

ABSTRACT

Paradise Lost has been regarded as one of the greatest Christian epics. For centuries, it has been considered carrying orthodox Christian doctrines. As a result, uncritical readers tend to read and consider everything said in the epic orthodox Christian teaching. Most parts in the *Paradise Lost* are undoubtedly faithful to the Christian scripture. However, some parts are only Milton's speculations, based on his own interpretation of the Bible, combined with Arian doctrine. The goal of this thesis is to unfold the influence of Arianism in Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Principles in stylistics will be used to understand Milton's poetical language. A thorough observation will lead readers to a more critical conclusion. Some ideas in Milton's work are obviously unorthodox, resembling the teaching of Arianism. Moreover, a further examination leads readers to a conclusion that Milton did not entirely embrace Arianism, but he has modified the heretic teaching with his own speculative interpretation of the Scripture. In this thesis, readers shall see the uniqueness of Milton's theology, comprises orthodox Christian doctrine, Arian doctrine, and his won speculative theology.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

ABSTRACT.....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Background.....	1
1.2. Statement of Problem.....	4
1.3. Scope and Limitation	4
1.4. Goals and Function	4
1.5. Methods of Research.....	5
CHAPTER 2 INTRODUCTION TO POETRY, BLANK VERSE, AND CHRISTOLOGY	6
2.1. Introduction.....	6
2.2. The Structural Elements.....	6
2.2.1. The Nature of Poetry: The Uniqueness of Poetry Compared to Other Genres of Literature	6
2.2.2. Foregrounding.....	7
2.2.3. Blank Verse.....	9
2.2.4. Enjambment	12
2.2.5. The ‘Verse Paragraph’	13
2.3. The Theological Elements	14
2.3.1. The Orthodox Christology	15
2.3.2. The Arian Christology	19
CHAPTER 3 MILTONIC CHRISTOLOGY.....	23
3.1. Introduction.....	23
3.2. Miltonic Blank Verse.....	23
3.2.1. Blank Verse in Milton’s View	23
3.2.2. The Enjambment.....	24
3.2.4. Other Characteristics.....	26
3.3. The Analysis of the Influence of Arianism in <i>Paradise Lost</i>	27
3.3.1. Book III, Lines 135-141	27
3.3.2. Book III. 303-308.....	29
3.3.3. Book III. 308-310.....	30
3.3.4. Book III. 342-343.....	32
3.3.5. Book III. 383-389.....	33
3.3.6. Book III. 406-409.....	35
3.3.7. Book V. 577-606.....	37
3.3.8. Book V. 658-664.....	40
3.3.9. Book V. 673-693.....	41
3.3.10. Book V. 719-726.....	43
3.3.11. Book V. 809-848.....	44
3.3.12. Book V. 853-855.....	48
3.3.13. Book VI. 680-684	49
3.3.14. Book VI. 700-709	51

3.3.15. Book VI. 723-731	53
3.3.16. Book VII. 163-175	57
3.3.17. Book VIII. 403-411	59
3.3.18. Book VIII. 412-421	60
3.3.19. Book X. 63-67	62
3.4. Systematizing Milton's Christology in <i>Paradise Lost</i>	63
3.5. Evaluating Milton's Christology in <i>Paradise Lost</i>	68
CHAPTER 4 CONCLUSION	70
4.1. Conclusion	70
CHAPTER 5 SUMMARY	72
BIBLIOGRAPHY	75
APPENDIX: THE SUMMARY OF <i>PARADISE LOST</i>	76
CURRICULUM VITAE	81