

The three main
themes come to mind
when



The wife of bath from the Canterbury tales is written by GeoffreyChaucer.

This piece of literature is a tavern and a pilgrimage from London to Canterbury, England in the late fourteenth century. No one really knows exactly when Chaucer wrote The Canterbury Tales, but it had to be in the late 1380's and as early as the 1390s, just right after his retirement from life as a civil servant. During this era, the plague had destroyed a huge percentage of the population established social mobility that eventually led to class tension throughout society. A extremely important part of life in the medieval period was the church. Religion played a huge role in the lives of many.

The Christian faith was practiced among those who believed in the Eucharist and Confession, that only the church could provide. Unlike the other two stories this one is different because Chaucer decided to take every single medieval antifeminist approach dealing with stereotypes. Medieval antifeminism was a type of estate irony which characterized women as greedy, lustful, deceptive, parasites on men. Throughout the tale, lessons about what women want are fully expressed.

“ The discrepancy between what women find arousing and what they ought to be attracted by runs throughout the book. It's a negation of desire. Women may indeed be naturally promiscuous, but this isn't to say they're driven only by sexual need. Pragmatism and principle make matrimony attractive. It's better for raising children.

It provides emotional security which women, paradoxically, also want.”

(McDonagh, p. 46) The Wife of Bath, she and all women want to control according to her, want to oversee their husbands and lovers.

They want to command the money, the sex, and the passion of any given relationship. This prologue acquaints the reader with the earthy and very outspoken wife of Bath, a middle-aged woman who has been married five times. She strongly believes that experience is the best teacher around.

This is partly what makes her assertive, self-confident and literate. Three main themes come to mind when the tale was told. The first theme was women desire mastery over men. Secondly, appearances can be deceiving. The ugly old woman becomes a beautiful young lady towards the ending of the tale. Lastly, we see how rehabilitation takes place. A knight