



<County: Lancashire>

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<Text: Prick of Conscience>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 7r>and *in iche part* fynde men may
diuerse maters forto say
Go we now to þ^t *part* þ^t first is
þ^t spekis of *monnus* wrecchidnes
for al þ^t is writen bifore to loke
Js bot an entr~ of þis boke
<lat><1 line></lat>
First *quen* god made al þing of no3t
Of þe foulest *mater* he *mon* wro3t
Yt is of erth for two skillus to holde
On is for qwy god wolde
Of foule maters make *hym* in despite
Of lucifer þ^t fel so tyte
to helle for he hade synnet *in pride*
and of al þ^t fel w^t *hym* þ^t tide
for þai shal haue þe more shenshepe
& þe more sorowe *quen* þai tok kepe
þat *mon* of sich *mater* shuld dwelle
In þat place for quylk þai felle
þ^t oþer skil is þus to se
þat he shuld euer þe meker be
ay *quen* he ses or þinkes in þo3t
Of hou foul *mater* þ^t he is wro3t
God þur3e his godenes & his mi3t
wold siþen þ^t place *in heuen* bri3t
was made voyde þur3e þe synn of *pride*
þat it wer~ fild on iche side
þur3e þe vertu of mekenys

þ^t euen to *pride* *contarrius* ys
 þen may no mon þider come
 <fol. 7v>Bot he þ^t meke is and buxome
 þ^t shewis e gosselle virtu vs
 hon god saide to his disciples þus
 <lat></lat>

he sais bot 3e bene meke & mylde
 þ^t is to say as is a childe
 3e shal not enter bi no way
 heuen blis þ^t lastus ay
 Þen bihoues a+mon her~ seke
 quat mi3t sauest make hym meke
 þer is no þing may meke hym more
 þen is to þenke as J saide ore
 hon he is made of foul mater
 and he is no3t bot erthe her~
 forþi sais a clerk as J nou say
 quat is a+mon bot erth & clay
 and powder þ^t w^t þe wynde brekis
 forþi Job þus to god spekis
 <lat><1 line></lat>

he sais lord þenk hou þ^u made me
 foul erth & clay here forto be
 Ri3t so þ^u shal *turne* me a3ayn
 to erth & powder þis is *certayn*
 þis sais our~ lord god almi3ty
 A3en to mon þus opunly
 <lat></lat>

þenk mon he sais þ^u art askes nowe
 and to askes a3en *turne* shalt owe
 then is a+mon no3t ellis to say
 <fol. 8r>bot askes & powder erth & clay
 þis shuld iche mon haue *in* mynde
 & knowe þe wrecchidnes of is kynde
 þat may he se as J shew con
 In alle þe *partis* of þe lif of mon
 as lif of a+mon cast may be
principaly in þingus þre
 þ^t ar to our~ vnderstandyng

bigynnyng mydel & endyng
 þes þre may be spices tolde
 Of ilk monnus lif 3ong & olde
 <lat><1 line></lat>
 Bigynnyng of iche monnus lif þ^t is
 Contenus myche wrecchidnes
 forþi J wil er J firr~ passe
 shewe 3ou quat a+mon first was
 Sum tyme was quen man was no3t
 Er he was geten and forthe bro3t
 He was geten as wel is knowe
 Of vile sede of mon w^t synn sowe
 he was conceyuet synfully
 w^t-inne his moders body
 þer his herb~ w^t-inn was di3t
 As dauid sais in þe sauter ry3t
 <lat><1 line></lat>
 so he sais as mon-kynd es
 J am conseyuet in wiccutnes
 My moder has conceyuet me
 Jn mych synn & caytifte
 <fol. 8v>ther dwellid mon in a f^oul dongoun
 Jn a+stede of gret corrupcoun
 Quer~ he hade no noþer fode
 bot foul glot & leprede blode
 And stynk & filth as J saide ar~
 þer-w^t was he norishid þar~
 after þ^t quen he forth came
 fro þ^t dongoun his moder wame
 and was born to þis worldes li3t
 hade he noþer strenght ne mi3t
 forto go ne for stonde
 ne forto crepe w^t fote ne honde
 then was mon les mi3ty þen a+best
 quenn he is born & is siþen lest
 for a+best quen it is born may go
 as tite after renn to & fro
 bot a+mon has no mi3t yto
 quen he is born so forto do

