

Eras/Periods

- Old English (600-1100)
- Middle English (1100-1500)
- Elizabethan Era (Renaissance) (1558-1603)
- Jacobean Era (1603-1625)
- Caroline Era (1625-1642)
- English Civil War (1642-1651)
- English Interregnum (1651-1660)
- Restoration Era (Age of Reason) (1660-1714)
- Georgian Era (1714-1830)
- Victorian Era (Romanticism) (1837-1901)

(1642 closing down of the theaters)

- ◎ **Elizabethan Era (1558-1603): Lyrical + Pastoral Poetry** - Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare
- ◎ **Jacobean Era: (1603-1625): Metaphysical Poetry** - John Donne. **Satirical** works- Ben Jonson.
- ◎ **Caroline Era (1625-1642): Metaphysical Poetry and the flourishing of Cavalier Poets.** (a period of growing religious, political, and social conflict between the King and his supporters, termed the Royalist party, and the Puritan opposition)

Caroline Era

- ◎ **Cavalier Poets**: 17th century poets who supported King Charles I and his supporters (Royalists) during the English Civil War. Some poets are:
 - **Robert Herrick**: considered at his time to be the best living lyrical poet.
 - **Richard Lovelace**
 - **Sir John Suckling**: wrote poetry using wit.
- ◎ Cavalier poetry were light in style and secular (worldly) in subject.

John Milton and his time

- ◎ **John Milton** (1608-1674): **Second** poet after Shakespeare who influenced the **Victorian Age** and **Romanticism Movement** (1820-1900)
- ◎ Works divided into three categories:
 1. **Shorter poems**
 2. **Prose** (mainly concerned with church affairs, divorce, and freedom)
 3. **Greater poems** such as his **1652** famous **sonnet** (Sonnet 18 – *On His Blindness*)

John Milton and his time

◎ Greatest lyrical epic poem: *Paradise Lost* (1667)

- written in 12 books (blank verse) about a scene of the whole universe including Heaven and Hell

- contains hundreds of remarkable thoughts put into musical verse

The mind is its own place, and in itself

Can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven. (Book 1, 254)

Better to reign in hell than to serve in heaven. (Book I, 263)

◎ *Paradise Regained* (1671): is more severe.