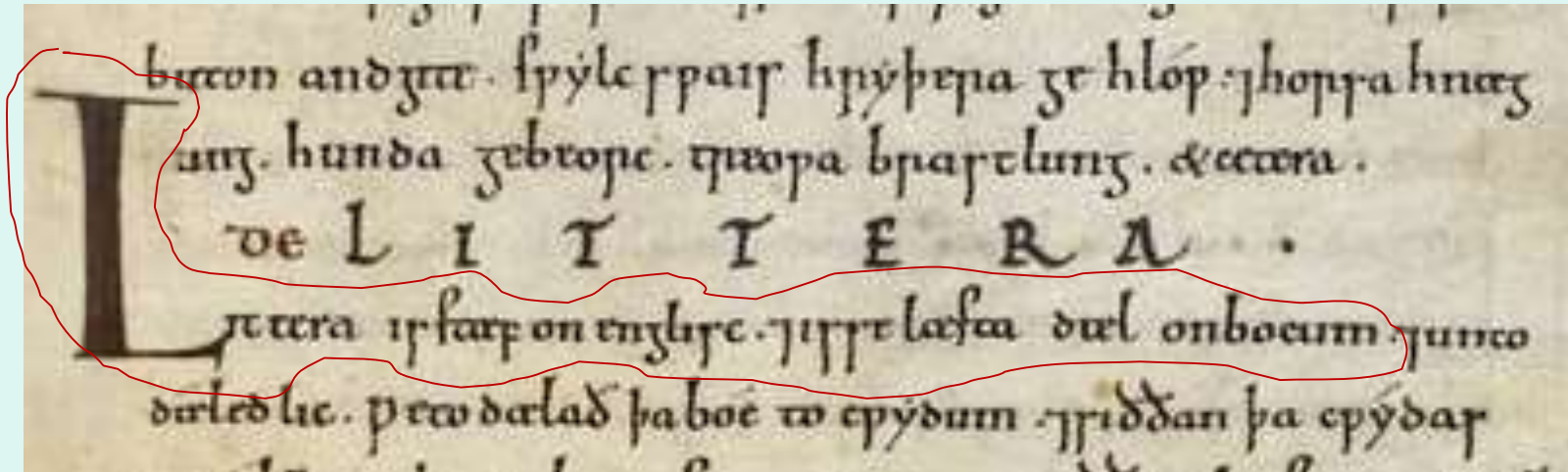


Translating the Anglo-Saxon Way



Ælfric's *Grammar*

- First vernacular Latin grammar in Medieval Europe



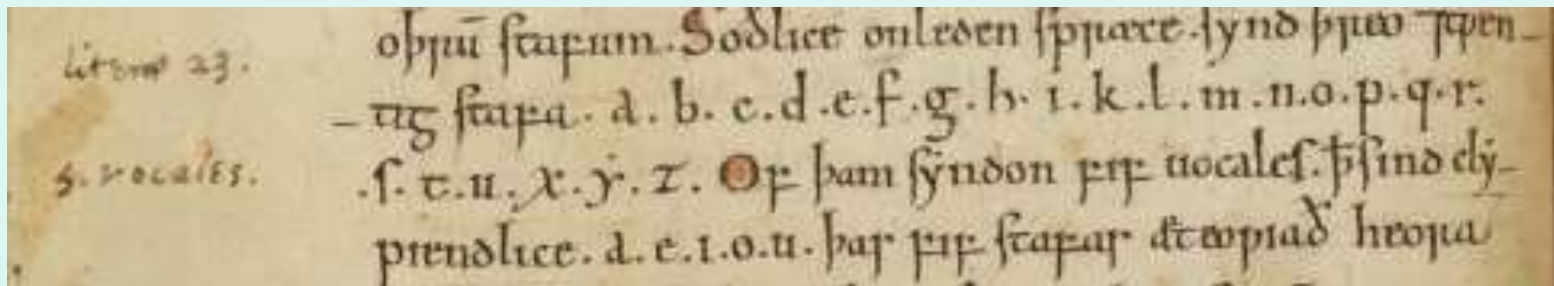
LITTERA is stæf on englisc and is se læsta dæl on bocum

'Littera is 'letter' in English and is the smallest part in a book'

Ælfric on vowels and consonants

- In Latin there are twenty three letters: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, x, y, z. Of those there are five *uocales*, or vowels, that are voiced: a, e, i, o, u.
- All of the other letters are called *consonantes*, that is 'sounding with', for they make sound only when combined with one of the five voiced letters.
- There are seven *semiuocales*: f, l, m, n, r, s, x. These are called half-voiced because they are not fully-voiced like the *quinque uocales*. The other nine *consonantes* are said to be *mutae*, that is 'silent'. They are not completely silent but they have little sound. They are: b, c, d, g, h, k, p, q, t.