Mon may nouþer go ne crepe
 bot lie & 3outere crie & wepe
 for vnneth a+child born shal lye
 quen hit bigynnus rore & crie
 And by þ^t crie mon may se yan
 queþer hit be wommon or man
 for quen it is born it cries swa
 Jf it be mon þen sais hit a
 þ^t is þe first letter by name
 Of our~ form fader adam
 and if þe child a wommon be
 quenn it is born þen sais it e
 <fol. 9r>þat is þe first letter of eue
 þen bigann vs alle to greue
 for-þi a+clerk sais on þis manere
 this vers in meter as writen is herr~
 <lat><1 line></lat>

Alle yo he sais þ^t comus of eue
 þ^t ar alle men þ^t her~ shal leue
 quen þai ar born quat so þai be
 þai shuld say ouþer a ore?
 and þus is þe bigynnyng
 Of our~ lif sorowe & gretynge
 to quich our~ wrecchidnes stirres vs
 And forþi Innocent sais þus
 <lat><1 line></lat>

he sais al ar we born gretande
 and makand sorghful semlande
 forto shewe þe wiccutnes
 Of our~ kynde þ^t in vs es
 þus quen ye tyme comus of our~ birth
 alle make sorow & no myrth
 hider we comen nakid & bar~
 And pore ; so shal we heþen far~
 In þes two þinges we shuld þenk þan
 for þus sais Job þe ri3twis mann
 <lat></lat>

Naket he saist first J come
 hider out of my moder wome

and naket J shal *turne* away
 so shal we al at our~ last day
 <fol. 9v>þus is mon at his first comyng
 naket & bryngus w^t hym no þing
 bot a ryme þat is wlatsom
 Js his cloþing quen he forth shal com
 þ^t is no3t bot a+blody skyn
 þat he bifore was lappet inn
 quen he inn his moder womb lay
 þat is a+foul þing forto say
 And fouler~ to her~ as sais þe boke
 And alder foulest on to loke
 thus is mon born as we may se
 In wrecchidnes & caytefte
 And to lif her~ also short dayes
 & herto Job on þis wise sais
 <lat></lat>
 he sais a+mon born of a wommon
 synande short tyme fulfild is þann
 Of mony maner of wrecchidnes
 þus sais Job & soþe it is
 A+mon is born to ri3t no3t ellis
 bot to traueil as it Job tellis
 <lat></lat>
 he sais a mon is born to trauail ri3t
 As þe fole is made to fli3t
 for littel rest in þis lif is
 Bot gret trauel & bisynis
 Also a+mon quen he is born
 Js þe fendus sone & fro god lorn
 Ay til he to grace may come
 To baptyme & to cristendome
 þus may men þar~ bigynnyng se
 al wrecchednes & caytefte
 <fol. 10r><lat><1 line></lat>
 ThE secund part of lif men callis
 þe midelwart þat next after fallis
 And sekes fro þe bigynnyng
 Of monnus lif to þe endyng

The bigynnyng of *mon* as J told
 Js wile & wrecchid to behold
 bot hou foul *mon* is after-warde
 tellis aperty sayn *bernarde*
 <lat><1 line></lat>
 Sayn *bernard* in his boke tellis
 þat a+*mon* is noþing ellis
 bot a+wlatom skyn to *menne*
 & a sak ful of stynkand *fenne*
 And wormus fode þ^t þai wold haue
 quen he is dede & laide in graue
 bot sum folk ful fair~ semys
 to si3t w^t-out as summe demys
 and þat showis not bot as+kynn?
 hot qwo so mi3t se hym w^t-inne
 fouler carayn mi3t neuer non be
 þen men mi3t þen opon hom se
 A certes qwo so mi3t þen haue a li3t
 Or hade as cler~ e3en & as bri3t
 as a+best þ^t men lyncor callis
 þat may se þur3e thik stone wallis
 littel likyng shuld men haue þenn
 to biholde any fair~ wymmenn
 þen mi3t þai se w^t-out dout
 As wel w^t-inne as w^t-out
 and if þai w^t-inne sa3e oright
 <fol. 10v>Sho wer~ wlatome to þairre si3t
 thus foule made iche *mon* is
 as þe boke beris witnes
 þen may men se on þis manere
 hou foul þe kynde of *mon* is her~
 þerfore a+*mon* is not witty
 þat her~ is brond of his body
 quen he may þus hym-self se
 quat he is was & shal be
 bot proude men of þis take no hede
 for hom wontes skil þ^t shuld hom lede
 quenn he is 3ong & is laykyng
 and has his ese & al at is likyng

