

Chester Cycle 1572/2010

Play 22

Antichrist [edited version]

CAST: ANTICHRIST, King Henry, King Edward, FIRST DEAD, SECOND DEAD, ENOCH, ELIJAH, COUNSELLOR, THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL, FIRST DEVIL, SECOND DEVIL, Antichrist Holy Spirit, Sacrificial Lamb

ANTICHRIST De celso throno poli, pollens clarior sole,
age vos monstrare descendi, vos judicare.
Reges et principes sunt subditi sub me viventes.
Descendi praesens rex pius et perlustrator;
'Princeps Aeternus' vocor, 'Christus, vester Salvator.'

["From the high throne of the heavens, shining brighter than the sun, I have come down to make you see, to judge you. Living kings and rulers are put down beneath me. Be wise, believing in me always, and I shall make those who weep and grieve rejoice. Thus all nations placing hope in me shall rejoice. I have come down in your sight as a benevolent king and for your scrutiny; I am called 'Eternal Prince, Christ your Saviour'"]

[All Latin will be sung and will act like a spell/enchantment]

10	All peoples in land now be light that will be ruled completely by right. Your Saviour now in your sight here you may safely see.	<i>happy</i>
20	Of me was spoken in prophecy of Moses, David and Isay I am he they call 'Messy' "Redeemer of Israel." Those that believe on me steadfastly, [distribute gold-covered chocolate] I shall them save from annoy, and joy just as have I with them I intend to deal.	<i>Isaiah Messiah torment share</i>
25	"Tollam vos de gentibus et congregabo vos de universis terris, et reducam vos in terram vestram." [<i>For I will take you from among the heathen and gather you out of all countries and will bring you into your own land.</i> "] But one has misrepresented himself here in land, Jesus he is called I understand. To further falsehood he has fand and puffed up himself with fantasy.	<i>earth contrived</i>
30	His wickedness he would not wond till he was taken and put in bond and slain through the power of my sond. This is truth, assuredly.	<i>cease bondage messenger</i>
35	My people the Jews he did twin that their land they cannot come in. Then on them now I must have min and restore them again. To build this temple will I not blin, as God honoured be therein	<i>dispersed mind cease</i>
40	and endless joy I shall them win, [throw gold-covered chocolate] all that to me are bain.	<i>obedient</i>
	"Adorabo ad templum sanctum	

tuum in timore tuo" [*"I worship toward thy holy temple in thy fear."*]

	One thing pleases me, be you bold. As Daniel the prophet before me told, all men in the world love me should when I were come into the land.	<i>sure</i>
45	This prophecy I shall well hold which is most pleasing to young and old.	<i>keep</i>
50	Also he told them, believe you me, that I of gift-es should be free, which prophecy fulfilled shall be when I my realm have won;	<i>generous</i>
55	and that I should grant men posty,[throw gold-covered chocs] abundant riches, land and fee - it shall be done, that you shall see, when I am hither come.	<i>power</i> <i>reward</i>
	"Dabit eis potestatem, et multis terram dividet gratuito," [<i>He shall give them rule over</i> <i>many, and shall divide the land for gain."</i>]	
60	What say you kings that here be lent? Are not my words at your assent? That I am Christ Omnipotent believe you not each one?	<i>dwelling</i> <i>agreeable to you</i>
Henry	We believe, lord, without let, that Christ is not come yet. If thou be he, thou shall be set in temple as God alone.	<i>truly</i>
Edward 66	If thou be Christ, call-ed "Messy", that from our torment shall us buy, do before us a mastery, a sign that we may see.	<i>act of power</i>
70	Then will I believe that it is so. If thou do wonders before you go so that thou save us from our woe, then honoured shalt thou be.	
ANTICHRIST 80	That I am Christ and Christ will be by true sign soon shall you see, for dead men through my posty shall rise from death to life.	<i>power</i>
85	Men buried in grave as you may see, what mastery is now, think ye, to raise them up through my posty and all through my own accord?	<i>power</i> <i>consent</i>
	Rise up dead men and honour me, and know me for your lord.	
	<i>Then the dead shall rise again from the grave</i>	
1 ST DEAD 90	Ah, Lord, of thee I ask mercy. [zombies must get Henry to kneel] I was dead, but now live I. Now know I well and certainly that Christ is hither come.	

