**f. 61r**

I vse but comownycacyon & good word*ys* & þ*at* wil I do whil I leue •

Than seyd a doctowr whech had examynd hir be for tyme •7

Syr sche telde me þe werst talys of p*re*stysþ*at* eu*yr* I herde •/ þe //

Bischop comawndyd hir to tellyn þ*at* tale •/ Sir w*yth* ȝowr reu*er*ens

I spak / but of o p*re*ste/ be þe man*er* of exampyl / þ*e* whech as I haue

lernyd wentwil in a wode / thorw þe sufferawns of god / for

þe p*ro*fiteof hys sowle / tyl þe nygth cam up on hym / he desty//

tuteof hys herborwe / fond a fayr Erber in þ*e* whech herestyd

þ*at* nyght hauyng a fayr pertre in þe mydd*ys* *•* alfloreschyd w*yth*

flowerys & belschyd *•* And blomys fuldelectabil to hys syght

Wher cam a bere gret & boistows hogely to beheldyn schaky*n*g

þ*e* pertre & fellyng downþ*e* flowerys */* gredily þ*i*s greuows best

ete & deuowrydþo fayr flowerys */* & whan he had etyn hem

t*ur*nynghys tayl ende in þe p*re*st*ys* p*re*sens voydyd hem owtageyn

at þe hymyr p*ar*ty *•/* þe p*re*ste hauyng gretabhominacyon of þ*at*

lothly syght */* conceyuyng gretheuynes */* ~~d~~ for dowte what

it myth mene *•/* on þe next dayhe wandrid forth in hys wey

al heuy & pensife whom it fortunyd to metyn w*yth* a semly

agydd man lych to a palm*yr e*r a pilg*ri*me */* þ*e* whiche enq*wi*ryd

of þe p*re*ste þe cawse of hys heuynes */*• The p*re*ste rehersyng þ*e*

mat*er* be forn wretyn */* seyd he co*n*ceyuyd gret drede & heuy//

nes wha*n* he beheld þ*at* lothly best defowlyn & deuowryn so fayr

flowerys & blomys */* & aftirward so horrybely to deuoydyn

hem be for hym at hys tayl ende */* & he not vndirstondyng

what þ*i*s myth mene • Than þe palm*yr* schewyng hym selfe

þe Massanger of god þ*us* aresond hym *•/* p*re*steþ*u* þ*i* self art þ*e*

pertre su*m*del florischyng & floweryng */* thorw þi s*er*uyse sey//

yng & þe sac*ra*ment*ys* ministryng */* thow þ*u* do vndeuowtly for

þ*u* takyst ful lytyl heede how þ*u* seyst þ*i* mateynes */* & þ*i* s*er*uyse

so it be blaberyd to an ende •*/* þa*n* gost þ*u* to þi messe w*yth* owtyn

deuocyon */* & for þi synne hast þ*u* ful lityl co*n*tricyon */*• þ*u* recey//

uyst þ*er* þe frute of eu*yr* lestyng lyfe þe sacrament of þ*e* awt*er* */*

in ful febyl disposicyon Sithyn al þe day aftyr þ*u* mysse//

spendist þ*i* tyme þ*u* ȝeuist þe to bying & sellyng choppyng

& chongyng */* as it wer a man of þe werld • þ*u* sittyst at þ*e* //

**f. 61v**

ale ȝeuyng þe to glotonye & excesse */*to lust of thy body */* thorw

letchery & vnclennesse */* þ*u* brekyst þ*e* comawndment*ys* of god

*/* thorw sweryng */* lying */* detraccyon & bakbytyng */* & swech oþ*er*

synnes vsyng */* thus be thy mysgou*er*nawns */* lych on to þe

lothly ber */* þ*u* deuowryst & destroist þ*e* flowerys & blomys

of vertuows leuyng */* to thyn endles da*m*pnacyon & many

mannys hyndryng */* lesse þa*n* þ*u* haue g*ra*ce of repentawns

& amendyng • [þa*n* þe Erchebisshop likyd wel þe tale */* &

comendyd it */* seying it was a good tale */* & þe clerk whech

had examynd hir be for tyme in þe absens of þe Erche//

bischop */* seyd Ser þ*i*s tale smytyth me to þe hert • The

forseyd creatur seyd to þe clerk • A worschipful docto*wr* • Ser in

place wher my dwellyng is most • is a worthy clerk a good

p*re*char • Whech boldly spekyth a geyn þe mysgou*er*nawns of þe

pepil / & wil flatyr no man / he seyth many tymes in þ*e*

pulpit • ȝyf any man be euyl plesyd w*yth* my p*re*chyng / note

hym wel for he is gylty And ryth so Ser seyd sche to þe

clerk • far ȝe be me • god forȝeue it ȝow • þe clerk wist not

wel what he myth sey to hir •/ Aft*yr*ward þe same clerk ca*m*

to hir • & p*re*yid hir of forȝefnes / þ*at* he had so ben a geyn hir •

Also he p*re*yid hir specyaly to p*re*y for hym • And þa*n* a non

aft*yr* þe Erchebischop seyd wher schal I haue a man þat

myth ledyn þ*i*s woman fro me • As swythe þ*er* styrt up //

many ȝong men / & eu*er*y man seyd of hem My lord I wyl

gon w*yth* hir / þe Erchebischop answeryd/ ȝe ben to ȝong

I wil not haue ȝow • Than a good sad man of þ*e* Ercheb*ischopys*

meny • Askyd hys lord what he wolde ȝeuyn hym & he

xulde ledyn hir / þe Ercheb*ischop* p*ro*feryd hym • v • s • And þe

man askyd a nobyl • The Ercheb*ischop* answeryng seyd I //

wil not waryn so mech on hir body •7/ 3ys good Ser seyd

þ*e* sayd creatur / our lord schal rewardyn ȝow ryth wel

a ȝen /• þa*n* þ*e* Erchebischop seyd to þe man / e her is • v • s •

& lede hir fast owt of þ*i*s cu*n*tr*e* • Sche knelyng down //

**f. 62r**

on hir kneys askyd hys blissyng / he p*re*yng hir to p*re*ye for hym •

blissed hir & let hir go •• Than sche goyng a ȝen to ȝorke was

receyued of mech pepil / & of ful worthy clerk*ys* whech enioyed

in owr lord / þat had ȝouyn hir not lettryd witte & wisdom

to answeryn so many lernyd men w*yth* owtyn velani or blame

thankyng be to god .;.

**S**ithyn þ*at* good man whech was hir ledar browte

hir owt of þe town & þa*n* went þei forth to bry//

delyngton to hir co*n*fesso*w*r • whech hite sleyth*a*m •

and spak w*yth* hym / & w*yth* many oþ*er* good men / whech had

cheryd hir befor tyme / & don meche for hir • Tha*n* sche

wolde not abydyn þ*er* / but toke hir leue for to walke

forth in hir Iurne / & þa*n* hir co*n*fesso*wr* • askyd hir • ȝyf sche

durst not abydyn for þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • of ȝorke / & sche seyd no

forsothe / þa*n* þe good ma*n* ȝaf hir sylu*er* besechyng hir

to p*re*y for hym / and so sche ȝed forth vn to hulle / &

þ*er* on a tyme as þei went in p*ro*cessyon / a gret woman

al to despysed hir / & sche seyd no word þ*er*to / many oþ*er*

folke seyd þ*at* sche xulde be sett in p*re*son / & madyn gret

thretyng • And not w*yth*stondyng al her malyce / ȝet a

good man cam & p*re*yd hir to mete / & mad hir ryth //

good cher • Than þe malicyows pepil • þ*e* whech had de//

spisyd hir be forn / cam to þ*i*s good man / & bad hym

þ*at* he xulde do hir no good / for þei helde þ*at* sche was no

good woman / On þe next day at morwyn hir hoste

led hir owt at þe townys ende / for ~~s~~[strike in red]he durst no leng*ar*

kepyn hir / & so sche went to hesyl & wolde a gon ou*yr*

þe watyr at humbyr / þa*n* happyd sche to fyndyn þ*er*

too frer p*re*chowrys and • ii • ȝemen of þ*e* duke of Bedfor//

thys / þe frerys telde þe ȝemen / þat woma*n* sche was

& þe ȝemen arestyd hir / as sche wolde a takyn hir boot /

& restyd a man þ*at* went w*yth* hir also •/ for owr lord þei seyd //

**f. 62v**

þe Duke of Bedforth hath sent for þe • And þ*u* art holdyn þ*e* gret//

test loller in al þ*i*s cu*n*tr*e* • er a bowte london eythyr /& we han

sowt þ*e* in many a cu*n*tr*e* / & we xal han an hu*n*dryd pownde

for to bryng þe be forn owr lord / Sche seyd to hem • w*yth*

good wil • Serys • I xal gon w*yth* ȝow wher ȝe wil ledyn me

/ þa*n* þei browt hir a ȝen in to hesyl & þ*er* men callyd hir //

loller / & women ca*m* rennyng owt of her howsys w*yth* her

rokkys crying to þ*e* pepil / brennyth þ*i*s fals heretyk /• So

as sche went forth to Beu*er*leward w*yth* þe seyd ȝemen &

þe frerys be forn seyd / þei mettyn many tymes w*yth* men

of þe cu*n*tr*e* whech seyd vn to hir / Damsel forsake þ*i*s lyfe

þ*at* þ*u* hast / & go spynne & carde as oþ*er* women don / & suffyr

not so meche schame & so meche woo •/ We wolde not suffir

so meche for no good in erthe / þa*n* sche seyd to hem •/ I //

suffir not so mech sorwe as I wolde do for owr lord*ys*

lofe / ffor I suffir but schrewyd word*ys* & owr m*er*ciful lord

crist Ih*es*u worshepyd be hys name • suffyrd hard strokys •

bittyr scorgyng*ys* • & schamful deth at þe last / for me and

for al mankynde blyssed mot he be •/ & þ*er*for it is ryth

nowt þ*at* I suffir • in regarde to þ*at* he suffyrd /• And so as

sche went w*yth* þe forseyd men / sche telde hem good talys

tyl on of þ*e* dukys men whech had a restyd hir seyd vn

to hir •/ Me ou*yr* thynkyth þ*at* I met w*yth* þe / for me semyth

þ*at* þ*u* seyst ^ryth good word*y*s • Than seyd sche vn to hym •• Ser

ou*yr*thynkyth ne repentith ȝow not þ*at* ȝe met w*yth* me •/ doth

ȝo*wr* lord*ys* wille / & I trust al schal be for þe best / for I am

ryth wel plesyd þ*at* ȝe met w*yth* me •/ he seyd a ȝen Damsel •’

