

Lazamon's Proem

<p>An preost wes on leoden*; Lazamon wes ihoten.* he wes Leouenaðes sone; liðe* him beo Drihten.* He wonede* at Ernleze*; at æðelen* are* chirechen. vppen Seuarne* staþe*; sel* þar him þuhte.* 5 on-fest* Radestone*; þer he bock radde.* Hit com him on mode*; & on his mern þonke.* þet he wolde of Engle*; þa æðelæn* tellen. wat heo ihoten* weoren; & wonene* heo comen. Ða Englene londe; ærest* ahten.* 10 æfter þan flode; þe from Drihtene* com. Ðe al her a-quelde* quic* þat he funde. buten* Noe* & Sem*; Iaphet* & Cham.* & heore four wiues; þe mid heom weren on archen.* Lazamon gon liðen*; wide 3ond* þas leode. 15 & bi-won* þa æðela* boc; þa he to bisne* nom. He nom þa Englisca boc; þa makede Seint Beda.* An-oþer he nom on Latin; þe makede Seinte Albin.* & þe feire Austin*; þe fulluht* broute hider in. Boc he nom þe þridde*; leide þer amidden.* 20 Ða makede a Frenchis cleric; Wace wes ihoten*; þe wel couþe* writen. & he hoe* 3ef* þare* æðelen*; Ælienor* Ðe wes Henries quene; þes hezes* kinges. Lazamon leide þeos* boc; & þa leaf wende.* 25 he heom leofliche* bi-heold. liþe* him beo Drihten.* Feþeren he nom mid fingren; & fiede* on boc-felle.* & þa soþere word*; sette to-gadere. & þa þre boc*; þrumde* to are.* Nu bidde[ð]* Lazamon alcne* æðele* mon; 30 for þene* almiten Godd. Ðet þeos boc rede*; & leornia* þeos runan.* Ðat he þeos soðfeste* word; segge* to-sumne.* for his fader saule; þa hine for[ð] brouhte. & for his moder saule; þa hine* to monne* iber.* 35 & for his awene* saule; þat hire þe selre* beo.* Amen. Nv seið* mid loft-songe* þe wes on leoden preost.* al swa* þe boc spekeð; þe he to bisne* inom.*</p>	<p>folk/region/nation/language; called merciful; Lord (God) dwelt; Areley; noble; old Severn; shore; splendid; he thought it beside; Redstone; read mind; great thought England? the English?; noble called; whence first; possessed Lord (God) killed; living except; Noah; Sem; Japhet; Ham ark did travel; across; folk/region/nation/language obtained; noble; book; as exemplar Bede Alban? Augustine* baptism third; between called; knew how to it; gave; to the; noble; Eleanor high those; turned them; lovingly; merciful Lord (God) composed; parchment truer words compressed; one prays; to each; noble the (sake of) may read; learn; secrets true; say; in prayer soul*; him; as a man; bore own; soul; it may be more blessed speaks; inspiration (see line 1) as; which; as example; took</p>
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