



<County: Shropshire>

<Code: L4239>

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<Text: Prick of Conscience>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 14r>But an olde mon . to deth drawyng
May not wake . But is ay slepyng
Men sey þt . al þys tokenes here
Bune of a+mon . when deth is nere
Whil mon leueth . he is lyke mon
When he is ded . wat . is he þan
Þenne mouwe men . here lykenes se
Changed . as hit had neuer y-be
Whenne monnes lyf . is at þe ende
On þys manere . Schal he wende
As he com . naked an ful porly
Þe furste deay . from his modur body
No3t he bro3t . With hym þt day
Ny no3t . þenne schal he bere away
But a+wyndeyng . cloth only
Þt . schal . be in . wrapped his body
¶ Wrecchetdly endeth . þe lyf of mon
3ef he by-holde . Wat he ys þan
When þet his lyf . ys went away
Þenne ys he no3t But . erþe an clay
To more corrupconn . terneth he a3ayn
Þenn any oþer . styngyng careyn
Þe foule corrupconn of . his Body
3ef hit schulde . longe on erþe ly
hit my3te þe erþe . so corrupte make
Þt men þerof . here deth my3t take
So vile hit is . and violent
Therof þe grete . clerke jnnocent

Seyth in his . book þus openly
 Of þ^e wrecchednes . of monnes body
 <lat></lat>
 <lat></lat>
 he seyth wat may strengre Be
 Þen monnes careyn . ys onto se
 <fol. 14v>No þynke here . is more vgly
 Þen is a+monnes . dede body
 Whenne hit . is leyde in erthe denne
 Hit alt^[o]gn^[a]wen . schen wormes þenne
 Tyl þe flehs . be from þe bones byten
 For þus fynde we . hit in bookes rwyten
 <lat></lat>
 <lat></lat>
 Þe booke seyth . þt whenne a+mon
 Dyeth þer schel . come to hym þan
 Wormes and nedderes . vgly of sy3t
 Þat flesche of mon . schel haue By ry3t
 Þerfore in erþe mon schal slepe
 Among wormes . on . hym to crepe
 And gnawen on . þet stynkyng carcoyse
 As wreten ys . jn Booke þt seyse
 <lat></lat>
 Jn poudre schal slepen . 3euuer eyche mon
 And mony wormes . schel keuere hym þon
 For hyer is no . mon so wytty
 so whyt so feyr . ny so my3ty
 Emperoure . duck . kyng ny kaysere
 Ny non þt bereþ . gret state here
 Lered ny lewed . bonde ny fre
 Nor riche nor pore . wat so þey bee
 But he schal . at his laste day
 To erþe and poudre . al a-way
 Wormes schul . ryue hit al in synder
 An þerfore haue Myche wonder
 Þt any mon vnnethe . wol see
 What he was . ys and schal be
 Ho-so wol in herte caste
 wat he was . and schal be at þe laste

And wat he is . whel he ys here
 <fol. 15r>He schulde haue fulytel . matere
 Ioy to make . whel he hyr dwelleþ
 As a versfeyer . in intere+telleth
 <lat></lat>
 <lat></lat>
 Woso wol vnderstonde and se
 Wheþenne he com and whedor schelde he
 he schelde not . yoye But hyt forsake
 And 3euuer wepe . and sorow make
 Why ys mon her . so+mery
 And so tender . on his foule Body
 Þat schal . be gnawen . wiþ wormes kene
 And is þenne so . attly to be senne
 Whoso of hym þenne . hade a+sy3t
 Whanne þt wormes . han hym dy3t
 And he al bare . ys to þe bon
 So gresly sy3t . say neuur mon
 As he my3te se . on þat careyn
 Wherof scent Bernard . her wel seyn
 <lat></lat>
 <lat></lat>
 After mon he seyth . wormes he ys
 And after worm . stynke and attelynes
 So schal eyche mon . turned be þanne
 Fro mon to no3t . in-to no monne
 Þes may eyche+mon . wely se
 Wat he ys was . and schal be
 Wat he ys her . wyl þt he leueth
 And wat fryt . his kynde 3euueþ
 Her may men se . as wreten ys
 Mychyl of monnes . wrechednes
 And meche more . 3et my3te me telle
 But her on wol y not lenger dwelle
 Forþer-more . now . woly loke
 <fol. 15v>To þe . secounde parte . of þs booke
 In þe wheche þer ys . vnderstandyng
 Off þe world . and of worldly þyng
The secounde party folewyng is