yf eu*yr* þ*u* be seynt in heuyn p*re*y for me •• sche answeryd •

seying to hym a ȝen •/ Sir I hoþe ȝe xal be a seynt ȝo*wr*

selfe & eu*er*y man þ*at* xal come to heuyn •/ So þei ȝedyn

forth til þei comyn in to Beu*er*le /• Wher dwellyd on of

þe mennys wif*ys* þ*at* had arestyd hir • & þedyr þei leddyn

hir / & tokyn a wey fro hir •/ hir purs & hir ryng /• þei //

**f. 63r**

ordeynd hir a fayr chambyr & an honest bed þ*er*in • w*yth* þ*e* necessarys

lokkyng þe dor w*yth* þe key / & beryng a wey þe key w*yth* hem ••

Sithyn þei tokyn þe man whom þei arestyd w*yth* hir • wheche

was þ*e* Erchebischopys man of ȝorke / & put hym in p*re*son

& sone aft*yr* þ*at* same day / ca*m* tydyng*ys* þ*at* þe Ercheb*ischop* • was comyn

in to þ*e* town • wher hys man was put in p*re*son •/ It was

telde þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* •/ of hys mannys p*re*sonyng / & a non he //

dede hym be latyn owte •/ þa*n* þ*at* man went to þ*e* sayd c*re*atur •

w*yt*h angry cher • seying • Alas þ*at* eu*yr* knew I þ*e* •/ I haue ben p*re*so//

nyd for þe • Sche comfortyng hym seyd a ȝen •/ hauyth

mekenes & pacyens & ȝe xal haue gret mede in heuyn

þ*er*for • So ȝed he a wey fro hir • þa*n* stode sche • lokyng owt

at a wyndown • tellyng many good talys • to hem þ*at* wolde

heryn hir / in so meche þ*at* women wept sor / & seyde w*yth*

gret heuynes of her hert*ys* •• Alas woma*n* why xalt þ*u*

be brent • Than sche p*re*yid þ*e* good wyfe of þ*e* hows to //

ȝeuyn hir drynke / for sche was euyl for thryste • And þ*e*

good wife seyde hir husbond had born a wey þ*e* key • Wher //

for sche myth not comyn to hir / ne ȝeuyn hir drynke •

And þa*n* þ*e* women tokyn a leddyr & set up to þ*e* wyndown

& ȝouyn hir a pynte of wyn / in a potte / & toke hira

pece / besechyng hir to settyn a wey þe potte p*re*uyly &

þe pece / þ*at* whan þ*e* good man come he myth not aspye it .;.

**T**he seyd creatur lying in hir bed þ*e* next nyth

folwyng herd w*yth* hir bodily erys a lowde voys

clepyng •/ Margery • W*yt*h þ*a*t voys sche woke / gretly

a feryd / & lying stille in sylens / sche mad hir p*re*yerys as

deuowtly as sche cowde for þe tyme / & sone owr M*e*rciful //

lord ou*yr*al p*re*sent comfortyng hys vnworthy s*er*uawnt •’

seyd vn to hir • Dowtyr it is mor plesyng vn to me • þ*at*

þ*u* suffyr despit*ys* & scornys • schamys & repreuys • wrong*ys*

& disesys •• þa*n* ȝif þin hed wer smet of thre tymes

on þe day •’/ eu*er*y day in sevyn ȝer /• And þ*er*for dowtyr //

**f. 63v**

fere þe nowt what any man can seyn on to þe / but in myn

goodnes & in thy sorwys þ*at* þ*u* hast suffryd • þ*e*rin hast þ*u* gret

cawse to Ioyn •/ for whan þ*u* comyst hom in to heuyn / þan

xal eu*er*y sorwe t*ur*nyn þ*e* to Ioye [ On þe next day sche was

browte in to þ*e* chapetyl hows of Beu*er*le / & þ*er* was þe //

ercheb*ischop* • of ȝorke & many gret clerk*ys* w*yth* hym p*re*stys cha//

nowns & seculer men •/ þa*n* seyd þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • to þe seid c*re*at*ur* •

What woman art þ*u* come a ȝen / I wolde fayn be delyu*er*yd

of þe / And þa*n* a p*re*ste browt hir forth be for hym • And

þe Ercheb*ischop* • seyd / alle þ*at* wer p*re*sent heryng / Serys I had

þ*i*s woman befor me at Cowode / & þ*er* I w*yth* my clerkys

examynd hir in hir feyth & fond no defawte in hir •

forþ*er*mor serys • I haue sithyn þ*at* tyme spokyn w*yth* good

men whech holdyn hir a parfyte woman / & a good woman

not w*yth*standyng al þ*i*s / I ȝaf on of my men • v • s to ledyn

hir owt of þ*i*s cu*n*tr*e* / for qwietyng of þ*e* pepil • And as

þei wer goyng in her Iurne they wer takyn & arestyd •

/ my ma*n* put in p*re*son for hir •/ Also hir gold & hir sylu*er*

was takyn a wey fro hir w*yth* hir bedys & hir ryng / And

sche is browt her a ȝen be for me •/ is her any man can

sey any thyng a ȝen hir • Than oþ*er* men seyd • her is a

frer can meche þing a ȝens hir / þ*e* frer cam forth &

seyd þ*a*t sche disprauyd alle men of holy chirche / & mech

ylle langage he vttryd þ*at* tyme of hir • Also he seyd þ*at*

sche xulde a be brent at lynne • had hys ordyr þ*at* was

frer p*re*chowrys ne be • And syr sche seyth þ*at* sche may

wepyn & han co*n*t*ri*cyon whan sche wil •/ þa*n* cam þo too

men whech had arestyd hir seyng w*yt*h þ*e* frer / þ*at* sche was

combomis dowt*yr* & was sent to beryn lettrys abowtyn

þ*e* cu*n*tr*e* • Andþei seydyn sche had ben at Ier*usa*l*e*m ne in þ*e*

holy lond ne on oþ*er* pilgrimage •/ liche as sche had ben

in trewth / þei denyed al trewth / & meynteyned þ*e* wrong

as many oþ*er* had don be forn • Whan þei had seyd I now //

**f. 64r**

a gret while & a long tyme / þei wer in pes Than seyd þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* •

to hir woman what seyst þ*u* her to / Sche seyd / My lorde / saue

ȝo*wr* reu*er*ens / it arn lesyngys alle þ*e* word*ys* þ*at* þei sey / þa*n* seyde

þe Erche*bischop* • to þ*e* frer • ffrer þe word*ys* arn non heresye / þei

arn slawnderows word*ys* & erroneows • My lord seyde þe

frer sche can hir feyth wel I now •/ neu*yr* þe lesse / My lord

of Bedforthe is wroth w*yth* hir / & he wyl hanve [v over n] hir • Wel

frer seyde þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* •/ & þ*u* xalt ledyn hir to hym /• Nay //

ser seyde þ*e* frer •/ it fallyth not for a frer to ledyn a //

woman a bowtyn /• And I wille not seyde þ*e* Erchebi*schop* þ*at* þ*e*

duke of Bedforde be wroth w*yth* me for hir •/ þa*n* seyde þe //

Ercheb*ischop* • to hys men / takyth hede to þ*e* frer tyl I wyl haue

hym a ȝen •/ and comawndyd an oþ*er* man to kepyn þ*e* seyde •

creatur • also tyl he wolde haue hir aȝen an oþ*er* tyme •

whan he lykyde • The sayd creatur p*re*yde hym of hys

lordschip þ*at* sche xulde not be putte a mongs men for

sche was a mannys wyfe •/ And þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • seyde nay • þ*u*

xalt non harm han •/ þan he þ*at* was chargyd w*yth* hir toke

hir be þ*e* hand & led hir hom to hys hows / & dede hir

sittyn w*yt*h hym at mete & drynke / schewyng hir goodly

cher •/ þedyr comyn many p*re*stys / & oþ*er* men eft sonys

to se hir & spekyn w*yth* hir / & meche pepil had gret co*m*passyon •

þ*at* sche was so euyl ferd wyth •/ In schort tyme aftyr þe

Ercheb*ischop* • sent for hir & sche cam in to hys halle /• hys

meny was at mete / & sche was ledde in to hys chawm//

byr euyn to hys bedd*ys* syde •/ þan sche obeyng thankyd

hym of hys gracyows lordschip / þ*at* he had schewyd to hir

be for tyme •/ ȝa ȝa •’ seyd þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • I am wers enformyd

of þe þa*n* eu*yr* I was be forn • Sche seyd My lord / ȝyf

it lyke ȝow • to examyn me / I xal ben a knowe þ*e* trewth

And yf I be fowndyn gylty I wyl abeyn ȝo*wr* correccyon

Than cam forth a frer p*re*chowr • whech was suffragan //

**f. 64v**

w*yth* þe Erchebischop to whom þe ercheb*ischop* • seyde / Now ser as ȝe seyde

to me whan sche was not p*re*sent / sey now whil sche is p*re*sent

Schal I so / seyde þ*e* suffragan / ȝa seyde þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* / þa*n* seyde þ*e*

suffragan to þ*e* seyde creatur • Damsel • þ*u* wer at my lady //

Westmorlond / Whan sir seyde sche / At estern seyd þ*e* suffra//

gan / Sche not replying • seyd • Wel ser •/ þa*n* seyd he / My

lady hir owyn p*er*sone was wel plesyd w*yth* þe • & lykyd wel

thy word*ys* • but þ*u* cownseledyst My lady greystokke / to for//

sakyn hir husbonde / þ*at* is a Barownys wyfe / & dowtyr

to my Lady of Westmorlonde / & now hast seyd I now to

be brent for • And so he multiplyed many schrewyd word*ys*

be for þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* / it is not expedient to rehersyn hem •