2 ND DEAD	Him let us worship and all men devoutly kneeling on our knen	<i>knees</i>
95	Worshipped be thou here – Amen – Christ that our form has nome.	<i>taken</i>
ANTICHRIST	That I shall fulfill Holy Writ you shall know and know well it, for I am the well-spring of joy and wit and lord of every land.	<i>understanding</i>
100		
	“Expecta me in die resurrectionis meae in futurum quia judicium ut congregem gentes ad colligam regna,” <i>[Wait upon me until the day of my resurrection in the future when I will gather the nations and assemble the kingdoms”]</i>	
105	Now will I die, that you shall see, and rise again through my posty. I will in grave that you put me and worship me alone.	<i>power</i>
110	For in this temple a tomb is made; therein my body shall be laid. Then will I rise as I have said – take heed to me each one!	
	I die, I die! Now am I dead!	
Henry	Now since this worthy lord is dead and his grace is to us led, to take his body it is my read and bury it in a grave.	<i>committed counsel</i>
120		
Edward	Truly, and so he to us said in a tomb he would be laid. Now go we forth, all in a braid; from distress he may us save.	<i>instant</i>
125		
	<i>Then they shall go across to Antichrist.</i>	
Edward	Take we the body of this sweet and bury it now under the greet. Now, Lord, comfort us, we thee beseech, and send us some of thy grace.	<i>beloved one earth</i>
Henry	And if he rise soon through his might from death to life, as he behight, him will I honour day and night as God in every place.	<i>promised</i>
131		
	<i>Then they shall withdraw from the grave-mound as far as the ground.</i>	
Henry	Now know I well that he is dead, for now in grave we have him laid. If he rise as he has said, he is of full great might.	
135		
Edward	I cannot believe him upon unless he rise himself alone as he hath said to many a one, and reveal himself here in sight.	
140		

Henry 146	I must mourn with all my main till Christ be risen up again and by that miracle make us fain. Rise up, Lord, that we may see.	<i>strength</i> <i>happy</i>
<i>Then Antichrist shall raise his body up, rising from the dead.</i>		
ANTICHRIST 150	I rise! Now reverence do to me, God glorified created of degree. If I be Christ, now believe ye and act after my wise.	<i>by rank</i> <i>fashion</i>
Henry 155	Ah, Lord, welcome may thou be. That thou art God believe now we. Therefore, go sit up in thy see and keep our sacrifice.	 <i>throne</i>
[He is freaked out and wants antichrist to get away from him]		
<i>Then they shall go across to Antichrist with a sacrifice.</i> [Bring lamb/Hannah to stage]		
Edward	Truly, in seat thou shalt be set and honoured with lamb and get as Moses' Law that endures yet, as he hath said before.	 <i>goat</i>
[Edward believes in the miracle and is willing to be dazzled and obey]		
Henry 162	Oh, gracious Lord, go sit down then, and we shall, kneeling on our knen, worship thee as thine own men and work according to thy lore.	 <i>knees</i> <i>teaching</i>
<i>Then Antichrist shall go up to the throne.</i>		
Edward 166	Hither we are come with good intent to make our sacrifice, Lord excellent, with this lamb that I have here hent, kneeling thee before.	 <i>taken</i>
170	Thou grant us grace to do and say what may be pleasing to thee alway, to thy bliss that come we may and never from it be lore.	 <i>lost</i>
ANTICHRIST 175	I Lord, I God, I High Justice, I Christ that made the dead to rise! Here I receive your sacrifice and bless you, flesh and fell.	 <i>completely</i>
<i>Then they shall withdraw from Antichrist.</i>		
ANTICHRIST 180	I will now send my Holy Ghost, you kings also to you I tell, to know me Lord of might-es most of Heaven, Earth and Hell.	
<i>Then he shall send forth his Spirit, saying: "Dabo vobis cor novum et spiritum novum in medio vestri." ["A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit within you."]</i> [What exactly does an Antichrist Holy Ghost look like? At the moment Callie's sister will pop up from the trap and with pipe/sparklers enchant/drug the kings]		

KINGS (*in chorus*)

Ah, God, Ah, Lord great of might!
This Holy Ghost is in me pight.
It seems my heart is very light
since it came to me.