Off þe worldes vnstabulnes

Worlde alle whenne . god by-gon
 Wonly made he . for loue of mon
 And alle þynges . as clerkes *proue*
 Made wer þey . to monnes byhoue
 Setþe he þe worlde . and alle þyng wro3t
 To monnes Byhouue . þan oede he no3t
 To loue þe world ny . his Body .
 More þan oure lord . god al-my3ty
 Ny 3et so meche . and þat is les
 For 3ef he doth . vnkynde he ys
 God were more . worth to be louet
 Þenne alle creatoures . and so byhouueth
 For he ys maker of . alle þyng
 And of alle cryatoures . Bynnyng
 ¶ But mony her Ben . þt 3eueth hem mykyl
 To þys world þt . is so swykel
 And louen alle þyng . þt to hem falleth
 sucht men worldly . Men men calleth
 Þt here lyf most . on þe worlde setteþ
 For þat þe loue . of oure+lord letteh
 Perfore schulde mon hym kepe
 From worlde+lyf and veyn worchepe
 By wordlely lyf . and vanyte
 Mon may at þe laste . forbarered be
 Of Blessed worlde . wher gret yoy ys
 Wheche mon schul . haue and lyef endeles .
 Þt doth to god her . þt hym falleþ
 Of worldely recheys . þt þe . world calleþ
 ¶ But þe wo<exp>rd</exp>lde . þt god wolde maken
 <fol. 16r>To monnes by-ho<exp>u</exp>ue . þat . y . 3er of spake
 Þa3 hit Be taken . generaly
 Mo þan on may hit synefy
 A clerke þt hatte . Bertelamew
 Seyde to wordes . Buth to scheuwe
 Þt þe elementes and . þe heuenes
 Alle conteyneth as . þe boke nemnes
 And alle creatoures . þt god wro3te
 So þt wytþ-outen . hem ys no3te

Pat on gostly in-visybel and clene
 Pat oþer Bodyly . is and may+be seyne
 Þe gostly worlde . men may not se
 Heuene wher god . sitteth in trinyte
 And þe nynne order . of aungeles
 With holy *spirit* þt . þer-in dwelles
 Pydur schen we comen . an lyuen ay
 3ef þet we holden . þe ry3t way
 Pat world wes mad . for monnes wonyng
 Among aungeles . in gret lykyng
 As clerkes mounne her . lewed men telle
 3euuer more jn . forte dwelle
 Her-on wol y no lenger stonden
 For after cometh þs . matere on honde
 Lyed forth on a god salue
 Pat oþer world þt . men moun se
 Jn-to partes deuysede . may be
 Pat bodily þyng . may hit By-holde
 And eyþer parte a worlde . ys tolde
 And boþe men may . se an cnowe
 Pat on ys he3 . þt oþer ys lowe
 Þe he3er ys from þe mone euene
 To þe he3est<smudged> sterre of heuene
 þt world ys bopen bry3t and feyr
 And not corupte wyth vnclene eyre
 <fol. 16v>With sterres and . planytes schynyng
 And dyuers synes and not elles wonyng
 And þe worlde þt lower wol falle
 Conteyneth þe elementes alle
 Wher men wonmen in diuerse londes
 Þet on þe erþe . a-boute hit stondes
 Jn with þys worlde ys wele and wo
 And chaundyng ofte . to and froe
 Pat softe ys to . summe to summe ys hard
 As men . mounne . here her+afterward
 ¶ Þys worldes bothe at goddes wyll
 Wer made to mon for serteyn skylle
 Þe he3est world þt . passeþ alle þyng
 Wes mad to monnes . endeles w^onyng

For eyche+mon schal haue þer a+plasee
 And wonen in joy . 3ef he haue grace
 For hit was mad . to oure auantage
 And . for oure oune ry3te erytage
 ¶ þat oþer world . þat is lowere
 Ys þe sterres and planyttes here
 God ordeynede . hit oure Bihouue
 By þys skylle þet y+schale proue
 Fro þenne þe eyre . ande sonne
 Noreschen þe erþe wher we wone
 And al susteyneth þ^t freyt bereth
 And comforteþ mon . an Best þt leueth
 Hit tempereth . oure kynde and complexcioune
 And tyme of 3er setteth . in sesoune
 And ly3teth vs her . wher we dwelleth
 Elles þe world were merke as helle
 Þe bodyes þer-of in here kynde
 Os schewen ensampel to hauen in mynde
 To serue god in or kyde here
 As þey don þere in here manere
 ¶ Þe lowest worlde 3eke ys mad for+mon
 For þys skyle as clerkes . schewen kon

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 47r>For þo synnes þat þow hast don her
 Þerfore suche as god wol vouche saue
 Þat þow schalt her sucht neyes haue
 Outher for þy synne or þe to fonde
 Touheiwe<?> hiim<extra minim> þenne of alle his sonde .
 And tak mekely þt god þe sent
 And fle alle þo þynges þt he for-fende .
 For by ney3es and angeres sere
 He maketh a ma<exp>y</exp>keth a+mon his prisoun here
 To sauere peyne for his foly
 Jn his lyef as he is worthy
 3ef he thole no3t grucchande
 For his penaunce hit may hym stande
 ¶ And god wol more 3ete to hym do

