

The Ghost of Christmas Present

| THEME | Stave | QUOTES | ANALYSIS |
|--|-------|--|--|
| Social injustice/ poverty (This could also fit for selfishness/ materialism as Scrooge's Malthusian views are selfish) | 3 | <u>"glowing torch, in shape not unlike Plenty's horn"</u> | Plenty's horn in Latin is known as 'cornucopia', symbolic of nourishment and abundance- he is showing Scrooge that there is an abundance of resources to be shared - no malnourishment or neglect should commence in a society that has plenty. This is a direct criticism of Malthusian views which has no regard for the poor and destitute. |
| | 3 | <u>"turkeys, geese, game, poultry, brawn" which formed "a kind of throne"</u> | Dickens directly uses the plethora of enticing of food as a criticism of the Malthusian idea that supplies are scarce, and the poor are the ones who are draining these resources. |
| | 3 | <u>"If he be like to die, he had better do it, and decrease the surplus population."</u> | Through the ghost emulating Scrooge's heartless Malthusian views , " ", he is allowing the readership to reflect on the words that Scrooge had previously said and the detrimental impact this has had on others. |
| | 3 | <u>"The boy is ignorance. The girl is want."</u> | Ignorance and want are allegorical characters aim to highlight the unjustified abuse on innocent children as a result of poverty . It is significant that Ghost of present shows him this, as Dickens uses the ghost of present as his mouthpiece to criticise the socio-economic poverty that pervaded Victorian society. |
| | 3 | <u>They are "yellow", "scowling" and "wolfish"</u> | "yellow" could imply that children are physically sick and malnourished because of the neglect of society and the obliviousness of individuals to social injustice . This animalistic image highlights how poverty dehumanises individuals, stripping them of their humanity and reducing them to less than an animalistic state of being. |

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|------------------------------|-------|---|--|
| Social injustice/ poverty | 3 | <u>"jolly Giant" who wears a "green robe" which was "bordered with fur".</u> | The ghost is not presented as an archetypal menacing ghost, instead has an likeness to Father Christmas. As Father Christmas is a symbol of festivity and giving- this is poignant as the ghost's function is to show Scrooge how there is enough of everything in abundance and giving is an important attribute to have in society. |
| Religion | 3 | <u>"kind, generous, hearty nature"</u> | The triple adjective could be seen to have biblical allusions to the holy trinity in which is three parts of God: the father, the son and the holy spirit . The three adjectives could be an allusion to how the ghost is there to bring Scrooge back to his religious moral foundations and guide him away from sin |
| | 3 | <u>"ivy"</u> | Biblically, <u>"ivy"</u> symbolises 'God's gift' , thus as there was ivy surrounding the ghost it compounds his God like portrayal - he could be seen as a recipient of God's message as he is trying to enlighten Scrooge morally, spiritually and religiously |
| | 3 | <u>"and who do their deeds of passion, pride, ill-will, hatred, envy, bigotry, and selfishness in our name"</u> | The ghost rejects Scrooge's accusation that spirits created sabbath closures (closing of key essential shops such as bakeries etc on Sundays because of religion). The asyndetic list highlights that mankind commit injurious and immoral acts yet try justifying it through religion |