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## THE HIERARCHICAL NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE IN "PARADISE LOST"

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### ABSTRACT

The present paper aims to study the Hierarchical nature of the Universe in Paradise Lost. It mainly focuses on the poet John Milton and short depiction of Paradise lost, which is considered as one of the greatest epics. The paper explains what hierarchy is and how it is shown in the epic "Paradise Lost". Through this epic it is apparent that John Milton believed that all creations were built of Hierarchies and various powers.

**Keywords:** Hierarchical, *Paradise lost*, epic

### INTRODUCTION

John Milton (9 December 1608 – 8 November 1674) was an English poet, polemicist, man of letters, and a civil servant for the Commonwealth of England under Oliver Cromwell. He wrote at a time of spiritual flux and political upheaval, and is excellent acknowledged for his epic poem *Paradise Lost* (1667), written in clean verse.

Milton's poetry and prose replicate deep private convictions, a ardour for freedom and self-dedication, and the urgent troubles and political turbulence of his day. Writing in English, Latin, Greek, and Italian, he carried out international renown inside his lifetime, and his celebrated *Areopagitica* (1644)—written in condemnation of pre-publication censorship—is amongst records's most influential and impassioned defences of free speech and freedom of the click.

William Hayley's 1796 biography known as him the "greatest English writer," and he stays generally appeared "as one of the preeminent writers in the English language," although important reception has oscillated within the centuries due to the fact his demise.

### *Paradise Lost*

*Paradise Lost* is an epic poem in clean verse via the seventeenth-century English poet John Milton (1608–1674). The first model, published in 1667, consisted of ten books with over 10000 strains of verse. ([en.m.wikipedia.org](http://en.m.wikipedia.org)). A 2d version observed in 1674, arranged into twelve books with minor revisions throughout and a be aware at the versification. It is considered via critics to be Milton's important work, and it helped solidify his popularity as one of the finest English poets of his time. The poem worries the biblical story of the Fall of Man: the temptation of Adam and Eve by means of the fallen angel Satan and their expulsion from the Garden of Eden.

### *Paradise Lost book 1*

Milton opens *Paradise Lost* via officially declaring his poem's challenge: humankind's first act of disobedience in the direction of God, and the results that accompanied from it. The act is Adam and Eve's ingesting of the forbidden fruit of the Tree of Knowledge, as instructed in Genesis, the first book of the Bible. In the primary line, Milton refers to the outcome of Adam and Eve's sin as the "fruit" of the forbidden tree, punning on the actual apple

and the figurative culmination in their moves. Milton asserts that this unique sin delivered dying to humans for the primary time, inflicting us to lose our home in paradise till Jesus comes to repair humankind to its former function of purity.

Milton's speaker invokes the muse, a mystical source of poetic thought, to sing about these topics through him, but he makes it clear that he refers to a exclusive muse from the muses who historically inspired classical poets by way of specifying that his muse stimulated Moses to receive the Ten Commandments and write Genesis. Milton's muse is the Holy Spirit, which inspired the Christian Bible, no longer one of the 9 classical muses who reside on Mount Helicon—the "Aonian mount" of l.15. He says that his poem, like his muse, will fly above those of the Classical poets and achieve things in no way tried before, because his source of concept is extra than theirs. Then he invokes the Holy Spirit, asking it to fill him with information of the start of the arena, because the Holy Spirit became the lively force in developing the universe.

Milton's speaker publicizes that he wants to be inspired with this sacred information because he wishes to reveal his fellow man that the autumn of humankind into sin and loss of life become part of God's more plan, and that God's plan is justified.

### **What is The Hierarchical Nature of the Universe?**

The Hierarchical Nature of the Universe, *Paradise Lost* is ready hierarchy as much as it is about obedience. The format of the universe—with Heaven above, Hell beneath, and Earth inside the center—offers the universe as a hierarchy primarily based on proximity to God and his grace.

*Paradise Lost* is ready hierarchy as lots as it is approximately obedience. The layout of the universe—with Heaven above, Hell under, and Earth within the center—gives the universe as a hierarchy based on proximity to God and his grace. This spatial hierarchy ends in a social hierarchy of angels, people, animals, and devils: the Son is closest to God, with the archangels and cherubs in the back of him. Adam and Eve and Earth's animals come subsequent, with Satan and the opposite fallen

angels following last. To obey God is to recognize this hierarchy.

Satan refuses to honor the Son as his superior, thereby questioning God's hierarchy. As the angels in Satan's camp riot, they hope to beat God and thereby dissolve what they agree with to be an unfair hierarchy in Heaven. When the Son and the coolest angels defeat the rebellion angels, the rebels are punished via being banished a ways far from Heaven. At least, Satan argues later, they can make their very own hierarchy in Hell, however they're despite the fact that challenge to God's common hierarchy, wherein they are ranked the bottom. Satan maintains to disobey God and his hierarchy as he seeks to deprave mankind.

