

## King Edward

*What matters to you:*

Defending your lands from enemies so your people feel safe.

Winning honour and glory in battle – making England look a powerful country

Uniting your nobles so they all support you as king

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Your wife, Philippa, and your children – you send Philippa letters and gifts when you are away and you both play games with your children.

Having a son to take over from you as king when you die.

Looking like a great king – wearing expensive clothes, holding jousting tournaments.



## Queen Philippa

*What matters to you:*

Having children so King Edward has a son to follow him as king

Your husband, Edward, and your children – you send Edward letters and gifts when he is away and you both play games with your children.

Giving King Edward advice; making contacts for him with your relatives who rule other countries.

Wearing the best, most expensive clothes to make Edward look like a great king and England look a great country

Living a religious life so your soul goes to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Helping the king win the support of his people by making sure he is merciful and not cruel.



## William, Earl of Salisbury

*You are one of the wealthiest men in the country.*

*What matters to you:*

Helping King Edward defend England and keep law and order in your lands

Being of 'good worship' – being respected because of your loyalty to the king, your bravery in battle and your honourable behaviour

Living a religious life so your soul goes to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Your wife and your children - having a son to take over from you as Earl when you die.

Being a good lord – giving support and help to the knights who serve you

Looking after your lands and the people who work on them

Enjoying life - wearing expensive clothes, hunting, having a comfortable home.



## Catherine, Countess of Salisbury

*Your husband, the Earl of Salisbury, is one of the wealthiest men in the country.*

*What matters to you:*

Having children so your husband has a son to follow him as Earl of Salisbury

Your husband and your children; helping your children make good marriages linking them to wealthy families.

Giving your husband advice on looking after his lands and the people who work on them; being in charge of his lands when he is away.

Training your daughters to manage a home so they can support their husbands when they marry.

Enjoying life – including wearing expensive clothes so your husband looks like a great lord

Living a religious life so your soul goes to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.



## Lord John

*You are a wealthy landowner. You support the Earl of Salisbury with advice and fight for him in war.*

*What matters to you:*

Being loyal to the king and to the earl – fighting bravely for them whenever needed

Your wife and children, including passing on your lands and wealth to your son.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Being of 'good worship' – being respected because of your loyalty to the king, your bravery in battle and your honourable behaviour

Being a good lord – looking after your workers and servants

Making sure the country stays peaceful and stable. This means everyone doing the work God has given them to do.

Enjoying life - wearing expensive clothes, hunting, having a comfortable home.



## Lady Joan

*Your husband, Lord John, is a wealthy landowner.*

*What matters to you:*

Having children so your husband has a son to take over his lands after he dies

Your husband and your children; helping your children make good marriages linking them to other wealthy families.

Giving your husband advice on looking after his lands and the people who work on them; being in charge of his lands when he is away.

Training your daughters to manage a home so they can support their husbands when they marry.

Enjoying life – including wearing expensive clothes so your husband looks like an important lord

Living a religious life so your soul goes to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.



## Sir Geoffrey

*You are a wealthy knight. You support the Earl of Salisbury with advice and fight for him in war.*

*What matters to you:*

Making sure your soul goes to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Your wife and children, including passing on your lands and wealth to your son, Andrew.

Being loyal to the king and fighting for him in wars

Being of 'good worship' – being respected because of your loyalty to the king, your bravery in battle and your honourable behaviour

Being a good lord – looking after your workers and servants

Making sure the country stays peaceful and stable. This means everyone doing the work God has given them to do.



## Lady Agnes

*Your husband Sir Geoffrey is a wealthy knight.*

*What matters to you:*

Having children so your husband has a son to take over his lands after he dies

Living a religious life so your soul goes to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Your husband and your children; helping your children make good marriages linking them to other wealthy families.

Giving your husband advice on looking after his lands and the people who work on them; being in charge of his lands when he is away.

Enjoying life - having expensive clothes and a comfortable home so your husband looks like a great lord.



## Bishop Richard

*You are the younger brother of an earl. As well as being a bishop you are a leading official in the King's government.*

*What matters to you:*

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Being loyal to the king and helping him run the government as efficiently as possible.

Supporting your brother, the Earl, and helping him increase your family's power and influence

Making sure the priests in your diocese are as well educated as possible so they can help people

Setting a good example by living a religious life

*(A diocese is the area controlled by a bishop).*



## John, a village priest

*What matters to you:*

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Helping the people in the village live religious lives so their souls will go to heaven. This includes making sure they celebrate religious holy-days and saints' days

Making sure your village church is in good repair – for example that candles are lit in front of statues of Christ and the saints.

Helping the poor in your village during hard times

Growing as much food as you can on your own land

Looking after your elderly mother.



## Thomas, a rich merchant

*You live in York and have become wealthy buying and selling the best types of cloth, wine and other expensive items. Many of the goods you buy come from across Europe.*

*What matters to you:*

Your business continuing to grow so your family is even richer. One day you'd like to be Mayor of the city, as a sign of your success.

