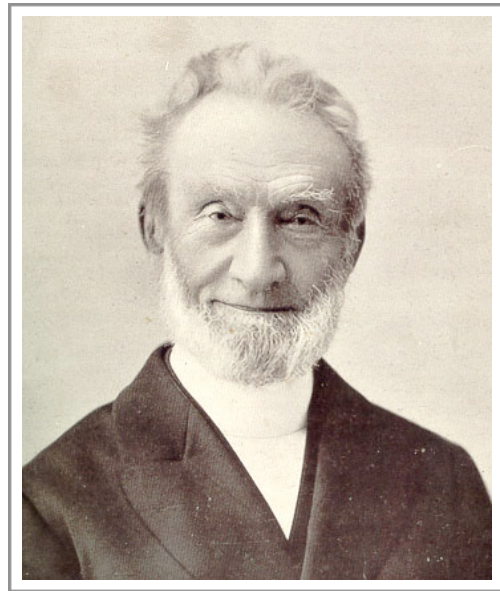


Narrative Assignment 32

- *reading.* Read George Mueller’s Journal and be ready for a quiz on it. A picture of George Mueller is on the right. Read Hudson Taylor’s *Retrospect*: “Power of Prayer” to “Preparation for Service.”
- *tableaux.* You can now view all of **the tableaux online**.
- *biography.* If you have not yet handed it in, submit your biography by email. Your biography will be graded, corrected and eventually posted online for everyone to enjoy. (If you do not want it posted, please let me know.) I will mark your grade on your progress reports.
- *journal.* Make sure you bring in your journal entries on the last week for me to review while you take the Julius Caesar final exam.
- *writing.* Your analysis of one of Shakespeare’s characters is due this coming Friday. Last week I gave you an outline, but this week, I will give you an example of how to work out or expand that outline into essay form. Below is an example outline of the analysis. Please know that I know that this is the first time that I have asked you to write a critical essay. Please do your best, but limit the time that you spend on it to two hours!



I. Introduction

- A. *Background Details.* Include important information that will help the reader understand your discussion of the topic.
- B. *Thesis Statement.* Through his depiction of the character Julius Caesar, Shakespeare suggests the impotence of the human will in controlling the course of human events or even one’s own destiny.

II. Body Paragraph 1

- A. *Topic Sentence.* *Caesar’s fickleness.* Unlike his foil character Brutus, who has an iron will that will not be swayed, Caesar shows himself to be fickle, a character trait which ultimately leads him to his destiny.
- B. Discussion of the topic sentence using textual support.

III. Body Paragraph 2

A. Topic Sentence. *Caesar's pride*. Although Caesar's indecisiveness and malleability are what in the end lead him to his own death and destiny, it is pride that ultimately informs his decision making. IRONY of saying "My will" to the conspirators.

B. Discussion of the topic sentence using textual support.

IV. Body Paragraph 3

A. Topic Sentence. *Caesar's infirmities*. A final attribute that helps Shakespeare suggest the impotence of the human will in shaping his destiny is Caesar's frailties, depicted very emphatically in Act I.

B. Discussion of the topic sentence using textual support.

a. First, Caesar is depicted as being deaf, not only physically but cognitively. In Act 1, Scene 2 Caesar is accosted by the soothsayer as he parades through the streets of Rome, followed by great crowds. The cry is described as being "shriller than all the music" (I, ii, 19), signifying, of course, that it is threatening and direly important. Caesar cries out, "Who is it in the press that calls on me?" (I, ii, 18) and turns to hear, as he is deaf in one ear. This detail of physical deformation not only underlines the fact that Caesar is an imperfect human being and far from being a god who can control his destiny, but also suggests that he is both literally and *figuratively* deaf. This particular passage is a very significant, dramatic moment in the course of the play, as Caesar seems at this moment to be able to change his destiny and avert the assassination—if only he would listen, understand, and act. However, he *does* not as he *can* not, for he is deaf—deaf to the significance of the soothsayer's warning "Beware the Ides of March" (I, ii, 21), and deaf to all subsequent omens and presentiments of his doom.

b. Third, he cannot bear children. . .

c. He also has the "falling sickness," or epilepsy. . .

d. Caesar has a general frailty, which Cassius describes in two stories which he relates to Brutus in Act 1. These details suggest not only a physical frailty but a general weakness of the human makeup, which includes the will. Though he boasts great strength of courage and determination, Caesar is in fact powerless against the assassin's daggers and the fate that brought him to the Senate where the assassination took place. . .

V. *Conclusion*. The conclusion should discuss the significance of the ideas that you presented.

For this particular topic, discussing other characters that also support the idea of fate will be relevant. Do not, however, continue supporting your main idea. You are merely to tie together what has already been discussed.

God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies. —Hudson Taylor