fixed
joyful

ANTICHRIST

200 You kings, I shall advance you all,
and, because your regions be but small,
cities, castles shall you befall,
with towns and towers gay;
and make you lords of lordships fair,
as well it befits my power.
Yea, look ye do as I you here [pt. to audience]
and pay attention to what I say.

splendid
splendid realms

teach

205 I am true God of might.
All things I made through my might –
sun and moon, day and night.
To bliss I may you bring.
210 Therefore, kings noble and gay,
signify to your people what I say –
that I am Christ, God verily –
and tell them such tidings.

splendid

215 And the gifts that I beight
you shall have, as is good right.
Hence before I go out of your sight
each one shall know his dole.

promised
right and proper

portion

220 To thee I give Lombardy;
and to thee Denmark and Hungary;
and take thou Patmos and Italy;
and Rome it shall be thine.

Edward

Gramercy, Lord, your gifts today!
Honour we will thee always,
for we were never so rich, truly,
nor none of our kin.

ANTICHRIST
226

Therefore be true and steadfast ay;
and truly believe on my lay,
for I will listen to you today,
steadfast if I you find.

always
law

Then Antichrist shall withdraw, and Enoch and Elijah shall come.

[Entrance accompanied by trumpet/ walk through the audience, possibly chinese firecrackers?]
[Enoch is the angry one, think Thomas More persecuting the protestants, Elijah is the rational,
academic one, think Erasmus]

ENOCH
230

Almighty God in majesty,
that made the Heaven and Earth to be,
fire, water, stone and tree,
and Mankind through thy might –
the attributes of thy privity
any mortal man for to see
235 is impossible, it seems to me,
for any worldly wight.

person

Gracious Lord, who art so good,
who has granted life and heavenly food

240	to all who live as flesh and blood, let never our thoughts be defiled; but give us, Lord, might and main, before we by this wretch be slain, to convert thy people back again that he hath thus beguiled.	<i>power and strength</i>
245	Since the world's beginning I have lived in great liking through help of high and Heaven King in Paradise without annoy, till we heard tokening	<i>happiness</i> <i>distress</i> <i>evidence</i>
250	of this thief's coming that now on Earth is reigning and doth God's folks destroy.	
255	To Paradise I was taken that tide this thief his coming to abide, and Hely, my brother, here me beside, was after sent to me. With this champion we must chide that now in world walketh wide, to disprove his pomp and pride and diminish all his posty.	<i>time</i> <i>await</i> <i>dispute</i> <i>power</i>
260		
ELLJAH	Oh Lord who made all thing and long has given us living, let never the Devil's power spring which this man hath him within.	
265	God give you grace. both old and young, to know the deceit that he is doing, that you may come to that liking of bliss that never shall blin.	<i>joy</i> <i>cease</i>
270	I warn you all men, certainly, this is Enoch, I am Hely, who are come his errors to destroy that he to you now shows. He calls himself "Christ" and Messy" He lies, forsooth, openly.	<i>Messiah</i>
275	He is the Devil, you to annoy, because none other him knows.	<i>harm</i> <i>recognise</i>
Edward	Ah, men what speak ye of Hely and Enoch? They are both in company. Of our blood they are, truly. and we be of their kind.	<i>companions</i> <i>kindred</i>
280		
Henry	We read in Books of our Law that they to heaven were idraw – and still are there by common saw, written as men may find.	<i>drawn up</i> <i>opinion</i> <i>discover</i>
ENOCH	We be those men, truly iwiss, come to say that you do amiss, and bring your souls to Heaven-bliss if there were any boot.	<i>improvement</i>
286		
ELLJAH	This Devil's limb that come is, that saith Heaven and Earth are his, now we be ready, believe you this,	
290		