Or if he be at grete worshepe
 quat hym-self is takes he no kepe
 forþi hym-self knowes he lest
 and farres as an vnskilful best
 he folowes his owen wille & no3t ellis
 as dauid in þe sauter tellis

<lat><1 line></lat>

Mon quen he is to honour bro3t
 Ry3t vnderstondyng has he no3t
 wel may he be likenet þann
 to a+best þat skil non kan
 for qwy al þ^t has skil & mynde
 shuld þenken wrecchidnes of his kynde
 þat is foul & ful wlatomm
 for mony thyng þ^t of his body comm
 fro abuf & fro by-neth
 alkynnes styngkand filth & breth
 <fol. 11r>for more filth is non hard ne nesch
 þen filth þ^t comus fro monnus flesch
 þat may a+mon boþe se & fele
 and he be bold hym-self ri3t wele
 hou foul hit is to monnus si3t
 And þerfore sais sayn bernard ri3t

<lat><2 lines></lat>

he sais if þ^u bisile bise
 And [þ^u] bihold quat comus fro þe
 quat þur3e mouth & nase vncumly
 & þur3e oþer wrecchidnes of þi body
 A fouler myddyng sau3e þ^u neuer none
 þen is monnus body of flesche & bone
 Al tyme þ^t a+mon her~ lyues
 non oþer fruyt his body gyues
 queþer he lif long or short qwile
 bot þing þ^t is wlatsum & vile
 Al stynk and filth & noping ellis
 As innocent her~ after tellis

<lat><4 lines></lat>

A gret clerk sais in a boke
 bihold he sais & graithly loke

to herbis & trees þ^t þ^u sees *spring*
 And quat kynnes fruyt þ^t þai forth *bryng*
 herbis *bryngis* forth flourers & sede

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 53v>for as men her~ hes *clercus* say
 Jche mon her~ li3tly may
 Sich remedy þur3e *grace* her~ *wynn*
 Þ^t he may for-do al *synn*
 Þ^t is to say if he so clene be
 Of dedly *synn* and wold it fle
 for j fynde *writen* ten *yinges* ser~
 <?> venial *synnus* for-done her~
 Tho ten *ben* yes as J her~ rede
 holy water & *almus* dede
 fastyng & takyng howsel of *goddus* body
 Praier of ye *pater noster* namly
 General shrift þ^t iche day may vs
 blessing of þe *bischop* yur3e dignite
 þe blessing of þe *prist* y^t *gyuen* es
 namely in ye end of ye mes
 knokkyng on ye brest of mon y^t is meke
 and ye last enoyntyng y^t is *gyuen* to ye seke
 thes ten *poyntus* venial *synnus* done away
 as men may her~ yes *clercus* say
 So mony smale *synnus* ser~
 May be gedrede to-geder in fer~
 y^t yai waxen on ye soule so heuy
 Als oþer *synnus* þ^t *ben* dedly
 þ^t sles þe soule & god myspais
 and *yerfore* ye poet on yis wise sais
 <lat><1 line></lat>
 Als of mony smale *cornus* is made
 to a+horse a+gret lade
 Ri3t so mony venial *synnus* smale
 <fol. 54r>May make a+dedly *synn* hale
 for yen *geder* on ye soule so yik
 And clifen to-geder as dong in pik

