

12.3: *The Poem of the Cid* (Anonymous, c. twelfth century)

1. The poem projects a screen image of El Cid that is heroic. What attributes of the El Cid contribute to this image, what does his society value in a hero?

Answer: El Cid was brave, strong, and a believer in Christ. He carried himself knowing God was on his side which allowed the people to follow him. He made his followers feel safe when they went up against the terrible king. He showed no fear and he carried himself as a true leader and didn't show any weaknesses.

2. What motivates El Cid and his followers? How important does religion seem compared to material and other considerations?

Answer: Prayer and faith in God motivates him and his followers. The followers were also motivated because El Cid was going to pay them but God was the main reason. Religion was extremely important in this because El Cid and his followers prayed multiple times to their God for guidance and strength.