At þe last sche seyde to þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* •/ my lord yf it be ȝo*wr*

wille • I saw not My lady Westmorlond þ*i*s too ȝer & mor /

Sir sche sent for me er I went to Ier*us*al*e*m / & ȝyf it ~~ky~~ lyke

ȝow • I wyl gon a geyn to hir for recorde / þat I mevyd

no sweche mat*er* / Nay seyde þei þ*at* stodyn a bowtyn / late

hir be putte in p*re*son / & we xal sendyn a lett*yr* to þe

worshepful lady / & ȝyf it be trewth þ*at* sche seyth / late hir

go qwite w*yt*h owtyn dawnger / & sche seyde sche was

ryth wel a payd þ*at* it wer so •/ þa*n* seyde a gret clerke

whech stood a lytyl besyden þe Ercheb*ischop* / putte hir xl •

days in p*re*son & sche xal louyn God þ*e* bett*yr* whyl sche

leuyth • The Ercheb*ischop* askyd hir what tale it was þ*at* sche

telde þe lady of Westmorlonde • wha*n* sche spak wyth hir •/

Sche seyde I telde hir a good tale of a lady • þ*at* was damp//

myd for sche wolde not louyn hir enmiis / & of a Baly

þ*at* was savyd for he louyd hys enmys / & forȝaf þ*at* þei //

had trespasyd a ȝen hym / & ȝet he was heldyn an euyl

man / þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • seyd it was a good tale • Than seyd hys

styward & many mo w*yth* hym • crying w*yth* a lowde voys

to þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* •• ^my lord we~~y~~ p*re*y ȝow late hir go hens • at þ*i*s

tyme / & yf eu*yr* sche come ageyn we xal bren hyre

**f. 65r**

owr self / The Ercheb*ischop* • seyde I leue þ*er* was neu*yr* woman in Ing//

lond so ferd w*yth* þal as sche is & hath ben •/ þa*n* he seyde to þe

sayde creatur / I wote not what I xal don w*yth* þe •/ Sche seyde ///

My lord I p*ra*y ȝow late me haue ȝo*wr* lett*yr* / & ȝo*wr* seyl in to

recorde / þ*at* I haue excusyd me a geyn myn enmys / & no

thyng is attyd ageyns me / neiþ*yr* herro*wr* ne heresy / þ*at*

may ben p*re*uyd ~~neiþ~~*~~yr~~* ~~l~~ vp on me thankyd be owr lord /

And Iohn ȝo*wr* man a ȝen to bryngyn me / ou*yr* þe watyr

& þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • ful goodly grawntyd hir al hir desyr / owr

lord rewarde hym hys mede / & delu*er*yd hyr purs w*yth* [over &]

hir ryng & hir bed*ys* / whech þ*e* dukys men of Bedforth

had takyn fro hir beforn • The Ercheb*ischop* • had gret m*er*ueyl

wher sche had good to gon w*yth* a bowtyn þ*e* cu*n*tr*e* • And sche

seyde good men ȝaf it hir for sche xulde p*re*y for hem •

Than sche knelyng down receyued hys blissyng & toke

hir leue w*yth* ryth glad cher / goyng owt of hys chambyr /

And þe Ercheb*ischop* • mene p*re*yd hir to p*re*y for hem / but þ*e* styward

was wroth / for sche lowgh & made good cher •/ seying to //

hir •/ holy folke xulde not lawghe /• sche seyd ser / I haue

gret cawse for to lawghe for þ*e* mor schame I suffyr

& despite / þ*e* meryar may I ben in owr lord Ih*es*u crist •

/ þa*n* sche cam down in to þ*e* halle and þ*er* stood / þ*e* ffrere •’

p*re*chowr / þ*at* had cawsyd hir al þ*at* woo • And so sche passyd //

forth w*yth* a man of þe Erche*bischo*p /• beryng þ*e* lettyr whech

þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • had grawntyd hir for a recorde & he browt

hir to þ*e* watyr of humbyr / & þ*er* he toke hys leue of

hir / ret*ur*nyng to hys lord & beryng þ*e* sayd lett*yr* w*yth* hym

a ȝen •/ so was sche left a lone w*yth*owtyn knowlsche of

þ*e* pepyl •/ Al þ*e* forseyd disese fel hir on a fryday than//

kyd be God of alle .;. ¶c*apitula* • 55 •

**f. 65v**

**W**han sche was passyd þ*e* watyr of hu*m*byr / a non sche was

arestyd for a loller / & ledde to p*re*son warde /• þ*er* hap[p over d]pyd

to be a p*er*son whech had seyn hir be forn þ*e* Ercheb*ischop*

of ȝorke / & gate hir leue to gon wher sche wolde / & excu//

syd hir a ȝen þe baly / & vndirtoke for hir þ*at* sche was no //

loller / & so sche scapyd a wey in þe name of Ih*es*u / þa*n* met

sche w*yth* a man of london / & hys wife w*yth* hym / & so went

sche forth w*yth* hem / tyl sche cam to lyncolne / & þ*er* sufferd

sche many scornys / & many noyful word*ys* / answeryng

a ȝen in godd*ys* cawse / w*yth* owtyn any lettyng • wysly • & discretly •

/ þ*a*t many men m*er*ueyled of hir cu*n*nyng / þ*er* wer men of lawe

seyd vn to hir we han gon to scole many ȝerys / & ȝet

arn we not sufficient to answeryn as þ*u* dost / of whom

hast þ*u* þ*i*s cunnyng •/ & sche seyd of þe holy gost •/ þa*n* askyd

þei / hast þ*u* þe holy gost •/ ȝa serys seyd sche / þ*er* may no

man sey a good worde • w*yt*h owtyn þe ȝyft of þ*e* holy gost

for owr lord Ih*es*u crist seyd to hys disciplys • stody not

what ȝe schal sey / for it schal not be ȝo*wr* spiryt / þ*at* schal

spekyn in ȝow / but it schal be þ*e* spiryt of þ*e* holy gost

And thus owr lord ȝaf hir grace to answer hem wor//

schepyd mote he be / An oþ*er* tyme þ*er* cam gret lord*y*s

men vn to hir & þei sworyn many gret othys seying

it is don us to wetyn • þ*at* *þu* canst tellyn vs wheþ*yr* we

schal be sauyd er damnyd • sche seyd ȝa forsoþ*e* can I ••

ffor as long as ȝe sweryn swech horrybyl oþ*i*s / & bre//

kyn þ*e* comawndment of god wetyngly as ȝe do and

wil not leuyn ȝo*wr* synne •/ I dar wel say ȝe schal be

damnyd • And ȝyf ȝe wil be co*n*t*ri*te & schreuyn of ȝo*wr*

synne wilfully don penawnce & leuyn it whil ȝe may

in wil no mor to t*ur*ne aȝen þ*er*to / I dar wel say • ȝe

schal be sauyd •• What canst þ*u* noon oþ*er*wise tellyn us

but thus Serys sche seyd •/ þ*i*s is ryth good me thynkyth

& þa*n* þei went a wey fro hir •/ Aft*yr* þ*i*s sche ca*m* homward //

**f. 66r**

a ȝen / til sche cam at west lynne / Whan sche was þ*er* sche

sent aft*yr* hir husbonde in to lynne Bischop / Aft*yr* Maystyr

Robert hir co*n*fesso*wr* / & aft*yr* Maist*yr* Aleyn / a docto*wr* of dyuinite

& telde hem in p*ar*cel of hyr t*ri*bulacyon / & sithyn sche telde

hem / þ*at* sche myth not comyn at hom at lynne bischop /

vn to þe tyme þ*at* sche had ben at þ*e* Erchebischop of //

Cawnt*yr*bery / for hys lettyr & hys seel / for whan I was

befor þ*e* ercheb*ischop* • of ȝorke / sche seyd / he wolde ȝeue no

credens to my word*ys* / in as meche as I had not my

lord*ys* lett*yr* & seel of Cawnt*yr*bery / And so I behestyd hym

þ*at* I schulde not comyn in lynne bischop / tyl I had my

lord*ys* lettyr & þ*e* seel of Cawnt*yr*bury / & þa*n* sche toke hir

leue of þe sayd clerk*ys* / askyng her blissyng / & passyd

forth w*yth* hir husbonde to london /• Whan sche cam þer /

sche was sped of hir lettyr a non / of þ*e* Ercheb*ischop* • of Cawn//

tirbury / & so sche dwellyd in þ*e* cite of london a long tyme /

And had ryth good cher of many worthy men / Sithyn

sche cam vn to Ely warde / for to a comyn hom in to

lynne /• And sche was • iii • myle fro Ely •/ þ*er* cam a man

rydyng aft*yr* a gret spede / & arestyd hir husbond & hir /

/ also p*ur*posyng to ledyn hem bothyn in to p*re*son /• he //

cruely rebukyd hem / & al to reuylyd hem / rehersyng

many rep*re*uows word*ys* / & at þe last / sche p*re*yde hir husbonde

to schewyn hym my lord*ys* lettyr of Cawntirbery •/ Wha*n* þe

man had redde þ*e* lettyr / þa*n* he spak fayr & goodly vn to

hem seying / Why schewyd me not ȝo*w*r lettyr be forn / &

so þei partyd awey fro hym / & þa*n* comyn in to Ely •/

& fro thens hom in to lynne / Wher sche suffryd meche

despite / meche reprefe / many a scorne / many a slawnd*yr* •/

many a bannyng / & many a cursyng /• And on a tyme

a rekles man litil chargyng hys owyn schame / w*yth* wil

& w*yth* p*ur*pose kest a bolful of wat*yr* on hir heuyd comy*n*g

in þe strete •/ sche no thyng meuyd þ*er*w*yth* / seyd god make //

**f. 66v**

ȝow a good man / heyly thankyng god þ*er*of / as sche dede of

many mo oþ*er* tymes .;.

