

Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power
Topic 2 Content: "When I Consider How My Light Is Spent" by John Milton

When I consider how my light is spent
Ere¹ half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one talent which is death to hide
Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest² he returning chide;
"Doth God exact day-labor, light denied?"
I fondly ask; but Patience to prevent

That murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts; who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
Is kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed
And post³ o'er land and ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait."

¹ before

² for fear that; in case

³ travel