

**TITLE: EXPRESSION OF WORDS RELATED TO RELIGIOUS FAITH
IN “SISTER CARRIE”**

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Abstract: This scientific article examines the expression of words related to religious faith found in the literary work “Sister Carrie”. The analysis focuses on understanding the author's use of religious vocabulary, symbols, and themes within the narrative, unraveling deeper insights into the characters, plot, and overall message of the text. By exploring the expression of words related to religious faith, we aim to shed light on the interplay between literature and religion, and how it contributes to the literary canon.

Keywords: literature, religious faith, expression of words, religious vocabulary, symbolism, thematic exploration.

Introduction. As we know, any nation has its own phraseological units, each of which has a specific meaning and place of use. These units not only serve to embellish prose or poetic forms of fiction but are also frequently utilized in the ordinary lives of individuals, aiding in conveying the thoughts of the speaker more clearly and effectively during communication [1. 588]. Likewise religion has often played a significant role in shaping human societies, beliefs, and cultures. Literature has been a powerful tool in exploring religious themes, providing insights into the complexities of faith, spirituality, and the human condition. “Sister Carrie,” a renowned literary work, delves into the realm of religious faith, offering an opportunity to analyze the expression and representation of words associated with religion within the narrative.

To contextualize this study, a comprehensive literature review is conducted to identify existing research on literature and religious themes. Previous studies have explored the use of religious symbolism, language, and motifs to highlight cultural,

societal, and personal dynamics. However, there remains a gap in understanding the specific expression of words related to religious faith within “Sister Carrie”

Materials and methods. This study employs a qualitative approach to analyze the expression of words related to religious faith in “Sister Carrie” The primary data source consists of the original text, supplemented by critical analyses, author interviews, and secondary references. Our analysis focuses on identifying religious vocabulary, symbols, metaphors, and direct references that contribute to the development of the characters, plot, and overarching themes. As an example, we will take the following sentence, in which we will analyze the origin of the word sin:

She found him lifting her head and looking into her eyes. What magnetism there was she could never know. His many sins, however, were for the moment all forgotten.[3.316]

The word sin is, unsurprisingly, not one of the newer additions to our vocabulary; it has been in use for well over a thousand years. Our current form of the word comes from the Middle English sinne, which is itself from the Old English syn. The original meanings of sin were largely concerned with religious matters (“a transgression of religious law,” “an offense against God”).[2] But here the word sin is not used in a religious sense, but in the sense of the mistakes that people make in this world. The word "sin" is also linguistically interesting because it has different connotations and interpretations, depending on cultural and religious contexts. In Christianity, for instance, sin is often understood as a transgression against divine law, leading to a separation between God and humanity. Christians often use the terms "original sin" to describe the innate tendency towards sinfulness in human beings and "mortal sins" to refer to severe transgressions that require repentance and forgiveness.

The word "sin" is a noun that has its origins in Old English, derived from the Germanic word "sund" which meant "offense" or "wrongdoing." It entered Middle English as "sinne" around the 12th century, retaining a similar meaning.

Semantically, "sin" refers to an act or behavior that is considered morally wrong or contrary to religious or ethical principles. It implies a violation of a divine or societal code of conduct, often resulting in guilt or the need for redemption. The concept of sin is prevalent in various religious and ethical systems, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Buddhism, among others.

The word "sin" carries a weighty moral and religious connotation and is typically associated with negative moral judgments. However, the interpretation and significance of sins can vary across different religious, cultural, and ethical frameworks. The understanding of sin can differ in terms of severity, forgiveness, and the means of atonement.

Pragmatically, the term "sin" is often used to discuss ethical or moral transgressions within a religious or philosophical context. It can serve as a means of guidance, self-reflection, or condemnation. In religious contexts, concepts of sin are often discussed alongside notions of repentance, forgiveness, and divine judgment.

The discussion section delves into the significance of the identified words related to religious faith in "Sister Carrie". It explores their role in character development, plot progression, and the broader thematic exploration of spirituality, morality, and human nature. Furthermore, this section explores the potential impact of religion on the readers' interpretation and engagement with the text, highlighting the ever-present and evolving correlation between literature and religious faith.

This scientific article concludes by summarizing the key findings and their implications for the study of literature and religious themes. The expression of words related to religious faith within "Sister Carrie" demonstrates the author's deliberate and nuanced use of religious vocabulary and symbols to deepen the narrative's layers of meaning. By understanding this expression, readers gain insights into the author's perspective on faith, spirituality, and the human experience.

The investigation presented in this article serves as a foundation for further research on the role of religion in literature. Future studies could explore the author's personal background and the historical context within which

“Sister Carrie” was written, allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between the author's perspective and the expression of religious words within the text.

Additionally, exploring reader responses to religious themes in 'Sister Carrie' could provide valuable insights into the impact of literary works on personal faith and beliefs.

In conclusion, the linguistic analysis of the word "sin" illustrates its historical and cultural significance, highlighting its connection to moral and religious frameworks. It emphasizes the moral wrongdoing it denotes and its potential impact on personal, societal, and spiritual dimensions. Additionally, the concept of sin can also have different linguistic expressions and interpretations in other languages and cultures. For example, in Islamic traditions, the Arabic word "gunah" is often used to convey a similar concept of wrongdoing or transgression. These linguistic variations highlight the significance of cultural and religious influences on the linguistic understanding and interpretations of such terms. We will also analyze the 'prayer' used in the example below:

They will drive the really non-religious mind out of bed to say prayers that are only a custom and not a devotion.[3. 106]

Semantically, "prayer" refers to the act of communicating or petitioning a higher power, divinity, or deity. It is commonly associated with religious or spiritual practices and is often used to convey a sense of devotion, supplication, or reverence. However, it is important to note that "prayer" can also be used in non-religious contexts, such as referring to heartfelt requests or contemplative thoughts.

The word "prayer" has a rich cultural and historical significance. It holds great importance in various religious traditions, such as Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Buddhism, among others. Different cultures and religions have diverse practices and beliefs associated with prayer, ranging from communal rituals to private moments of reflection.

Pragmatically, the term "prayer" often carries an emotional or spiritual connotation, evoking feelings of solace, hope, or connection with a higher power. It can be employed in personal or public settings, such as during religious services or private contemplation. "Prayer" can serve various functions, including seeking guidance, expressing gratitude, seeking forgiveness, offering praise, or simply fostering a sense of spiritual or emotional well-being.

Overall, the linguistic analysis of the word "prayer" reveals its historical, cultural, and semantic importance, emphasizing its connection to religious practices and its potential impacts on individuals and communities.

The findings provide an in-depth understanding of the expression of words related to religious faith within "Sister Carrie". Through careful examination, it becomes evident that the author utilizes religious vocabulary and imagery to evoke emotions, reflect moral dilemmas, and engage readers on a spiritual level. The protagonist's journey becomes intricately intertwined with religious motifs, enabling the exploration of faith's influence on individual identity and life choices.

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