	against him for to moot.	<i>argue our case</i>
Edward 295	If that we here know mon by proofs of disputation that you have skill and reason, with you we will abide.	<i>may</i>
Edward 300	And if your skills may do him down, to die with you we will be boun in hope of salvation, whatever may betide.	<i>ready</i>
ENOCH 305	To do him down we shall assay through might of Jesus born of a may, by right and reason, as you shall say, and that you shall well hear. And for that cause hither were we sent by Jesus Christ Omnipotent, and that you shall not all be shent. He bought you all full dear.	<i>try</i> <i>virgin</i>
310	Be glad, therefore, and make good cheer, and I do counsel as I you lere, for we are come in good manner to save you every one. And dread you not for that false fiend, for you shall see him cast behind	<i>teach</i>
315	before we depart and from him wend, and shame shall light him on.	<i>go</i> <i>descend</i>
	<i>And thus Enoch and Elijah shall go across to Antichrist.</i>	
ENOCH 320	Say, thou very Devil's limb, that sits so grizzly and so grim – from him thou came, and shalt to him, for many a soul thou beguiles. Thou hast deceived men many a day and manipulated the people to thy pay, and bewitched them into a wrong way wickedly with thy wiles. [Enoch should be a bit aggressive and use his staff to threaten Antichrist, antichrist can attempt to use sexy wiles on Enoch.]	
ANTICHRIST 326	Ah, false scoundrels, from me ye flee! Am I not most in majesty? What men dare act thus to me or make such distance?	<i>kingly power</i> <i>discord</i>
ELIJAH 330	Fie on thee, scoundrel, fie on thee, the Devil's own nurry! Through him thou preacheest and has posty for a time through sufferance. [Elijah has to physically pull Enoch away]	<i>foster-child</i> <i>power</i>
ANTICHRIST 335	Oh you hypocrites that so cryen! Liars, reascals! Loudly you lyen! To destroy my Law you aspyen. You that my true faith defyen and harm my folk with charms divine, from hence hastily! But you hence hasten, to you comes sorrow and care.	<i>cry out</i> <i>lie</i> <i>set a trap</i> <i>defy</i> <i>divination</i> <i>unless</i>
340		

ENOCH	Thy sorrow and care come on thy head, for falsely through thy wicked read the people are put to pain.	<i>counsel</i>
345	I would thy body were from thy head twenty mile from it laid, till I brought it again!	
[Tries to behead Antichrist, is pulled back by Enoch and the Counsellor is like the Antichrist's bodyguard, trying to stop violence from happening.]		
ANTICHRIST	Out on thee stupid babbler, with thy wiles, for falsely my people thou beguiles. I shall thee hastily hang,	
350	and that scoundrel that stand thee by – he puts my folk to great annoy with his false flattering tongue. [From here, counsellor tries to kick 2 prophets off stage]	<i>distress</i>
ANTICHRIST	Out on you, thieves both two. Each man may see you be so all by your array,	
365	muffled in mantles! None such I know.	
380	My might is most, I tell thee. I died, I rose through my posty. That all these kings saw with their ee, and every man and wife. And miracles and marvels I did also.	<i>power. eyes</i>
385	I counsel you, therefore, both two, to worship me and no moe and let us no more strive.	<i>other contend</i>
ELIJAH	They were no miracles but marvellous things that thou showed unto these kings. Into falsehood thou them brings through the Fiend's craft.	
390	And as the flower now springs, falleth, fadeth, and hangs, so thy joys – now it rings that shall be from thee raft. [Antichrist Start losing composure]	<i>wilts flourishes taken away</i>
ANTICHRIST	Out on thee, thief that sits so still!	
COUNSELLOR	Oh Lord, Master, what shall I say then?	
ANTICHRIST	I curse both thy knen! Do you have to be told then? In faith, I shall thee grieve.	<i>knees</i>
401		
405	Through my godhead I made thee wise and set thee always at a great price. Now I would have thy good advice and hear what thou would say. These villains they would happily me grieve and nothing about me will they believe, but ever are ready me to repreve	
410	and take my people from my lay.	<i>rebuke law.</i>
COUNSELLOR	Oh Lord that art so great of might I think thou shouldst not argue nor fight;	

