

Chester Cycle 1572/2010**Play 17****The Resurrection**

CAST: PILATE CAIAPHAS, ANNAS, FIRST KNIGHT, SECOND KNIGHT, THIRD KNIGHT, FIRST ANGEL, SECOND ANGEL, JESUS, MARY MAGDALEN, MARY JACOBI, MARY SALOME, PETER, JOHN.

PILATE	Per vous, Sir Caiaphas, et vous, et vous, Sir Annas, et son disciple Judas qui le traison fait,	
5	et grande luce de lucide a moi parfait delivere – Notre Dame fuit juge – pour louer roi elit.	
10	You lords and ladies so lovely and lere, you champions, renowned knights of kind, harken all hitherward, my hest-es to hear, for I am most fairest and freshest to find, and most highest I am of estate;	<i>beautiful by nature commands</i>
15	for I am prince peerless, most royal of riches, I may dispose and I may dress. My name is Sir Pilate.	<i>matchless set in order</i>
20	For Caesar, lord most of posty, honoured my estate and my degree. When that they sent Jesus to me to deliver him to be dead, they cried on me all, with one voice – the Jews on me made piteous noise. I gave them leave to hang him on cross.	<i>power</i>
25	This was through the Jews' read.	<i>advice</i>
30	I dread yet lest he will us grieve, for that I saw I may well believe – I saw the stones begin to cleave and dead men up did rise. In this city all about was none so stern nor so stout that up durst look; for great doubt they could so soon agrise.	<i>tremble</i>
35	And therefore, Sir Caiaphas, yet I dread lest there were peril in that deed. I saw him hang on rood and bleed till all his blood was shed. And when he should his death take, the weather waxed wondrous black –	
40	lightening, thunder – and earth began to quake. Thereof I am adread.	

[By you, Sir Caiaphas, and you, and you Sir Annas, and his disciple Judas who comitted treason, and the great light of brilliance to me perfectly revealed – Our Lady was judge – to praise the noble king]

CAIAPHAS	And this was yesterday, about noon?	
PILATE	Yes, sir Bishop, about noon. To speak thereof we have to done.	<i>must do</i>
45	For I let them bury him full soon in a tomb of stone. And therefore, sirs, among us three let us ordain and over see if there any peril be,	
50	before we hence gone	<i>go</i>
CAIAPHAS	Sir Pilate, all this was done, as we saw, after soon; but in due time in the afternoon the weather began to clear.	
55	And, sir, if it be your will, such words you let be still and speak of another skill, lest any man us hear.	<i>matter</i>
ANNAS	Yea, Sir Pilate, nought forthy <i>nevertheless</i> I saw him and his company raise men with sorcery that long before were dead. For, if there be any more such left, which know of such witchcraft, if that body be from us reft,	
60	think carefully, I read.	<i>taken advise</i>
65		
CAIAPHAS	Yea, Sir Pilate, I tell you right. Let us assign many a hardy knight, well armed to stand and fight with power and with force, that no shame to us befall. Let us decree here among us all and true men to us call to keep well the corpse.	
70		
PILATE	Now, by Jesus that died on rood, methink your counsel wondrous good. The best men of kin and blood at once I will in. Sir Colphram and Sir Jeragas – Aroysiat, and Sir Jerophas, we pray you, sirs, here in this case anon look you not blin.	
76		<i>fail</i>
80		
	Ah, my knights stiff and stern of heart, you be bold men and smart. I warn you now with words short, with you I have to done.	
85		<i>do</i>
1 ST KNIGHT	Sir, we be here, all and sum, as bold men, ready boun to drive your enemies all adown while that we may stand.	<i>prepared</i>
90		
	We be your knights every one. Faintness in us there shall be none. We will be avenged upon thy fone wherever they may be found –	<i>foes</i>