Using your wealth to buy lands outside the city. This shows you are the equal of a knight.

Your eldest son following you in your work. Your younger sons going to school and maybe university so they work as lawyers or government officials.

Marrying your daughters to the sons of knights or lords so your family grows in status.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Dressing in expensive clothes to show you are wealthy and important.



## Edith, wife of a rich merchant

*You and Thomas, your husband, live in York. His business buying and selling the best types of cloth, wine and other expensive items has made you wealthy.*

*What matters to you:*

Helping your husband make his business a success. Running the business when he is away working at markets and fairs around the country.

Running your home well – making sure the servants do their work properly. Showing your daughters how to manage a home so they can support their husbands when they marry.

Your family – including teaching them to use polite and proper manners.

Dressing in expensive clothes to show you are the wife of a wealthy and important man.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Looking after everyone who works for you, including making sure they go to church.



## Robert, a saddler

*You learned the skills of making saddles from your master who has a good business in the city of York. People always need new saddles or repairs making.*

*What matters to you:*

Your wife and two young sons – you want them to stay healthy. One day you will arrange for the boys to be apprenticed to good masters to learn their trades.

Staying in work and making sure you have enough food and your family has a warm, dry home.

It would be good to become a master saddler yourself but it might be risky leaving your master and starting your own business.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.

Helping other saddlers in the city – it's important that you all look after each other in times of hardship.

Having fun with your friends and family.



## Margaret, a nun

*You are the youngest daughter of a knight. Your parents wanted you to become a nun – you are their gift to Jesus Christ. You live in a convent in York*

*What matters to you:*

Living a religious life of prayer.

Praying for your parents, brother and sisters so their souls will go to heaven.

Helping new girls in the convent settle in and understand what being a nun truly means.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Helping the poor who come to your convent in need of food and sometimes shelter.

Sometimes you think you would like to be in charge of the convent to make sure the nuns do their work more effectively.



## Henry, a beggar

*Your right hand was cut off during a battle with the Scots. You have no family to live with and no work. You live in a town.*

*What matters to you:*

Finding enough to eat— you get food given to the poor at the abbeys in your town and by some generous merchants. You also get bread and sometimes pennies for carrying a candle as a mourner at a funeral.



Staying warm and dry – you are very grateful that Sir Thomas (you served with him in wartime) left you a good pair of boots and a cloak in his will.

Having a roof over your head at night. Mostly you get space to sleep in a stable. You hope to get a small room and blankets in a house built with money left by a merchant to take care of 12 poor men.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.

Having people to talk to – it's lonely being poor.

## Isabel, a poor woman

*You used to be a servant in the kitchen of a merchant in your town. You are now too old to work much. You try to help out for a few hours but don't earn enough to live on.*

*What matters to you:*

Finding enough to eat— you get food given to the poor by the nuns at the convents in your town, handed out at the kitchens where you work or after the funerals of wealthy people in the town.

Staying warm and dry – you are grateful that Edith, the goldsmith's wife, gave you blankets and a cloak that are no longer good enough for her family.

Having a roof over your head at night. A friend has space in her attic and lets you sleep there in return for helping with washing clothes and blankets – hard work you can only just manage.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.

Having people to talk to – it's lonely being poor.



## Ralph, a rich villager

*You are a free man so you can work on your own land all the time and don't have to work for the local lord.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing enough food for you and your family and plenty more so you can sell it and make more money.

Buy more land in nearby villages to make more profits.

Build a larger house to show that you are doing well.

Send your sons to school and maybe university so they can become priests or lawyers.

Win respect from other people in your neighbourhood by working for the community – planning improvements in farming, collecting taxes or giving money to rebuild the church.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.



## Elizabeth, wife of Ralph, a rich villager

*You and your husband, Ralph, are free people so don't have to work for the local lord.*

*What matters to you:*

Supporting your husband as he works to buy more land and make more money for your family.

Looking after your children, making sure they have the best clothes. You are happy that your sons will be well-educated but you don't want them to leave home and live far away.

Training your daughters to manage their homes and servants well. Planning marriages for your daughters to the sons of other wealthy villagers or merchants in the nearest towns.

Looking well-dressed and having a clean home so that your neighbours know how well you and your husband are doing.

Win respect from people in your neighbourhood by helping those who are poorer than you.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.



## **Hamekin de Brabant, a weaver**

*You were born and lived in Holland until you were about 30. That's where you learned your skills as a weaver of high quality cloth. You moved to England with your brother and settled in the town of York. You work for a local weaver.*

*What matters to you:*

Being accepted as a good and skilful worker by the local weavers

Getting on with local people, making friends and perhaps finding a wife

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Saving money so you can start your own business one day – then you won't have to work for other people

Having fun, enjoying life and living peacefully.



