

*Enter BASSANIO, with LEONARDO and other followers.*

*Bassanio.* You may do so; but let it be so hasted that supper be ready at the farthest by five of the clock. See these letters delivered; put the liveries to making, and desire Gratiano to come anon to my lodging. 110

*[Exit a Servant.]*

*Launcelot.* To him, father.

*Gobbo.* God bless your worship!

*Bassanio.* Gramercy! wouldst thou aught with me?

*Gobbo.* Here's my son, sir, a poor boy,—

*Launcelot.* Not a poor boy, sir, but the rich Jew's man; that would, sir, as my father shall specify—

*Gobbo.* He hath a great infection, sir, as one would say, to serve—

*Launcelot.* Indeed, the short and the long is, I serve the Jew, and have a desire, as my father shall specify,—

*Gobbo.* His master and he, saving your worship's reverence, are scarce cater-cousins— 122

*Launcelot.* To be brief, the very truth is that the Jew, having done me wrong, doth cause me, as my father, being, I hope, an old man, shall frutify unto you,—

*Gobbo.* I have here a dish of doves that I would bestow upon your worship, and my suit is—

*Launcelot.* In very brief, the suit is impertinent to myself, as your worship shall know by this honest old man; and, though I say it, though old man, yet poor man, my father.

*Bassanio.* One speak for both. What would you? 132

*Launcelot.* Serve you, sir.

*Gobbo.* That is the very defect of the matter, sir.