

<County: Berkshire>

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<Text: Poor Caitiff>

<fol. 6r><line 13> ¶ Also a man schal 3ulde rekenynge of alle  
 þe þou3tus of his herte . þat bowyde to ony  
 synne . As god seiþ bi his *prophete* . Synt gre  
 gori seiþ . þat god biholduþ so to eche man  
 nus lif . þat þe leeste þou3tus . leuen nat vndes  
 cussud . in þe doom . And nat oonli we schul  
 le 3ulde rekenynge . of dedus i-left vndo . whiche  
 we scholde haue i-doon . As þulke þat haueþ  
 nat i-do þe werkus of meercy . to pore & nedi  
 folk . Ne i-3iue hem . ne lent hum . ne i-holpe  
 hum in hure myschef . As crist schal reherse .  
 in þe doom . as he hym-sulf seiþ . ¶ Also of  
 alle þe tyme þat a man haþ i-had . in erþe  
 here . he schal 3ulde rekenynge . How he haþ  
 i-spend hit . as hit is i-write in þe book of  
 mornynge . And þerfore seiþ synt bernard .  
 Al þe tyme i-3iue to man ; god schal seche  
 how he haþ i-spend hit . ¶ Of mis-spendyn  
 ge of tyme ; spekuþ seynt anselme . seyinge  
 <fol. 6v>to man . O þou vnprofitable & drye tre . wor  
 þi to euerelastyng fuyr ; what schalt þ<sup>u</sup> an  
 swere in þulke day . whanne al þe tyme i-3y  
 ue to þe schal be axud . how þou hast i-spend  
 hit . a-non to þe twynchyng of an y3e . Al  
 so a man schal a-counte ; for al his wordly goo  
 dus . Hou he haþ gete hum . i-kept hum . i-loued  
 hum . & i-spend hum . As crist menyþ . bi gostly vn  
 durstondynge . of ten besaunttus . & fyue talen  
 tus . ¶ Also of alle goodus of bodi . As streng  
 þe . Fayrnusse . Swetnusse . Cunynge of bo

dili wittus . And .<sup>[in]</sup> whas seruise þese buþ i-spen  
 dud . ¶ Also euery man schal a-county hou  
 he haþ i-kept his owne soule . For if a kyng  
 hadde a dou3tur i-lich to him-self . to whom he  
 þou3te .<sup>[to]</sup> 3yue gret dignite & worschup . & by  
 tok hure eny man of his reeme to kepe . þe  
 more neclygent . þat þis man were . a-bou  
 te hure . þe straytour rekenynge wolde þe  
 kyng axe for hure . þefore what kyng of  
 heuene do to hym ; to wham he haþ bitake  
 his dou3tur moost i-lyk to him-self . þat is  
 to seye ; mannus soule: þat ful muche loued  
 dou3tur of his kyngdoom . And ordayne to  
 gret worschup ; in þe blisse of heuene . if  
 he kepe hure wel . And nat rechelousli ;  
 þefore god commaunduþ in a book of his  
 lawe . þat ech man kepe wysli . or busili ; his  
 owne soule . ¶ Also þe fadur & þe modur . schul  
 len a-counte . for þe child ; þat is vnchastysud .  
 As hit is expressud in holi writ . How hely  
 <fol. 7r>was i-punschud . for his sonus . Bi-cause þat  
 he chastisud nat his sonus ; as he schulde ha  
 ue i-do . ¶ Also þe prelat oþur þe curat . schal  
 a-cownty for his sugettus . How he haþ i-tau3t  
 hum . bi lyuyng ; & bi word . As god seiþ by  
 his prophete . A gret drede schal be at þis doom .  
 for þe multitude of accusarus . Mannus oune  
 consciense ; þe whiche is defouled w<sup>t</sup> synne . &  
 nat a-mendud ; schal a-cuse him . Nat priueli ; bote  
 opunli . ¶ Also mannus owne synnus . schulle acu  
 se him . þei schulle be trussed as a burdun wiþ  
 him . whiche he a-mendude nat in his lif . As  
 hit is i-wryte in þe book of murnynge . And  
 ri3t as a þefte & stolyne þing . is tyed to a þe  
 fus necke & a-ccuseþ him ; ri3t so schullen synnes  
 nat a-mendud in þis lyue ; accuse synful  
 wrechus . ¶ Also holi writ schal accuse hem .  
 þat knowiþ hit . & hurde hit . & lyuede nat þer  
 aftur . Hi schulle bere w<sup>t</sup> hum lettrus of sen

