

(ATTN) Martin Luther, a significant leader in the Protestant Reformation founded upon the ideal of true faith, once said: “Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s graces, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times.” **(BKG 1)** Like Luther, many people have for centuries staked their entire lives’ missions on their faith in God. Wars have been waged and conflicts created over what different sects of humanity believe to be true. Faith is an idea so deeply rooted into mankind that it continuously dominates the center of muse for millions of artists, authors, musicians, and poets who have over time brought to life the triumphs, failures, doubts, epiphanies, joys, and depressions illustrated in their countless masterpieces.

(BKG 2) English poets John Donne and Gerard Manley Hopkins manifest their journey of unwavering faith in God throughout the many periods of their lives in their poems. John Donne was born and raised in the Catholic church during the Protestant Reformation, but eventually his circumstances and beliefs led him to become an Anglican minister, greatly shifting the subjects of his pieces into more mature themes appropriate for his career and lifestyle. Gerard Manley Hopkins was born into the Anglican faith and became a Catholic priest with a passion for praising God’s creation. **(BKG 3)** Both men would undergo spiritual journeys during their lifetimes. The influence of faith in the lives of these two men is evident in every line of their poems. **(THESIS)** Impacted immensely by their deeply rooted faith in God, both John Donne and Gerald Manley Hopkins wrote a plethora of works that reflected the intricate connection between their lives and their beliefs.