

**Example 1.** Parallel texts of *Jure Divino* (lines 1-93) and *The Right Divine of Kings to Govern Wrong!* (lines 1-30)

**Defoe**

Instructing *Satyr*, Tune thy useful Song,<sup>a</sup>  
Silence grows Criminal where Crimes grow strong;  
Of meaner Vice, and Villains Sing no more,  
But Monsters Crown'd, and Crime *Enrob'd with Power*.  
At Vices high *Imperial* Throne begin,  
And search the ancient Prodigies of Sin;  
With Pregnant Phrase and strong Impartial Verse,  
The Crimes of Men, and Crimes of <sup>b</sup>*Gods* rehearse.

Rise, *Mighty Seraph*, from thy<sup>c</sup> fancy'd Grave,  
And Speak, tho' 'tis to those thou can'st not save;                   10  
What tho' thy Labour shall to Men be Vain,  
And the World's Bondage must its Time remain;  
Let willing Slaves in Golden Fetters lye,  
There's none can save the Men that choose to Dye;  
Yet some to Voluntary Mischiefs bow,  
That fain wou'd shun their Chains, if they knew how;  
And these from thy inspired Lines will see,  
How they chose Bondage when they might go free.

Thy long-lamented Silence, *Satyr*, break;  
Open thy Ancient Oracle, and speak.                                   20  
Tell us how<sup>d</sup> Man, by Heav'n it self made free,

**Hone**

ARISE, O Satire! -- tune thy useful song,  
Silence grows criminal, when crimes grow strong;  
Of meaner vice, and villains, sing no more,  
But Monsters crown'd and Crime enrobed with Power!  
At vice's high IMPERIAL throne begin,  
Relate the *ancient* prodigies of sin;  
With pregnant phrase, and strong impartial verse,  
The crimes of men, and crimes of Kings rehearse!

What though thy labour shall to *us* be vain,  
And the World's bondage must *its time* remain;                                   10  
Let willing slaves in golden fetters lie,  
There's none can save the men who *will* to die.  
Yet some there are that would not tamely bow,  
Who fain would break their chains, if they knew how;  
And these, from thy inspired lines, may see,  
How they choose bondage when they may go free.

---

<sup>a</sup> Satyr has always been allow'd to be Instructive, and perhaps more so than any other sort of Poetry, if Rightly apply'd.  
<sup>b</sup> *Gods* here alludes to the particular Enumeration in this First Book, where it appears that most of the Heathen Gods were tyrant Kings, and more than commonly wicked Men, Deifi'd by the Errors of the Time.  
<sup>c</sup> This alludes to the particular Curcumstances of the Poet, who having been bound not to Write for Seven Years, had made his own Elegy, and suppos'd his Satyr to be Dead.  
<sup>d</sup> God Almighty prescrib'd no Rules of Government to Man, only told him the Duties to his Maker; but as to the Article of Powers, he made him Lord of himself, and of the whole Creation.



He that with Mighty <sup>g</sup>*Ninus* hunts for Men,  
Can murder half the World at once, like <sup>h</sup>*Cain*;  
Like <sup>i</sup>*Nero*, suck the Blood that gave him Life,                    50  
And search Eng'ndring Nature with his Knife:  
Like <sup>j</sup>*Dioclesian*, drink a Nation's Blood,  
Shall first contemn, and then usurp the *God*,  
That Paints the Kalendar with sacred Red,  
And lifts the Innocent among the Dead;  
That blasts whole Nations with insulting Breath,  
Pleas'd with Destruction, and makes sport with Death.  
Like *England's* <sup>k</sup>*Crook-back*, murders and entreats;  
Like <sup>l</sup>*Charles* the Ninth, embraces those he hates.

---

<sup>g</sup> *Ninus* or *Nimrod*, call'd in Scripture a *mighty Hunter*, was the first Man that Usurp'd Superiority of Power, and form'd Men into Governments, under his absolute Role; all Histories agree him to be a Tyrant, and to Erect this Government against, and in oppsition to the Divine Power; Vide Sir *Walter Raleigh*. Some will have him to be the first of the heathen Gods, and call him *Saturn*, but of this by it self.

<sup>h</sup> *Cain* may be very well said to Murther half the World, or near half, the two Sons of *ADAM*, being the main heads of Mankind at that time, and upon whom seem'd to depend the Peopling of the whole World.

<sup>i</sup> *Nero*, the most Unnatural Tyrant of all the *Roman* Emperors, who caus'd his Mother to be Murthered, view'd her Naked Body with Pleasure after she was Dead, and would have had her Rip'd up, to let him see the place he was conceiv'd in.

<sup>j</sup> This of *Dioclesian*, is Allegorically meant, of his Cruelty, in drawing the Blood of the Christians, against whom he Rais'd the Greatest of all the Persecutions, and us'd the suffering Christians, with all the Excesses of Blood, and Barbarous Torments; caus'd himself to be call'd the Son of the Gods, demanded Divine Honours to be paid him, and would have had the Priests offer'd Sacrifice to him.