He wol 3efe him mede þerto
 Pat is þe ioye in heuene to eche
 3ef he hit thole with herte meke
 And ofte als-so almes dede
 And naked clothe an hongery fede
 And oþer werkes of mersy wyrche
 After þe techyng of holy chyrche
 And cepe hym to his lyues ende
 From synne þenne schal his soule wynde
 To blysse and ly3tly passe alle peyne
 Of purcatory þis is serteyne
 Her han 3e herd on þys wyse
 Enymies þet arn þus spesceuyse
What helpeth soules in purcatori
 NOW schule 3e here þe helpe serteyn
 For hem . <mrg>þ^t arn</mrg> in purcatoryes peyne
 Soules þt to purcatory wendes
 Mayi be holpen with goode frendes
 Pat almes doth an for . hem preyeth
 As þe holy mon seynt austyn seyth
 Deuyne men schulden on+no manere
 Pat þe soules of dede men her
 Of here peyne mowne relese be
 But by frundes leuyng her þt han pete
 For all þat men her don lasse and more
 For þo soules þet dwellen pore
 Encreth not in heuene here mede
 <fol. 47v>But from peyne to heuene hem spede
 Foure helpes þe arn genralle
 Pat in purcatory helpeth soules alle
 Pat is preyer and eke fastyng
 Allmes dede and masse syngyng
 ¶ on too maneres clerkes con see
 How soules fro þe peyne holpen may bee
 Pat won by way of grace is
 Pat oþer By way of Ry3twesnes
 ¶ By wey of grace on too manere
 As wretoun jn þys boke here
 By prey3er to cryst þt is oure hed

Whenne he is of-fered in forme of bred
 In prestes hondes at þe messe
 Whenne þe sacurment mad is
 ¶ By preyȝer of his lemes als-so
 Holy men þet toward . hym go
 Þus may þe soule in purcatory
 Thorȝe wey of *grace* spescyaly
 Delyuered be of peyne þat leres
 With messe and holy mennes *preȝeres*
 By Ryȝtewesnes may . helpyng Be
 On too maneres os men may see
 Won to By penaunce þt her sore greueth
 With almes þat men to þe pore ȝeueth
 ¶ Anoþer By ascheth trew makyng
 By penaunce of frendes and fastyng
 Þus may þe soule as bookes wittenes
 Be holpen By wey of Ryȝwesnes
 Ryȝt os a mon þt is in *presonne*
 Til he haue payȝed serteyn raunsoun
 Delyuered may be and broȝt a-way
 By frundes þet for . hym wol pay
 In þys wyse may soules þat wendes
 From purcatory ben holpe By frendes
 Bute summe mounn helpe and summe mounn noȝt
 Soules þt to purcatory arn Broȝt
 Þorthe hem mounne þey holpe be
 Þat her leuen in ryȝt charyte
 But help of hem þet charyte fayleth
 To þe soule no thyng a-vayleth
 <fol. 48r>For alle we arn lymes of on body
 Þat her Ben and in purcatory
 And as we euche day sune here
 A body haue mony lymes sere
 And eyche on of hem both lasse and more
 May helpe oþer þt feleth sore
 But ȝef on dye his myȝt mot fayle
 Þat lym may not þat oþer avayle
 So hit is in þe same wyse
 By hem þat purcatory lyse

And By vs her 3euue men mounn calle
 Sothly os . <mrg>of</mrg> on Body lymes alle
 Who soe into dedly synne is Bro3t
 And charite in herte haþ no3t
 He nys . But ded in soule with-inne
 Jeuer whyl he is in dedly synne
 All . his help is þenn jn veynne
 To þo soules þt is in peyn
 But neuur þe latur 3et þa3 he be
 Jn synne and out of charyte
 3et may he helpe þo soules þus
 To pore to 3euuen her almes
 For here prey3er spescially
 May helpen þo soules in purcatory
 ¶ 3et may Bysyness and trauayle
 Of summe suynfule men men a-vayle
 3ef by byddyng hit don be
 Of frunde þt is in charyte
 For þe dede þt hase most nede
 Off prey3er and of almes dede
 Þat thyng helpeth þe soule sone
 For his sake þat made hit done
 Þat jn herte hath charyte knyt
 And not for his sake þet doth hit
 ¶ Pys may Be-falle y . vnderstonde
 By-twene a lord and his seruaunde
 Þer os þe lorde is Ry3twys
 And þe seruaunde vsedh folyes
 3ef þe seruaund do a good þyng
 At þe lordes oune Byddyng
 Auentes þe seruaunt þau3 hit be ded
 <fol. 48v>Anentes þe lorde hit stondes in styde
 But and þey bothe in charyte wore
 Þe soule were holpen wel þe more
 ¶ Als-so . a preste þau3 þat he Be
 Synful and oute of charyte
 He is a munyster of holy chyrce
 The sacrament vpon þe auter to worche
 Wheche is neuuer þe les of my3t