Sonority scale (vowels > approximants > nasals > fricatives > stops)



Lindisfarne Gospels



† ih̄s xp̄s · Matheus homo

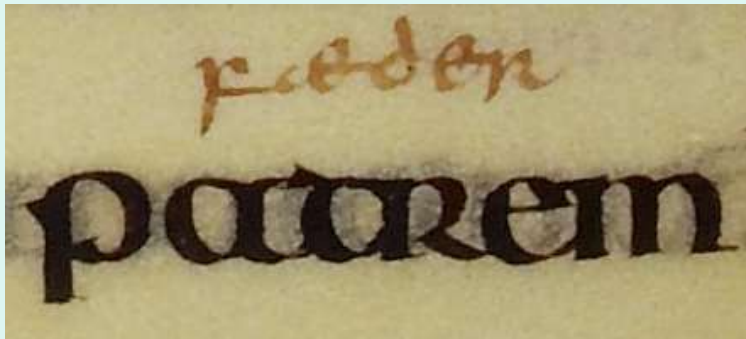
in gressu
in gressu
incipit euangelii
genelotia mathei

gen
swell
mrye

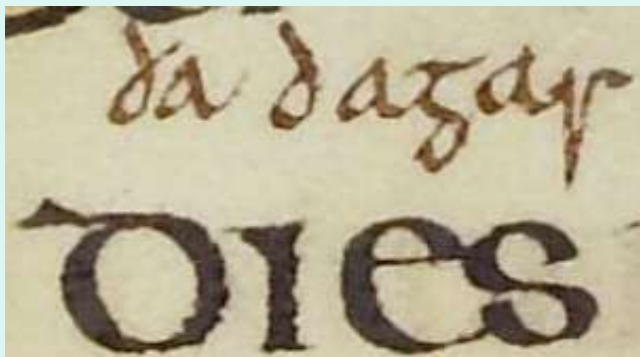


chis
mpe

Lindisfarne glosses

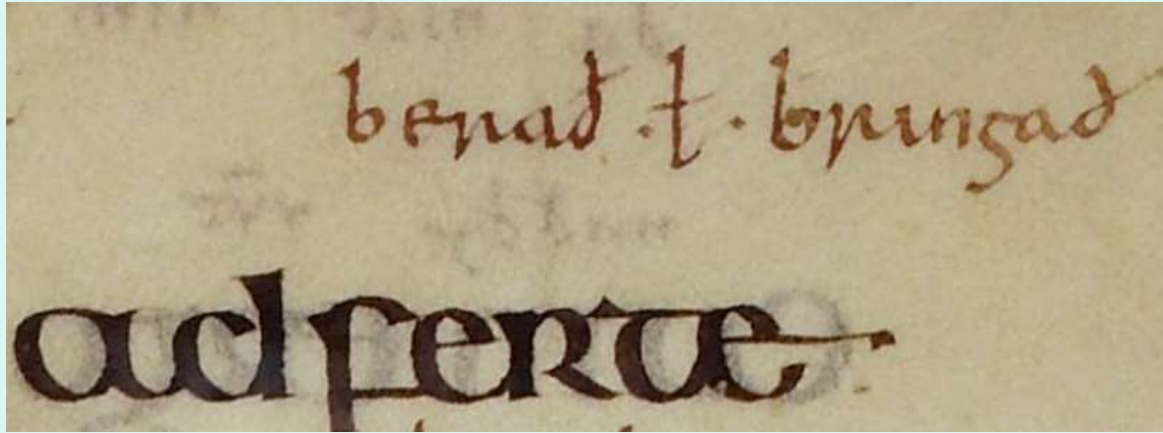


- L. *patrem* - OE *fæder* 'father'



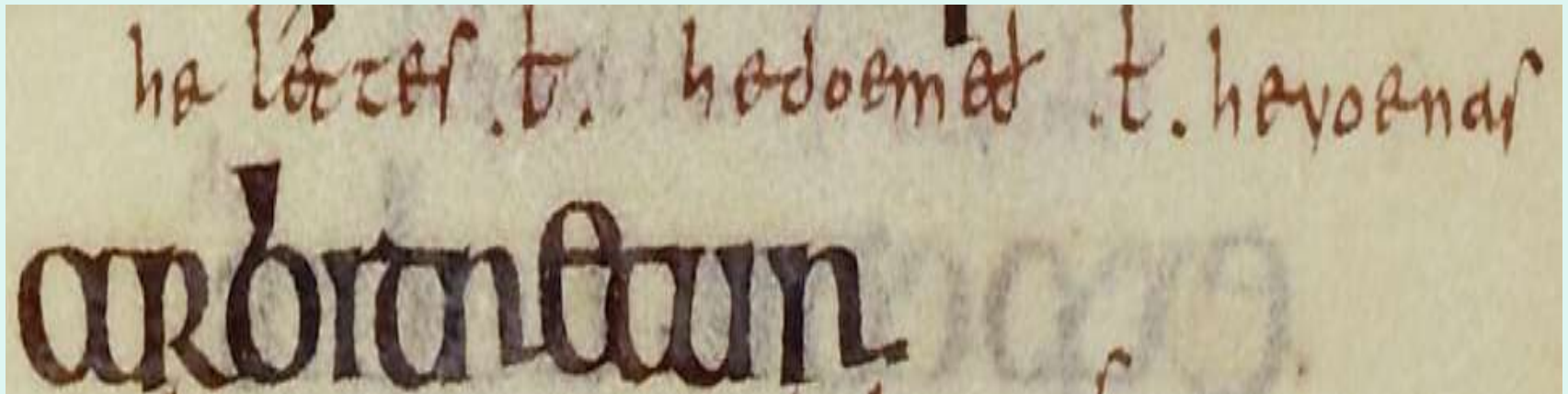
- L. *dies* - OE *ða dagas* 'the days'

Double glosses



- L. *adferre* - OE *berað .f. bringað* 'bring!'

