

<County: Durham>

<Code: L0388>

<MS reference: London, BL Harley 237, fols 93r-94v>

<Text: Exhortacio infirmi in lingua materna>

<fol. 93r><lat></lat>

Mi der frende in god~ 3e hy fast in 3our way to god ward . wher 3e  
 shal se al 3our forn fadirs : Apostels martirs . confessours . *virgyns*  
 and all men and women yat ar sauýd . And *yer*-for be of gud comfurth  
 in god . And 3e most ly as a stane in ye wall of ye cyte of heuyn~  
 w<sup>t</sup>-outy~ ony noys or stryf . And *yer*-for or 3e wend out of yis world  
 3e ned mak 3our stan redy and yan shal se no3t be lett ¶ ye  
 stane is 3our saul whilk 3e ned mak clene . ye noice quilke  
 3e ned make her is vmbethinkyng of 3our syne qwilk 3e <exp>mer</exp>  
 bus tel ye prest . ye strak is pennance . yat 3e shal be sory  
 for 3our syne and smyt 3our-self on ye brest . And qwen 3e haue  
 mad redy yus 3our stane yan may 3e ~~gay~~ ga 3our way in god  
 and ~~lay~~ . <sup>[leif]</sup> 3our stane sekirly w<sup>t</sup>-outyn outyn nois in cite of heuen  
 And *yer*-for j concel 3ow yat <exp>s</exp> 3e shryfe 3ow clene and mak  
 3ou redy And yis al anly no3t to sek+men bod also to hall  
 For euery day a man nyhist his ded ner and nere And of a  
 man it is said ye mor he waxis ye mor he vnwaxis And  
 for sais ye gospel . wak for 3e wat neuer qwat tym god will  
 com And *yer*for luk yat 3e be all way redy . And 3e shal wete  
 and know yat god visites mony a man for his syn diuersly Som~  
 w<sup>t</sup> presonyng . Som w<sup>t</sup> diuers seknes And if ye syn wer all  
 a-way yan ye seknes shuld a-slak her as beris wittnes ye  
 gospel . wher god sais yus to ten mesels when he had helid  
 yam of *yer* lepir ga he said and Syn na mor and shew  
 3ow to prestes And *yer* it is ordand be ye law y<sup>t</sup> *yer* shal no  
 lich gif no bodely medicyn to no sek man to he be helid gostly  
 and yat he hau takyn gostly medecyn . *yer* is to say shrift &  
 housill And if he ben~ wele shreuyn~ and *verra* repentant J  
 dred  
 no3t y<sup>t</sup> sekenes shal a-slak whilk he had for syn~ or els it

