

Everyman

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E351: Literature of the Western World

March 2020

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The play *Everyman* explores various moral lessons that are relevant in modern society. The play intends to teach moral lessons on living. In the drama, one of the main characters, Everyman, explains the details that God gave him regarding his death. He noted that God got angry with him for failing to live a morally upright life. The play explores the theme of death by explaining the reason why the character Fellowship was unable to help Everyman, who he was, and the steps that he needed to take.

Reasons Fellowship Failed to help Everyman

Symbolically, Fellowship represents the friendship that Everyman had in life. One of the best friends that Everyman had in the play was Fellowship. When facing judgment on the last day before God, Everyman asked Fellowship to help with his pilgrimage. Fellowship, however, refused to stand with Everyman. "As such, Everyman is abandoned by Fellowship, when it is apparent that he is soon going to die and face his judgment for what he did while alive" (Lester, 2014). Everyman wanted Fellowship to help find redemption for the violence he caused. However, this friend refused to help him and asked him to carry his cross.

Furthermore, the family members, which included Cousin as well as Kindred, refused to help when Everyman was in the midst of hard times. "The only good deed that he did during his lifetime stood with him in his final days" (Beavis, 2016). Mainly, Everyman's goods, which represented his possessions and wealth, were the only items to accompany him to the grave. Through this portrayal, the play intends to challenge the church members by showing them the importance of doing the right thing while alive, since their actions would surely follow them to the grave.

Who was Everyman in the Play?

The play *Everyman* emphasizes morality. Everyman, the main character, is a rich man who has everything that any individual could desire to have in life. Moreover, he is amid multiple friends-fellowship. "The approach of death forces him to take a long paradise journey to account for his life's deeds" (Little, 2018). The play indicates that Everyman is not prepared to take his journey to God at his appointed time. He needs more time to repent of his sins and improve his credit. Furthermore, Everyman struggles and pleads with death to give him a longer life. The character Everyman is a protagonist symbolizing all humankind. "The play gives an allegorical accounting of the life of the main character; this indicates the kind of life people often live" (Beavis, 2016). Through this character, we can understand the conflicts that exist between good and evil, which drives the interaction of the characters.

The Steps that Everyman Must have Taken

Everyman could have taken various steps to win more positive reviews. Initially, he should have focused on doing the right things. Death was sent to Everyman by God. As a protagonist, God used him to warn all humankind. In an account book, both good and evil will get tallied like minuses and pluses. The story in the play gives the final reckoning journey of Everyman who tried throughout the story to convince other characters such as family members and Fellowship of his intentions (Badir, 2017). The play indicates how humankind should conduct their lives while on earth by doing good deeds despite being wealthier than others, so when death comes, as in the case of Everyman, he or she can feel safe. Everyman in the play would have gotten involved to do only good deeds and avoiding violence through a friend's influence.

Moreover, Everyman should embrace living a life that is vertical and not horizontal, reflecting only on God as savior and majesty, who deserves all the glory. "Everyman should have used his wealth to serve God by helping the needy as well as sharing part of his wealth with God's people" (Little, 2018). Henceforth, Everyman could have worked harder before he progresses into heaven. He should have cleared his reckoning book by making sure he only gets involved in doing what makes God his majesty happy.

The play summarizes a critical role in presenting a good and sound doctrine of the church. Through this, the powerful forces of medieval life that occur daily are influential. It also enables the audience to learn both religious and moral values. The audience understood the benefits of becoming involved and doing what is right while they are alive and preparing for the coming of Christ. The audience also learned that friends would only be there for you when you are happy and flourishing. Thus, we should not fall into the temptation of doing wrong to please others.

References

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