

<County: Norfolk>

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<Text: Pricking of Love>

<fol. 4r><line 14>**how we schul dyspose vs for to haue compassion of** ^{cristes passion}

Jf thou wylt haue compassioun of criste crucified
 first schape ye 3if you may be onyd to hym thurh feruente desyre .
 For-whi ye more feruently yat you louyst hym . ye more schalt you
 haue of hese passiouns and ye more compassioun yat you felyst . y^e more
 schal yin loue be . for loue and compassioun schull so wexenn to-gedere in
 yin thought yat you schalt come to ye tastynge of this . but 3if you
 thurh yin owin wrecchednesse leue alle with-outenn . therfore kaste
 a-wey fro the at ye begynnyng vntrost and reklesheed . for-whi such
 a worthi werk a mann owith to doun wonder mekely trystfully . and
 stedfastly with all maner reuerence and clenness of conscience . and yow
 a mann thinke hym-self wykked and vn-worthi & vnclene to yis werk .
 stynte not yer-fore For-whi for synful menn was criste don on ye
 crosse . First yan be thin herte so oned to hym in longynge . yat it
 be his and nou3t yin . wheyther y^u schalt nou3t fele ye vertu of his
 woundes . studye yerfore al yat you may . yat yin thou3t entre hooly
 in-to hym and yin-self au3t fro hym a counte as nou3t . lete al yi
 besynesse of yin thou3t be now a-boute yin lord ihesu in beholdynge
 of his passioun . for-whi his you art . what-so you is yerfore 3if thin
 self to hym and to noun oyer . and 3if you thus be+turnyd in-to hym
 thurgh helpe of grace . j may not trowe but yat yu schalt be wounded
 <fol. 4v>with hese woundes & ouer-hyllid w^t peynes of his passioun . what gladsum
 nesse & what swetnesse you schalt haue yann . be experience you schalt fele .
 it may not wel be declared thurgh wrytinge of a penne ¶ Neuertheles
 3if this weye be ouer hy3e to ye . and you may not come to sauour thus .
 asay yan in a-nother gretter maner . Think what peyne it schulde be
 to ye 3if you were flayn as was seint Bertelmewe or rotyd quyk+as
 was seint Lawrens . or yat yin flesch were plucked a-way with irenn
 hokes as was in othere martires . Conceyue in thin herte what ferd
 full hugglynesse it were to ye to suffre these . Think yan yat oure lord

ihesu for the vylest worme & synnere most wrecched suffred on y^e crosse
 muche hardere peynes & more vnsufferable . with-uten comparysoun
 yann you schuldest thole in alle suche peynes . Thann ~~ruyne~~ take in yin
 thou3t what anguysch what affliccioun & what hugglynesse of
 passioun and of deth be suffred . and how much yat loue was yat
 steryd hym yer-to . and in this meditacioun steryd be yin herte in hese
 peynes as 3if you hem suffred . and spare not for to melte al in-to
 watir of teerys . ye qwyche schul be turnyd to ye in-to grete swetnesse .
 And 3et 3if you fele yin herte euere harde and drye with-uten sterynge
 of loue or of compassioun . you may yan make 3if you wylt a good
 scharp scourge pynande & not muche hurtande . and go in-to a preuy
 place & scourge yin body nobely wel . spare nou3t yow yu fele smerte .
 but whan you felest smertynge & pyne . lyft yan yin thought to
 ihesu criste . and thenk
 thenk yat he y^t is thin dere spouse . yin loue . desire of
 yin soule . solace of aungeles . blys of holy soules . and sone of heuen
 ly kyng . ye fader wolde for loue of ye a stynkande kareynn & wrecche
 most vnkynde . suffre in his body so vnsufferable pynes . this reme
 dye is muche worthe for to sterve a drye boystouse herte to tendyrnesse
 of compassioun . For-whi thurgh his owen pyne . a mann leryth for
 to haue pytee on a-nother mannes pynes . And yann euere prey to ihesu
 criste yat he wolde touche yin thou3t with his woundes . and euer
 sette ye longynge of yin herte to hym . so lastendely yat you go not
 fro hym . tyl you gette sumwhat of his largesse . 3if what he wole .
 ¶ Nou3t for-thi 3if thin herte be so harde yat it wole not 3et melte
 in-to tendernesse of compassioun . holde you thin-self . but as a sekke
 <fol. 5r>ful of fylthe of synne and wepe you for yi synnes bytterly y^t the
 lettith fro ye sauour of yis gostly compassioun and say thus . Tyl whann
 schal ye wykkednesse of myn herte stonde a-3en ye passioun of my lord
 ¶ Lo hese woundes ouercome ye fendes power . and braste ye 3ates of
 helle and openyd ye 3ates of paradys . and 3et myn herte wole not
 openn a3enn hese goodnesse . what is wers yan J . what is more yann
 malyce of myn herte . allas what schal J . do yat j am so ouerdone
 seke yat j fele not ye receyte of ye medecyne of criste . 3e eyen blyn
 neth not of wepynge . vn-tyl ye moystour of teres may susteyne ye
 hardnesse of myn herte . what may j do yat j fynde not ye lyf of myn
 soule . yat j may not taste yat swete down-3ettyng of cristes charite .
 ¶ J schal sytte with job in ye myddynges of myn synnes . and j schal
 pare a-way with a schelle of scharpe sorw the stynke of myn con

