Daniel Defoe : Robinson Crusoe

Summary

Robinson Crusoe is a young man from York, England. He goes to sea against his parents' wishes because he wants adventure. During one of his voyages, his ship is destroyed (wrecked) in a storm that only he could save his life finding himself stranded (blocked) on a deserted island.

At first, Crusoe feels frightened and hopeless. However, he doesn't give up (loses his hope). He takes out some useful items like food, tools, guns, clothes, etc from the wrecked ship anyhow. He builds a shelter, grows crops, domesticates goats, and learns to live independently. He creates a comfortable life on the island through his hard work.

During his loneliness, Crusoe reflects deeply on his life and turns towards religion while learning Bible that suffering is God's plan.

After many years, Crusoe discovers footprints on the shore and realizes that cannibals (people who eat human flesh) sometimes visit the island. One day he saves a native prisoner from being killed and names him 'Friday'. Now, Friday becomes his loyal companion and servant. Crusoe teaches him English and Christianity.

Eventually, an English ship arrives. Crusoe helps the Captain to regain control of the ship from mutineers (plunderers). Finally, after 28 years on the island, Crusoe returns to England, where he finds that he has become wealthy from his earlier plantation business.

Theme of Robinson Crusoe

- Adventure and survival
- self-reliance and hard work
- Faith and repentance
- Colonialism and Superiority
- Civilization vs. nature