	but curse them, Lord, through thy might. Then shall they fare full ill.	
415	For those whom thou blesses, they will speed; and those whom thou cursest, they are but dead. This is my counsel and my read, yonder heretics for to spill.	<i>prosper as good as advice destroy</i>
ANTICHRIST 420	The same I purposed, believe thou me. All things I know through my posty. But yet thy wisdom I thought to see, what was thine intent.	<i>power</i>
425	It shall be done most certainly; the sentence given full openly with my mouth, truly, upon them shall be hent.	<i>delivered</i>
	My curse I give you to amend your meels, from your head to your heels! Walk ye forth in your way.	<i>arguments?</i>
	[How does the Antichrist curise people visually?]	
ENOCH 431	Yea, thou shalt never come in caelis for falsely with thy wiles the people are put in pain.	<i>into heaven</i>
	[Enoch angry, Antichrist gets angry]	
ANTICHRIST 435	Out on you, thieves! Why behave like this? Which would you rather have, pain or bliss? I may save you from all amiss.	<i>trouble</i>
440	I made the day and also the night and all things that are on Earth growing – flowers fair and fresh did spring; also I made all other thing – the stars that be so bright.	<i>grew up</i>
ELIJAH 460	Fie on thee, felon, fie on thee, fie! For all thy witchcraft and sorcery, to dispute with thee I am ready, that all the people may hear.	
ANTICHRIST	Out on you, harlots! Whence come ye? Where have any other god but me?	
ENOCH 465	Yea – Christ, God in Trinity, thou false scoundrel attaint, that sent his Son from Heaven-see that for Mankind died on rood-tree, that shall full soon make thee to flee, thou faitour false and faint.	<i>corrupt heavenly throne scoundrel</i>
ANTICHRIST	Villains, go out of my way! What is “the Trinity” for to say?	
ELIJAH 471	Three Persons, as believe thou may, in one Godhead together – Father and Son, that is no nay, and the Holy Ghost active ay.	<i>denying always</i>
475	That is one God, truly; are all three named here.	
	[Antichrist kick them out and beat back with scepter]	

ANTICHRIST 476	Out on you, thieves! What say ye? Will you have one God and three? How dare you so say? Madmen! madmen! Therefore believe on me that am one God – so is not he!	
480		
ELLJAH 500	Fie on thee, felon, fie on thee, fie! For through his might and majesty by sufferance of God Almighty, the people are blinded through thee.	
ANTICHRIST 510	Ah fools, I advise you, believe me upon that miracles have showed to many one, to the people every one, to put them out of doubt. Therefore I advise you hastily, convert to me most mighty. I shall you save from annoy, and that I am about.	<i>anguish</i>
ENOCH 516	Now something of thy miracle would I see. Therefore come hither are we – to see what is thy great posty and something of it to lear.	<i>power learn</i>
[Enoch and Elijah	can comeback on stage]	
ANTICHRIST 520	Soon may you see, if you will abide, for I will neither dispute nor chide. Of all the world that is so wide therein is not my peer.	<i>equal</i>
ENOCH 525	Bring forth those men here in our sight that thou hast raised against the right. If thou be so great of might as to make them eat and drink, for the true God we will thee know such a sign if thou wilt show, and do thee reverence on a row all at thy liking.	<i>wrongfully acknowledge together</i>
530		
ANTICHRIST 535	Wretches damn-ed all be ye! But nought for that! It befits me as a gracious God tolerant to be, if you will reform your way of life. You dead men, rise through my posty. Come, eat and drink, that men may see, and prove me worthy of Deity; so shall we stop all strife.	<i>power</i>
1 ST DEAD 540	Lord, thy bidding I will do ay and for to eat I will assay.	<i>always try</i>
2 ND DEAD	And I also, all that I may, will do thy bidding here.	
ELLJAH 545	Have here bread both two. But I must bless it before it go, that the Fiend, Mankind's foe over it may have no power	
[use hostholder	like a cross to vampires]	