science . j schal not spare myn soule fro suche turmentynge . tyl j
 may fynde myn ihesu in his passioun . Wonder it is how ony mann
 may bere hym-self in pacience yat felyth such hardnesse in his
 herte . A you my wykked herte . 3a . a fendely herte . tyl whan schalt
 you a3enstonde ye softnesse of criste whi hast you more delyte in
 ye prykkynge of synne . yann in ye woundes of ihesu criste . whi hast
 you more compassioun of a lytell prykkynge in yin too . yan you
 hast in ye hydous deth of ihesu criste where is more wyckednesse &
 more woodnesse . y^u man sefte y^u not . yat where you more louyst . yer
 hast you more compassion . weyther loyust you more yin foot . yann
 ihesu criste . 3a . it semyth so . For-whi you hast gret compassioun for a
 lytell hurtyng of yin foot . and in yin good lord ihesu you hast lytel
 or nonn . yin herte is not touched ne prykked with his pyne ¶
 A yis gret blyndnesse were wers yan nedderys yat for compassioun of
 sauynge of here hede leyn forth here bodi . but we seme lyke styn
 kande lymes with-outen lyf . kuytte a-wey fro oure hed ihesu criste . for
 as muche as we fele not wonderynge of his woundes . A lord lord
 whi madest you me . 3if j schal not be ioyned to ye or ellys 3if j be
 not oned to ye . Whi am j not wounded with ye . For me art you
 wounded lord . and nou3t j for ye j owe lord to be woundid & nou3t
 you . for j am he yat hath synned . j haue don juell . but y^u innocent
 <fol. 5v>lombe what hast you don . sothely neuere juell . j beseke ye yerfore turne
 yin woundes vn-to me . and in-to my faderes hous . for j am worthi
 ye deth & nou3t you . eyther do so or ellys wounde myn herte with
 ye . sothly j wole deye for sorwe but 3if you wounde myn herte . j
 ugge to fele myn herte vn-wounded . whan j se ye myn sauour
 so for-wounded for me . j wole not lyue with-outen þin gostly woun
 dyng . syn j se ye for-wounded . and 3if al this a-vayle ye now3t
 thenke yann yat for mekylnesse of yin pryde . you art vn-worthi
 to receyue so noble a 3ifte . And yerfore holde yin-self as no mann .
 but as a wylde beste . vn-worthi felaschep of menn . and perchaunce
 3if you meke yin-self so . he yat loked on ye mekenesse of his
 handmaydenn . schal lokenn on ye mekenesse of yin soule . & accepte
 yin mekenesse in stede of compassioun . yat you felyst not on-tyl
 he wole 3eue ye a newe herte . but lord whan schal yat be . delay
 of it is nerhande deth to me . Neuertheles j schal a-byde tyl he wil
 and longe in desire on-to myn herte melteth . A ryght now lord myn
 soule begynneth to longe for loue . and al werdely lykynge is euenn
 brou3t to nought in me . so j desire to be frescheed & comforted with y^e

