

<County: Suffolk>

<Code: L8491>

<MS reference: Oxford, Bodleian Library, Ashmole 750, Hand C>

<Text: Ipotis>

<fol. 148r><space for initial>lle þat welyn of wysdam ler

lestyn to me and 3e schal her

Of a tale of holy wryt

Seynt Jon the apostell wytnes it

þat þ^e be-fel in grete rome

þe chef cyte of *crystyn* dome

A chyld was sent of myghtes moste

þrow the *vertu* of þ^e holy goste

the emperour of rome þan

hys nam was hotyn syr Adrya~

And qwhan þ^e child of gret honour

was come be-for þat emperour

vp-on .^[his] kne he hym sette

þe emperour ful fayr he grette

the emperour w^t myld cher~

Asked fro wen he come and wer

the chyld answerde a ply3t

Fro my modyr~ j come now ry3t

And fro my fadyr þat hye iustyce

to teche men þat arn noght wyse

ne noght fulfild of godes lawe

þ^e emperour answerde and seyde hys sawe

þan ert þu wyse . wysdom to teche

þe chyld answerde w^t myld speche

he is wyse þat heuen may wynne

And kepyn hym out of dedly synne

þe emperour w^t-owtyn blame

Chyld he sayde wat is thy name

<fol. 148v>My name he sayde is ypotys

Mykyl j can tellyn of heuen blysse

wat seyd þe *emperour* may heuen be
 þe chyld sayde . one of godes pryuite
 And qwat he sayde is god almyght
 þe chyld answerd anonne ryght
 he is w^t-owte begynnyg~
 And also w^t-owte endyng~
 the *emperour* seyde j haue selkouth
 qwat come ferst out of godes mouth
 the chylde answerde a-non
 þer-of speketh þ^e apostel jon
 Jn his gospell al and sum
 <lat>jn *pr̄incipio erat verbum*</lat>
 þis was þ^e fyrst word be-gynnyg~
 þat euer spak our~ euen kyng~
 And that word was the sone
 the fadyr and þ^e holy goste to-geder wone
 thre personys *in* trinite
 þat non may from oder te
 the *emperour* answerd hym ful euen
 chyld hast þu ben in heuen
 how fele heuenys hath god all-myght
 Seuen sayd the chyld a ply3t
 þe hyst heuen þat euer may be
 js of þe holy *trinite*
 þer is the fadyr w^t the sone
 þe holy gost to-geder þey wone
 thre personys *in* on godhed
 as clerkys in bokes red
 <fol. 149r>þe ioi may no+ma~ dyscryue
 lord ne lady þat is on lyfe
 þat heuen is a gostly fer
 of a lower degr~ 3e ma her
 þat þoye may no+man deuyne
 tyl domys day þat þey clyne
 the þrydde heuene is lyk *cristall*
 Ful of þoye and swete small
 For ma~ and woma~ þat place is dyght
 þat loued god in all her myght
 þe þoye may no tong telle

tyl domys-day þat þey schall spell
 the forthe heuen is gold liche
 Ful of precious stonys ryche
 For jnnocentes þat place is dyghte
 þat euer is day and neuer nyghte
 þe fyfte heuen is long and brod
 Ful of goddes manhod
 3yf the manhod of god ne wer~
 All thys world for-lor it wer~
 And folw þe passion of hys manhed
 heuen blys schal ben owr med
 the sexste heuen holy cherche is
 Ful of holy Aungeles j-wys
 that of hym redyth and sengyt day and nyght
 of hys strenght and of hys myght
 þe seuene-þe heuen . so seyth the storye
 is *paradyse* after *purgatorye*
 whan the soules han drien her penance
 he schull dwell *per*-in w^t-oute distaunce
 <fol. 149v>þes ben þ^e seuen heuenus syr *emperour*
 þat weldyth *ihesuc* our~ Sauyowr
 þe *emperour* askede anon ryght
 How fele ordrys ben þer of aungeles bryght
 þe chyld answerde hym
 and seyde . ix . ordrys be þer-in
 þe ferste is cherubyn
 And þe oþer seraphyn
 þe thredde ordyr is <ill><1-2 words></ill>
 þe fyfte ordyr is <ill><1-2 words></ill>
 And the sexte is *potestatus*
 þe thred ordyr is *thronus*
 and þ^e odyr is *dominacionus*
 þe fyfte ordyr is *principatus*
 And þe sexte is *potestatus*
 þe seuent ordyr is *virtutes*
 And þ^e heyghte is *Angelices*
 þe neynt order is *Archangely*
 and euery *prinse* haue hys party
 A thowsand *angelles* to hys baner

