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Behind Michael Jackson’s *Heal the World*

[Michael Jackson - Heal The World (Official Video)](https://youtu.be/BWf-eARnf6U)

Michael Joseph Jackson was a legendary American singer, songwriter, dancer, and philanthropist known as the “King of Pop.” He was the most-awarded musician in history. He created artworks of many genres that made him one of the most culturally influential global figures of the 20th century. While Michael Jackson was most famous for his dances like the moonwalk in *Billie Jean* or *Smooth Criminal*, and his ballads like *You Are Not Alone*, he also wrote various songs that raised global awareness of the relationship between humans and nature. For example, *We Are the World* was written as a fundraiser for the African famine. While both were great conscious songs, unlike *We Are the World*, which focused slightly more on the human aspect, *Heal the World* related more to the environment's welfare and cried for the relationship between the planet and its children. Michael Jackson wrote the song for his charity organization of the same name “Heal the World Foundation”, which aims at protecting nature and caring for the world.

At the beginning of the song, a child whispers, inviting people to contemplate at bringing a better world for future generations. In the first verse, Michael Jackson sings about the presence of love inside the heart, which has enormous power to heal anything it touches. Michael Jackson believes that everyone is capable of doing that with love and that everyone should do so for the world. “There are people dying, if we care enough for the living”(Jackson). In the chorus, Michael Jackson argues that we need to be responsible for our environment. There are so many disasters in the world from war, famine, disease, and pollution to inequality and poverty. People will be dying if we don’t take care of the living. We should be able to feel the pain and strive for a brighter tomorrow.

In the bridge, the pitch goes higher and the rhythm sounds lighter, implying a more optimistic view. Michael Jackson argues that God’s grace spreads everywhere in the world but we have to sense it. Heaven can be created by us in the world we live in. In order to achieve that, we must care for those in need and protect nature for us and for those after us. In the final verses, Michael Jackson urges a change to leave a positive impact on ourselves and the next generation by spreading love not hate. Peace and harmony follows only when pains are healed with the power of love and care.

*Heal the World* is a gentle song that reminds people to be more considerate and compassionate towards each other to make the world a better place. The central theme is the concept of betterment for all, which has become increasingly relevant and significant in today’s context. The COVID-19 strike has caused not only hundreds of thousands of deaths but major economic upheavals that have caused people to lose their jobs. Meanwhile, the Russians and Ukrainians are fighting a war that seems to last forever, which causes hunger among those involved in the war. Global warming is aggravating yet we are in no way near the carbon-neutral goal. *Heal the World* reminds us that it is we humans who cause harm and disturbance to nature and it is no one but only we ourselves who cause the harm who are capable of mending nature’s wounds and curing nature in a loving and peaceful atmosphere.