hote blood of 3oure swete woundes ¶ A lord delaye me no ferthere .
 where is yin endlees wysdam . tarye nou3t to wounde me . lest yat thurh
 yin tarynge j be lost fro ye . whom you hast dere bought . Renne sone
 lord and wounde me . lest yat you come to late . 3if you a-byde long .
 3a . but wo is me yat j am so wrecchyd yat he yat loueth hese
 enmyes hateth now me . weyther j be wers to hym yan his enmye .
 For hese enmyes he was ded . for hese enmyes he was wounded . &
 yerfore j hope for to haue parte of hese woundes . j aske not yat he be
 eft wounded for me . but yat he wole don myn ded herte lay in hese
 holy woundes in restore me to lyf . ¶ A lord you wolde suffre Jrenn
 entre to yin herte at ye wounde of yin syde . and me yin creature
 resonable you wylt not lete in now whann ye wounde is made .
 what is yis . weyther myn harte be hardere & rustyere yan Jrenn
 weyther you thenke yat myn 3ernynge be ful of cruelte . j hope
 nay . For what may myn cruelte dere ye now syn you art vn
 sufferable . for entre j neuere so oftenn-sythes to yin herte be yin
 <fol. 6r>woundes . and yow j ete flesch for swetnesse of loue . 3et y^u
 dwellyt euere a-lyke impassyble . Myn appetite schall be fylled
 and euere ye more kyndelyd in loue . but you schalt neuere be ye
 lesse . but wher to schal j crye more yus . yow taryest & comest
 not . and j as mann wery in 3ernynge begynne for to fonne .
 for loue steryth me and no resoun . and j renne with gret beer
 ~ . wheyther so my loue heldyth . and yei yat sen me scornn me .
 for yei knowe not yat j am made as j were drunkenn for lon
 gynge . yei seyn yus Why cryeth yis wood mann yus in y^e
 stretes . but yei takenn non hede hou yat desyre of ihesu bren
 nyth in myn herte . wote not yat brennyng of loue inwar
 dely felyd . y^t he lettyth oftyn-sythes ye vse of bodely wyttes .
 And he yat seketh aftir ihesu hertly . oftenn for3etyth hym-self .
 and alle other thynges . lytel heed taketh he ihesu of outewarde
 thynges . yat seketh for to fynde ye in pryuyte of his herte . Come
 now gode ihesu and tarye no lengere . yat j be not al made witlees
 thurgh outerageouse 3ernynges . but parchauns yat abydest y^u . yat
 whan j were reste fro felynge of all other thyng . y^t j my3t yan entre
 pure to ye at yin precious woundyng with whiche you schalt full
 softly wounde myn louande herte . And yan schal j mowe crye & saye
 A lorde how is it yat j se ye thus despitously wounded . A god 3if y^t
 j my3t deye for ye myn swete lord . j may not suffre to se ye thus an
 gvysched in so muche of sore pyne . For-whi to beholde ye yus pyned

it is ouerdone hydous . and 3et neuertheles for to sen ye delyuered it were
 to me more perlyous . and so j am in angvysch on iche syde . j woot
 not what to chese . but 3if yat j myght be crucifyed with ye . yann
 were j wel . whi . for me yat am vilest . you yat art heyest deth wold
 suffre . And what am j but a vile worme . and wlatsome stenke .
 for whom you lord of all wolde so be pyned ¶ A ihesu wysdam of
 ye fader what chapmann was you for to 3eue lyf for deth . charite
 for vanite grace for malice . and blys for wrecchednesse . who may
 suffice to thenke whi you dede yus . A ouer-muche was yin loue . &
 yat made ye to do it other chesoun se j non of yin deth . but y^e ouerdone
 habundaunce of yin charite . Were it not better gode ihesu yat j nou3t
 <fol. 6v>a-benn born . yan you schuldest yus a-ben wounded for me . A why
 made you me for to yus turment ye . it is wonder yat iche a crea
 ture sleth not me yat am chesoun of yin deth . with muche mornynge
 aught j for to bere myscheef . ry3t as j wolde suffre myn dedly enmye
 before myn eyenn . whom j wolde slee & no gates durste . js it now
 a gret defaute yat aftir suche a fruteful bunfice of yin passioun . J as
 an vnkynde kaytef schal for3ete ye and synne be-forn yin eyenn .
 as you yin passioun hadde be ryght not worth . 3is yis a grete defaute .
 A gode ihesu you hast 3ouenn yin-self for me . and to me . and 3et j for
 sake ye .you slowh synne on ye crosse and 3et j chese it . you put a-wey
 derknesse . and 3et j falle in it . Am j not euere besy to don a-3ens yi wyl
 and openly to a-3en-stonde ye in yin face 3is sothly . 3if you say do
 not yat j say as tyte j wyl don it . 3if you seye do this . j seye j wyl
 not . j knowe wel lord yat you art souereyn goodnesse . and j yat am
 as nou3t . for3ete ye as you were nou3t . and turne myn bak to ye
 ward . and myn face to coueyte werdly thinges . and 3et sumtyme to
 muche wers . j suffre myn herte be boundenn with glew of fleschly
 loue . yat j may not to ye yat art lord of all . reyse it vp a-3enn .
 A My lorde ihesu criste softe you myn herte with yin holy woun
 des and with yin precious blood make myn soule drunkenn .
 yat whedyr-so j turne me . euere j mote se ye crucifyed with myn
 inner eye & what yat j loke on . al reed yat is seme with licoure
 of yin blood . and 3if j may not do yis euere . in holynesse of deuocioun
 ne in lykyng of gostly jmaginacioun ; at ye laste y^t j may do it in
 stabylnesse of feyth . and in holy conuersacioun . & yat no thing lyke me
 but 3if it be dypped in yin holy blood . al my comfort be in mynde of
 ye . and ow3t for to thenkenn w^t-outen ye . pyne mote it be . lete neuere
 myn herte reste fro thenkyng & 3ernynge . tyl j may fully fynde ye