**A**fftyrward god ponyschyd hir w*yth* many gret & diuers

sekenes / sche had þ*e* flyx a long tyme / tyl sche was

anoyntyd / wenyng to a be deed / sche was so febyl

þ*at* sche myth not heldyn a spon in hir hand /• þa*n* owr lord

Ih*es*u crist spak to hir in hir sowle / & seyd • þ*at* sche xulde

not dey ȝet / þa*n* sche recuryd aȝen a lytyl while •/ And

a non aft*yr* sche had a gret sekenes in hir heuyd / and

sithyn in hir bakke / þ*at* sche feryd to a lost hir witte þ*er*

thorw / Aft*yr*warde whan sche was recuryd of alle þ*e*s

sekenessys / in schort tyme folwyd an oþ*er* sekenes /• Whech

was sett in hir ryth syde / duryng þ*e* terme of • viii • ȝer •/

saf viii wok*ys* • be diuers tymes / Su*m*tyme sche had it

onys in a weke / co*n*tunyng su*m* tyme xxx • owrys / su*m*//

tyme • xx •• su*m*tyme • x • su*m*tyme • viii • su*m*tyme iiii • &

su*m*tyme • ii •• so hard & so scharp / þ*at* sche must voydyn þ*at*

was in hir stomak • as bittyr as it had ben galle /•7

/ neyþ*yr* etyng ne drynkyng whil þ*e* sekenes enduryd

/ but eu*yr* gronyng / tyl it was gon •/ þa*n* wolde sche sey

to owr lorde /• A blysful lord why woldist þ*u* be comyn

man & suffyr so meche peyne for my synnes / & for

alle mennys synnes þ*at* xal be sauyd / & we am so vn//

kende lord to þ*e* & I most vnworthy can not suffyr

þ*i*s lityl peyne /• A lord for thy gret peyn / haue m*er*cy

on my lityl peyne / for þ*e* gret peyne þ*at* þ*u* suffredyst

/ ȝef me not so meche / as I am worthy / for I may not

beryn so meche / as I am worthy /• And ȝyf þ*u* wilte lord

þ*at* I ber it •/ sende me pacyens / for ellys I may not

suffyr it /• A blisful lord I had leuyr suffyr alle þe

schrewyd word*ys* þ*at* men myth seyn of me & alle cler//

kys to p*re*chyn a ȝens me for thy lofe / so it were //

**f. 67r**

no hyndryng to no mannys sowle / þa*n* þ*i*s peyne þ*at* I haue •/ for

schrewyd word*ys* to suffyr for þi lofe it hirte me ryth nowt lord /

And þ*e* werlde may takyn no thyng fro me but worschep & //

worldly good / & be þe worschip of þe werlde I sett ryth nowt /

& alle man*er* of good*ys* & worschepys / & alle man*er* of louys in

erthe / I prey þ*e* lord forbede me • namely alle þo louys & good*ys*

of any erdly thyng / whech schulde discres my lofe a ȝens

þe / er lesse my m*er*yte in heuyn / & alle man*er* of louys & //

good*ys* whech þ*u* knowist in thy godheed xulde encresyn my

loue to þe / I p*re*y þ*e* grawnt me for thy m*er*cy to þ*i*n eu*yr*lesty*n*g

worschep •/ Su*m*tyme / not w*yth*stondyng / þ*e* sayd creatur had

gret bodily sekenes •/ ȝet þ*e* passyon of owr m*er*ciful lord

crist Ih*es*u wrowt so in hir sowle / þ*at* for þ*e* tyme sche felt

not hir owyn sekenes / but wept & sobbyd in þ*e* mend of o*wr* •

lord*ys* passyon / as thow sche seyn hym w*yth* hir bodily eye

sufferyng peyne & passyon be forn hir / Sithyn whan • viii • ȝer

wer passyd / hir sekenes scapyd • þ*at* it ca*m* not weke be weke / as

it dede be forn •/ but þa*n* encresyd hir cryes / & hir wepyng*ys* /

in so meche / þ*at* p*re*st*ys* durst not howselyn hir opynly in þe

chirche / but p*re*uyly in þ*e* p*ri*owrys chapel at lenne / fro þ*e* peplys

audiens / And in þ*at* chapel sche had so hy • co*n*templacyon / &

so meche dalyawns of owr lord / in as meche as sche was

putte owt of chirche / for hys lofe / þ*at* sche cryed what tyme

sche schulde ben howselyd / as ȝyf hir sowle & hir body xulde

a partyd a su*n*dyr / so þ*at* tweyn men heldyn hir in her armys

tyl hir cryng was ~~s~~ cesyd •/ for sche myth not beryn þe

habu*n*dawns of lofe / þat sche felt in þ*e* p*re*cyows sac*ra*ment /

Whech sche stedfastly beleuyd was very god & man / in þ*e*

forme of breed •/ Than owr blisful lord seyde vn to hir

mende •• Dowt*yr* / I wil not han my g*ra*ce hyd / þ*at* I ȝeue þe /

for þ*e* mor besy þ*at* þ*e* pepil is to hyndryn it / & lette it /

/ þ*e* mor schal I spredyn it a brood & makyn it knowyn

to alle þe worlde .;.

**f. 67v**

**T**Han it happyd þ*er* cam an oþ*er* monke to lynne at þ*e*

tyme of remownyng as custom was a mong*ys* hem

whech louyd not þe sayd creatur / ne wolde suffryn :