95	and for no dread from that we will wand.	<i>shrink</i>
PILATE	That I am well to understand. You be men strong of hand; I love you without lack.	<i>fail</i>
100	But that prophet who to death was draw because the reckoning of your Law – yet something makes me stands in awe in the words that he spake. Forsooth, this I heard him say, that he would rise the third day.	<i>dragged</i>
105	Now surely, and he so may, he hath a wondrous tack.	<i>endurance</i>
2 nd KNIGHT	Yea, let him but rise, if that he dare! For, if I of him be aware, he endured never a worse chare, before he might go away.	<i>fortune</i>
110	I helped to slay him ere-while. Does he think to do us more guile? Nay, it is no peril, my head here I dare lay.	<i>the time before</i> <i>wager</i>
3 RD KNIGHT	Yea, let him come alive! Certainly, while my fellows here and I keep watch and stand him by, he escapes not uncaught.	
116	For, if he once heave up his head, unless he be soon dead, shall I never eat more bread nor never more be saught.	<i>at peace</i>
120		
1 ST KNIGHT	Have good-day sir! We will be gone. Give us our charge every one.	
PILATE	Now farewell, the best of blood and bone, and take good heed unto my saw. For as I am a Roman true, if that you any treason sue, there is none of you shall it eschew but he shall be to-draw.	<i>what I said</i> <i>escape</i> <i>torn apart</i>
126		
130		
2 ND KNIGHT	Now, fellows, we be charged to hie. Our Prince hath sworn that we shall die without any prophecy or any other enchare	<i>make haste</i>
135	unless we act as men wise. I suggest we right well advise. Though he be bold, he shall not rise without one of us being aware.	<i>miracle</i> <i>consider</i>
3 RD KNIGHT	Sir, the most wit lieth in thee to ordain and to oversee. Ye been the eldest of us three, and man of most reknown. The tomb is here at our hand. Set us where we shall stand.	
140	If that he rise, we shall fand to beat him down.	<i>contrive</i>
145		
1 ST KNIGHT	And I shall now set us so,	

150 if that he rise and would go,
 one of us, or else two,
 shall witness his uprist. *rising*
 Stand thou there, and thou here,
 and I myself in middle mere. *marking the centre*
 I believe our hearts will not fear
 for they are valiant wist. *known*

Then two angels shall sing "Christus resurgens a mortuuis" etc. And Christ shall then rise again; and then, the singing having ended, he shall speak as follows:

JESUS (*rising again, and he shall stir those knights with his foot*)

155 Earthly man that I have wrought,
 awake out of thy sleep.
 Earthly man that I have bought.
 Of me take thou no keep. *heed*
 160 From Heaven Man's soul I sought
 into a dungeon deep;
 my dear beloved from thence I brought,
 for pity of her I weep.

 I am very Prince of Peace
 and King of great mercy.
 165 Who will from sin have release,
 on me they call and cry;
 and if they will their sins cease
 I grant them peace, truly,
 and thereto a full rich mess *portion of food*
 170 in bread – my own body.

 I am very bread of life.
 From Heaven I descended and am sent.
 Who eateth that bread, man or wife,
 shall live with me without end.
 175 And that bread that I you give
 Your wicked life for to amend,
 becomes my flesh through words five
 between the priest's hands.

 And whosoever eateth that bread
 180 in sin and wicked life,
 he receiveth his own death –
 I warn both man and wife;
 this bread shall be displayed in a stead *place*
 where joy is always fully rife.
abundant
 185 When he is dead, through fools' read, *advice*
 then is he brought to pain and strife.

Then the two angels, after Christ has risen again, shall sit in the sepulchre, one of them shall sit at the head and the other at the feet.

1ST KNIGHT Out, alas! Where am I?
 So bright about it is hereby
 that my heart wholly
 190 out of my skin is shaken.
 So frightened by fantasy
 was I never, in such annoy, *delusion*
 for I know not, certainly, *distress*
 whether I be asleep or waken.

Then he shall make his companion get up.

