

The end of the world?

This window represents the last 15 days of the world. It was inspired by an anonymous 700-year-old poem 'The Pricke of Conscience'. The viewer is encouraged to reflect and repent to save their soul when the world ends.

Our window is unique. It was made about 100 years after the poem was written. It is the only window to show any part of this popular 10,000-line poem in both images and text.

The poet says he wrote it in English, rather than Latin, because of

"...the lewd [uneducated] men of England that can nought but English understand."

When was it made?

William Hesse was made Baron of the Exchequer (a court judge) in 1421. The window may date from around this time.

Who paid for it?

The kneeling figures at its base represent the Henryson and Hesse families, who paid for this window. They believed the world was going to end in 1500.

Turn over to discover the story in this window.



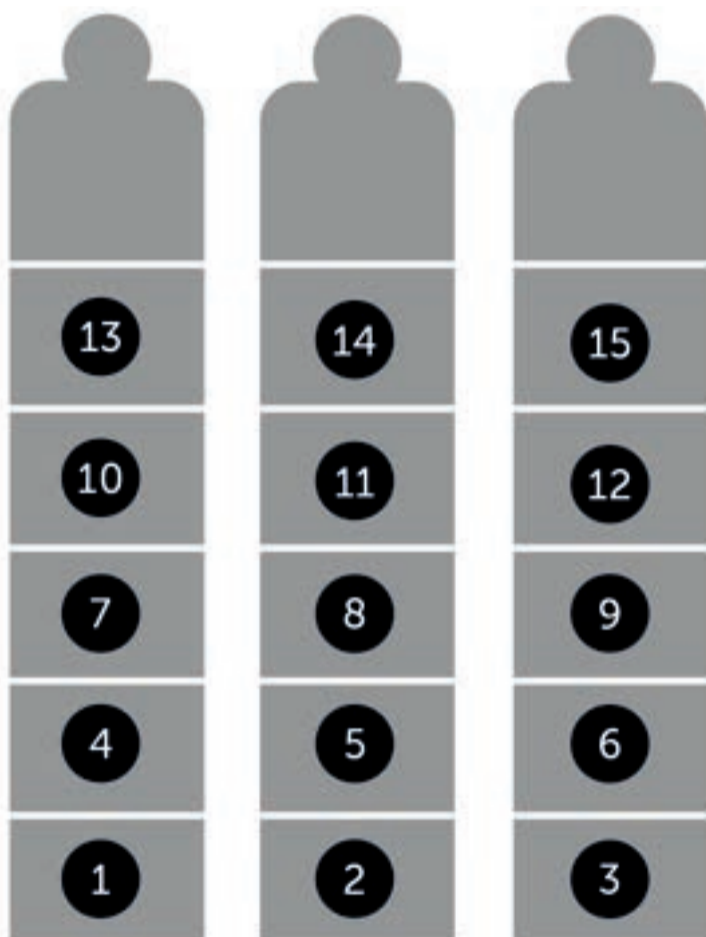
Close up of Hesse with his mother and father



What is the story?

Each panel represents one of the last 15 days of the world as described in the 'Pricke of Conscience' poem. They lead us through the physical destruction of the earth, the fate of humans and the end of the world.

Look for... one man who stays hiding in the caves on day 9!



What message or stories do you see in the window?

1. The sea floods the land
2. The sea falls revealing the sea bed
3. The sea returns
4. Fish leap out
5. The sea catches fire
6. Fruit drops off trees
7. Earthquakes destroy buildings
8. Fire swallows the rocks
9. People hide in caves
10. Just the earth and sky remain
11. People come out praying
12. Graves open up
13. Stars fall from heaven
14. All life dies
15. Everything is in flames

Did you know? The fallen church spire in day 7 may be inspired by this church's spire. It was built 15 years before the glass was made.