hir to comyn in ther chapel / as sche had do be for þ*at* he cam

þedir Than þ*e* p*ri*owr of lynne • Dawn Thom*a*s heuyngh*a*m

metyng w*yth* þ*e* sayd creatur / & Maist*yr* Robert Spryngolde

whech was hir co*n*fesso*wr* •/ þat tyme p*re*yd hem to holdyn hym

excusyd /• þeir [over i] sche wer no mor howselyd in hys chapel / for

þ*er* is comyn he seyd a newe broþ*yr* of myn whech wil not

comyn in owr chapel / as long as sche is þ*er*in • And þ*er*for

p*ro*uydith ȝow an oþ*er* place I p*ra*y ȝow / Maist*yr* Robert answe//

ryd • Syr we must þan howselyn hir in þ*e* chirche /• we

may not chesyn / for sche hath my lord*ys* lettyr of Cawnt*yr*//

bery / & hys seel / in þ*e* whech we am comawndyd be v*er*tu

of obedyens to heryn hir co*n*fessyon / & ministryn to hir

þ*e* sac*ra*ment as oftyn as we ben reqwiryd / þa*n* was sche

howselyd aft*yr* þ*i*s tyme at þ*e* hy awt*er* in seynt Marga//

ret*ys* chirche / & owr lord visited hir w*yth* so gret g*ra*ce whan

sche xulde ben howselyd þ*at* sche cryed so lowde þ*at* it myth

ben herd al a bowte þ*e* chirche / & owte of þ*e* chirche / as

sche xulde a deyid þ*er*w*yth* / þ*at* sche myth not receyuyn þe

sacrament of þe p*re*st*ys* hand*ys* •/ þ*e* p*re*yst t*ur*nyng hym a geyn

to þ*e* awt*er* w*yth* þ*e* p*re*ciows sac*ra*ment • til hir crying was ce//

syd • And þan he t*ur*nyng a geyn to hir xulde minystyr hir

as hym awte to do • And þus it happyd many a tyme whan

sche xulde ben howselyd / & su*m* tyme sche xulde wepyn •

ful softly / & stilly / in receyuyng of þ*e* p*re*ciows sacrament

w*yth* owtyn any boystowsnes / as owr lord wolde visityn

hir w*yth* hys g*ra*ce • On a good fryday as þ*e* sayd creatur

behelde p*re*yst*ys* knelyng on her kneys / & oþ*er* worschepful

men w*yth* torchys brennyng in her handys be for þ*e* se//

pulcre / deuowtly rep*re*sentyng þ*e* lamentabyl deth and

doolful berying of owr lord Ih*es*u crist / aft*yr* þe good //

**f. 68r**

custom of holy cherch / þe mende of owr ladiis sorwys whech

sche suffryd whan sche behelde hys p*re*cyows body hangyng

on þe crosse / & sithyn beriid be for hir syght / sodeynly ocupiid

þ*e* hert of þ*i*s creatur / drawyng hir mende al holy in to þ*e*

passyon of owr lord crist Ih*es*u whom sche behelde w*yth* hir

gostly eye / in þ*e* syght of hir sowle / as verily as þei sche

had seyn hys p*re*cyows body betyn scorgyd & c*ru*cifyed w*yth*

hir bodily eye / whech syght & gostly beheldyng wrowt

be g*ra*ce so feruently in hir mende • Wowndyng hir w*yth* pite

& co*m*passyon / þ*at* sche sobbyd roryd & cryed • And spredyng

hir armys a brood / seyd w*yth* lowde voys • I dey •• I dey ••

þ*at* many man on hir wonderyd & m*er*ueyled / what hir

eyled • And þ*e* mor sche besiid hir to kepyn hir fro c*ri*yng •

þe lowdar sche cryed / for it was not in hir powyr to

take it ne leuyn it / but as god wolde send it [ than

a p*re*yst toke hir in hys armys & bar hir in to þ*e* p*ri*owr*ys*

cloistyr / for to latyn hir takyn þ*e* eyr / supposyng sche

schulde not ellys han enduryd / hir labowr was so greet

þan wex sche al blew as it had ben leed / & swet ful sor /

And þ*i*s man*er* of crying enduryd þ*e* terme of • x • ȝer • as

it is wretyn be forn • And eu*er*y good friday in alle þe

forseyd ȝerys sche was wepyng & sobbyng • v • er vi •

owrys to gedyr / & þ*er*w*yth* cryed ful lowde many tymes /

so þ*at* sche myth not restreyn hir þ*er*fro /• Whech madyn

hir ful febyl & weyke / in hir bodily my^gtys / su*m*tyme

sche wept on good fryday an owr / for þe synne of

þe pepil / hauyng mor sorwe for ther synnys / þa*n* for

hir owyn / in as meche as owr lorde for ȝaf hir • hir

owyn synne er sche went to Ier*usa*l*e*m •/ Neu*yr* þe lesse //

sche wept for hir owyn synnes ful plentyuowsly /

whan it plesyd owr lord to visityn hir w*yth* hys g*ra*ce /

Su*m*tyme sche wept an oþ*er* owr for þe sowlys in p*ur*//

gatory • An oþ*er* owr for hem þ*at* weryn in myschefe //

**f. 68v**

/ in pou*er*te / er in any disese An oþ*er* owr for Iewys • saraȝinys • &

alle fals heretik*ys* / þ*at* god for hys gret goodnes xulde puttyn

a wey her blyndnes / þ*at* þei myth / thorw hys grace / be t*ur*nyd

to þe feyth of holy chirche / & ben children of saluacyon

mM[over m]any tymes whan þ*i*s creatur xulde makyn hir p*re*yerys

/ owr lord seyd vn to hir •• Dowt*yr* • aske what þ*u* wylt & þ*u* //

schalt haue it •• Sche seyd • I aske ryth nowt lord but þ*at* þ*u*

mayst wel ȝeuyn me / & þ*at* is m*er*cy whech I aske for þe

pepil synnys /• þ*u* seyst oftyn tymes in þ*e* ȝer to me /• þ*at*

þ*u* hast forȝouyn me my synnes /• þ*er*for I aske now m*er*cy

for þ*e* synne of þ*e* pepil /• as I wolde don for myn owyn

for lord • þ*u* art alle charite / & charite browt þ*e* in to þ*i*s

wretchyd worlde / & cawsyd þ*e* to suffyr ful harde pey//

nys for owr synnys /• Why xulde I not þa*n* han charite

to þ*e* pepyl / & desiryn forȝeuenes of her synnes / blyssed

lorde me thynkyth þ*at* þ*u* hast schewyd ryth gret charite to

me vnworthy wrech / þ*u* art as g*ra*cyows to me as þeithow [over þei] I

wer as clene a mayden as any is in þ*i*s worlde / & as

thow I had neuyr synned / þ*er*for lorde • I wolde I had a welle

of teerys to co*n*streyn þe w*yt*h •/ þ*at* þ*u* schuldist not takyn //

vttyr veniawns of mannys sowle / for to partyn hym

fro þ*e* w*yth* owtyn ende •• ffor it is an hard thyng to thynkyn /

þ*at* any erdly man xulde eu*yr* do any synne • Wher thorw he

xulde be departyd fro þi gloryows face • W*yth* owtyn ende

/ ȝyf I myth as wel lorde ȝeuyn þ*e* pepyl co*n*t*ri*cyon & wepy*n*g

as þ*u* ȝeuyst me / for myn owyn synnes & oþ*er* mennys syn//

nys also / & as wel as I myth ȝeuyn a peny owt of

my purse [• sone xulde I fulfille mennys hert*ys* w*yth* cont*ri*//

cyon / þ*at* þei myth sesyn of her synne / I haue gret m*er*//

ueyl in myn hert lord / þ*at* I whech haue ben so synful

a woman / & þ*e* most vnworthy creatur þ*at* eu*y*r þ*u* schewedist

þ*i* m*er*cy on to • in alle þ*i*s werlde / þ*at* I haue so gret charite

to myn euyn cristen sowlys / þ*at* me thynkyth • þ*u* þei had

ordeynd for me • þe most schamful deth • þ*at* eu*yr* myth //

**f. 69r**

any man ^or woma*n* suffyr in erde •/ ȝet wolde I forȝeuyn it hem • for

þ*i* lofe • lord / & han her sowlys sauyd fro eu*yr* lestyng dampnacyon /

And þ*er*for lord I schal not sesyn whan I may wepyn / for to

wepyn for hem plentyuowsly / spede ȝyf I may And ȝyf þ*u* wylt

lord þ*at* I sese of wepyng / I p*re*y þe take me owt of þis world /

What xulde I don þ*er*in / but ȝyf I myth p*ro*fityn / for thowgh

it wer possibyl þ*at* al þ*i*s world myth be sauyd • thorw þe //

teerys of myn eyne • I wer no thank worthy / þ*er*for alle

p*re*syng al hono*wr* al worshep mot ben to þ*e* lord •7/ ȝyf it wer

thy wille lord • I wolde for þ*i* lofe & for magnyfying of þi

name ben hewyn as smal as flesch to þe potte .;.

**O**N a tyme as þ*e* forseyd creatur was in hir co*n*//

templacyon / sche hu*n*gryd ryth sor aft*yr* goddys

word / & seyd / Alas lord as many clerk*ys* as þ*u* hast /

in þ*i*s world / þ*at* þ*u* ne woldyst sendyn me on of hem / þat

myth fulfillyn my sowle w*yth* þ*i* word / & w*yth* redyng of

holy sc*ri*ptur /• for alle þ*e* clerk*ys* þ*at* p*re*chyn may not fulfillyn it

for me thynkyth þ*at* my sowle is eu*yr* a lych hu*n*gry •/ ȝyf

I had gold i now / I wolde ȝeuyn eu*er*y day a nobyl / for to

haue eu*er*y day a sermown •/ for þ*i* word is mor worthy

to me / þa*n* alle þ*e* good in þ*i*s werld / & þ*er*for • blyssed lord

rewe on me / for þ*u* hast takyn a wey þe Ankyr fro me /

Whech was to me synguler solas & comforte / & many

tymes refreschyd me w*yth* þin holy worde • [ þa*n* answeryd

owr lord Ih*es*u cryst in hir sowle / seying / þ*er* xal come on

fro fer ^cuntre þ*at* xal fulfillyn þi desyr •• So many day aftyr

þ*i*s answer / þ*er* cam a p*re*ste newly to lynne • Whech had

neu*yr* knowyn hir be forn / & whan he sey hir gon in þ*e*

stret*ys* he was gretly meuyd to speke w*yth* hir / & speryd

of oþ*er* folke / what man*er* woman sche was •/ þei seydyn

þei trustyd to god / þ*at* sche was a ryth good woman • Aft*yr*//

ward þe p*re*yst sent for hir / p*re*yng hlr to come & spekyn

w*yth* hym & w*yth* hys modyr •/ for he had hiryd a chawmbyr //

**f. 69v**

for hys modyr & for hym / & so they dwellyd to gedyr/ þan þe

sayd creatur cam to wetyn hys wille / & spak w*yth* hys modyr

& w*yth* hym / & had ryth good cher of hem bothyn / þa*n* þ*e* p*re*yste

toke a boke & red þ*er*in how owr lord seyng þe cite of

Ier*usa*l*e*m wept þ*er* up on / rehersyng þ*e* myscheuys & sorwys

þ*at* xulde comyn þ*er* to / for sche knew not þ*e* tyme of hyr

visitacyon •• Wha*n* þ*e* sayd creatur herd redyn how owr

lord wept þa*n* wept sche sor & cryed lowde / þe p*re*yste

ne hys modyr knowyng no cawse of hyr wepyng •’ //

Whan hir crying & hir wepyng was cesyd / þei Ioyyd

& wer ryth mery in owr lord • Sithyn sche toke hir leue

& partyd fro hem at þ*at* tyme • Whan sche was gon þe

p*re*ste seyd to hys modyr / me m*er*ueylyth mech of þ*i*s

woman why sche wepith & cryith so •/ neu*y*r þe les me

thynkyth sche is a good woman / & I desyre gretly

to spekyn mor w*yth* hir / hys modyr was wel plesyd / &

cownselyd þ*at* he xulde don so • And aft*yr*ward*ys* þe same

p*re*yste louyd hir & trustyd hir ful meche / & blissed þe

tyme þ*at* eu*yr* he knew hir •/ for he fond gret gostly co*m*fort

in hir / & cawsyd hym to lokyn meche good sc*ri*ptur /

& many a good docto*wr* • whech he wolde not a lokyd at þ*at*

tyme / had sche ne be /• he red to hir many a good boke of

hy co*n*templacyon / & oþ*er* bok*y*s as þ*e* bybyl • w*yth* doctowrys þ*er*

up on / Seynt Brydys boke • hyltons boke • bone ventur

Stimulus amoris / Incendiu*m* ^ha*m*pall amoris & swech oþ*er* •/ &

þan wist sche ~~what~~ þat it was a spirit sent of god whech

seyd to hir as is wretyn a lityl be forn • whan sche com//

pleynyd for defawte of redyng / þes word*ys* •/ þ*e*r schal come

co*n*tre on fro fer ^ þ*at* xal fulfillyn þ*i* desyr / & þus sche knewe

be exp*er*iens / þ*at* it was a ryth trewe spiryt •/ þe forseyd

p*re*ste red hir bokys þe most part of • vii • ȝer er viii •

ȝer / to gret encres of hys cu*n*nyng / & of hys m*er*yte

And he suffryd many an euyl worde for hyr lofe / in //

**f. 70r**

as meche as he red hir so many bok*ys* / & supportyd hir in hir

wepyng & hir crying •/ Aft*yr*ward*ys* he wex benefysyd & had

gret cur of sowle / & þa*n* lykyd hym ful wel þ*at* he had redde

so meche be forn .;.

