



## "IN A PICKLE"

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"IN A PICKLE" appears in *The Tempest* (Act 5, scene 1); a related form appears in *Antony and Cleopatra* (Act 2, scene 5). Thomas Tusser had advised, in 1573, that the husbandman "Reap barley with sickle, that lies in ill pickle." John Foxe (of the mammoth *Acts and Monuments*, a.k.a. "Foxe's Book of Martyrs") applied the homely metaphor in his 1585 sermon on Paul's second letter to the Corinthians: "In this pickle lieth man by nature, that is, all we that be Adam's children."

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