bot if yai be doun swith away
 Euer as yai come w^t-out delay
 forso *perfitly* may no+*mon* lif her~
 w^t-out venial *synnus* *serre*
 for ye mon ilk day y^t lyues her~
 as ye boke tellis on yis *manere*
 <lat><1 line></lat>
 Seuen sithes he sais in þe day
 Ye ri3twis mon fallis þ^t is to say
 In diuerse *synnus* y^t ar veniele
 bot *sum* ar les & *sum* more to fele
 Into so mony venial *synnus* we falle
 y^t no+*mon* con rekken hom alle
 bot *sum* of hom reken I con
 As saynt austyn sais ye holi mon
 And to reherce hom *yus* bigynnus
 And sais y^t yes *ben* venial *synnus*
 first *quen* mon or wommon etis more
 Any tyme *yen* nedful wore
quen y^u mi3t help yur3e w^t & skille
 And wil not help bot *haldus* þe stille
quen þ^u spekis shortly to þe pore
 y^t askes *sum* gode atty dore<?>
quen y^u art holy & may wel wit?
 And etis *quen* tyme wer~ forto fast
quen y^u liggus to slepe & wil not rise
 <fol. 54v>And *comus* ouer late to goddis sluse
 Or *quen* þ^u art in gode feite
 And sais yi *praieres* ouer late
 Or quynn y^u has litel deuocoun
 In *praierers* or in orisoun
Quen a+*mon* wil dele in bedde
 w^t his wif y^t he has wende
 his lust only to fullfille
 And to gete a+child is not his wille
Quen y^u visites men ouer late
 þ^t are seke & in feble state
 Or men y^t layn in *prisoun*
 In *anger* or in *tribulacoun*

Or saulus y^t ar in *purgatory*
 y^t *yer* abides goddis *mercy*
 to viset wer~ gret *mede*
 yur3e *praierers* & yur3e *almus* dede
 quen y^u folowes not after yi state
 to acorde hom y^t bene at debate
 quenn y^u spekis ouer bitterly
 to any mon yur3e noyse or cry
 quenn y^u praises any mon more
 thur3e flateriung *yen* me<ker?> <smudge> wore
 quenn y^u makis in chirche ianglyng<?>
 Or any wayn yo3t of any *ying*
 Be it w^t-out be it w^t-inn
 3et it is <lacuna/smudge, c. 1-2 words> *synn*
 quenn þ^u art ouer li3tly wro3th
 And sweris & haldis not yin othe
 quenn þ^u *cursis* any mann
 In qwom y^u fyndus no cause to bann
 quenn y^u trowes any wic<gap, ?cu>tnes
 thur3e suspicioun *yer* no<? gap, c. 1 char> es
 <fol. 55r>thes smale *synnus* saynt austyn tellis
 thur3e quich mony soules in *purgatory* dwellus
 yerin to suffr~ payne & wo
 bot 3et *yer* ben ful mony mo
 Of venial *synnus* mony a+skore
 Ouer ys y^t J haue told bfore
 bot so witty is non erthly mon
 y^t al venial *synnus* rekken con
 for oft tyme on ye day men fallis
 In *synnus* y^t cler^cus venial callis
 yur3e yo3t or dede or speche in vayn
 And iche a *synn* is worthy payn
 þe quich most be fordone clenly
 Oþer her~ or in *purgatory*
 yerfore J rede quil 3e lyuen her~
 y^t 3e vse to+do ten yinges ser~
 y^t fordone as J saide ore
 Alle venial *synnus* les & more
 And 3if 3e falle in dedly *synn*

Rise vp & lye not þer-inn
 And go to ye prest ye to shryne
 And haue for yinkyng ay in yo3t
 Of þe synnus y^t y^u has wro3t
 And do penauns w^t al yi mi3t
 for þi synnus boye day & ni3t
 fast wolward go and wake
 fle synn & suffr~ hardnes for goddis sake
 for no+mon may to heuen come
 bot if he suffr~ her~ angers some
 And quen god sendis ye any angris
 Suffr~ hit mekly w^t-out fayntis
 <fol. 55v>3if y^u haue sekenes or o3t y^t grreues
 los of catel or of frynde y^t leues
 Or ony ny or tribulacoun
 vnkyndnes falsed or tr~soun
 suffr~ hit mekely in yi þo3t
 for w^t-out cause comys it no3t
 bot god wote wel ye cause qwy
 Perchaunse it is yin owen foly
 to chastise ye in siche manere
 for yi synnus þ^t þ^u dos her~
 Or hit may be forþi prowē
 yerfore yank god yer-of nowē
 Or to make ye drede god & hym loue
 he wot quat is to yi bihoue
 yerfore siþen god vouchis saue
 y^t 3e may her~ oft sich angers haue
 Oyer foryi synn or ye to fonde
 how y^u hym worshipis yen of al his sonde
 And mekely take y^t god ye sendis
 & fle ys yingus y^t god þe diffendis
 for yur3e nyes & angers her~
 he makes ye his prisonere<?>
 payn to suffr~ foryi foly
 Jn yis lif as y^u <ill. 2 chars>t worthy
 And 3if 3e suffr~ no3t angers ioyande
 Jn stide<?> of penauns it shal not stande
 And 3itt wil god more do

