

PLAY TWENTY-SEVEN – The Last Supper

(The Bakers)

JESUS Peace be both be day and night
Unto this house and to all that is here.
Here will I hold as I have *hight
The feast of *Paas with friends in **feere.

(*promised)
(*Passover) (**fellowship)

MARCELUS Master, we have arrayed full right
Service that seems for your supper:
Our lamb is roast, and ready *dight
As Moses' law will *lely **lere.

(*prepared)
(*faithfully) (**teach)

JESUS That is, *ilke man that has
People in his own *posté
Shall roast a lamb at *Paas
To him and his *many.

(*each)
(*power)
(*Passover)
(*household)

ANDREAS Master, the custom well we know
That with our elders ever has been,
How *ilke man with his **many owe
To roast a lamb and eat it clean.

(*each, every) (**household)

JESUS I thank you *soothly of your **saw,
For ye say as yourself has seen;
Therefore array you all on row,
Myself shall part it you between.
Wherefore I will that ye
Eat thereof every *ilkone;
The remnant parted shall be
To the poor that purveys none.

(*truly) (**speech)

(*each one)

Of Moses' laws here make I an end
In some part, but not in all;
My commandment shall otherwise be *kenned
With them that men shall craftily call.
But the lamb of *Pasc that here is spend,
Which Jews uses great and small,
Ever forward now I it defend
For Christ's folk whatso befall.
In that *stead shall be set
A new law us between,
But who thereof shall eat
Behoves to be washed clean.

(*known)

(*Pascal, Passover)

(*place)

For that new law whoso shall *lere, (*learn)
In heart them must be clean and chaste.
Marcelle, mine own disciple dear,
Do us have water here in haste.

MARCELUS Master, it is all ready here,
And here a towel clean to taste.

JESUS Come forth with me, all in *feere; (*fellowship, company)
My words shall not be wrought in waste.
Set your feet forth, let see:
They shall be washed soon.

PETRUS Ah, Lord, with thy leave, of thee
That deed shall not be done.

I shall never make my members meet
Of my sovereign service to see.

JESUS Peter, *but if thou let me wash thy feet, (*unless)
Thou gets no part in bliss with me.

PETRUS Ah, mercy, Lord and master sweet,
Out of that bliss that I not be,
Wash on, my Lorde, to all be *wete, (*known)
Both head and hand, beseech I thee.

JESUS Petir, thou *wots not yet (*knows)
What this work will be-mean.
Hereafter shall thou *wit, (*understand)
And so shall ye all, *bedene. (*obediently, bidden)

Tunc lavat manus.

[Then he washes his hands]

Your Lord and master ye me call,
And so I am, all wealth to wield.
Here have I knelt unto you all
To wash your feet as ye have feeled.
Example of me take ye shall
Ever for to *yeme in youth and **eld, (*attend, care) (**old age)
To be *buxsome in bower and hall, (*obedient)
*Ilkone for to bid other **belde. (*Each, every one) (**shelter, comfort)
For all if ye be true
And *lele of love **ilkone, (*faithful, loyal) (**each, every one)
Ye shall find others *ay new (*ever, always)
To grieve when I am gone.

JACOBUS Now since our master says he shall
Wend and will not tell us whither,
Which of us shall be principal,
Let look now whilst we dwell together.

JESUS I *wot your will, both great and small, (*know)
And your high hearts I hear them hither,
To which of you such fare should fall;
That might ye carp when ye come thither
Where it so should betide
Of such matters to *melle. (*tell, discuss)
But first behoves you bide
*Fayndyngis full fierce and fell. (*trials)

Here shall I set you for to see
This young child for examples *seere. (*diverse_
Both meek and mild of heart is he
And from all malice merry of cheer,
So meek and mild but if ye be
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(This presumably deals with the breaking of bread and drinking of wine.)

[JESUS] *Quod facis fac cicius,* **[That which you do, do quickly.]**
That thou shall do, do soon.

THOMAS Alas, so *wilsom *wights as we (*wilful) (**souls, people)
Was never in world walking in *wede; (*madness, fury)
Our master says his own *many (*company, household)
Has betrayed him to sinful seed.