<sup>k</sup> *Richard* III. the greatest Tyrant, and most Bloody Man, *England* ever had, that us'd all Arts and Entreaties to get the Sons of his Brother *Edward* the IV. from their Mother into his Keeping, with a Design to Murther them; that so their Blood might Pave his way to the *English* crown.

<sup>l</sup> *Charles* the IX of *France*, Author of the *Parisian* Massacre, came to Visit the Admiral *Coligni*, embrac'd him, call'd him Father, wept when he saw the Wound which he receiv'd from an Assassin the Day before, gave him a Guard for his Safety, and the very next Morning caus'd him to be basely Murther'd in his Chamber.

He that can levy War with all Mankind, 60  
 Can cut his Father's Throat, and fell his Friend;  
 Ravish the Chast, the Sanctify'd prophane,  
 Can pull down Right, and Wrong by force maintain;  
 Mortgage his Faith, and Trample on his Word,  
 And hew his Crown out by his Lawless Sword.  
 Like <sup>m</sup>*Cortez*, can an hundred-millions slay,  
 Dream Death by Night, and finish it by Day.  
 With Pious <sup>n</sup>*Peter*; *Cant* of Heav'n's Commands,  
 Pray with his Lips, and murder with his Hands. 70  
 Can sleep with Blood, and never start at Crime,  
 And make his Mischiefs, like his Power, Supreme.  
 Buy Justice, sell Oppression, bribe the Law,  
 Exalt the Fool, and keep the Wise in awe;  
 Damn all Religion, Gods and mend defy;  
*These* openly blaspheme, and *those* destroy.  
 Embrace the Guilty, Innocents condemn,  
 And execute without pretence of Crime.  
 Can sacrifice whole Nations to his Lust,  
 With pleasure kill, and think that pleasure just.  
 Can <sup>o</sup>*burn* and *sing*, dance to the waving Flame, 80  
 And in his Country Ashes raise his Fame,  
 Insult the Wretched, trample on the Poor,  
 And mock the Miseries Mankind endure;  
 Can ravage Countries, Property devour,  
 And trample Law beneath the feet of Power.

He that can levy War with all mankind,  
 Retard the day-spring of the human mind;

Buy Justice, Sell Oppression, bribe the Law, 20  
 Exalt the Fool, and keep the Wise in awe;  
 With pious Peter,<sup>1</sup> *cant* of heaven's commands,  
 Pray with his lips, and murder with his hands;

Insult the wretched, trample on the poor,  
 And mock the miseries mankind endure;  
 Can ravage countries, property devour,  
 And trample Law beneath the *feet of Power*;

---

<sup>m</sup> *Cortez*, tho' not a Monarch, yet trusted with Power, destroy'd almost all the Inhabitants of two vast Empires, *Mexico* and *Peru*, and unpeopled one of the largest and most Populous parts of the World.

<sup>n</sup> *Peter* the *Cruel* us'd to go to Prayers immediately from the Murthers he committed; and so *Pray* and *Murther*, and *Murther* and *Pray* in Course.

<sup>o</sup> *Nero* was said to take his Lute and sing to it a Song of the Siege and Destruction of *Troy*, while *Rome* was on Fire.

---

<sup>1</sup> Peter the Cruel, King of Castile. He married the daughter of a Duke of Bourbon, whom he divorced, in order to renew his connexion with a former mistress. His excesses occasioned the people to dethrone him. He affected piety, and to govern by divine right!

Scorns the restraint of Oaths, and promis'd Right,  
And ravel Compacts in the People's sight;  
With indignation scorn to reign by Rules;  
*That Thing's a Tyrant;*

*And that People Fools.*

Fools that, abandon'd by the Light of Sense,  
Despise the Substance, worship the Pretence;  
Contemn their native Right to Liberty,  
And bow to Bondage, when they may go free.

90

Scorn the restraint of oaths and promised Right,<sup>2</sup>  
And ravel compacts in the people's sight;  
*That thing's a TYRANT!--and that People FOOLS,*  
*Who basely bend to be that Tyrant's tools!*

30

---

<sup>2</sup> *Despots seldom keep engagements.--*The People of Prussia have a *promised right* from their king of some years standing. After the Battle of Waterloo, he promised them a *Constitution*--but became a member of the *Holy Alliance*. In 1814, this king, with another of the fraternity, the Emperor of Russia, was entertained at an expense of 20,038*l.* 7 *s.* 10*d.* in Guildhall London, by the Corporation in Common Council assembled, who also presented addresses of congratulation to the worthies, on their having contributed, by engaging Napoleon, to restore what the addresses call, *the LEGITIMATE dynasties*. The result is that the *legitimate* Emperor of Russia backs the crusade on *the People* of Naples; and the *legitimate* king of Prussia is as little inclined to let the Prussians have a Constitution, as the Corporation of London find it convenient to return the 14,000*l.* of the Bridge-House money which they borrowed towards paying for the feast. The *company they kept*, and the money they owe in consequence, must be a satisfactory, because the *only* apology from the metropolis of the most free country in Europe, to the Neapolitans, for not assisting them in defending their national Independence, and their new-born Liberty, against the combined attack of *the LEGITIMATE dynasties*.