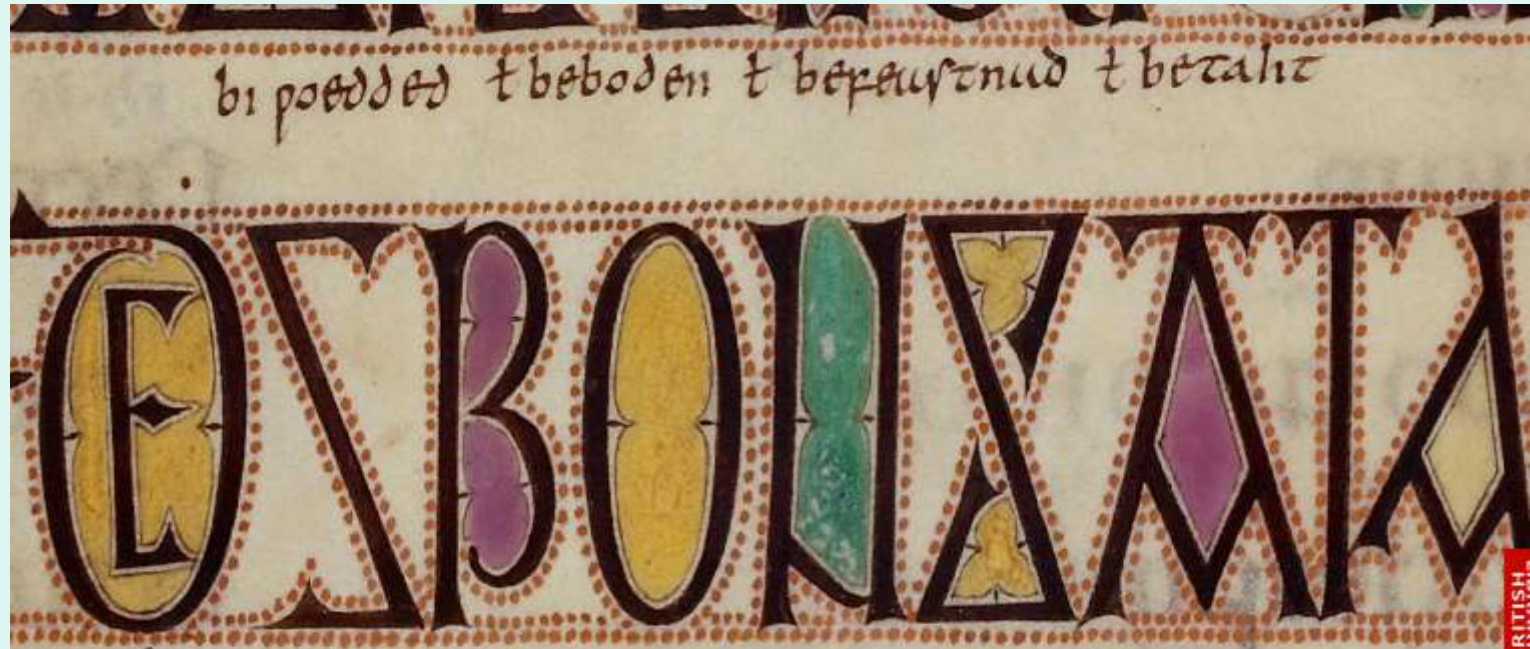
Triple glosses



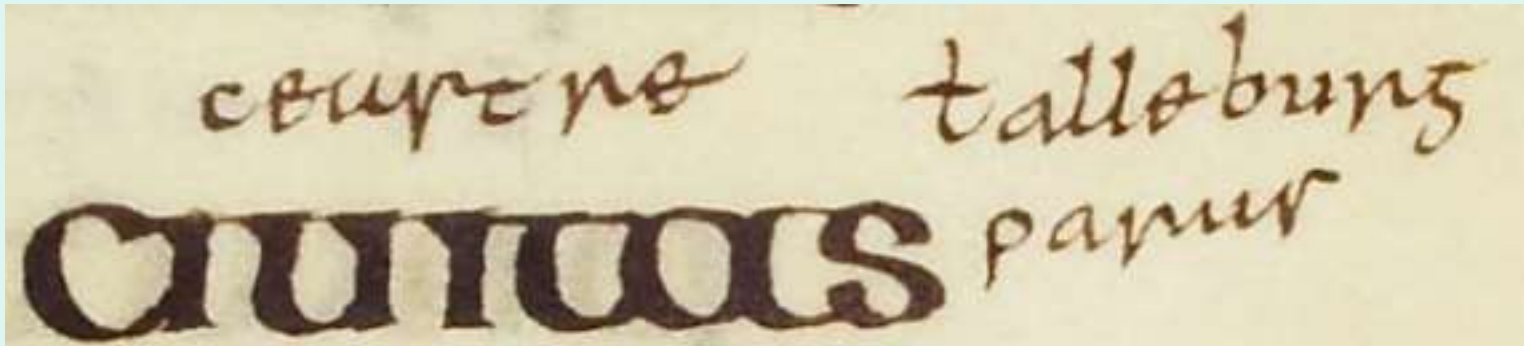
L. *arbitretur*

OE *he lettes .t. he doemæt .t. he woenas*
'judge, think'

