

Hi, this is Ross from Learning without Borders and today we're going to be learning about the poem *The Divine Image* by William Blake. In *The Divine Image*, the ideas of Mercy, Pity, Peace and Love are presented by Blake as the four things that people pray for in moments of distress. These four virtues are shown to be found not only in God, but also in man; as Mercy is found in the human heart and Pity in the human face. Similarly, abstract qualities like Peace and Love are reflected in the human form, echoing the idea that human beings were created in the image of God.

Regarded as natural characteristics of all humans by Blake, these essentially Christian virtues can be found in every man's soul on Earth, regardless of his origin or religious belief. When Blake refers to the prayer of a heathen, that is someone who doesn't believe in the Christian god, or of a Jew or Turk, he shares his idea that all human beings share God's virtues, even if they may have different ideas about the nature of God himself.

**Here is the poem:**

To Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love  
All pray in their distress;  
And to these virtues of delight  
Return their thankfulness.

For Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love  
Is God, our father dear,  
And Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love  
Is Man, his child and care.

For Mercy has a human heart,  
Pity a human face,  
And Love, the human form divine,  
And Peace, the human dress.

Then every man, of every clime,  
That prays in his distress,  
Prays to the human form divine,  
Love, Mercy, Pity, Peace.

And all must love the human form,  
In heathen, turk, or jew;  
Where Mercy, Love, & Pity dwell  
There God is dwelling too.

Like us <http://facebook.com/learningwithoutborders.eu>  
Make friends with Richie at <https://www.facebook.com/richieatlearningwithoutborders/?fref=ts>