

The crucible sinners
in the hands of an
angry god



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The essay I am writing today explains the roles of fear and persuasion in two different stories. One is "Sinners In The Hands of an Angry God", a sermon written by Jonathan Edwards which tries to convince people to be more god allowing. The other being "The Crucible" written by Arthur Miller, which is a story based on accusations and intimidation, which is made out to be a mock of mccarthyism. The role that fear had in Edwards sermon was the main point of his sermon.

I say this because Edwards was trying to scare people into being more accepting to God, by scaring them with the vivid descriptions he tells of them going to hell if they weren't willing to change their ways. Persuasion played a part in this, because it went along with the fear to get people to be more obedient to God. In "The Crucible" fear played a role, because everyone feared being called a witch, which still happens to some even though unknowingly false. Persuasion plays into that because everyone accusing people had to persuade that they were witches, and the accused had to persuade that they weren't.

One example of a literary device in Edwards sermon is imagery. An example would be "The devil is waiting for them, hell is gaping for them" (Edwards, 106). This gives me an image of the devil inside hell with people being sucked in. Another example of imagery would be "You would immediately sink and swiftly descend and plunge into the bottomless gulf" (Edwards, 108). Another literary device in Edwards sermon is personification. For example when he says "The world would spew you out" which with the world being inhuman makes it personified.

Another example would be “ The keeps the arrow one moment from being made drunk with your blood”. In “ The Crucible” one literary device would be stage directions. An example being “ she turns to go”, which tells the character to go. A second example being “ he moves from her”. The changes that came from Edwards sermon is that people were inspired by his preaching. People also became more religious out of fear of hell. The changes from “ The Crucible” were that people were falsely accused. Also people were hung because of the false accusations. Everyone also found out the rumors weren’t true.