JACOBUS MAJOR Ah, I hope, since thou sits next his knee,
We pray thee spur him for our speed.

JOHANNES *Domine, quis est qui tradit te?* **[Lord, who has betrayed you?]**
Lord, who shall do that doleful deed?
Alas, our play is past,
This false fore-word is fast;
I may no longer last,
For *bale mine heart may burst. (*sorrow, torment)

JUDAS Now is time to me to *gang, (*go, journey)
For here begins *noye all of new. (*noise, annoyance)
My fellows mumbles them among
That I should all this bargain brew,
And *certis they shall not *wene it wrong. (*certainly, surely) (*think)

To the prince of priests I shall pursue,
 And they shall *lere him other ought long (*teach)
 That all his *saws sore shall him rue. (*teachings, sayings)
 I *wot whether he removes (*know)
 With his *many **ilkone, (*company, household) (**each, everyone)
 I shall tell to the Jews
 And *tyte he shall be ta(ke)n. (*bound, swiftly)

JESUS I warn you now, my friends free,
 Cease to the *saws that I shall say: (*words, teachings)
 The fiend is wroth with you and me,
 And will you mar if that he may;
 But Peter I have prayed for thee
 So that thou shall not dread his *dray; (*attack)
 And comfort thou this *many (*company, household)
 And *wise them when I am gone away. (*advise, teach)

PETRUS Ah, Lord, where wilt thou *lende? (*live, land)
 I shall *lend in that **stead, (*live) (**place)
 And with thee shall I wend
 Evermore in life and dead.

ANDREAS No worldly dread shall me withdraw
 That I shall with thee live and die.

THOMAS *Certis, so shall we all on row, (*Certainly, surely)
 Else *mickle woe were we worthy. (*great)

JESUS Peter, I say to thee this *saw, (*teaching, speech)
 That thou shalt find no fantasy.
 This *ilke night ere the cock's crow (*same)
 Shall thou three times my name deny
 And say thou knew me never
 Nor no *many of mine. (*company, household)

PETRUS Alas, Lord, me were *lever (*rather)
 Be put to endless pain.

JESUS As I you say, so shall it be;
 Ye needs none other recourse to crave.
 All that in world is written of me
 Shall be fulfilled, for knight or knave.
 I am the (shep)herd, the sheep are ye,
 And when the herd shall harms have,
 The flock shall be full *fayne to flee (*eager)
 And succour seek themself to save.

Ye shall when I am slain
In great misliking *lende, (*live)
But when I rise again,
Than shall your mirth be mend.

Ye have been bound my *bale to beat, (*torment, suffering)
Therefore your *belde **ay shall I be; (*shield, comfort) (*ever, always)
And for ye did in dry and wet
My commandments in *ilke country. (*each, every)
The kingdom of heaven I you *behete (*behest, promise)
Even as my Father has *highte it me. (*promised)
With ghostly meat there shall we meet,
And on twelve *seeges sit shall ye, (*seats)
For ye truly took *yeme (*care, attention)
In world with me to dwell,
There shall ye sit *bydene (*bidden, obeyed)
Twelve *kinds of Israel. (*kindreds, tribes)

But first ye shall be *will of wone, (*wild of living)
And more *wathes than ye of *wene (*dangers) (**know)
From time shall come that I be torn;
Than shall ye turn away with *tene. (*sorrow)
And look that ye have swords *ilkone, (*each one)
And whoso have none you between
Shall sell his coat and buy him one:
Thus bid I that ye do *bedene. (*bidden, obediently)
Satchels I will ye have
And stones to stint all strife
Yourself for to save
In lengthening of your life.

ANDREAS Master, ye have here swords two
Us with to save on sides *seere. (*separate, apart)

JESUS It is enough, ye needs no mo(re),
For from all *wathes I shall you **were. (*dangers) (**ward, warn)
But rise now up, for we will go,
By this our enemies ordained are.
My Father said it shall be so;
His bidding will I not forbear.
Look ye learn forth this law
As ye have heard of me:
All that well will it know,
*Ay blessed shall they be. (*ever, always)