**T**hus thorw heryng of holy bokys / & thorw heryng

of holy s*er*mownys / sche eu*yr* encresyd in co*n*templa//

cyon & holy meditacyon /• It wer in man*er* vn

possibyll to writyn / al þe holy thowt*ys* / holy spechys / aA[over a]nd

þ*e* hy reuelacyons • whech owr lord schewyd vn to hir /

bothyn of hir selfe / & of oþ*er* men & women /• Also of

many sowlys • su*m* for to ben sauyd / & su*m* for to ben

dampnyd / & it was to hir a gret ponyschyng / & a scharp

chastisyng [• for to knowyn of þo þ*at* xulde be sauyd / sche

was ful glad & Ioyful / for sche desyred in as meche

as sche durst / alle men to be sauyd / ~~as~~ And whan

owr lord schewyd to hir of any þ*at* xulde be dampnyd /

sche had gret peyn / sche wolde not heryn it / ne be//

leuyn it þ*at* it was god þ*at* schewyd hir swech thyng*ys* / &

put it owt of hir mende as mech as sche myth •[ owr

lord blamyd hir þ*er* for / & badde hir beleuyn þ*at* it was

hys hy m*er*cy & hys goodnesse / to schewyn hir hys

p*re*uy cownselys / seying to hir mende / Dowt*yr* / þ*u* must

as wel heryn of þ*e* dampnyd as of þ*e* sauyd / Sche wolde

ȝeuyn no credens to þe cownsel of god ^/ but raþ*ar* leuyd

it was su*m* euyl spiryt for to deceyuyn hir •/ Than for

hir frowardnes & hir vnbeleue / owr lord drow fro hir

alle good thowt*ys* & alle good mend*ys* of holy spechys /

& dalyawns / & þe hy co*n*templacyon whech sche had

ben vsyd to / be for tyme / & suffyrd hir to haue as //

many euyl thowt*ys* / as sche had be forn of good thowt*ys* /

And þ*i*s vexacyon enduryd • xii • days to gedyr •• And lyche

as be for tyme / sche had • iiii • owrys of þ*e* for noon / in //

holy spechys / & dalyawns / w*yth* owr lord •/ so had sche now //

**f. 70v**

as many owrys of fowle thowt*ys* / & fowle mend*ys* of letchery / & alle

vnclennes / as thow sche xulde a be comown to al man*er* of pepyl

/ & so þ*e* deuyl bar hyr on hande / dalying vn to hir w*yth* cursyd

thowt*ys* / liche as owr lord dalyid to hir be forn tyme with

holy thowt*ys* / And as sche be forn had many gloryows visy//

onys & hy co*n*templacyon in þe manhod of owr lord /• in

owr lady / & in many oþ*er* holy seynt*ys* / ryth euyn so had sche

now horybyl syghtys / & abhominabyl / for any thyng þ*at*

sche cowde do / of beheldyng of mennys membrys &

swech oþ*er* abhominacyons /• Sche sey as hir thowt v*er*yly

dyuers men of religyon / p*re*yst*ys* & many oþ*er* • bothyn hethyn

& cristen comyn be for hir syght / þ*at* sche myth not en//

chewyn hem ne puttyn hem owt of hir syght / schewy*n*g

her bar membrys vn to hir / & þ*er*w*yth* þe deuyl bad hir

in hir mende / chesyn whom sche wolde han fyrst of

hem alle / & sche must be comown to hem alle / & he seyd

sche lykyd bettyr su*m*me on of hem / þa*n* alle þe oþ*er* / hir thowt

þ*at* he seyd trewth / sche cowde not sey nay / & sche must ne//

dys don hys byddyng / & ȝet wolde sche not a don it for

alle þ*i*s worlde /• but ȝet hir thowt þ*at* it xulde be don / &

hir thowt / þ*at* þ*e*s horrybyl syghtys & cursyd mend*y*s ~~abedyn~~

~~w~~*~~yth~~* ~~hir~~ wer delectabyl to hir a geyn hir wille /• Wher //

sche went / er what so sche dede / þes cursyd mend*ys* abedy*n*

w*yth* hir •/ Wha*n* sche xulde se þ*e* sac*ra*ment makyn hir p*ra*yerys

/ er don any oþ*er* good dede •/ eu*yr* swech cursydnes was

putte in hir mende •/ Sche was schreuyn & dede al þ*at*

sche myth •/ but sche fonde no relesyng / tyl sche was

ner at dispeyr /• It can not be wretyn þ*at* peyn þ*at* sche

felt / & þ*e* sorwe þ*at* sche was inne •/ þa*n* sche seyd Alas lord

þ*u* hast seyd be for tyme þ*at* þ*u* schuldyst neu*y*r forsake

me /• Wher is now ~~th~~þ*e* sothfastnes of thy word •/ And

a non aft*yr* cam hir good Awngel vn to hir seying •7

Dowt*yr* / god hath not forsakyn þ*e* •7/ ne neu*yr* schal forsake þ*e* •

**f. 71r**

as he hath behyte þ*e* / but for þ*u* beleuyst not þ*at* it is þ*e* spiryt of

god þ*a*t spekyth in þ*i* sowle / & schew*yth* þ*e* hys p*re*uy cownselys / of su*m*me

þ*at* xul ben sauyd / & su*m*me þ*at* xal ben dampnyd / þ*er*for god chasti//

syd þ*e* on þ*i*s wise / & man*er* & þ*i*s chastisyng schal enduryn • xii •

days / tyl þ*u* wyl beleuyn þat it is god whech spekyth to þe

& no deuyI •7[ þa*n* sche seyd to hir awngel • A I p*re*y þ*e* p*re*y for

me to my lord Ih*es*u crist / þ*at* he wyl vowchesafe to takyn

fro me þes cursyd thowt*ys* / & spekyn to me as he dede be //

for tyme / And I xal makyn a behest to god / þ*at* I schal be//

leuyn þ*at* it is god whech þ*at* hath spokyn to me a for tyme /

for I may no lengar duryn þ*i*s gret peyne / hyr Awn//

gel seyd a geyn to hir • Dowt*yr* my lord Ih*es*u wyl not //

take it a wey fro þ*e* tyl þ*u* haue suffyrd it • xii • days •/ for

he wyl þ*at* þ*u* knowe þ*er*by wheþ*yr* it is bettyr / þ*at* god speke to

þe er þe deuyl • And my lord crist Ih*es*u is neu*yr* þ*e* wroþar

wyth þe þeithow [over þei] he suffyr þe to felyn þ*i*s peyne [red underline] So sche suf//

fryd þat peyn tyl • xii •• days wer passyd •• And þa*n* had

sche as holy thowt*ys* / as holy mend*ys* / & as holy desyrys /

as holy spechys • & dalyawns / of owr lord Ih*es*u crist / as

eu*yr* sche had be forn [ owr lord seying to hir •/ Dowtyr beleue

now wel þ*at* I am no deuyl •7/ þa*n* was sche fylled w*yth* Ioye /

for sche herd owr lord spekyn to hir as he was wonet [over e]

to don / þ*er*for sche seyd / I xal beleuyn þ*at* eu*er*y good thowt

is þ*e* speche of god / blyssed mote þ*u* lord be / þ*at* þ*u* deynyst not

to comfortyn me a geyn / I wold not lord for al þ*i*s world

suffryn swech an oþ*er* peyne as I haue suffryd / þes xii

days / for me thowt I was in helle /• blyssed mote þ*u* be

þ*at* it is passyd •/ þ*er*for lord now wyl I lyn stille /• & be //

buxom to þi wille / I p*ra*y þ*e* lord speke in me what þ*at*

is most plesawns to þe .;. / loq*ue*re d*omi*ne q*uia* audit s*er*u*us* tu*us*]

Audia*m* quid loquat*ur* in me d*omi*n*u*s de*us* :~

**f. 71v**

**T**He good p*re*ste of whom it is wretyn be forn / þ*e* wheche

was hir lystere / fel in gret sekenes / & sche was steryd

in hir sowle / for to kepyn hym in godd*ys* stede / & wha*n*

sche faylde swech as was nedful for hym / sche went abowty*n*

to good men & good women / & gate swech thyng as was

necessary vn to hym / he was so seke þ*at* men trustyd

no thyng to hys lyfe / & hys sekenes was long co*n*tunyng /

[ þan on a tyme as sche was in þ*e* chirche heryng hir messe

& p*re*yid for þe same p*re*ste / owr lord seyd to hir / þ*at* he xulde

leuyn & faryn ryth wel •/ þa*n* was sche steryd to gon to

Norwych to seynt Stefenys chirche wher is beriid þ*e*

good vicary • whech deyd but lityl be for þ*at* tyme / for whom

god schewyd hy m*er*cy •/ to hys pepil / & to þankyn hym for

recuryng of þ*i*s p*re*yste • Sche toke leue of hir co*n*fesso*wr*

goyng forth to Norwich •• Wha*n* sche cam in þ*e* chirch ȝerd

of Seynt Stefyn / sche cryed sche roryd sche wept sche

fel down to þ*e* grownd •/ so feruently þ*e* fyer of lofe brent

in hir hert • Sithyn sche ros vp a ȝen & went forth wepy*n*g

in to þ*e* chirche • to þ*e* hy awter / & þ*er* sche fel down with

boistows sobbyng*ys* wepyng*ys* & lowde cryes • be syden þe

g*ra*ve of þ*e* good vicary / al rauyschyd w*yth* gostly co*m*fort in þ*e*

goodnes of owr lord / þ*at* wrowt so gret g*ra*ce for hys s*er*uawnt

Whech had ben hir co*n*fesso*wr* / & many tymes herd hir co*n*fes//

syon of al hir leuyng / & ministryd to hir þ*e* p*re*cyows

sacrament of þe Awt*er* diuers tymes / & in so meche •’//

was hir deuocyon þ*e* mor incresyd / þ*at* sche sey owr lord

werkyn so special g*ra*ce / for swech a creatur as sche had

ben co*n*u*er*sawnt w*yth* in hys lyfe tyme •/ sche had so holy //

thowt*ys* & so holy mend*ys* / þ*at* sche myth not mesuryn hir

wepyng ne hir crying •/ And þ*er*for þ*e* pepil had gret m*er*ueyl

of hir / supposyng þ*at* sche had wept for su*m* fleschly er erdly

affeccyon / & seyd vn to hir • What eylith þ*e* woma*n* • Why //

faryst þ*us* w*yth* þi self / We knew hym as wel as þ*u* /• þa*n* wer

p*re*stys in þe same place whech knew hir man*er* of werkyng •7 (over //)