Quadruple glosses



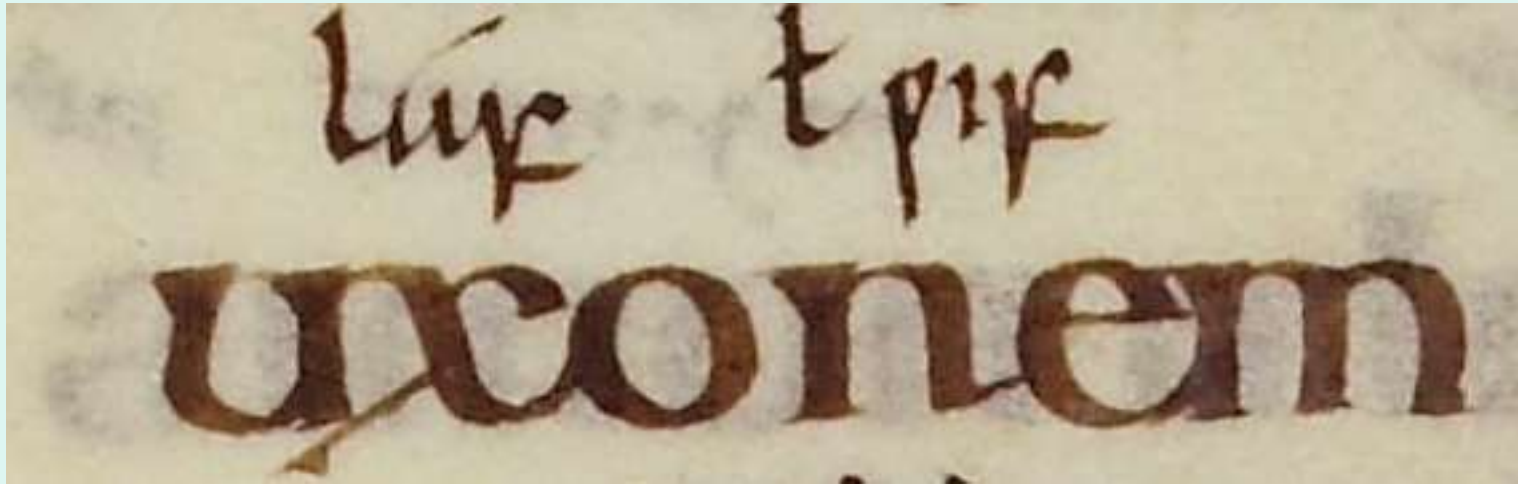
OE *biwoeddēd † beboden † befeastnad † betaht*
'married, espoused' – L. *desponsata*



- OE *ceastre* † *alle burgwaras* 'city / all city dwellers' - L. *civitas*

OE *ceastre* 'city'

