

Dr Faustus

His second speech – after
the appearance of the
angels.

Firstly, read the speech
together

Then, look at the following
pages

References
to eating
again,
similar to in
the
Prologue

FAUSTUS.

How am I glutted with conceit of this!
Shall I make spirits fetch me what I please,
Resolve me of all ambiguities, ←
Perform what desperate enterprise I will?
I'll have them fly to India for gold,
Ransack the ocean for orient pearl,
And search all corners of the new-found world
For pleasant fruits and princely delicates;
I'll have them read me strange philosophy, ←
And tell the secrets of all foreign kings;
I'll have them wall all Germany with brass, ←
And make swift Rhine circle fair Wittenberg;
I'll have them fill the public schools with silk, ←
Wherewith the students shall be bravely clad.
I'll levy soldiers with the coin they bring, ←
And chase the Prince of Parma from our land, ←
And reign sole king of all our provinces. ←
Yea, stranger engines for the brunt of war,
Than was the fiery keel at Antwerp's bridge,
I'll make my servile spirits to invent.
Come, German Valdes and Cornelius,
And make me blest with your sage conference.

As well as
the
materialistic,
and perhaps
childish,
desires,
Faustus also
expresses a
genuine
interest in
gaining more
knowledge

What sort
of
impression
do you get
of Faustus
from the
repetition
of this
phrase?

Consider some
of the 'rewards'
that Faustus
imagines; can
you classify
them in any
way?

What sort of impression do you have of Faustus from his first few speeches?

Do you think Marlowe encourages us to feel any sympathy for, or understanding of, Faustus?

Do you think the play attempts to make us agree with the good or the bad that Faustus contemplates?