tence . of hure deep . For þe seruaunt . þat kno  
 wiþ þe wil of his lord . & doþ hit nau3t ; schal  
 be bete . w<sup>t</sup> manye veniaunsus . And in en  
 saumpule her-of ; crist seiþ þat moyses lawe .  
 schal accuse þe iewis . ¶ Also godus creaturus . whi  
 che man haþ i-usud owt of mesur~ . & in syn  
 ne ; schullun acuse hum þere . And be as redi  
 to take veniaunce vp-on him ; as þei were bi  
 fore . to serue him . þe fuyr to brenne him . þe  
 watur to drenche him . þe erþe to swolowe him .  
 As seiþ hugo de archa noe . Also fendus  
 schullun be redi þere ; accusynge synful men  
 <fol. 7v>& wymmen ; for þei as traytourus entysede to  
 þe synne . And whenne þe synne is do ; þei  
 wolle acuse men þerof . And þerfore in þe  
 book of priueteus ; þe fuynd is i-clepud accu  
 sare . of cristene men . And synt austyn seiþ .  
 þat þe fend schal be þere redy ; rehersynge  
 þe couenaunt . þat men made at hure cristen  
 dom takynge . Castynge a3ens hum ; what  
 þei haue i-do of synne . & of wickudenusse .  
 And whanne þei haue i-synned ; & in what  
 place . And what goud þei my3tte haue i-do ;  
 & dude hit nau3t . And þenne þis aduersarie  
 schal seye ; as seynt austyn seiþ . ¶ Þou ri3t  
 ful domusman deme þese to be myne ; for syn  
 ne þat þei haue wrou3t . þat nolde nat be þi  
 ne bi grace . Pine þei were bi kynde ; for þou  
 madust hem of nou3t . Bote þei buþ myne nou ;  
 by synne . & wickudenusse þat þei han wrou3t .  
 Pine þei werun ; for bi þi passiun þ<sup>u</sup> bou3ttus  
 hum . Mine þei buþ nouþe ; for þei dude þe syn  
 ne þat i putte in hure þou3t . To þe þei we  
 re vnbuxum ; & to me þei were buxum ; & to  
 myne entysynge . Of þe þei toke þe cloþ of  
 clennusse ; of me þei tok þe cote of synne &  
 of fulþede . Þi cloþ þei han i-lost ; and w<sup>t</sup> my  
 ne þei ben i-come hidur . Ri3tful domusman ;  
 deme þese to be myne . And to be dampnud