## **Bridget, a servant**

*You grew up in a farming village near York. When you were 13 your mother found you work in York as a servant in the home of a wealthy merchant.*

*What matters to you:*

Getting on well with the other servants and making friends – life is much more interesting in York than in a country village.

Keeping your job because you get plenty to eat and drink in the merchant's house even if you have to work very hard.

Staying healthy – or the merchant's wife will send you back to your home in the country.

Taking a few pennies home to your parents when you get the chance to visit them.

Finding a husband in York so you can stay in the town

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory.



## Peter, a free villager

*You and Cecily, your wife, have enough land to grow the food you need provided there's a good harvest. If there's a poor harvest you'll need money to buy food so you also need to work on the lord's land or for wealthier villagers.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing as much food as you can and finding enough work to buy the rest of your food.

Staying warm and dry in your home so you are fit enough to work – without work your family will go hungry or starve.

Your family – hoping Cecily, your wife, and your young children stay healthy

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Being respected by your friends, other villagers and your lord for being a good worker – that's important for finding extra work

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully.



## Cecily, wife of a free villager

*You and Peter, your husband, have enough land to grow the food you need provided there's a good harvest. If there's a poor harvest you'll need money to buy food so you also need to work on the lord's land or for wealthier villagers.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing as much food as you can and finding enough work to buy the rest of your food.

Staying warm and dry in your home so you are both fit enough to work – without work your family will go hungry or starve.

Your family – hoping Peter, your husband, and your children stay healthy

Finding work for the children that will earn a penny or two for the family.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Being respected by your friends, other villagers and your lord for being a good worker – that's important for finding extra work

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully.



## Nicholas, a poor villager

*You and Ann, your wife, are free people and have a small amount of land where you grow your food but only about half as much food as you need. That's why you both need to work for payment on the lord's land or for wealthier villagers.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing as much food as you can and finding enough work to buy the rest of your food.

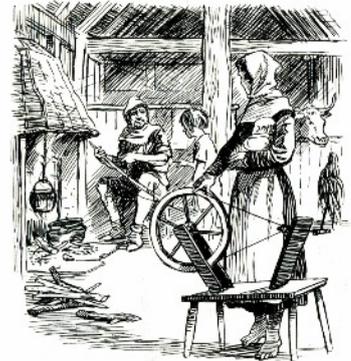
Staying warm and dry in your home so you are fit enough to work – without work your family will go hungry or starve.

Your family – hoping Ann, your wife, and your young children stay healthy

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Being respected by your friends, other villagers and your lord for being a good worker – that's important for finding extra work

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully.



## Ann, wife of a poor villager

*You and Nicholas, your husband, have a small amount of land where you grow your food but only about half as much food as you need. That's why you both need to work for payment on the lord's land or for wealthier villagers.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing as much food as you can and finding enough work to buy the rest of your food.

Staying warm and dry in your home so you are both fit enough to work – without work your family will go hungry or starve.

Your family – hoping Nicholas, your husband, and your young children stay healthy

Finding work for the children that will earn a penny or two for the family.

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Being respected by your friends, other villagers and your lord for being a good worker – that's important for finding extra work

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully

Looking after your elderly father who can no longer work.



## Miles, a villein

*You are not a free man so must work on your lord's land at least two days a week. In return you have land in the village fields on which you can grow your own food.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing enough food, staying warm and dry in your home

Your family – hoping your wife and children stay healthy

Being respected by your friends and other villagers for helping them and being a good worker

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Earning extra money selling spare crops if you are able to grow enough.

Getting your freedom so you can move away to earn more money

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully.



## Margery, the wife of Miles, a villein

*You are not free so must work for your lord at least two days a week. In return your family have land in the village fields on which you can grow your own food.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing enough food, staying warm and dry in your home

Your family – hoping your husband and children stay healthy

Being respected by your friends and other villagers for helping them

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Earning extra money brewing and selling ale.

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully

Looking after your elderly mother.



## James, a villein

*You are not a free man so must work on your lord's land at least two days a week. In return you have land in the village fields on which you can grow your own food.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing enough food, staying warm and dry in your home

Your family – hoping your wife and children stay healthy

Being respected by your friends and other villagers for helping them and being a good worker

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Earning extra money selling spare crops if you can – to buy stronger boots, for example.

Getting your freedom so you can move away to earn more money

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully.



## Helena, the wife of James, a villein

*You are not free so must work for your lord at least two days a week. In return your family have land in the village fields on which you can grow your own food.*

*What matters to you:*

Growing enough food, staying warm and dry in your home

Your family – hoping your husband and children stay healthy

Being respected by your friends and other villagers for helping them

Your soul going to heaven after spending as little time as possible in Purgatory

Earning extra money brewing and selling ale – to buy more clothes for the children.

Having fun on holy-days and living peacefully

Looking after your elderly father who can't work any more.

