebischop seying ful boystowsly vn to hir /

Why weþist þ*u* so woman •/ Sche answeryng seyd Syr ȝe xal //

welyn su*m* day þ*at* ȝe had wept as sor as I • And þa*n* a non aft*yr* þ*e*

Erchebischop þut to hir þe Articles of owr feyth •/ to þ*e* whech

god ȝaf hir g*ra*ce to answeryn wel & trewly & redily w*yth* owtyn

any gret stody / so þ*at* he myth not blamyn hir • Than he seyd

to þe clerk*ys* •/ sche knowith hir feyth wel a now • What xal I

don w*yth* hir • The clerk*ys* seyden we knowyn wel þ*at* sche can þ*e*

articles of þe feith •/ but we wil not suffyr hir to dwellyn

a mong vs / for þ*e* pepil hath gret feyth in hir dalyawnce •//

**f. 60v**

And p*er*auentur sche myth p*er*u*er*tyn su*m*me of hem Than þ*e* Erchebis//

chop seyd vn to hir •/ I am euyl enformyd of þ*e* / I her seyn þ*u* art

a ryth wikked woman / And sche seyd a geyn / Ser so I her seyn

þ*at* ȝe arn a wikkyd man •/ And ȝyf ȝe ben as wikkyd as men seyn •’

ȝe xal neu*yr* come in heuyn les þa*n* ȝe amende ȝow whil ȝe

ben her Than seyd he ful boistowsly • Why þow wrecche what sey men

of me • Sche answeryd / oþ*er* men syr can telle ȝow wel a now

/ þan seyd a gret clerke w*yth* a furryd hood / pes þ*u* / speke of þ*i* self

& late hym ben • Sithyn seyd þe Erchebischop to hir / ley þin

hand on þe boke her be forn me / & swer þ*at* þ*u* xalt gon owt

of my diocyse / as sone as þ*u* may / Nay syr sche sayd . I p*ra*y*e*

ȝow ȝeue me leue to gon ageyn in to ȝorke / to take my

leue of my frend*ys* / þa*n* he ȝaf hir leue for on day er too /

Sche thowt is was to schort a tyme / wherfor sche seyd a//

ȝen Sir I may not gon owt of þ*i*s diocyse so hastily / for

I must teryin & spekyn w*yth* good men er I go / & I must ser

w*yth* ȝowr leue gon to Brydlyngton / & spekyn w*yth* my co*n*fessor

a good man þe whech was þe good p*ri*owrys co*n*fessor þ*at* is now

canonysed •/ þa*n* seyd þ*e* Erchebischop to hir •/ þow schalt sweryn

þ*at* þ*u* xalt techyn ne chalengyn / þ*e* pepil in my diocyse •/ Nay

syr I xal not sweryn sche seyde / for I xal spekyn of god &

vndirnemyn hem þ*at* sweryn gret othys wher so eu*yr* I go •/ vn

to þe tyme þ*at* þe pope & holy chirche hath ordeynde þ*at* no man

schal be so hardy to spekyn of god •/ for god al mythy forbedith

not ser þ*at* we xal speke of hym •/ And also þ*e* gospel makyth

mencyon þ*at* whan þe woma*n* had herd owr lord p*re*chyd •/ sche

cam be forn hym w*yth* a lowde voys & seyd / blyssed be þ*e* wombe

þ*at* þe bar & þ*e* ^ tetys þ*at* ȝaf þ*e* sowkyn •/ þa*n* owr lord seyd a ȝen

to hir forsoþ*e* so ar þei blissed þ*at* heryn þ*e* word of god and

kepyn it /• And þ*er*for sir me thynkyth þ*at* þe gospel ȝeuyth me

leue to spekyn of god • A ser seyd þe clerk*ys* her wot we wel

þ*at* sche hath a deuyl w*yth* inne hir / for sche spekyth of þ*e* gospel

As swyþ*e* a gret clerke browt forth a boke & leyd seynt powyl

for hys p*ar*tya geyns hir / þ*at* no woman xulde p*re*chyn • Sche

answeryng þ*er* toseyde / I p*re*che not ser / I come in no pulpytt