to serwyn hym both far and ner~
 þe tenþe ordyr schal mankyne ben
 For to fufil þat place a-3en
 in heuen be þat ilke side
 þat lucifer fel oute for pride
 þan schal the manhed of god Almyght
 Ben our prince and þat is ryght
 ouer all princes he schal be
 w^t hys fader in trinite
 Of myche þoie he ma telly<?>
 w^t-outyn ende þat schal þar dwellyn
 <fol. 150r>Hys awne broder he schal þer se
 wyth hys fader in maieste
 þe emperour sayd chyld j þe praye
 wat made þe ferste daye
 þe chylde hym answerd ful euen
 Archangelles Angelles and heuen
 And thys world of gret nobleye
 god made ferst on a sonnendaye
 And on þe monday verement
 god made the fyrmament
 Sonne and mone to schynne bryghte
 And fele sterres þer-on ar dyghte
 þe tewseday j vndyr-stonde
 god made see and londe
~~wellys fele and watrys fresche~~
~~herbys he made trees and gras~~
~~On þe wednesday~~
 wellys feel and watrys fresche
 to tempyr þe erthe hard and nessche
 Herbys he made . trees and grasce
 And al thyng~ þat hys wylle was
 On the wednesday . god ful of myght
 made fysch an flood and fowlles of flyght
 And bad hem a-bowte þe worlde wende
 For helpyn al man-kynde
 On þe þorday god made bestes alle
 Dyuers be doune and <exp>and</exp> be dalle
 And 3af hem erþe to been her fode

And bad hem torne man to gode
 <fol. 150v>On þ^e fryday god made Adam
 After hys chappe . and 3af hym name
 And sythyn hys on rybbe gan to take
 And made hym Eue . to been hys make
~~All paradise he gan hym take~~
 A gret lord he gan hym make
 All paradys he gan hym take
 And made hym man of myghtes moste
 And 3af lyfe and þ^e holy goste
 and made hym lord of þat he had wroghte
 þ^e Saturday god ne for-gat noghte
 þat day he blyssed w^t god wyllle
 And hys werkes grete and styllle
 Eueryche on hys party
 and bad hym goo and multiplie
 þe sonday ryste he tok
 As clerkes fyndyn in þ^e bok
 He bad and commawnded all man-kynd
 þat reste schulden hauen in mynd
 þat day schuld no man werke
 But bydde bedys and go to cherche
 and kepyn hem out of dedly synne
 þat he fall noght þer-jinne
 þe emperour w^t wordes mylde
 3yt þus gan asken of þe chylde
 3yf he cowde tellyn hym owghte
 Of how fele þynges Adam was wroghte
 þe chyld answerde and seyd of seuene
 qweche he arne j schal þe euene
 <fol. 151r>Erþe . sclem . was on of þo
 water of þe see god tok þer-to
 Of Sonne and of þe wynde
 And of þe clowdes j-wrete we fynde
 And of þe stonys be þe see coste
 And also of þe holy goste
 Of þe erþe is made is flesche
 And of þe water is hys blod . for it is nesche
 Of þe sonne hys herte and hys bowelys

