

Wordsworth's 'The World is Too Much With Us' - is a Petrarchan Sonnet recognisable by the rhyme scheme and the eight/six line format. In the first eight lines, Wordsworth draws a picture of the awesome power and beauty of nature and comments on humankind's reaction to nature in the last six lines, the common usage of the eight/six structure.

The idea of the poem is that when man once loses touch with Nature and has no eye or ear for beauty and grandeur he ceases to have a spiritual life, and his religion, becomes a sham.

In this poem, the poet angrily, the speaker accuses the modern age of having lost its connection to nature and to everything meaningful. Better is the old Greek's deflection of the forces of nature than the materialism of modern days. He then emphasises that Paganism is a way for a living, then the dull formalism of Christianity, the worldly Christianity. No religion can be of almost important that cannot make nature, a meaning of nature for all of us. The speaker wishes that he were a pagan seized according to a different vision of the world, where he might see signs of ancient gods arising from the waves, a rare sign that makes him cheerful.

He suggested that - Better is the old Greek's deflection of the forces of nature than the materialism of modern days, though crude conceptions of Greek Paganism, than the bondage to the formula without the faith of a higher creed.

The relatively simple poem angrily states that human beings are too preoccupied with the material and have lost touch with the spiritual and with nature. In utter disgust, the poet even revolts against Christianity which according to him, is responsible for the sad affairs and prefers to go back to the primitive faith of paganism; which found God in all objects of nature, thus his consolidated their beliefs in nature, and had a feeling of love towards this. The poet then expresses his feelings that his soul would find a greater comfort and harmony in the company of these gods than in the company of his age who enjoys only materialistic pleasures only.

Bradley has said that -

"This sonnet is the most famous expression in English of that longing for perfect glory of 'Greek Myth' which abounds in Romantic poetry."

On the whole, this sonnet offers an angry summation of the familiar Wordsworthian theme of communion in nature.