

The Church of Sardis, Part IV

Literary Renaissance Led by Shakespeare

Christians have an instinctive ability to assimilate and interpret classical literature.

Psalm 119:99 I have more insight than all my teachers, ~~for Your testimonies are my meditation.~~ for **Your words are what I hum.**

Matthew 5:14 You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden

Genesis 9:27 May God enlarge Japheth upon the earth

Quotes from Shakespeare compared with Biblical references:

“There is special providence in the fall of a sparrow” Hamlet (V. ii)

Matthew 10:29 Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

“Like doth quit like, and Measure still for Measure.” {*Note: “quit” = lead to, stir up*} Measure for Measure (V. i)

Matthew 7:2 For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.

"A little water clears us of this deed. How easy is it then!" Macbeth (II. ii)

Matthew 27:24 When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves."

“unweeded garden; “things rank and gross in nature” Hamlet (I. ii)

"Something is rotten in the state of Denmark" Hamlet (I. iv)

Genesis 3:17-18 Cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; ...

Quotes from two secular scholars about Shakespeare:

“...biblical phrases and images as "an echo-chamber of the imagination” Peter Ackroyd, Shakespeare – The Biography, 2005

“A lifetime of acquaintance with the Bible provided rhythms and phrases for Shakespeare in accordance with laws of association too subtle for description” William Rouse, Shakespeare: A Biography, 1963

2 Timothy 4:13 When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments.

Acts 17:28 In Him (God) we live and move and ~~exist~~ **subsist** {*i.e.* **have our being**}, as even some of your own poets have said

Titus 1:12 One of themselves {*i.e.*, Cretans}, a prophet of their own {*i.e.* Aratus}, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

Luke 16:8 The sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind than the sons of light.