

## GROUP #1

**TOPIC:** "One among the millions" - The individual in relation to the public. In many ways, the Son of God is a prophet for the public, representing "Truth" for the millions even when they can't understand it. This role is very similar to the role of a poet, as Milton sees it.

### KEY PASSAGES:

Satan's first temptation of glory and the need for action III. 7-42  
Jesus' response to this temptation III. 43-92

### QUESTIONS:

What is Milton's view of the relation of the individual to the public? How does his role as author, often as author of public pamphlets, play into this view? In what ways can we read Milton in his portrayal of the Son of God? What is Milton's view of the poet's/prophet's role and responsibility to society?

What connections can you make between this "allegory" of the prophet's/poet's position and Milton's poetic stance in Paradise Lost? What conclusions can you draw from these connections about how we are to understand and read Milton's poetry?

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*Suggestions on "team teaching": presenting your discussion to the class*

- be clear about what issue you're discussing - first lay out the issues involved, explain what question you're getting at
- refer to textual evidence that encapsulates or illustrates the heart of the issue (i.e. read the passage involved)
- would this passage be a good "exam passage"?
  - show how the passage illustrates the points your group has made (i.e. close read the passage to point out what elements you would write on)
  - think about how the issue and the passage relate to the text as a whole