shal turn~ him to ye most blis efter his ded And yerfor : if  
 his sekenes slak no3t y<sup>u</sup> shal comforth him on yis m~aner  
How y<sup>u</sup> shal comfort a man yat he groch no3t when he is seke  
 Son lufis y<sup>u</sup> god y<sup>i</sup> lord he wil say . 3it . you yus . gif  
 y<sup>u</sup> luf god y<sup>i</sup> lord y<sup>u</sup> lufis y<sup>t</sup> he dois and he scorges y<sup>e</sup>  
 and yer y<sup>u</sup> sall gladly suffir it her of spekes salamon & sais  
 <fol. 93v>Son spek y<sup>u</sup> no3t agan~ chastesyng of y<sup>i</sup> fadir for he is no son~  
 y<sup>t</sup> fader chastes no3t And it acord w<sup>t</sup> comon~ maner of speking  
 For if a man se a-nyer mans child do schrewidly in his  
 fader presens and y<sup>e</sup> fadir chasty him no3t . yan wald ye oyer  
 man sai he war no3t his child or els he lufis him no3t  
 For if wer his child or els he lufid him . he wald chasty  
 him An yerfor be no3t ill apaid of y<sup>i</sup> faderres chastesyng  
 of heuen~ For he sais him-self . wham J luf J chasty  
 Also sekenes of body makes saul hell . And saul hele is  
 no3t bod of god And yerfor dispice no3t godes scorges bod  
 when god punych ye thank him and luf him yat he  
 amendes and blamys ye and punych no3t ye in his wrath  
 ne in his wodnes bod in his gret mercy Thank y<sup>i</sup> god and  
 think y<sup>t</sup> his mercy passis al his gret wreth . he is y<sup>i</sup> juge  
 he will no3t dame ye bod he will haue mercy of ye . mercyfully  
 he chastes ye And wher y<sup>u</sup> has deseruyd to haue his  
 wreth and be damnyd for euer he puttes ouer his Venganges  
 and sufferes of his gret mercy and ~~punych~~ punych ye her  
 bod a whill And yerfor dispice no3t his 3erd of mercy  
 ne groch no3t yer a-gan~ bod suffir it gladly For al ye  
 domys of god ar ri3tful Now sen seknes of ye body  
 is hele of ye saul and will y<sup>u</sup> or nyll y<sup>u</sup> . y<sup>u</sup> shal hafe it  
 gif y<sup>u</sup> groch a-gan~ ~~ne~~ god and w<sup>t</sup> y<sup>i</sup> grochyng y<sup>u</sup> makes  
 y<sup>i</sup> saul mor febil and sa y<sup>u</sup> profettes no3t to y<sup>i</sup>-self w<sup>t</sup> groching  
 a-gan~ y<sup>i</sup> fader qwilk is y<sup>i</sup> lech bod greuys y<sup>i</sup>-self on  
 diuers maners Ane is y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> greuys y<sup>i</sup> god Anoyer is y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup>  
 shal haue mekil gastly med as y<sup>u</sup> suld gif yu suffird  
 ded mekly And y<sup>u</sup> shal knaw y<sup>t</sup> god fader of heuen~  
 punys no3t ane twis And yer-for w<sup>t</sup> a glad hert y<sup>u</sup>  
 shal suffers sekenes y<sup>t</sup> god send ye her For it sall  
 lyghty~ ye on pyne of purgatory So y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> sal ye soner  
 com . <sup>[to]</sup> ye kingdom of heuen~ . Think y<sup>t</sup> if ye kinge to  
 wham y<sup>u</sup> has ben tratour for-geuys ye y<sup>i</sup> ded and punych

ye bod a litil in a esy preson y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> art mekil haldyn~  
 <fol. 94r>to hym . So y<sup>u</sup> art to y<sup>i</sup> lord god al-my<sup>3</sup>ty to wham y<sup>u</sup> has ben~ tratour y<sup>t</sup> he  
 forgyfes ye euer-lestand ded and punech ye bod w<sup>t</sup> a+litil seknes her~

**Gyf a man be ner~ ye ded spek to him on yis maner**

Man þ if y<sup>u</sup> vmbethinkit y<sup>e</sup> and se ye mischef of yis warld y<sup>u</sup>  
 shuld desir~ to dy and be w<sup>t</sup> god . holy writ beris wittnes and  
 sais . blessid be yai yat dies in god luk ye begynninge of ye life .  
 kar~ and sorow . y<sup>i</sup> foly leuyng kar~ and sorow and also trauel and  
 tene and deses and so y<sup>u</sup> ledes y<sup>i</sup> life <1 or more chars> Now wheder is it better  
 to dy wele and go to blis . And for to dy euyl and go to pane  
 of hel qwer sorow sal neuer be sesit . y<sup>u</sup> may now leue <1 or more chars> wele  
 in yis wrechid warld For holy wyrte sais : euery man is a lier~  
 yat is to say synful . Also it sais . Vij Sithis on a day fallis a  
 ri3twis man and yat sais sant paul . yat man leuys w<sup>t</sup>-outyn  
 For if a man kepe him fro synful wirkyng . 3it he kan no3t  
 kype him fro synful thinkinge . her to beris wittnes <1 or more chars>  
 and sais yus to god J desir to be ded and be w<sup>t</sup> god For  
 ye wrichenes of yis warld can no man tell . her is  
 hounoir and trist . cald and hett trauel and werenes  
 h~ Jn Invi and wrath . glotony and licheri . prid and sloth . Couetise  
 and falsnes manslaughter and theft and mony oyer And yer is  
 no man yan he has som~ of yis For euery man is sinful as J said  
 be-for And yer-for yes old filosofurs maad euer sorow qwen  
 yer childir war born~ . and fayn qwen yai died . and passid  
 out of wo of yis warld And sant Austyn . qwen y<sup>t</sup> he suld  
 dy he spak to ded on yis maner A y<sup>u</sup> ded end of al wekydnes  
 y<sup>u</sup> ded end of trauel . begynnyng of esse and al ioy . qwat  
 man may thinke ye profettes and ye blis y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> bringes w<sup>t</sup> ye  
 y<sup>tt</sup><?> art deser to me . For a cristyn man may no3t euil dy  
 and lyue with crist .

