

London, 1802 Themes

Writer: William Wordsworth | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

Tribute to Milton: The poem pays homage to the great English poet John Milton, who is described as a moral and intellectual beacon for the nation. Wordsworth expresses a longing for a return to the values and virtues represented by Milton's works.

Social and Political Critique/ Criticism: Wordsworth criticizes the state of England in his time, describing it as fallen and corrupt. He contrasts this with the era when Milton was alive, suggesting that Milton's spirit could help address the moral and political decay of Wordsworth's time.

Call for Moral Regeneration: The poem calls for a revival of moral and ethical values, which Wordsworth believes have been lost in the chaos of his contemporary society. He sees Milton as a source of inspiration for this regeneration.

Romantic Idealism: The poem reflects the Romantic ideal of looking to the past for inspiration and guidance in the present. Wordsworth believes that the moral and intellectual strength of figures like Milton can be a model for a better society.