**“Meditation 17” by John Donne**

Donne was sick and close to death when he wrote this.

Hears a bell tolling (ringing) and thinks it might be for him

**(bell symbolizes death or call to death)**

Church is Catholic, everything this does concerns every member of church, such baptism or death

**METAPHOR 🡪 CATHOLIC CHURCH (humanity)**

Head = God (represented by priest)

body = congregation (members)

🡪 arms and legs = individual people

**METAPHOR 🡪 BOOK (VOLUME) to LIFE (humanity/mankind)**

Author = God

chapter = individual lives

translators = age, sickness, war, justice 🡪 death (a moment of time/in between time)

translation/better language = soul/spirit (still us, just BETTER)

leaves/pages = life events/moments of our lives/deeds

Library = Heaven

Monks arguing about ringing bell, decided one who got up earliest would ring it; should be honored to ring it if we think of the real reason of the bell (a call for death/salvation), it brings us closer to God. **EVERYONE PAYS ATTENTION TO THE SOUND OF BELL, like the sunrise or a comet. WE SHOULD PAY ATTENTION TO IT BECAUSE IT IS RINGING FOR EVERYONE AND IT CALLS US TO LOOK AT OUR LIVES AND SEE IF WE ARE READY FOR DEATH.**

**METAPHOR 🡪 LAND to LIFE (humanity)**

continent = (a group of humanity)

piece of the continent/part of the main = individual persons

island = no person/humanity

**DUE MARCH 6 🡪 (QUIZ GRADE) Memory Work =** “No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main….Any man’s death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind, and therefore, never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.” **EXTRA CREDIT, recite EARLY – week of Feb 19 = 30 extra points, week of Feb 25 = 20 points, March 4, 5 = 10 points**

**Meaning == Humanity is interconnected/interdependent (we impact others; we need each other)**

Affliction/tribulation (sickness or hardship) = treasure

**Thru hard times, we get CLOSER to GOD, closer to heaven**

Bullion (bar of gold) 🡪 must be converted to money that is USABLE AS we should convert our trials and hardships into something usable, something helpful to us and/or to others **(doing all this should bring us closer to God)**