When y<sup>u</sup> has tald him al yis or els if y<sup>u</sup> haue no3t tyme  
 to tel al for hast of ded Begyn her and spek t<?> him  
 on yis maner . qwen y<sup>u</sup> seis . he is ner~ ye deth

Brothir y<sup>u</sup> art glad y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> sal dy in cristyn faith R~ . 3a  
 knowleg y<sup>u</sup> y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> has no3t wele levid as y<sup>u</sup> shuld R~ j do .  
 . 3a . Art y<sup>u</sup> sory yer-for . 3a . has y<sup>u</sup> wil to amend y<sup>e</sup> if y<sup>u</sup>  
 had space of lyfe . 3a . Trowest y<sup>u</sup> in ye fader and ye son~  
 <fol. 94v>and ye hali gast iij persons in a god . 3a leuys y<sup>t</sup> our lord ihesu  
 crist god son of heuyn was conceuyd of ye holi gast and tuk

flech and blod of our ladi sant mari and was born of hir she  
 beinge madyn and moder . 3a Trowis y<sup>u</sup> yat he suffird  
 pyn and ded for our trespas and no3t for his awn gilte  
 vnder pounce pilat And y<sup>t</sup> he was don on ye croce and  
 deid for ye on gud fryday and was berid 3a thank  
 him yerfor . 3a . Trowis y<sup>u</sup> y<sup>t</sup> ye saul of him went to hell  
 and herid it and tuk out adam and eue and our oyer forn-  
 faders . ye body bidinge in ye graue . 3a . Trowis yat ~~he~~ ye  
 . <add>saule</add> sal com a-gan~ to ye body . and . [ye] body and ye saul rase togeder  
 on ye third day fro ded to life and efter yat he stut  
 to heuen and sett him yer on his fader ri3t hand in his  
 mageste And at ye day of dom he sal com and  
 deme ye whike and ye ded and y<sup>t</sup> all men sal rise  
 body and saule . after yer deseruiynge to receue gude  
 and euil And be resauynge of sacramentes of haly kirk  
 haue for-gefnys of all yer syns and com to euer-lestand  
 life w<sup>t</sup> communicacon~ of santes in heuyn~ . 3a J beleue  
 as haly kirk be-leuys . Trowis y<sup>u</sup> y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> may na3t  
 be sauyd bod be his passion and be his ded <gap>  
 <lat><three words></lat> Whil y<sup>i</sup> saul is in y<sup>i</sup> body put al y<sup>i</sup> traiste  
 in his passion and in his ded and think haly yer-on and on na  
 oyer thinge . no3t thinkand on ye vanite of yis world on y<sup>i</sup>  
 wife on y<sup>i</sup> childer ne on y<sup>i</sup> riches bod on ye passion of crist  
 and haue ye croce be-for ye & say yus . <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> J wat wele y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup> art  
 no3t ~~<1 or more chars>~~ my god bod y<sup>u</sup> art a ymage after him and mak  
 me to haue mor mynd on him after wham y<sup>u</sup> art emagnyd  
 lord fader of heuen ye ded of our lord ihesu crist y<sup>i</sup> sonn ye  
 whilk is her ymagined J sett be-twix ye and my euil  
 ded and desert of ihesu crist J offer for yat J shuld haue  
 deseruyd and haue no3t . lord ye dede of lord ihesu  
 crist y<sup>i</sup> son whilk was born~ of lady saite marye modir and m<ill><rest of word></ill>  
 J-sett be-twix [me] ye and y<sup>i</sup> wrath And Say In ~~sa~~ to y<sup>i</sup> handes  
 lord J tak my saule for y<sup>u</sup> god of truth boght has me  
And So say thris