	This bread I bless with my hand in Jesus name, I understand, the which is Lord of sea and land and King of Heaven on high. "In nomine patris" that all hath wrought, "et Filii Virginis" that dear us bought, "et Spiritus Sancti" is all my thought, "one God in Persons three." [Chase the dead with your host holder]	<i>[making the sign of the cross]</i>
550		
1 ST DEAD 556	Alas! Put that bread out of my sight! To look on it I am not light. That mark that is upon it pight, it puts me in great fear.	<i>happy set</i>
2 ND DEAD 560	To look on it I am not light. That bread to me it is so bright and is my foe both day and night, and puts me to great fear.	<i>happy</i>
ENOCH 565	Now, you men that have done amiss you see what his real power is. Convert to him, I read iwiss, that you on the cross hath bought.	<i>advise redeemed</i>
Henry	Ah, now we know openly, we have been led into heresy. With you to death we will go forthy, and never again turn our thought.	<i>therefore alter our resolve</i>
Edward 571	Now, Enoch and Hely, we cannot deny you have defeated the tyrant this same day. Blessed be Jesus, born of a may! Him I believe upon.	<i>maiden</i>
Henry 575	Thou scoundrel, hidden by fantasy, with sorcery, witchcraft and necromancy, thou hast us led into heresy. Fie on thy works each one!	<i>magic</i>
Edward 580	Jesus, for thy great grace, forgive us all our trespass and bring us to thy heavenly place, as thou art God and Man. Now am I made wise through thy might. Blessed be thou, Jesus, day and night! This grizzly groom arms him to fight and slay us here anon.	<i>at once</i>
585		
Henry	For our lives let us not retch, though we be slain by such a wretch, for Jesus' sake who may us teach how our souls to bring to bliss.	<i>care</i>
Edward 591	That was well said, and so I assent. To die, truly, is mine intent for Christ's love Omnipotent, in a cause that is righteous.	<i>resolve</i>
	[Kneel, act like a martyr]	
ANTICHRIST	Ah, false faitours turn you now!	

	To win more souls into our wone – but now it is too late!	<i>dwelling</i>
2 ND DEVIL 641	With me thou shalt go – from me thou did come. From me shall come thy final doom. for thou hast it well deserved.	
645	And through my might and my posty thou hast lived in dignity and many a soul deceived.	<i>power high estate</i>
1 ST DEVIL	This body was begotten by mine assent [be lecherous] in pure lechery, truly. Of mother’s womb before he went, I was him within	
650	and taught him ever with mine intent to sin, by which he shall be shent. Because he did my commandment, his soul shall never blin.	<i>will destroyed find rest</i>
2 ND DEVIL 655	Now, fellow, in faith great moan we make for this lord of estate that stands in this stead. Many a fat morsel we had for his sake of souls that should have been saved – in Hell are they hid!	<i>place</i>
	[Shall the kings be zombie food?] <i>Then they shall take hold of his soul, and later his body.</i>	
1 ST DEVIL	His soul with sorrow in hand have I hent. Yea, penance and pain soon shall he feel!	<i>seized</i>
660	To Lucifer, that lord, it shall be present that burn shall as a brand. His sorrow shall not cool.	<i>presented</i>
2 ND DEVIL	This procurator of prophecy hath procured many one on his laws to believe, and lost for his sake their souls be, in sorrow – and his shall be soon!	
665	Such great deeds through my might many do I make! <i>Then the body of Antichrist is borne away by the devils.</i>	
1 ST DEVIL	With Lucifer, that lord, long shall he leng; in a seat ay with sorrow with him shall he sit.	<i>dwell ever</i>
2 ND DEVIL	Yea, by the heels in Hell shall he hang in a dungeon deep, right in Hell-pit!	
1 ST DEVL 671	To Hell I hasten without any fail, with this present of worth thither to bring.	<i>delay</i>
2 ND DEVIL	Thou take him by the top and I by the tail. A sorrowful song, in faith, shall he sing!	
1 ST DEVIL 675	Ah, fellow, a dole look that thou deal to all this fair company before hence thou wend.	<i>portion go</i>
2 ND DEVIL	Yea, sorrow and care ever shall they feel. If in Hell they shall dwell at their last end.	
ENOCH 680	Ah, Lord, that all shall lead and judge both the quick and dead! Who reverence thee, thou on them heed and them through righteousness relieve.	

	I was dead and right here slain, but through thy might, Lord, and thy main thou hast me rais-ed up again. Thee will I love and in thee believe.	
685		
ELLJAH	Yea, Lord, blessed may thou be, my flesh glorified now I see. Cunning nor deceit against thee planned may be by no way.	<i>no means</i>
690	All that believe in thee steadfastly thou helps, Lord, out of all annoy, for dead I was, and now live I. Honoured be thou ay.	<i>trouble</i> <i>for ever</i>
MICHAEL	Enoch and Hely, come you anon My Lord desires that you with me be gone to Heaven-bliss, both blood and bone, evermore there to be.	<i>at once</i>
695		
700	You have been long, for you are wise, dwelling in Earthly Paradise; but to Heaven where God himself is now shall you go with me.	

Then leading them to Heaven, the Angel shall sing "Gaudete just in Domino," etc.
[Kings remain on stage? Or will they rise and follow?]