The gothic awakening essay sample

Literature, Russian Literature



In the Middle Ages, Christians strongly believed that God is best expressed through different works of art, and nature. The significant evidences standing today reiterates more than a survival through time, but also silent reflections of the many people who came to view these artworks. The walls and pillars have stood strong, much like the many beliefs of devotees. These structures are more than visual representations of these beliefs. These stand as dynamic emotional aid in man's relationship with God and himself.

To see the relationship between the structures and the Christian belief, an overview of the Gothic Cathedrals might be necessary. One manifestation of Gothic Cathedrals is that they are tall structures with interiors reminiscent of the Romanesque Period. (Johansen). This can possibly reflect how people thought of God. God is the most almighty being for any Christian, and the descriptive tall can symbolize this perception of Him. Another manifestation would be, according to Gargoyle Gothica, that these structures are build of stone. Anyone can say that a solid base would mean strength, and God is the ultimate source of man's strength. Flying buttresses are also one of the distinct characteristics of Gothic Cathedrals. These wings located outside the walls of the the main building supports its weight. Given that the entire building is made of stone, cut to fit together, would need a means of assistance for further stability. For a Christian, God is the ultimate support as well. The Gargoyles that adorn the roof tops and corners of these buildings are means of scaring off evil.

From the given characteristics, one can definitely say that these the Gothic Cathedrals are representations of man's belief of God. However, the physical, or the outdoor appearance of these structures are not the only

points they have to be qualified under the argument of this paper. Other works of art such as paintings, sculptures and stained glasses and mosaics adorn the interior of these structures. More than display, more than art, these represent the depth of God in the hearts of these people.

The details and designs excruciatingly implemented in these artworks indicate the effort man would exert for his belief. These aimed to construct a more in-depth relationship with God, by representing stories wherein God took a great part. These pieces served as an inspiration to passers by, and believers across globe. The construction of these pieces involved the passion of people, something they hoped to bring out from the viewers. Moreover, people tend to feel more closely with God through these creations due to the fact that these were produced during the time when these were made. The interior design of these structures promote the solemnity of the religion, reflecting the degree to which believes would stretch their means of expression.

In conclusion, art works from the Gothic period strongly represents the feelings and beliefs of the people, extended even to this day. The overall design of Gothic Cathedrals, including its interior designs, represent more than this period of religious expressions. It is also for the Christians of that day to affirm the Christians today regarding their beliefs.

Works Cited

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