hys kyndnes and hys god thewys
 Of þe clowdes hys wyttes beth
 And of þe ston is made hys bon
 He soule of the holy goste alon
 lo Syr *emperour* Adryan
 Of how felle þynges is made a ma~
 ffor-þy euery ma~ in þis world her
 So is of dyuers maner
 he þat hath of þ^e herþe moste
 he schal be hewy well þ^u woste
 both in worde and *in* dede
 in al thyng~ as j the rede
 he þat hath þ^e moste of þ^e see
 In trauayle hym schal lef to be
 and myche cowyte lond and lede
 þat schal hym faylyn at hys moste nede
 For al þys faryth be þis worldes gode
 As be an ebbe and a flode
 <fol. 151v>He þat hath of wynde þe most myghte
 þrow ryght reson he schall be lyghte
 hastyff of herte . and wylde of þowthe
 And spekyth many wordes þat *seruyn* of noghte
 he þat of þe sonne hath þe moste plenty
 hot and hasty he schal be
 Staworpest as ma~ of myghte
 And in hys hert he schal be lyghte
 He þat of þ^e clowdes hat þ^e most foyson
 he schal be wyse þrow ryghte reson
 He þat of þ^e ston most is wroghte
 he schal be stedfast in herte and thoghte
 And in *trayuell* trest and trewe
 And þrow ryght reson pale of hewe
 He þat hath of thee holy gost
 he schal *han* in hys herte most
 God þoght . god word and god dede
 the hongry to clopen and to fede
 lowen god and holy cherche
 And oþer god werkes to werche
 þe *emperour* sayd þ^u spekyst of þ^e see

tel me chylde qwat it may be
 þe chyld answerd be heuene kyng~
 And seyð a wyld wey of wanderyng~
 Swech way þ^u mayst wander þer-in
 þ^u schalt neuer no lond wyn
 þa~ seyð þe emperour
 tel me chyld paramour
 <fol. 152r>Qwat tyme dyd Adam amys
 war-þrow he les paradis
 þe chyld seyde at myd-morwe tyde
 A-bowte mydday he les hys pride
 An angell drof hym in-to desert
 w^t a bryght brennyg~ swerd
 And bad hym lyuiyn in car and wo
 He and hys of-sprenges euer mo
 And all þat euer of hym came
 þe fend w^t hym to helle name
 þe sowle3 wondren in helle þor~
 tyl þat ihu criste bor~ wor~
 And suffrede on þe rode passyon
 And boght vs oute of prison
 Alas sayd þe emperour j haue gret dulle
 þat Adam was so mykyl a+foll
 How fele synnys ded Adam
 warfor god our kynd vs be-name
 Seuene þe chylde seyð þo
 Sacrilege was on of þo
 Fornicacyon was on of þes
 Auarys of conscyens
 <lat>In gula superbie</lat>
 þe seuene heued-synnes dyde he
 In superbia he synnyd hylle
 Qwha~ he wrowt þe fendys wylle
 And noght hafter þe lor of god
 He told noght of hys forbot
 <fol. 152v>In Sacrilegge he synned sor
 qwhan he wrote the feyndes lor
 And fulfyllyd hys owne talent
 to do þe feyndes commaudent

Man-sleer he was j-nowe
 Qwhan he hys owne soule slowe
 þef he was and now for gode
 Qwhan he stalle þat hym was forbode
 Serteynement as j þ^e saye
 þerfor he was worþⁱ to dye
 Fornicacion he ded in mende
 Qwhan he lewed vp-on þ^e fende
 And held þat godes lawe was fals
 in Aueryce he synnyd als
 Qwhan he coweyte mor~
 þan he hadde nede for~
 Al paradys was hys at hys wyll
 lytil wondyr was þo god lykyd ille
 In glotonye he synnedde vyle
 qwan he put hym in þat perille
 þe appel of þe tre to take
 þat god for-bod hym . and eue hys make
 And sythyn he synned warst of alle
 qwhan he was in þat perile falle
 He ne hadde no *grace* for to ryse
 qwhan god come to hym in þis wyse
 Adam he sayde qwat dost þ^u nowe
 Ada~ answerde w^t hys mowthe
 lord ich her þ^e wel a plyghte
 but of þⁱ lore j haue no syghte
 <fol. 153r>Our lord þo . to Ada~ seyde
 Man qwy wroghtes þ^u þis euel dede
 Adam answerde w^t wordes styлле
 þe woman lord þu tokest me tylle
 Made me to don þ^{is} euell dede
 Our lord þo to eue sayde
 woman qwy wroghtes þis wyлле
 þe addyr lord gan me be-gylle
 Our lord to þ^e addyr seyd þo
 Feynd wy wroghtes þ^u wemen þis wo
 þe Addyr answerd w^t maystrye
 For j hade to hem gret enwye
 þat j for *pride* gan to mys