**f. 72r**

/ & þei ful charitefully led hir to a tauerne / & dede hir drynkyn

/ & made hir ful hy & goodly cher •/ Also þ*er* was a lady desyred

to haue þe sayd creatur to mete / & þ*er*for as honeste wolde

sche went to þ*e* cherch þ*er* þ*e* lady herd hir s*er*uyse /• Wher þ*i*s

creatur sey a fayr ymage of owr lady clepyd a pyte /

*A*nd thorw þ*e* beholdyng of þ*at* pete / hir mende was al

holy ocupyed in þe passyon of owr lord Ih*es*u crist / & in

þe co*m*passyon of owr lady seynt mary / be whech sche was

co*m*pellyd to cryyn ful lowde & wepyn ful sor •/ as þei sche

xulde a deyd / þa*n* ca*m* to hir þe ladys p*re*ste seying Dam//

sel Ih*es*u is ded long sithyn / Whan hir crying was cesyd

sche seyd to þ*e* p*re*ste • Sir hys deth is as fresch to me / as

he had deyd þ*i*s same day / & so me thynkyth it awt to be

to ȝow & to alle cristen pepil / We awt eu*yr* to han mende

of hys kendnes / & eu*yr* to thynkyn of þ*e* dolful deth / þ*at* he deyd

for vs / þan þ*e* good lady heryng her co*m*municacyon / seyd / Ser

it is a good exampyl to me & to oþ*er* men also / þ*e* g*ra*ce þ*at* god

werkyth in hir sowle / & so þ*e* good lady was hir auoket / and

answeryd for hir Sithyn sche had hir hom w*yth* hir to mete /

& schewyd hir ful glad & goodly chere / as long as sche wold

abydyn þ*er* / & sone aft*yr* sche cam hom a geyn to lenne & þ*e*

forseyd p*re*yste for whom sche went most specialy to Nor//

wich • whech had redde hir a bowte vii • ȝer • recuryd • & went

a bowte wher hym lykyde / þa*n*kyd be al mythy god for hys

goodnes .;. Amen :~ Amen :~ Amen :~

**T**han cam þ*er* a frer to lenne whech was holdyn an //

holy man & a good p*re*chowr / hys name & hys p*er*//

feccyon of p*re*chyng spred & sprong wondyr wyde /

Ther cam good men to þ*e* sayd creatur of good charite /

& seyd / Margery / now xal ȝe han p*re*chyng a now /• for þ*er*

is comyn on of þe most famows frerys in Inglond

to þ*i*s towne / for to be her in conent •/ þa*n* was sche m*er*y

& glad / & thankyd god w*yth* al hir hert / þ*at* so good a man

was comyn to dwellyn a mong*ys* hem •/ In schort tyme

**f. 72v**

aftyr he seyd a sermown in a chapel of seynt Iamys in lenne

wher was meche pepyl gadyrd to heryn þe s*er*mown / & er þe

frer went to þ*e* pulpit / þ*e* parisch p*re*ste of þe same place wher

he xulde p*re*chyn / went to hym & seyd / Ser I p*re*y ȝow beth not

displesyd her xal comyn a woman to ȝo*wr* sermown / þ*e* whech

oftyn tymes whan sche herith of þ*e* passyon of owr lord

er of any hy deuocyon / sche wepith sobbith & cryeth / but

it lestith not longe / & þ*er*for good ser • ȝyf sche make //

any noyse at ȝo*wr* s*er*mown / suffyr it paciently & beth not

a baschyd þ*er*of / þe good frer went forth to sey þ*e* s*er*mown

/ & seyd ful holily & ful deuowtly / & spak meche of owr

lord*ys* passyon / þ*at* þ*e* seyd creatur myth no lengar beryn it

Sche kept hir fro crying as long as sche myth •/ and þa*n*

at þe last sche brast owte w*yth* a gret cry / & cryid wondyr

sor •/ þ*e* good frere suffyrd it paciently / & seyd no word þ*er*//

to at þ*at* tyme / In schort tyme aftyr he p*re*chyd a geyn

in þ*e* same place / þe seyd creatur beyng p*re*sent / & ~~he~~

beheldyng how fast þe pepyl cam rennyng to heryn

þe s*er*mown / sche had gret Ioy in hir sowle / thynkyng

in hir mende • A lord Ih*es*u I trowe and þ*u* wer here to //

p*re*chyn þ*i*n owyn p*er*sone / þ*e* pepyl xulde han gret Ioy

to heryn þe / I p*re*y þe lorde make þi holy word to sattely*n*

in her sowlys / as I wolde þ*at* it xulde don in myn / & as

many mict be t*ur*nyd be hys voys / as xulde ben be thy

voys / ȝyf þ*u* p*re*chedist thy selfe / & w*yth* swech holy thowtys

& holy mend*ys* / sche askyd g*ra*ce for þe pepyl þ*at* tyme / &

sithyn what thorw þ*e* holy s*er*mown / & what thorw hir

meditacyon / grace of deuocyon wrowt so sor in hir

mende / þ*at* sche fel in a boystows wepyng •/ þa*n* seyd þe

good frer I wolde þ*i*s woman wer owte of þe chirche

sche noyith þ*e* pepil Su*m*me þ*at* weryn hir frend*ys* answe//

ryd a ȝen Sir haue hir excusyd sche may not with//

stand it •/ þa*n* meche pepil turnyd a ȝen hir / & wer ful

glad þat þe good frer held a ȝen hir •/ þa*n* seyd su*m*me

**f. 73r**

men þ*at* sche had a deuyl w*yth*inne hir / & so had þei seyd many ty//

mys be forn / but now þei wer mor bolde / for hem thowt

þ*at* her opinyon was wel strenghthyd er ellys fortifyed be

þ*i*s good frer / ne he wolde not suffyr hir to her hys s*er*mown

les þa*n* sche wolde leuyn hir sobbyng & hir crying •[ þ*er* was þa*n*

a good p*re*yste whech had red to hir mech good sc*ri*ptur / & knew

þ*e* cawse of hir crying / he spak to an oþ*er* good p*re*yste / þ*e* whech

had knowyn hir many ȝerys / & telde hym hys co*n*seyt / how

he was p*ur*posyd to gon to þ*e* good frer / & assayn ȝyf he myth

mekyn hys hert / þ*e* oþ*er* good p*re*yste seyd he wolde w*yth* good

wyl gon w*yth* hym to getyn grace ȝyf he myth •[ So þei went

boþ*e* p*re*yst*ys* to gedyr / & p*re*yid þ*e* good frer as enterly as þei //

cowde þ*at* he wolde suffyr þ*e* sayd creatur quyetly to comyn

to hys s*er*mown / & suffyr hir paciently ȝyf sche happyd to

sobbyn er cryen as oþ*er* good men had suffyrd hir be fore /

he seyd schortly a ȝen ȝyf sche come in any cherch wher

he xulde p*re*chyn / & sche made any noyse as sche was wone

to do / he xulde speke scharply a geyn hir / he wolde not suf//

fyrn hir to crye in no wyse •/ Sithyn a worshepful docto*wr* •

of diuinite a White frer / a solem clerk & elde docto*wr* •/ &

a wel a p*re*uyd / whech had knowyn þ*e* sayd creatur many ȝerys

of hir lyfe / & beleuyd þ*e* g*ra*ce þ*at* god wrowt in hir / toke w*yth*

hym a worthy man / a Bacheler of lawe a wel growndyd

man in sc*ri*ptur / & long ex*er*cisyd / whech was co*n*fesso*wr* to þ*e*

sayd creatur / & wentyn to þ*e* sayd frer / as þ*e* good p*re*yst*ys* dedy*n*

be forn / & sentyn for wyne to cheryn hym wyth / p*re*yng

hym of hys charite to fauyr þ*e* werk*ys* of owr lord in þ*e*

sayd creatur / & grawntyn hir hys beneuolens in suppor//

tyng of hir / ȝyf it happyd hir to cryen er sobbyn whyl

he wer in hys s*er*mown / & þ*e*s worthy clerk*ys* telde hym

þ*at* it was a ȝyft of god / & þ*at* sche cowde not haue it /• but

whan god wolde ȝeue it •/ ne sche myth not w*yth*stande it

whan god wolde send it [• & god xulde w*yth*drawe it /• Wha*n* he //

**f. 73v**

wilde / for þ*at* had sche be reuelacyon / & þ*at* was vnknowyn to þe

frer •/ þan he neyþ*yr* ȝeuyng credens to þe doctowrys wordys /

ne þe Bachelerys trustyng mech in þ*e* fauowr of þ*e* pepil

seyd / he wolde not fauowr hir in hir crying for nowt þat

any man myth sey er do / for he wolde not leuyn þ*at* it

was a ȝyft of god / but he seyd ȝyf sche myth not w*yth*stond

it whan it cam / he leuyd it was a cardiakyl / er su*m* oþ*er*

sekenesse / & ȝyf sche wolde be so a knowyn / he seyd he wold

haue co*m*passyon of hir / & steryn þ*e* pepil to p*re*y for hir

and vndyr þis condicion / he wolde han paciens in hir / &

suffyr hir to cryen a now / þ*at* sche xulde sey þ*at* it was a

kendly seknes / & hir self knew wel be reuelacyon & be

exp*er*iens of werkyng / it was no sekenes / & þ*er*for sche

wolde not for al þ*i*s world • sey oþ*er*wyse • þa*n* sche felt /

And þ*er*for þei myth not a cordyn •/ þa*n* þe worschepful

docto*wr* • & hir co*n*fesso*wr* •/ cownselyd hir þ*at* sche xulde not //

come at hys s*er*mown / & þat was to hir a gret peyne

Than went an oþ*er* man a worschepful / B*ur*geys / þ*e* whech

in fewe ȝerys aft*yr* was meyr of lenne / & p*re*yd hym //

as þe worthy clerk*ys* had don be forn / & he was answeryd

as þei worn /• þa*n* was sche chargyd be hir co*n*fesso*wr* / þat

sche xulde not comyn þ*er* he p*re*chyd / but wha*n* he p*re*chyd

in o chirche / sche xulde gon in to an oþ*er* /• sche had so mech

sorwe þ*at* sche wist not what sche myth do /• for sche was

putte fro þ*e* s*er*mown whech was to hir þ*e* hyest co*m*fort

in erth wha*n* sche myth heryn it / & ryth so þ*e* co*n*trary

was to hir þ*e* grettest peyne in erthe wha*n* sche myth

not heryn it /• Wha*n* sche was a lone be hir self in on

cherch & he p*re*chyng þ*e* pepil in an oþ*er* sche had as lowde

& as m*er*uelyows cryis / as wha*n* sche was a mong*ys* þe

pepil / It was ^sertan? ȝerys þ*at* sche myth not be suffyrd to come

at hys s*er*mown / for þ*a*t sche cryed so whan it plesyd owr

lord to ȝyfe hir mende & very beholdyng of hys bittyr //

**f. 74r**

passyon / but sche was not excludyd fro non oþ*er* clerk*ys* p*re*chy*n*g /

but only fro þ*e* good frerys as is seyd be forn / not w*yth*ston//

dyng in þe mene tyme þ*er* p*re*chyd many worschepful doctor*ys* /

& oþ*er* worthy clerk*ys* / bothyn religyows & seculerys / at

whoys s*er*mownys sche cryid ful lowde / & sobbyd ful bo//

ystowsly many tymes / & ofte / & ȝet þei suffyrd it ful

paciently / & su*m*me whech had spokyn w*yth* hir be forn / &

haddyn knowlach of hir man*er* of leuyng / excusyd hir

to þe pepil whan / þei herdyn any rumowr er grutchy*n*g

a ȝens hir .;.