2 ND KNIGHT 196	Where art thou, sir bachelor? About me is marvellously clear. Reason fails me, without were, for more afraid I never was. To move away far or near	<i>knight</i> <i>truly</i>
200	I lack might and power. My heart in my body here is lifted up out of my breast.	
<i>Then he shall touch his companion and shall make him rise from sleep.</i>		
3 RD KNIGHT 205	Alas, what is this great light shining here in my sight? Weakened I am, both in strength and might; to move I have no main.	<i>strength</i>
210	These two beasts that are so bright – power I have not to rise aright – I am unable with them to fight, were I never so fain.	<i>eager</i>
1 ST KNIGHT 215	Yea, we are ruined, surely, for Jesus is risen, well know I, out of the sepulchre mightily, and thereof I have in mind. And as if dead here did I lie. Speak might I not, nor espy which way he took, truly – my eyes they were so blind.	
2 ND KNIGHT 220	Yea, I will creep forth upon my knee till I this peril pass-ed be, for my way I may not see, neither earth nor stone. Yea, in a wicked time we nailed him on the rood-tree.	
225	For, as he said, in days three risen he is and gone.	
3 RD KNIGHT 230	Hie we fast we were away for this is God's son truly. Strive with him we not may that master is and more. I will to Caiaphas, truly, the truth openly for to say. Farewell, sirs and have good day, for I will go before.	<i>hurry</i>
1 ST SOLDIER 236	We to stay here is no boot, for needs to Sir Pilate we mot and tell him both crop and root so truly as we wist.	<i>remedy</i> <i>must go</i> <i>the whole story</i> <i>know</i>
240	For, and the Jews knew as well as we that he is risen through his posty, then should the last error be worse than was the first.	<i>power</i>
<i>Then they shall go to Pilate.</i>		
2 ND KNIGHT 245	Listen, Sir Pilate! The truth to sayn, Jesus that was on Friday slain through his might is risen again.	

	This is the third day. There came no power to him fetch, but such a sleep he on us set that none of us might him let to rise and go his way.	<i>prevent</i>
250		
PILATE	Now by the oath that I have to Sir Caesar sworn, all you dogs' sons before tomorn shall die – thereof think no scorn. If it be on you long, if that you have privily sold him to his company, then are you worthy for to die justly for your own wrong.	<i>tomorrow</i>
255		
		<i>crime</i>
3 RD KNIGHT	Now by the order that I bear of knight, he rose up in the morning light by virtue of his own might. I know it well afine. He rose up, as I say now, and left us lying, I know ne'er how, all bemused and in a swow, as if we had been speared swine.	<i>completely</i>
260		
265		<i>swoon</i>
PILATE	Fie, thief! Fie, traitor! Fie on thee, thy truth is full bare! Fie, fiend, fie faitour! <i>scoundrel</i> Hie hence – fast I advise that thou fare!	<i>thin</i>
270		
1 ST KNIGHT	That time that he his way took dared I neither speak nor look, but for fear I lay and shook, and lay in a deep dream. He set his foot upon my back and every joint began to crack. I would not abide such another shock for all Jerusalem.	
275		
PILATE	Fie, harlot! Fie, hound! Fie on thee, thou rotten captive dog! What! Lay thou still at that stound and let that liar stand on thy rog?	<i>at that time</i> <i>back</i>
280		
285	Sir Caiaphas and Sir Annas, what say you to this trespass? I pray you, sirs, in this case advise me with some read.	<i>counsel</i>
CAIAPHAS	Now, good sir, I you pray, harken to me what I you say – for much avail us it may – and do after my spell. Pray them now, sir, pardee, as they love well thee, here as they stand all three, to keep well our counsel.	
290		
ANNAS	Sir Bishop, I tell you verament, unto your counsel I fully assent. This foolish prophet that we all to-rent through his witchcraft is stolen away.	<i>truly</i> <i>tore apart</i>
296		

300 Therefore let us call our council together
and let us put an end to the whole matter,
or else our laws are destroyed for ever.

PILATE
305 Now, in good faith, full woe is me,
and so I believe are all ye,
that he is risen thus privily
and is from us escaped.
Now I pray you, sirs, as ye love me,
keep this in close and privacy
until our council, and till we,
have heard how he is escaped.