### **Heaven**

At the top of the universe is Heaven. It is inhabited by God and people angels who did not rebellion in opposition to him. The primary excellent of Heaven is mild. God is natural light of such great that the angels must examine him thru a cloud. The angels themselves also are a kind of beautiful, pure mild but not similar to the light of God because they deliver off shades. Within Heaven, God sits on the pinnacle of a mountain on his eternal throne. He is shrouded in a cloudy mist due to the great and depth of the light he emanates. The Son is at his facet. In orthodox Protestant theology, they are components of a tripartite entire — the Holy Spirit being the third. Each of those characters represents an component of God. God is the Father; natural cause and mind, perfect unemotional justice. The Son is the extra merciful side. He demonstrates pity, mercy, sacrifice, and wish. In Milton's personal view, the Son and God aren't the identical. God created the Son who's so near God that any distinction is imperceptible, even to angelic sensibilities. Theologically then, Milton became a Unitarian, although he never develops this point of view in *Paradise Lost*.

Milton's attitude towards the angels is at exceptional hazy. Most of the time, he seems to observe the historical Hebrew tradition that categorised all angels as either angels or archangels, with the archangels being the greater critical and the nearest to God. However, Milton additionally

mentions all the different classes in several locations. In the end, the best actual conclusion is that with angels, as with such a lot of different components of Paradise Lost, Milton follows his own thoughts even as preserving at least the semblance of the traditional Christian doctrine and emphasizing the hierarchy. He acknowledges the hierarchy of angels but arranges it to healthy his own perspectives.

### **Hell**

Hell in Paradise Lost is the antithesis of Heaven. In a sense, Hell is an ironic parody of Heaven. Hell for Milton is actually the underworld. Heaven is the zenith of the universe, then there may be the brilliant gulf of Chaos and Night, and finally, at the lowest, below everything, is Hell. At first, Hell looks like Dante's location of miserable torment. The fallen angels wake, lying on a lake of hearth, surrounded by sulfurous fumes. However, this primary photograph of Hell is soon replaced by using a 2nd. The demons build a capital, Pandemonium, with a palace and a throne for Satan, contrasting with God's throne in Heaven.

The cause at the back of the cataloging of demons in Hell and the hierarchy of angels in Heaven isn't made clean by means of Milton, however the two groups are obviously similar and intended to be so. Similarly, the different elements of Hell are generally set up in an ironic assessment with a counterpoint in Heaven. The hierarchy of Hell is not a actual arrangement based totally on superiority and inferiority. Satan has taken manipulate, however in truth all the fallen angels are essentially the equal, a factor made clear when they are all turned into snakes and both their importance within the universe and their ranges in Hell vanish. In Heaven, the hierarchy is actual; in Hell, a sham.

### **Earth**

The Earth that is depicted in Paradise Lost isn't like the Earth we know today. Milton describes Earth as a introduction by God after the revolt of Satan and his fans. Raphael tells Adam that God created Earth thru the Son to keep Satan from feeling pleasure that he had "dispeopl'd Heav'n".

Earth and Man had been created so that Man, through trial, may want to attain the kingdom of the angels, and Earth ought to come to be a part of Heaven. To that quit, the Son creates not most effective Earth however additionally the heavens surrounding Earth, and all that lives on Earth. All of these, he suspends from Heaven on a golden chain. The superb image in Paradise Lost is of the Son, a celestial architect with a golden compass, plotting out the universe wherein Earth will exist.

After its creation, Earth, like Heaven and Hell, has a hierarchical association. Also like Heaven and Hell, this arrangement is unassuming and indistinct. On Earth, Paradise — the Garden of Eden — is the paramount region. The hill from which Adam receives his imaginative and prescient of the destiny from Michael is outwardly, although this isn't always said, the highest area on Earth. So while Adam and Eve are banished from the Garden, they leave the best region on Earth and enter a international that is both unsuitable and unknown.

The function of Earth in Milton's universe also reflects a hierarchical arrangement. Heaven is the pinnacle of the universe; Hell, the bottom. Earth is connected to Heaven by using a golden chain. Had Adam and Eve not fallen, there may be a sense that at the least metaphorically the chain would have slowly pulled Earth up to Heaven so the two places should merge. The fall changed the nature of the original plan. The fall, however, did not change the relationship of Earth to Heaven. The chain stays, although at the give up of Paradise Lost, a huge bridge across Chaos connects Hell to Earth. Man must either discover the tough way up the chain or walk throughout the extensive causeway to Hell. The easier pathway is plain.

### **CONCLUSION**

Hierarchy plays an important role in every aspect of life. A hierarchy is system of persons that are ranked above another which is found throughout all natural environments. The idea is emphasised by Milton's depiction of spiritual existence of natural chain where God is at the top of both structures. Though Satan is casted below god creations, he with his fellow angels tries to corrupt mankind. Many small hierarchies lie between one

dominant one. The format of the universe is that Heaven is kept above, Hell beneath, and the Earth inside centre. All these aspects have been seen in the epic written by John Milton.

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