**Holy Sonnets: Thou hast made me, and shall thy work decay?**

**By** [**John Donne**](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poets/detail/john-donne)

Thou hast made me, and shall thy work decay?

Repair me now, for now mine end doth haste,

I run to death, and death meets me as fast,

And all my pleasures are like yesterday;

I dare not move my dim eyes any way,

Despair behind, and death before doth cast

Such terror, and my feebled flesh doth waste

By sin in it, which it towards hell doth weigh.

Only thou art above, and when towards thee

By thy leave I can look, I rise again;

But our old subtle foe so tempteth me,

That not one hour I can myself sustain;

Thy grace may wing me to prevent his art,

And thou like adamant draw mine iron heart.

1. What does the first line and the title suggest?
2. As usual, Donne creates a very vivid situation in this poem. Try to

visualise where he is. Describe it.

1. What does Donne do in the second line? Do you find this unusual, given the subject of the poem?
2. How would you describe the mood of the poem? Give evidence for this.
3. What comparisons does Donne use at the end of the poem and what do

they suggest?