wiþ me . Alas . whare schal þulke wrecche  
 a-bide ; þat is þus harde biset . ¶ Also seyntus  
 schulle acuse hure pursuarus . & stoonde bi gret  
 stedeuastnesse . to bere wittenusse a-3ens hum .  
 <fol. 8r>As hit is i-write in þe book of wisdoom . also  
 sogettus schulle accuse hure euele curaturus .  
 Seynt bernard seiþ ; hi schulle come bifore  
 þe domus-man . or sete of crist . þ<sup>t</sup> þe greuous  
 playnt of widewys . & of fadurles childrun  
 & modurles be hurd . And han an hardur al  
 leiawnce . for þei han i-lyued . In hure waius .  
 & nau3t i-do a-wey hure synnus . Also childrun  
 schulle accuse hure fadrus & modrus . for þei  
 were necligent to chastise & vndure-nyme hum .  
 As þe holi+gost techuþ in þe book of wysdoom .  
 ¶ Also poure men schulle accuse þe riche . þat  
 hadde þe goodus of þe wordul ; & woolde nat  
 helpe þe poore ; in pouerte . & myscheef . Bote  
 suffrede moþþus to to ete hure cloþus . & rust to  
 frete hure mone . And þat schal stonde in wit  
 nusse . a-3ens hum . As seynt iame seiþ . ¶ Also  
 þe benefetus þat men han receyued of god .  
 and dude nat due þankyngus . & worschepede  
 nau3t him . w<sup>t</sup> duwe seruise for hum . schullen  
 accuse hum . and be a-leggud ; a-3ens hum . And  
 þis is i-figured in holi writ . where þat þe  
 aungel com to þe place ; of wepynge folk .  
 Bi whiche pl<sub>a</sub>ce ; is vndurstonde þe doom . For  
 þer schal be wepynge & waylynge . as ion  
 seiþ . in þe book of priuetes . ¶ And þere he  
 rehersuþ . þe benefetus & goode-nusse ; þat god  
 haþ i-do to þe puple . For þei hadde him nat in  
 mynde . ne worschepude nat him for hum . And  
 þe tormentus þat crist suffre . in tyme of his  
 passiun . Boþe woundus & cros . naylus & spere .  
 <fol. 8v>schullen accuse ; & bere witnusse ; a-3ens sin  
 ful men . As seynt bernard seiþ . Þerfore  
 alle cristene pepule . haue 3e stedefast myn  
 de vp-on þis sentense ; & fle 3e vnleful lustus

of 3oure flesch . & coueytise . & deseitus of þis  
 disseiuable wordul . And bileue 3e . & ha  
 ueþ stedefaste mynde . þat crist wole a-pere  
 in þe doom ; sterne as lyun . to wickude  
 mennus syg3t . & deme boþe quike & dede . ¶ Of  
 þe grete drede of þulke day ; spekuþ god bi  
 his prophete . Þe day of þe lord . schal be a gret  
 day of deliuraunce . A day of wreche . & of  
 veniaunce . A day of wreþe . & of bale & of bi  
 turnusse . And þe day of playnyng & of ac  
 cusyng . Þe day of drede . & of trembelyng .  
 Þe day of cryng . & of sorowe . Þe day of der  
 kenusse . & of mornyng . And þe hy3uste  
 day . of partyng fro god . for-euere a-wey .  
 of his presence . As seynt anselme seiþ .  
 ¶ þerfore eche man amende his lif . þe while  
 he is of power . to do goud & euel . For meny  
 þingus þat semuþ now smale trespassus .  
 oþur none ; schulleþ a-pere þere . gastly sin  
 nus and grete . As seynt anselme rehersuþ .  
 þat is i-liknud to þe day of þe lord . For he  
 schal schewe þere ; noþing bote ry3tfulnus  
 se . Bote þese dayus þat we haueþ here ; buþ  
 i-clepud þe dayus of men . For crist is 3ut ;  
 as meek as a lomb . And redi for to for3iue  
 men ; sorowyng for synne . And turnyn  
 ge no+more a-3en . ¶ heerbi eche man may  
 <fol. 9r>wel i-se . þat þer nele be noon oþur help at  
 þe dredful doom ; bote onli þorou a-mende  
 ment of mannus lif . Sorwyng for his syn  
 ne ; & treweli to serue god . kepyng his hes  
 tus ; to his lyues ende . ¶ For goud lif & ri3tful .  
 schal moore helpe þere to man ; þan eny oþur  
 þing . Þerfore tarie 3e nat fro day to day ; to  
 turne to 3oure god . As þe holi+gost consayleþ  
 in þe book of wisdom . Fore sodaynliche . his  
 veniaunce schal come & destroye . his enemyes . þ<sup>t</sup>  
 buþ i-funde in dedli synne . For as he fynduþ  
 a+man ; so he wole deme hym . Þerfore knou