*Then he shall give them money, and they shall go. And the women shall come
weeping and seeking Jesus.*

MARY MAGD. 311	Alas, now lost is my liking. For woe I wander and hands wring. My heart in sorrow and sighing is sadly set and sore. Him I most loved of all thing, alas, is now full low lying. Why am I, Lord, so long living to lose thy happy lore?	<i>happiness</i>
315		<i>teaching</i>
MARY JACOBI 320	Alas, weal away is went! My help, my joy from me is hent. My Christ, my comfort, that me kent, is enclosed now in clay. Mighty God Omnipotent, thou give them hard judgement, that my sovereign hath so shent, for so I may well say.	<i>taken</i> <i>taught</i>
325		<i>destroyed</i>
MARY SALOME 330	Alas, now marred is all my might! My Lord, through whom I was made light shamefully slain here in my sight! My sorrow is always uncaught. Since I may have no other right of these devils that have my Lord so dight, to anoint his body that is so bright a box here have I brought.	<i>inconsolable</i> <i>treated</i> <i>fair</i>
MARY MAGD. 335	Sister, which of us every one shall remove this great stone that lieth my sweet Lord upon for move it I not may?	
MARY JACOBI 340	Sister, mastery is it none. It seems to me as he were gone. For on the sepulchre sitteth one, and the stone is away.	
MARY SALOME 345	Two children I see there sitting – all of white is their clothing – and the stone beside lying. Go we near and see.	

Then they shall go and shall look into the sepulchre.

1ST ANGEL
What seek ye women here
with weeping and unhappy cheer?

Jesus, that to you was dear,
is risen, believe you me.

2ND ANGEL
351

Be not afraid of us together,
for he is gone, without were,
as he before did you lere,
forth into Galilee.

*truly
teach*

1ST ANGEL
355

This is the place, therefore be apaid,
where Jesus our Lord was in laid.
But he is risen, as he said,
and hence gone away,

content

2ND ANGEL
360

Make haste, for ought that may befall,
and tell his disciples all;
and Peter also say you shall
there find him that you may.

MARY MAGD.
365

Ah, we hie fast for anything,
and tell Peter this tiding.
A most blessed word we may him bring,
truth if that it were.

MARY
JACOBI

Yea, walk thou, sister, by one way,
and we another shall assay
till we have met with him today,
my beloved Lord so dear.

*Then they shall leave, and shall walk around for a little while; and then they shall meet
the disciples Peter and John.*

MARY MAGD.
371

Ah, Peter and John, alas, alas!
There is befallen a wondrous case.
Some man my Lord stolen has
and put him I know not where.

PETER
375

What? Is he removed out of the place
in the which he buried was?

MARY MAGD.

Yea, certainly, all my solace
is gone, and is not there.

JOHN
380

Peter, go we hither anon,
running as fast as we may gone,
to look who hath removed the stone
and whether he be away.

go

PETER
385

Abide, brother, sweet John,
lest we meet with any fone;
but now I see none other one,
to run I will assay.

foes

try

*Then they shall both run together; but John shall run more quickly than Peter;
and he shall not enter the sepulchre.*

JOHN
390

Ah. Peter, brother, truly,
my Lord Jesu is away,
but his shroud, truth to say,
lying here I find
by itself, as thou see may;
far from all other clothes it lay.
Now Mary's words are true verray,

as we may have in mind.

PETER
395
Yea, but as God keep me from woe,
into the sepulchre I will go
to look whether it be truly so
as Mary to us did say.

Then he shall go into the sepulchre.

PETER
400
Ah, Lord, blessed be thou ever and oo,
for as thou told me and others moe
I find thou has overcome our foe
and risen art, truly. *always
more*

Then Peter shall speak in a sorrowing fashion.

PETER
405
Ah, Lord, how shall I do for shame –
that have deserved so much blame
to forsake thy sweet name –
to meet with thee by any way;
I, that in penance and great annoy
my sweet Lord forsook times three - *anguish*
except for endless hope of his mercy,
in that trust I may.

410
For if it were not for his great grace
and sorrow to heart in that me was,
worse I were than was Judas,
my Lord so to forsake.

JOHN
415
Peter, comfort thee in this case,
for surely my Lord Jesus accepted has
great repentance for thy trespass;
my Lord in his heart it will take.

Go we seek Jesus anon on hie,
one way thou, another way I. *immediately*

PETER
421
Yea, well I hope through his might
my penance shall him please.

*Then they shall go off, one along one way and the other along another.
The women shall come.*

MARY MAGD.
425
Hence will I never, certainly.
Till I be comforted of mine annoy
and know where he is readily,
here will I sit and weep. *distress
for certain*

1ST ANGEL
Woman, why weepest thou so ay?