Our lord sayd 3yt to Adam
 For the gylte þu hast do man
 þow schalt *in* the world swynk þⁱ mete
 in myche *trauayle* and *in* wo and myche hete
 And lyue þ^u schalt *in* car and woo
 þ^u and þyn of-sprenges euer mo
 to eue þanne sayd our heuene kyng~
 woma~ for þⁱ wykyd conseilyng
 þ^u schalt ben *in* woo and heste
 jn myche car and wo and cheste
 And ber þyn frowt wepyng and car sor~
 þ^u and þyn of-spynges euere-mor~
 Our~ lord to þe addyr sayd þan
 Jn lyknes of woman temptydyst ma~
 j commaunde þ^e þat þ^u on þⁱ wombe glyde
 And Alle þat euer is the be-syde
 <fol. 153v>Of þ^e schal be sor~ a-ferde
 And þan scha come *in*-to deserte
 A *virgyn* schal be boren blyþe
 þat al þⁱ poste schal to-dryue
 þo lyued Adam in erþe her~
 Ful . ix . honddryth 3er~
 And . xxxij . 3er as j þ^e telle
 And sythe he dyde and 3ede to helle
 hys soule wonde *in* helle þor~
 Four . M^l . 3er and vj C mor~
 And fowr 3er and tytyd seuene
 And sythyn mygthfull god of heuene
 And he was of myghtes most
 And sent a-don þ^e holy gost
 And tok flech and blod of Mary
 w^t-outyn wem of her body
 xxx . wynter and thr~ half 3er~
 godys Sonne wente *in* erþe her~
 Forty days for vs he faste
 þe jewys tokyn *hem* at þ^e laste
 And dedyn god sone on þ^e rode
 he suffred deth for our gode
 And sythyn þe holy gost wente to helle

þe fendes ~~po~~ste powste for to felle
 He tok out Ada~ and eue
 And all þat wern hym leue
 Moyses dauid and Abraham
 And alle þe beste w^t hym he nam
 he ladde hem in to paradyse
 þer ioye and blysse euermor is
 <fol. 154r>And sythyn after hys vp-rysyng~
 and styed to heuene þer he kyng~
 on hys fader ryghte hond he set hym þan
 þer he is sothfast both god and ma~
 þat ilke kyng~ omnyotent
 Schal come at þe day of jugement
 to demen men after her dedis
 he is vn-wyse þat it ne dredis
 þe gode to ioye the wyk to pynne
 þe yoye þe gode schal haue may no ma~ dyuyne
 þat þey schuln haue for her serwyse
 þat lowyn god in alle wyse
 þe emperour sayd be euene kyng~
 Chyld þis was a fayr vndoyng
~~whar-w^t þ^e feynd most be-gylyth ma~~~
 Tell me chyld 3yf þat þ^u can
 whar-w^t þ^e feynd most be-gylyth ma~
 And how fele synnys þ^u mayst me telle
 þat drawyth a mannys sowle moste to helle
~~among man-kynde þey ben ful-ryfe~~
 the chyld sayde synnys fyue
 A-mong man-kynde þey ben ful ryiue
 wykkyd thocht in mannys hert
 whylus a man is holl and smert
 Man sclawndyr and tel oþer schame
 And bryngyght in wykkeðe fame
 but he w^t scryfte mak hym cler~
 he soule goth to helle fer
 <fol. 154v>Pryde is þat oþer
 glotonye is þ^e þred broþer
 lecherye is the ferþe
 on of the werst a-bouyn þ^e erþe