leche 3e 3oure synnus . now w<sup>t</sup> bitur sorowe of  
 3our herte . And seche 3e to do godus wil in þou3t .  
 word . & dede . And helpe 3e 3oure euenecristene in  
 here nede ; as 3e wolde be holpe 3our-self . And  
 þenne god wole for3iue 3ow 3oure synnus ; & he  
 le+hem w<sup>t</sup> his mercy . Fore . þe loue of god & of  
 ney3ebore ; heluþ þe multitude of synnus . As  
 godus lawe seiþ . S-eynt bartelmew syde I bi  
 leue in þe holi+gost ; here we schulle bileue  
 þat þe holi+gost . is þe þridde persone . of þe  
 holi trinite . Verrili w<sup>t</sup>-oute bigynnyng . &  
 endyng . And euene in wit . & goodnusse . &  
 strengþe . w<sup>t</sup> þe fadur & þe sune . And þat þe<sup>s</sup>  
 þre personus of þe holi trinite ; ben oon almy3ti  
 god . And euereche i-liche my3tty ; al on my3t  
 te . And endeles good ; & on goodnusse . And en  
 deles trewe . And endeles witti . And endles fayr .  
 And endeles louyng . And endeles ry3tful . And  
 endeles merciful . And alle þei buþ on trewþe .  
 <fol. 9v>On fayrnusse . On wisdom . On loue . On ri3t  
 fulnusse . On treuþe . & On mercy . Seynt ma  
 theu seyde . I bileue in holi+churche & come  
 nyng of sayntus . Holi+churche is departud ;  
 in þre partyus . O parti is ; in þe wordul . Of  
 men & wymmen . þat schullun be sauýd . in þe  
 blisse of heuene . by þe grete meercy of god . &  
 bi hure owne goude lif . ¶ An<sup>[d]</sup> þis part is nat  
 3ut oute of drede ; bote stryuyng . a-3ens þre  
 gostly enemyus . Þe flesch . Þe wordul . & þe fend .  
 And my3tly to wiþstonde synne . bi þe help of  
 god . And þerfore hit is i-clepud ; þe fy3ttinge  
 churche . þerfore ho wole be ony of þis part .  
 of holi+churche ; w<sup>t</sup>-stonde he al vnleful desyrus .  
 of þese þre enemyus . ¶ A-nopur part of holi  
 churche is ; in purgatorie . of soulus þat buþ  
 þere ; abydyng þe mercy of god . And to <sup>[be]</sup> pur  
 ged of hure synnus ; for þe whiche þei dude nat  
 due satusfacciun in hure lif . Bote þis part of  
 holi+churche haþ ouercome . alle þe deseytus . & tempta

