

Lecture No - 21

The World is Too Much with Us

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The World is Too Much with Us

is a famous sonnet. It has been composed by William Wordsworth. He is a great nature poet. He is one of the greatest Romantics poets of the 19th century. This is a nice poem. It records the annoyance of the poet of the dominance of materialism in life. Materialism has assumed great importance in human life. Man is getting alienated from nature. William Wordsworth is lover and worshiper of nature. He is like a priest in the temple of nature. Nature is his teacher. Nature is his friend, philosopher and guide. The poet is a Christian. As a Christian, he deeply believes in the existence of God. But Christianity does not keep man in touch with nature. So, he prefers the outworn creed of paganism. Paganism believes in the principle many lords. The poet is inclined to warn paganism to bring man in close association with nature extremely — materialistic spends time in the artificial society. He wastes energy in materialistic pursuit. He has no time to behold the beauty of nature. Nature is a great gift of God. It is a gift of boddish motive. At night, the moon shines in the sky. The sea opens its treasure of beauties ~~for the reflection~~ for the reflection of the moon. The bird labors for hours. It collects the sleeping flowers. I find a pity that man has lost the perception.

He does not feel in harmony with nature, he is not moved by the beauty of nature. The poet reacts sharply. He prefers to be a pagan. ~~He~~ He wants to worship many self contained deities of nature. The relation has become out of date for the Christians. The poet is ready to embrace it. He will then be closely associated with nature. He will behold the beauty of nature. Not only that, he will have a glimpse of mythological oldman of the sea named Proteus rising from the sea. He will also hear the song of Triton's horn. Triton was the son of Poseidon. His body was half like a man and other half like the dolphin fish. The poet refers to the Greek mythology to remain the Christians of their cultural heritage in the lap of nature.

The poem is in the form of petrarchan sonnet. It is divided between an octave and a sestet. The octave presents the poet's aversion for materialism. The sestet exposes the poet's desire to become a pagan in order to return of the lap of nature.