Couetyse þe fyffe synne is as j þ^e telle
 þat drawyth a man soule most to helle
 Seynt poule wytness it *in* hys story
 þat þe peyne of cowetys in purgatory
 be *hym* selue is j-dyghght
 a qwel of bras brennyg~ bryght
 Ful of hokys a-bowyn and vndyr
 And qwhan it goth it rowtyh as þ^e thondyr
 Ful of soule³ it is hanggyng
 as þykke as on may be odyr þryngge
 qwy it is lyknyd to a qwhele
 j schal þ^e tellyn far and wele
 3ong~ men *in* her 3owthe þey wyn þ^e prise
 And 3ewyth *hym* al to dywyse
 And in þ^e myddyl of hys lyfe nyl noght blyne
 But at þe laste he dyeth þer inne
 Serteynement as j the telle
 w^t-owtyn hend he goth helle
 Couetyse endyd neuer well
 ffor-þⁱ it is lyknyd to a qwhell
 And pryde þat is bolde
 ys wers be an hondryth foulde
 For aungel þat wer so bryghte
 so cler and ful of lyghte
 Swych wreche on *hem* god gan take
 Þat summe be *commyn* feyndes blake
 <fol. 155r>and fellyn oute as j þ^e telle
 Ryght in to þ^e pyne of helle
 And summe dwellyn her a-mong~ man kynne
 To tysen men to dedly synne
 þer-for man schryfe þ^e of pryde
 For qwhan wermys *han* etyn þⁱ syde
 þe body rotyn in clayes gronde
 þi soule in fyre and wo j-bonde
 Sor schal þ^e soule smerte
 þat euer bar *pride* in hys herte
 Pryde is a synne most of plyghte
 þat wratthet *ihesuc* ful of myghte
 lychery þat is the ferþe

On of the warste a-bouen erþe
 þan lychery þynkyth þer is
 So swete ne so merye as it is
 In holy wyrte þan is it set
 þat lychery is þ^e deweles net
 kep 3ow alle frome þat synne
 þat 3e ne fal noght þer inne
 now glotonye j wyll 3ow descryue
 A-mong mankynde it is ful ryue
 þer-mede þ^e fend taketh þ^e wrechis fale
 qwhan þe ben dronkyn of wynne and ale
 þey cryen and sweryn as þey wer wode
 Be crystes hert and be hys blode
 And spyten god of hys passyon
 so þat many on hath hys malysson
 But þey schryvyn hym of her glotonye
 In hel schal ben her balye
 <fol. 155v>Allas seyð þ^e emperour þis is an hard chawnche
 qwhat lettyth a man to do penawnce
 A-3en examynyng~ of our sauyour
 þ^e chyld seyð her thynges four
 lodenge is þe on and schame is þe oþer
 And wanhope ys þrydde brothyr
 þe fowrþe is w^t-owte fable
 þat god is so mercyable
 he wylle of synful men tak no wreche
 3yf he wele of schryfte hym be-seche
 þe emperour sayd soth þyng it is
 qwhat bryngyth a ma~ most to heuen blys
 þe chyld hym answerde and seyde
 good thoght and good worde and good dede
 þer was neuer no euyll dede j-wrowghte
 þat atte þ^e begynyng~ nas lype thoghte
 ne neuere no good doying~
 þat good thoghte nas at þ^e begynnyn~
 þ^e ma~ þat hath w^t hym good speche
 þo is foo wolde of hym tak wreche
 he may w^t good speche or he wende
 of hys foo makyn hys frende



God speche is of myche myghte
A-3en ihesu in heuen lyghte
A man may w^t good dede
wynnyn hym heuene blysse to mede
þe Emperour seyde þis wyll j leue
leue chylde tak it noght *in* greue
tel me chyld 3yf þat þow can
On how fele depys may dye ma~