in ye blysse of heuene . Amen . **a meditacion of oure lady . how sche** hadde here on good friday
 Faste be ye crosse of ihesu stood .
 marie *virgine* his moder as ye gospel tellyth . A my lady
 wher stood you : only be ye crosse j hope better yat y^u was
 on ye crosse crucifyed with ihesu yin sone . j hope *yer* was no difference
 but yat he was crucifyed in body & soule . and you only in yin soule .
 <fol. 7r>Alle ye woundes yat ihesu suffred in hese body . you suffred in yin soule .
yer was yin herte launced with a spere of sorwe . and yin hed corouned
 with thornes of hese hed . and yin soule was fylled with schames
 and schenscheperes yat yin sone suffred . stoppyd ful of heysel & galle
 of bytternesse . but gode lady whi 3ede you to be offeryd for vs . wheyther
 ye passioun of yin sone hadde not suffysed . but 3if 3e hadde benn cruci
 fyed with hym in hertly compassioun . ¶ A marie whi is yin louely
 herte turnyd in-to a+lumpne of sorwe . j beholde lady yin herte now .
 and j se it full of bytter peyne . j seke goddys moder . and lo j fynde
 spytynge scornynge & woundes for sche is al turnyd in-to hem .
 A you vessell of holynesse : whi makest you yin-self a vessel of
 pynefulnesse . A lady why art not yow a-lone in yin chawmbre .
 wher-to 3ede you to ye hyll of Caluarye . jt was yin customm lady
 before to renne for to se suche wondrynges . whi with-helde
 not ye at home scham-fastnesse of maydenhod . whi lettyd not
 ye vyled of yat place : ye vggely syght of oyer mennys synne . ye
 hydousnesse of noyse . ye woodnesse of jewes . ye fendes rable of
 cristes turmentoures . but to alle yese you hadde no considera
 cioun . for-whi yin herte was alyened fro ye for sorwe . you was not in
 yin-self . but in affeccioun of yin sone ihesu . and in ye woundes of yin
 dere childe . turne a-3en good lady to yin first place . lest yat we
 lese ye also with oure good schepperde . and so in on tyme we forbere
 ye rewlynge of 3ou bothe . jt is not custome lady for to punysch
 wommenn with suche maner deth . but j hope you may not here me
 for yin herte is so full of sorwe . A . a . selkouth thyng is this . y^u
 art all turnyd in-to y^o woundes of criste . And al criste is crucifyed
 with-inne ye sydes of yin herte . A you wounded lady wounde y^u
 our hertes and renewe in oure soules ye passioun of yin sone ihesu .
 ioyne yin herte in-to oures . yat we may be wounded with ye .
 A lady 3if you ne wylt 3if me yin sone crucifyed . ne yin-self woun
 ded . j pray ye 3if me ye despytes and ye reprouys of yin sone . Wher-
 to holdest you hem styll in yin-self . What moder is yat . ^t sche
 ne wolde putte a-vey passiouns fro here-self and fro here sone &



leye hem on here servauntes . A blyssed schulde j be . 3if j my3t be
<fol. 7v>ferlawe of 3oure peynes . What were more leef to me . yan to fele
myn herte onyd to ihesu . and to yin sothly . no thyng . For-whi .
thin herte is ful of grace : and as tyte as it is openyd . grace
schuld renne fro ye in-to myn herte oned *yer*-to and ryght so
at þe openynge of cristes herte . al swetnesse of grace
folwith