Þa3e þe prest leue not a-ry3t
 For þa3 a pruste þt syngeth masse
 Be neuuer so ful of wykkednesse
 Þe sacurment þet is hooly
 Js not enpeyred þor3 his foly
 Soules from peyne messe may Brynge
 All-þau3 a synful pruste hit synge
 Jn goddes nome he syngeth þe messe
 Vnder . wham . in order he ys
 ¶ But spescyale preýres with god entent
 Þat arn made By-fore þe sacurment
 Of a good pruste arn wel better
 Þan of an euuel and wel swetter
 But offeryng of goddes body
 Helpeth þe soule in purcatory
 For-þy hit semeth þet messe-syngyng
 May helpe soules from helle to brynge
 Þat passeth hene in charyte
 And in purcatory clensed schune . be
 To men þt dampnet Buth for-3euur
 Masse ny preý3er helpeth neuur
 For ry3t as dede lymes ben þey
 Þat hewen wern fro þe Body a-wey
 And as no thyng may helpe kyndely
 Þo lymes þt hewen be from þe body
 Ry3t soe all þe helpe þt mon con telle
 A-vayleth not hem þat Buth in helle
 ¶ But frundes her on sum wyse
 Helpeth hem þt arn in paradyse
 And hem als-so þat in purcatory dwelleth
 A gret clerk in a boke þus telleth
 Þat almes dedes and mennes Bedes
 <fol. 49r>Þeo soules helpeth in al þer stedes
 Hem . þey auayle in purcatory
 Hem . oute to Spede þe more hastely
 Hem . þey auayle in heuene þat here
 Hem . to multeplen wel þe sannere
 The . moe þey gederen in-to þet place
 The . more here ioy is and here solase

Tho . þey a-uaule þat arn in helle
 The . las þt come þyder to dwelle
 The . fewer þat comen þyder for synne
 The . lesce peyne þey han þer-jnne
 The . moe soules þt theder wyndeth
 The . more peyne þey haue with fundes
 Ths . may help a-vayle by skyle
 The . soules þat dwelleth jn hell style
 And þo soules jn heuene nomely
 And to þo soules jn purcatory
 But helpe may non from peyne spede
 But hem þet han charyte and drede
 But jn heuene non nede may bee
 Ny als jn helle nys noon charyte
 Tho soules þey hauen boþ^e two
 Jn purcatory and jn þat place woo
 And 3et as a+mon may her with honde
 Make degre for an-noper þt is lyuande
 Wheche is not ouur-pore þer-too
 Ry3t so may mon for þe dede doo
 ¶ Tho soules þt to parodyse be goon
 Nede of helpe her haue þey non
 3ef mon for hem her do any good dede
 Hit may hem helpe þet haue nede
 Oure helpe her don spescyaly
 Auayleth þo soules in purcatory
 Summe more and summe lesse
 After þat þay Ben jn worthynesse
 And aftur þat charyte is cler
 Of hem þat Buth leuyng her
 But whene mon from heþen schal flytte
 None serteyn her may wette
 To purcatory wheþer he wyende
 <fol. 49v>To blysse or peyne with-outen ende
 ¶ 3et clerkes seyeh þt summe good an *profyte*
 Tat after deth arn dampnet tytte
 For happyngly þey Buth euuel with-jnne
 And passen away jn dedly synne
 Summe synful semen as þey deden mys



Tat schune be saue and wynde to blysse
Happly by-fore here . <mrg>laste</mrg> endyng
þey han a-mended here euul leuyng
Of þis no mon may serteyn be
For hit is goddes preuyte
But we susspose and trouwen ay
Pat þo Buth saf and jn good way
That we sun good werkes worche
Jn ful Byleue of holy chirche
And we schun prey3e boþe loude an styлле
For alle soules so charyte wylle
¶ Alle men may whi synge men messe
For a 3oung child þet her ded is
That of prey3er hath noon nede
For hit coude don neuuer synfel dede
For þis may be þe skyle whi
God to worschipe principaly
And for þe vsage of holy chirche
Pat offyes for dede þer to worche
For 3et may þat jn sum cass
The soule helpe þat nede haas
Her haue 3e herd By good wittenesse
Hou almes . prey3er . penaunce . and masse
Pat By frendes Be don serteyne
Mayi . helpe soules þer arn jn peyne