L. *civitas* 'city; citizenship, citizens united in a community'

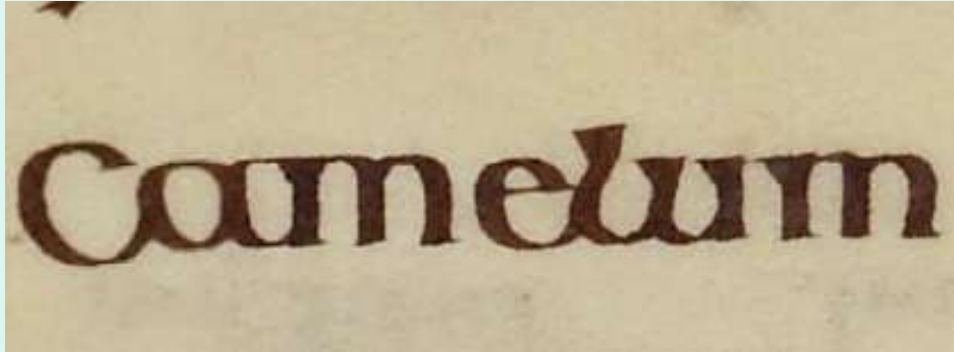


- OE *laf* † *wif* ‘widow / wife’ - L. *uxorem*

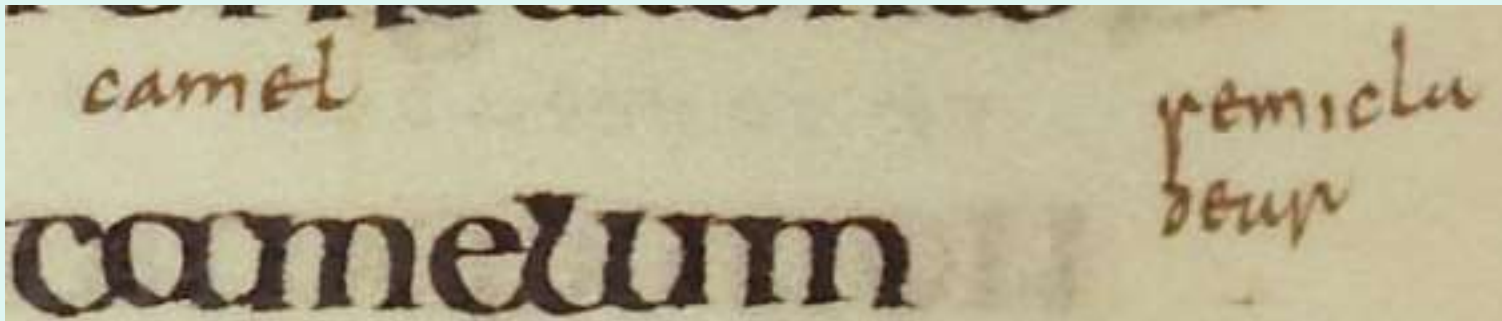
OE *laf* ‘what is left, remnant, widow’

‘Moses said, if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife’ (Mt 22:24)

Annotations...