**A**fftyr on seynt Iamys day þe good frere p*re*chyd

in seynt Iamys chapel ȝerd at lenne / he was

as þ*at* tyme neyþ*yr* bacheler ne docto*wr* of diuinyte /

wher was meche pepil / & gret audiens / for he had an

holy name & gret fauowr of þ*e* pepyl / in so meche / þ*at*

su*m*me men ȝyf þei wiste þ*at* he schulde p*re*chyn in þ*e* cu*n*tre / þei

wolde go w*yth* hym er ellys folwyn hym fro town to town /

so gret delite þei had to heryn hym •/ & so blissed mote //

god ben he p*re*chyd ful holily & ful deuowtly •/ neu*yr* þ*e* lesse /

as þis day • he p*re*chyd meche a geyn þe seyd crentur / not

exp*re*ssyng hir name / but so he expleytyd hys co*n*seyt*ys* / þat

men vndirstod wel þ*at* he ment hir •/ þa*n* was þ*er* mech remo*wr* •

a mong þ*e* pepil / for many men & many women trustyd

hir & louyd hir ryth wel / & wer ryth heuy & sorweful / for

he spak so meche a geyn hir as he dede / desiryng þ*at* þei

had not an herd hym þ*at* day •7/ Whan he herd þ*e* murmo*wr*

& grutchyng of þe pepil supposyng to be geyn seyd an

oþ*er* day of hem þ*at* weryn hir frend*ys* / he smityng hys hand

on þe pulpit seyd •/ ȝyf I here any mor þes materys

rehersyd / I xal so smytyn þe nayl on þe hed he seyd /

þ*at* it schal schamyn alle hyr mayntenowrys • And þa*n*

many of hem þ*at* p*re*tendyd hir frenschep turnyd a bakke /

for a lytyl veyn drede þ*at* þei haddyn of hys wordys //

**f. 74v**

/ & durst not wel spekyn w*yth* hir / of þe whech / þe same p*re*yste was

on / þat aftirward wrot þ*i*s boke / & was in p*ur*pose neu*yr* to a //

beleuyd hir felyng*ys* aftyr /• & ȝet owr lord drow hym a ȝen in

schort tyme / blissed mote he ben • þ*at* he louyd hir mor / & //

trustyd mor to hir wepyng & hir crying þa*n* eu*yr* he dede

be forn [ for aftyrward he red of a woman clepyd Maria

de Oegines / & of hir man*er* of leuyng •/ of þ*e* wondirful swet//

nesse / þ*at* sche had in þ*e* word of god heryng •/ of þ*e* wondirful

co*m*passyon / þ*at* sche had in hys passyon thynkyng /• & of þe

plentyuows teerys / þ*at* sche wept þ*e* whech made hir so

febyl & so weyke / þ*at* sche myth not endur to beheldyn

þ*e* crosse / ne heryn owr lord*ys* passyon rehersyd / so sche

was resoluyd in to terys of pyte / & co*m*passyon / of þ*e* plen//

tyuows g*ra*ce of hir teerys / he tretyth specyaly in þ*e* boke

beforn wretyn / þe xviii • ca*pitulo* • þ*at* begynnyth Bon*us* es d*omi*ne

sperantib*us* in te And also in þ*e* xix • ca*pitulo* • wher he tellyth

how sche at þ*e* request of a p*re*yste / þ*at* he xulde not be t*ur*be//

lyd ne distrawt in hys messe w*yth* hir wepyng & hir sob//

byng / Went owt at þe chirche dor w*yth* a lowde voys crying

/ þ*at* sche myth not restreyn hir þ*er*fro •/ & owr lord also visi

tyd þe p*re*yste beyng at messe / w*yth* swech g*ra*ce & w*yth* sweche

deuocyon whan he xulde redyn þe holy gospel / þat he

wept wondirly / so þ*at* he wett hys vestiment & ornament*ys*

of þ*e* awter / & myth not mesuryn hys wepyng / ne hys

sobbyng it was so habu*n*dawnt / ne he myth not restreyn

it / ne wel stande þ*er*wyth at þ*e* awter / þa*n* he leuyd wel þ*at* þe

good woman whech he had be forn lityl affeccyon to /

myth not restreyn hir wepyng hir sobbyng ne hir cry//

yng • Whech felt meche mor plente of grace þa*n* eu*yr* dede

he w*yth* owtyn any co*m*parison / þa*n* knew he wel þ*at* god ȝaf

hys g*ra*ce to whom he wolde • Whan þ*e* p*re*ste whech wrot þ*i*s

tret*ys* thorw steryng of a worshepful clerk / a bacheler of

diuinite had seyn & red þ*e* mater be forn wretyn meche //

**f. 75r**

mor seryowslech & exp*re*ssiowslech þa*n* it is wretyn in þ*i*s tret*y*s / for

her is but a lityl of þe effect þ*er*of / for he had not ryth cler //

mende of þ*e* sayd mat*er* / wha*n* he wrot þ*i*s tret*ys* / & þ*er*for he wrot

þ*e* lesse þ*er*of [• þa*n* he drow a geyn & inclined mor sadly to þ*e*

sayd creatur whom he had fled & enchewyd thorw þ*e* frerys

p*re*chyng as is be forn wretyn / Also þ*e* same p*re*yste red aftyr

ward in a tret*ys* whech is clepyd þ*e* prykke of lofe / þ*e* ii • chap*itulo* •

þ*at* bone Auentur wrot of hym selfe þ*e*s word*ys* folwyng • A

lord what xal I mor noysen er cryen þ*u* lettyst & þ*u* comyst

not & I wery & ou*yr* come thorw desyr begynne for to mad//

dyn •/ for lofe gou*er*nyth me / & not reson I renne w*yth* hasty

cowrs Wher þ*at* eu*yr* þ*u* wylte I bowe •/ lord þ*e*i þ*at* se me irkyn and

rewyn not knowyng me dru*n*kyn w*yth* þi lofe /• lord þei seyn

lo ȝen wood man cryeth in þ*e* stret*ys* / but how meche is þ*e*

desyr of myn hert þei p*ar*ceyue not / & c*apitulo* stimulo amoris

& c*apitulo* ut sup*ra* •/ he I red also of Richurd hampol hermyte [red underline] in

Incendio amoris [red underline] leche mat*er* / þat meuyd hym to ȝeuyn cre//

dens to þ*e* sayd creatur Also Eliȝabeth of hu*n*gry cryed w*yth*

lowde voys as is wretyn in hir tretys / & many oþ*er* whech

had forsakyn hir thorw þ*e* frerys p*re*chyng repentyd hem

/ & t*ur*nyd a ȝen vn to hir be p*ro*cesse of tyme / not withstandyng

þ*e* frer kept hys opinyon / & al wey he wolde in hys s*er*mown

haue a parte a geyn hir wheþ*yr* sche wer þ*er* er not / & cawsyd

meeh pepil to demyn wol euyl of hir many day & long /

for su*m*me seyd þ*at* sche had a deuyl w*yth* inne hir / & su*m*me

seyd to hir owyn mowth þ*at* þ*e* frer xulde a dreuyn to deuelys

owt of hir • thus was sche slawnderyd etyn & knawyn

of þ*e* pepil / for þ*e* g*ra*ce þ*at* god wrowt in hir of co*n*tricyon

of deuocyon & of co*m*passyon / thorw þe ȝyft of whech

gracys sche wept sobbyd & cryid ful sor a geyn hir wyl

/ sche myth not chesyn / for sche had leuar a wept softly

& p*re*uyly þa*n* opynly ȝyf it had ben in hyr power +,

**f. 75v**

**T**Han su*m*me of hir frendys cam to hir & seyd it wer mor

ese to hir to gon owt of þ*e* town þa*n* a bydyn þ*er*in / so

meche pepyl was a geyn hir / And sche seyd sche xulde

a bydyn þ*er* as long as god wolde / for her sche seyd in þ*i*s town

haue I synned / þ*er*for it is worthy þ*at* I suffyr sorwe in þ*i*s town

þ*er* a geyn / & ȝet haue I not so meche sorwe ne schame as I

haue des*er*uyd / for I haue trespasyd a ȝens god /• I thank al

mythy god what þ*at* eu*yr* he sendith me And I p*ra*y god þ*at* al

man*er* of wikkydnes / þ*at* any man xal seyn of me in þ*i*s world

may stonde in to remissyon of my synnys • And any good//

nesse þ*at* any man xal seyn of þ*e* g*ra*ce þ*at* god werkyth in me /

may t*ur*nyn god to worschep & to p*re*ysyng & m*a*gnifying

of hys holy name w*yth* owtyn ende / for al man*er* of wor//

schep longith to hym / & al despite schame & rep*re*fe long*yth*

to me / & þ*at* haue I wel des*er*uyd •[ An oþ*er* tyme hyr co*n*fesso*wr* •

ca*m* to hir in to a chapel of owr lady / clepyd þe Ieȝyne /•

/ seying / Margery / what xal ȝe now do þ*er* is no mor a ȝen

ȝow but þ*e* Mone & vii • sterrys An ethe is þ*er* any man

þ*at* heldith w*yth* ȝow but I a lone • Sche seyd to hir co*n*fessowr

/ Ser • beth of a good co*m*forte / for it xal ben ryth wel at þe

last / & I telle ȝow trewly my lord Ih*es*u ȝeuyth me gret

co*m*forte in my sowle / & ellys xulde I fallyn in dispeyr

My blisful lord crist Ih*es*u wil not latyn me dyspeyryn

for noon holy name þ*at* þ*e* good frer hath / for my lord tellyth

me þ*at* he is wroth w*yth* hym / & he seyth to me / it wer bettyr

he wer neu*yr* born / for he despisith hys werk*ys* in me • Also

owr lord seyd to hir / dowt*yr* ȝyf he be a p*re*yste þ*at* despisith

the / knowyng wel wher for þ*u* wepist & cryist •/ he is a c*ur*syd

And on a tyme as sche was in þ*e* p*ri*owrys cloystyr / & durst

not a bydyn in þe cherch for inq*wi*etyng of þ*e* pepil w*yth* hir

crying •/ owr lord seyd vn to hir beyng in gret heuynes

Dowt*yr* I bydde þ*e* gon a geyn in to cherch / for I xal takyn

a wey fro þ*e* thy criyng •/ þat þ*u* xalt no mor cryin so lowde

ne on þat man*er* wyse as þ*u* hast don be forn / þei þ*u* woldist /