MARY MAGD.
430
Son, for my Lord is taken away
and I know not where, the sooth to say,
or who hath done that thing.
Alas, why were I not dead today,
held fast and enclosed under clay,
to see my Lord that here lay
once at my liking.

*Then Jesus shall come, clad in an alb and carrying a cross-staff in his hands;
and Mary Magdalen shall go to meet him as he approaches, speaking.*

JESUS
435 Why weapest thou, woman? tell me why.
 Whom seekest thou so tenderly?

MARY MAGD. My Lord, sir, was buried hereby
 and now he is away.
 If thou hast caused me this annoy, *distress*
 tell me, dear sir, hastily
440 at once this same day.

JESUS Woman, is not thy name Mary?

MARY MAGD. Ah, Lord, I ask thee mercy,

JESUS Mary, touch not my body
 for yet I have not been
445 with my Father Almighty;
 but to my brethren go thee in hie *in haste*
 and of this thing thou certify
 that thou hast truly seen.

450 Say to them all that I will be gone
 to my Father that I came from –
 and their Father; he and I all one.
 Hurry! Look that thou not dwell. *linger*

MARY MAGD. Ah! Be thou blessed ever and oo! *ever*
 Now taken away is all my woe.
455 This is joy to them and other moe. *more*
 At once I will go tell.

Mary Magdalen shall go to Mary Jacobi and to Mary Salome.

MARY MAGD. Ah, women, joy now gain-ed is.
 My Lord Jesus is risen iwiss.
 With him I spoke a little ere this
460 and saw him with mine eye.
 My bale is turn-ed into bliss.
 Mirth in mind there may none miss,
 for he bade me warn those who are his
 to Heaven that he would flee. *depart*

MARY
JACOBI
466 Ah, sister go we search and see
 whether these words true be.
 No joy would be worth half so much to me
 as to see him in this place.

MARY
SALOME
470 Ah, sister, I beseech thee
 with strong resolve go we,
 for eager methinks to him to fly
 to see his fair face.

Then the women shall go, and Jesus shall come to meet them, speaking.

JESUS All hail, women, all hail!

Then Mary Jacobi, making a curtsey, shall speak.

MARY
JACOBI
476 Ah, Lord, we believe without fail
 that thou art risen us to heal,
 and rescue us from woe.

JESUS	Be not afraid, women, of me, but to my brethren now wend ye and bid them go to Galilee; there meet with me they mon.	<i>may</i>
480		
MARY JACOBI	Anon. Lord, done it shall be! Happy are they this sight to see, for Mankind, Lord, is bought by thee through thy great Passion.	
MARY SALOME	Peter, tidings good and new! We have seen my Lord Jesu alive, pure in skin and hue, and handled have his feet.	
487		
PETER	Yea, happy are you that have been true, for I denied that I him knew. Therefore shame makes me eschew with my Lord for to meet.	
490		
	But yet I hope to see his face; though I have done so great trespass. My sorrow of heart known he has and to it will take heed. Thither as he buried was I will hurry to run apace of my sweet Lord to ask grace for my foul misdeed.	
495		
500		
<i>Then Jesus shall come to meet Peter. (Here Jesus cometh with a cross-staff in his hand.)</i>		
JESUS	Peter, knows thou not me?	
PETER	Ah, Lord, mercy I ask thee with full heart, kneeling on my knee. Forgive me my trespass. My faint flesh and my frailty made me, Lord, false to be; but forgiveness with heart free do grant me through thy grace!	
505		
JESUS	Peter, so I thee behight that thou should forsake me that night. This deed thou must have in sight when thou hast sovereignty. Think on thine own deed today, that flesh is frail and falling ay; and merciful be thou alway as now I am to thee.	<i>assured</i> <i>remember</i>
510		
515		
	Therefore I suffered thee to fall: that to thy subjects hereafter all that to thee shall cry and call, thou may have minning. Since thyself fallen has, the more incline to grant grace. Go forth! Forgiven is thy trespass. And have here my blessing.	<i>remembrance</i>
520		