he wol<?> 3ou gif gret mede þerto
 <fol. 56r>And 3ore blise in heuen shal eke
 3if 3e suffr~ angers w^t hert meke
 As a gode sone to suffr~ w^t glad cher~
 ye fader quenn he wil hym chastise or ler~
 So shal 3e suffr~ & yonk god ay
 And do al ye gode y^t men may
 And specialy almus dede
 þe naket to cleth þe hongrey to fede
 And oyer werCUS forto wirk
 As men prechyng in holy kirk
 i-kepe 3ou clene to 3ore lyues ende
 fro synn yen shal 3ore soules wende
 to blis li3tly & pas fro payn
 Of purgatory y^t is certayn
 her~ haue J shewide 3ou on engles
 Sum synnus y^t saynt austyn specifies
 now wil J shewe 3ou quat is certayn
 for hom y^t in purgatory haues payn
 And quat may hor paynus cees
 And her~ to haue of payn relees
 ye soulis y^t to purgatory wendis
 May be holpen yur3e help of frendis
 y^t for hom don almus dede & praier~
 As saynt austyn sais on yis manere
<lat><2 lines></lat>
 Men he sais shul denye on no manere
 y^t soulis of hom y^t ben dede her~
 Of payn yer may relesch be
 yur3e frendis lyuand þ^[<ill. 1 char>] haue pite
 <fol. 56v>for yo soulis as J saide ore
 y^t in purgatory ben & pynet sore
 for venial synnus more & les
 Apertly yur3e goddis ri3twisnes
 Ri3t so yai may thur3e help apertly
 y^t be releuit yur3e goddis mercy
 Al y^t men donn las & more
 for þe soulis þ^t dwelle yore
 Auailles not hom to heuen mede

bot for yair~ delyuerauns fro payn to spede
 four~ neuer of help is gneralle
 y^t in purgatorie auailles alle
 y^t is to say praier & fastyng
 Almus dede & messe syngyng
 On two maners as cler^{us} con se
 ye soule fro payn delyueret may be
 y^t one by way of grace
 y^t oyer by way of ri3twisnes
 By way of grace on two manere
 As writen in yis boke is her~
 first yur3e praier to crist y^t is hede
 quenn he is offrede in for^{me} of brede
 yur3e ye prist honde atte mes
 quenn ye sacrament so made es
 yen may ye soulis in purgatorie
 by way of grace specialye
 be delyuerede of payn y^t deres
 yur3e messe & ri3twis+mennus praieres
 by ri3twisse men help may be
 On two maners as men may se
 first yur3e bigynnyng of payn y^t grreues
 w^t alms y^t men to pore geues
 <fol. 57r>Anoyer is a seth makyng
 yur3e penauns & frendis fastyng
 thus may ye soule as ye boke berus wittnes
 be holpen yur3e way of ri3twisnes
 y^t is to say yai mow in y^t nede
 be bro3t fro payn thur3e almus dede
 And yur3e penauns of hom her~ done
 ye dette of payn be quytt sone
 Ri3t as mon y^t duellis in prisoun
 til he haue quyt a+certayn raunsoun
 Yai be delyuerd & bro3t away
 yur3e a+frende y^t wil for hym pay
 On yis wise may soulis y^t wendis
 to purgatory be holpen yur3e frendis
 bot sum frendis may help & sum no3t
 ye soulis y^t ar to purgatorie bro3t



yur3e yes frendes may yai holpen be
y^t her~ lyuus in charite
bot ye helpe of hym y^t charite failes
to ye saules in *purgatory* no3t auailles
for alle be we lym of on body
y^t *ben* her~ and in *purgatory*
And we may se *propurly* her~
y^t ye body has mony lym ser~
And ichoun of hom les & more
may help oyer y^t felen sore
And 3if a lym di3e & ye mi3t faile
y^t lym may no3t y^t oyer auaile
ri3t so on ye same wise
Js bi hym y^t in *purgatorie* lise
Jlkone may to oyer calle
ri3t as on lym of oyer bodies alle
bo3t who so in dedly *syn* is bro3t