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THE METHOD FOLLOWED

When interpreting a Sonnet, a Theme that summarizes the overall scriptural theme of the Sonnet is presented, which is then followed by a Glossary. In the Glossary, each one of the quatrains of the Sonnet, and then the final couplet, are presented individually with a view toward the scriptural elements contained therein. A Commentary follows, which discusses the Sonnet and how it presents scriptural themes. Finally, a few Biblical Passages are given whose themes are suggested by the Sonnet.

The King James Version (KJV) of the Bible (published in 1611) is used throughout this work, except as noted in the Commentary. While it is widely accepted that Shakespeare most likely used the earlier Geneva Bible (published in 1560), the meanings of the various passages referenced herein do not significantly change from the Geneva to the KJV version. Therefore, for the reader's ease of reference, the widely-used and available KJV is used in this work.

"The Method Followed in Shakespeare's Sonnets and the Bible" by Ira B. Zinman

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A Spiritual Interpretation with Christian Sources
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