Camelum

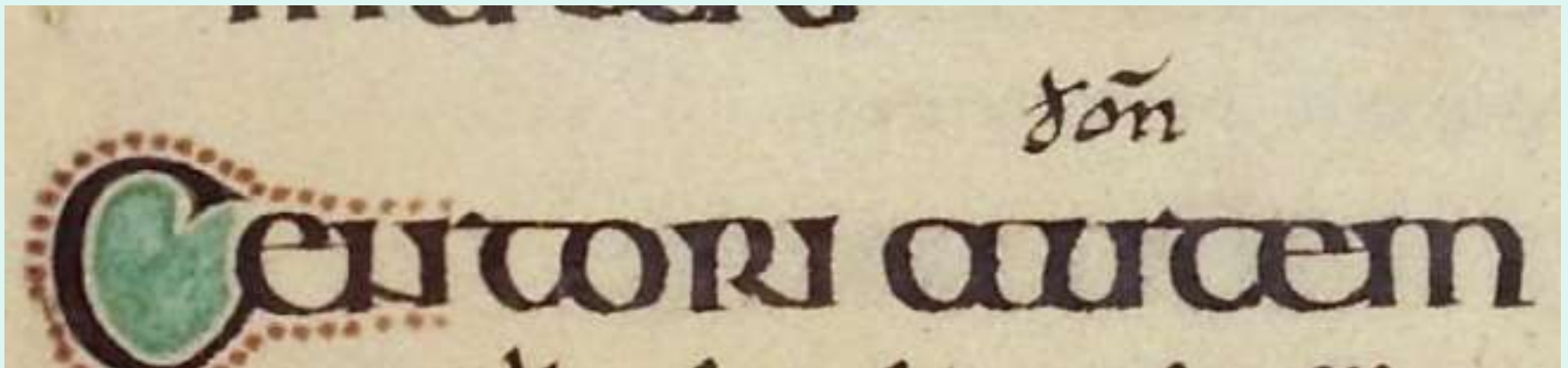


camel

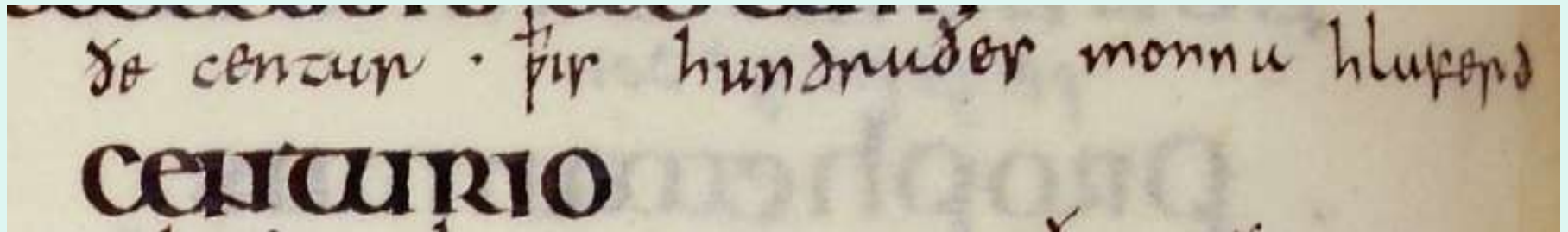
Camelum

se micla dear
beur

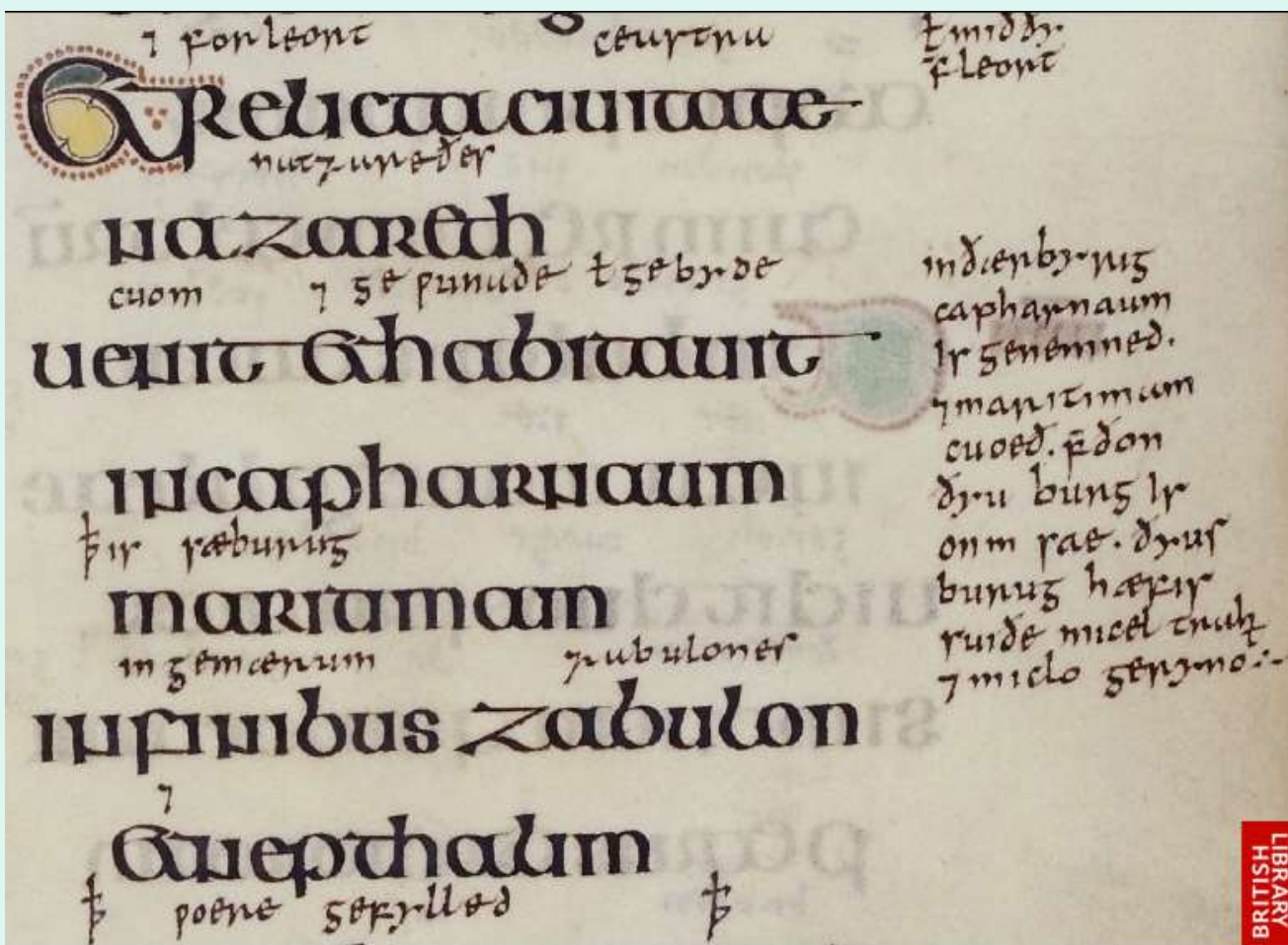
- *se micla dear* 'the big animal'
- 'You blind guides. You strain out a gnat, and swallow a camel' Mt 23:24



- L. *centori* (*centurio*) 'centurion'



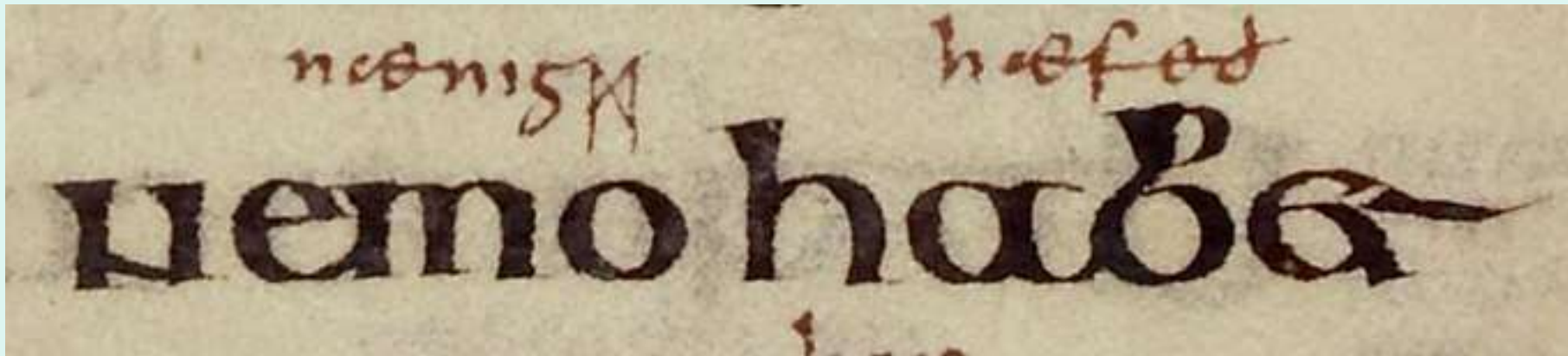
OE *ðe centur* · þæt is hundraðes monna hlaferd
'the centurion: who is the lord of a hundred men'



