

Figures of Speech in the Poem On His Blindness.

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John Milton's (1608-74) Sonnet 19, also called "On His Blindness" (1673), is a poem about his struggles with blindness. He shares his feelings about serving God while being unable to see. Milton uses many figures of speech to make his thoughts clear and beautiful. These devices help us feel his sadness and understand his faith.

Metaphor: In the first line, Milton says, "**How my light is spent.**" Here, "light" is a metaphor for his eyesight. He also calls his blindness a "Talent," which means his special gift of writing. This shows how he feels sad because he thinks he cannot use his skills anymore.

Personification: The poet gives human qualities to "**Patience.**" Milton brings "Patience" to life in the poem. Patience talks to him and gives him hope. This personification makes the idea of patience feel like a wise and kind friend.

Allusion: Milton uses references from the Bible to deepen the poem's meaning. The "**Talent**" refers to the Parable of the Talents in the Bible. It suggests Milton's concern about using his God-given gifts. "**Mild yoke**" also refers to Christ's teachings about faithfully bearing burdens.

Symbolism: The poem uses "**light**" as a symbol of vision, hope, and life. Darkness symbolizes blindness and despair. These symbols help readers understand Milton's feelings.

Milton uses these figures of speech to express his emotions clearly. Metaphors, personification, and allusions make his poem easier to understand. They show us that even in hardship, faith can bring peace.