cions . of here þre gostli enemyes . And is eue  
 ry day more þan oþur . i-pured & i-mad clene .  
 And þerfore þis may be seyd . þe churche ouer  
 comynge . ¶ þe þridde part of holi+churche . is :  
 in heuene . As crist þat is hed of al holi+churche :  
 w<sup>t</sup> his sayntus . Þat part haþ fulli ouercome al  
 le enemyus . & is clene i-clenesud . fulli fro alle  
 fulþus & passuþ in-to blisse . And þat part is  
 fre ; for alle+manere desirus . As seynt poul seiþ .  
 Alle þes þre partyus schullen be to-gydere ; on .  
 aftur þe day of dome . ioynge in euerelastyng  
 <fol. 10r>blisse . w<sup>t</sup> crist þ<sup>t</sup> is hure hed . ¶ Also hit is to  
 bileue . þat þe sacramentus of holi+churche . ben  
 souerayn medicynus to reconsile goude soulus .  
 forsakyng synne . & sorowyng þerfore .  
 ¶ And þese buþ þe seuene sacramentus . of holi  
 churche . Baptem . Confirmaciun . Þe sacra  
 ment of þe auter . Þat is godus flesch & his blod .  
 in þe fourme of bred & wyn . Þe furþe is þe  
 nawnce . Þat is as synt gregori seiþ . to wepe  
 for synnus y-do . And eschewe to do þulke þingus: þ<sup>t</sup>  
 ben a-3ens godus wil ; Þe fifte is ; wedlok ; Þe  
 sixte is holi ordore . And þe seueþe is þe laste .  
 Anoyntyng . ¶ Also we schulle bileue ; come  
 nyng of saynttus . Þat is þat eche of þes þre  
 partyus of holi+churche byfore seyd ; takuth  
 part of oþerus goodnusse . & helpuþ oþur .  
 As þulke part þat is in heuene ; helpuþ o  
 þur tweye partyus ; Prayinge for hum ; as  
 seynt bernard seiþ . Þulke part þat is in er  
 þe ; helpuþ þulke in purgatorie w<sup>t</sup> hure good  
 lyuyng . & deuout prayere . & almusede doyn  
 ge . to þe nedi pepule . ¶ And þese tweye par  
 tyus buþ i-seyd ; to helpe hum in heuene ; when  
 ne hure blisse & hure ioie is encresud ; bi þe fe  
 laschup of þese . ffor~ eueþe þe mo þat buþ þe  
 re ; þe more is hure blisse . And þus ech of þes  
 þre partyus: comenuþ w<sup>t</sup> oþure . Synt sy  
 mound seyde I bileue þe for3yuenusse of



synnus . Here we schulluþ bileue . þat þei þ<sup>t</sup>  
 amenduþ hur~ lif here ; doynge verrey penaun  
 ce . & levyng of synne . & kepyng godus comaun  
 <fol. 10v>dementus . & endun in cherite ; schullen haue for  
 3yuenusse of alle hure synnus . And also . þ<sup>t</sup> crist  
 þorou his passiun & deþ ; gat vs of his fadur  
 for3yuenusse of owre synnus . And he him-self . vp  
 þe godhede . euene w<sup>t</sup> þe fadur for3yuet alle o  
 rigynal synnus & actual . in takynge of fullo  
 v3t . Seynt iude seyde . I bileue in rysynge  
 of body . Here we schulle bileue ; þat al+man  
 kynde schal a-rise at þe day of dome . fro þe deþ  
 to lyue . in bodi & soule: Ech in his owne kyn  
 de . And in his owne bodi ; vncorruptable . &  
 vndedli . And þey þi bodi were i-brent w<sup>t</sup>  
 fuyr . & þe pouþur þer-of i-þrowe . in to þe  
 four seus . þat gon a-bowte þe wordul ; 3ut  
 þe soule & þe bodi . schullun come to-gydure  
 a-3en . & a-rise fro deþ to lyue ; at þe dredful  
 day of dome . And fro þulke day forþward ; ne  
 uere aftur departi . ¶ And þei þat haueþ y  
 uel i-lyued . & i-endud in dedli synne ; schul  
 len go in bodi & soule to-gydere ; in to pay  
 ne for-euermore . And þ<sup>t</sup> haueþ i-lyued wel:  
 & i-kept þe hestus of god . and fulfyld þe de  
 dus of mercy . & i-endud in cherite . boþe to  
 god & to man ; schulleþ wende in bodi & sou  
 le to-gydere . in-to þe blisse of heuene . for-e  
 uermore . Of þe whiche blisse & lif . Synt  
 matheu spekuþ in þe laste articule . Where  
 he seiþ . And i bileue in euerelastyng lif .  
 In þulke lif euerelastyng of ioie & blisse:  
 gowde men & wommen . þ<sup>t</sup> endun wel . schullen  
 dwelle in body & soule . wordele wiþ-owten