Et relicta ciuitate nazareth uenit et habitauit in capharnaum maritimam (Mt 4:13)

‘And leaving the city Nazareth, he came and dwelt in **Capernaum** on the sea coast’

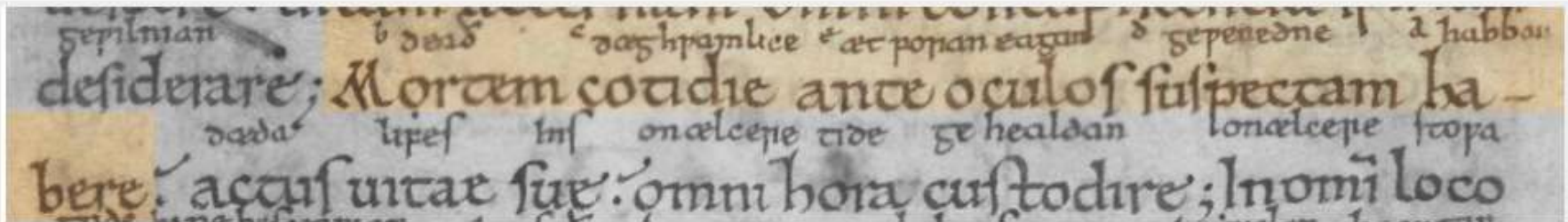
Runic glosses



- L. *nemo*
- OE *nænigman* 'no man'

Dealing with Latin syntax

b, c, e, d, a: Paving letters in British Library, Cotton Tiberius A.iii

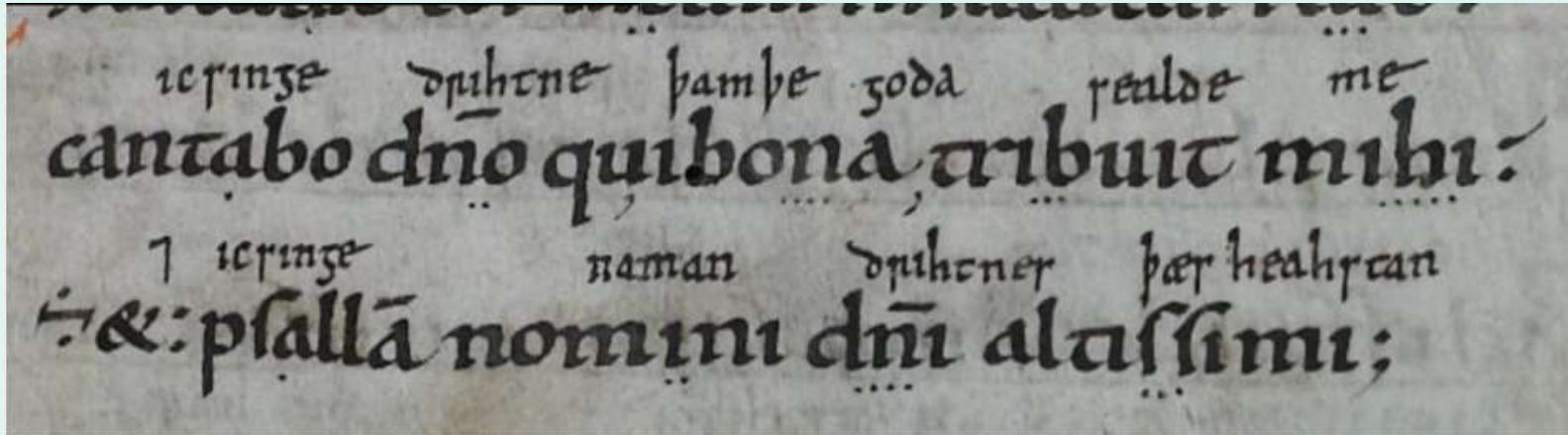


British Library, Cotton Tiberius A III, fol. 125v

^bdeað ^cdæghwamlice ^eætforan eagan ^dgewenedne ^ahabban.
Mortem cotidie ante oculos suspectam habere

- “**paving letters**” b, c, e, d, a indicate OE word order
- SO NOT:
“death daily before eyes with expectation to have”
- BUT:
^aHabban ^bdeað ^cdæghwamlice ^dgewenedne ^eætforan eagan
“To have death daily with expectation before eyes”

