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Language and Literature

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### Simon as a symbol for Jesus

People who have read *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, can see multiple examples of symbolism throughout the book. Examples such as the conch as a symbol of order and leadership, or how Jack could be a sign of the devil and temptation, or in this case, how the identity of Simon relates to Jesus Christ? When looking in between the lines of the text, people saw how Jesus and Simon's sacrifice are somewhat related. On the other hand he still is his own person with different traits.

Simon was always a queer and weird character to the other kids on the island. He always tried to enjoy the island and adventure out by himself. Simon would keep to himself, but still help the littluns if they need food too. Many of the boys even thought he was "batty" because he left the group to spend time alone. So, he did not fear the jungle, and he did not fear the Beast. "'Maybe,' he said hesitantly, 'maybe there is a beast. . . . maybe it's only us'" (P.89). Simon is wise more than anyone on the island. But because he is seen as weird, he tries to fit in with the others. He would eat meat with Jack, but didn't even hunt with the group or, Build shelters for

the littluns. Simon could even be a more superior leader than Jack or Ralph with his knowledge. Except he is hesitant and a timid person.

Jesus on the other hand is more open to telling the word of God. He would go to the poor, tax collectors, and pretty much the people who were rejected by everyone. He would perform miracles that would feed thousands of people. Simon is based off of Jesus but, William Golding decided to make him the opposite just to see what would happen.

Jesus has the right mind as Simon, but he was more open in spreading the word of God to people. Unlike Simon who was too shy to say anything until he died trying to. Speaking of his death, both of them have similarities in how they died. Jesus was doing it for all the sins humans have made. He was trying to save them, but no one believed him. So he was punished by having the worst execution in their time, then the earth rained along with the clouds caving in with rain. In Simon's case, he was trying to tell the others about the beast which would help them to not be afraid anymore, but he startled them during a violent chant. Which led them to kill him. After it started pouring onto the island. You can see many examples such as the weather start to change. Also how they were trying to help people by giving important information they need, so they would not steer into foolish ways. Just like the Devil or a beast.

Speaking of the the beast. It can take many different shapes depending on the boys imaginations. But in the case of Jesus, the beast is Satan. (Matthew 4:1-11)

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.”

Compare this to when Simon encountered The Lord of the Flies in the forest. “The Lord of the Flies hung on his stick and grinned.” (p.138). The Lord of the Flies is a saying for Lord of the dead, or the devil. So, they have both seen the Prince of Darkness himself.