Dealing with Latin syntax

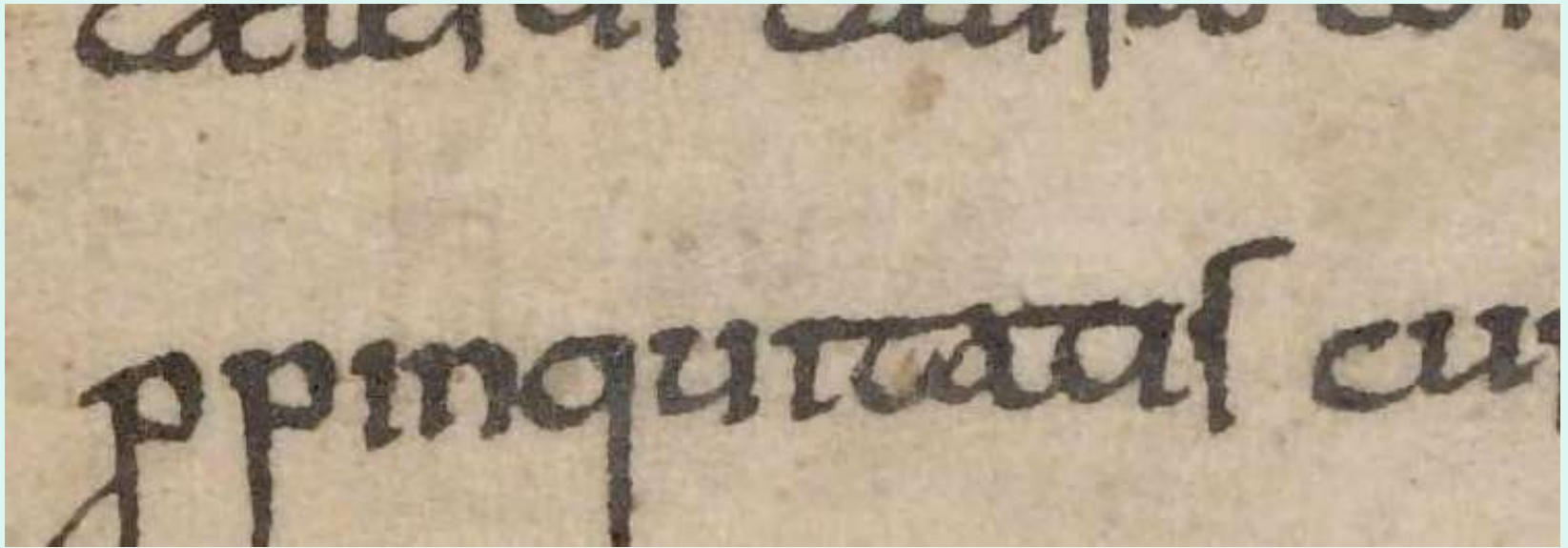


London, Lambeth Palace MS 427, fol. 17r

ic singe drihtne þam þe goda sealde me
cantabo domino qui bona tribuit mihi:
· .. , ,

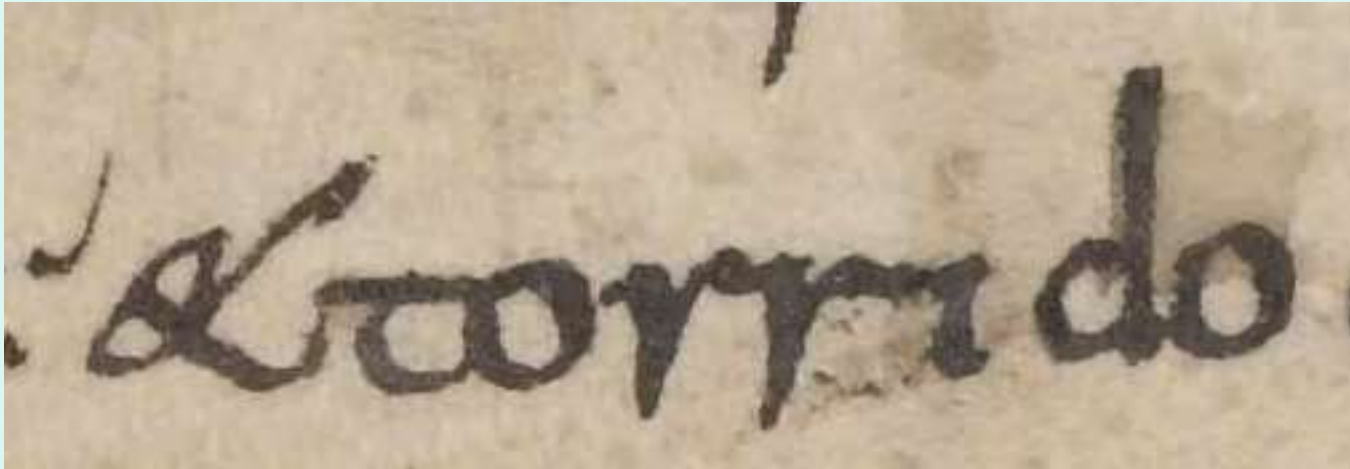
7 ic singe naman drihtnes þæs heahstan
& psallam nomini domini altissimi;
·

Scratched glosses



- L. *propinquitatis* 'nearness'
- h (OE *hiwcuðnes* 'familiarity')

Scratched glosses



- L. *torrido* 'scorching'
- f (OE *fyr-*, *fyrhat* 'fire hot')