

Evidences of a declining world

In the three works by J.R.R. Tolkien there is a recurring theme that the world is somehow declining. That everyday is somehow not as good as the one before. Which is similar to how we view our world. Below is a list of events and facts from the Hobbit, The Silmarillion, and the Lord of the Rings, that seem to portray a declining world.

-In the First age the greatest evil was Melkor, but in the second and third ages, the greatest evil is Sauron who was only a servant of Melkor, and he does not compare to Melkor in power.

-In the Lord of the Rings and the Hobbit, the most powerful swords were those that were made during the First age, not the ones that were made during the third age.

-The art of Ring making that was available to the elves in the first ring is not something that the elves in the Third age are capable of.

-In the Silmarillion there were many Elves who lived in vast kingdoms, but in the Lord of the Rings their population is dwindling and their homes are less and less wonderful as they used to be.

-In the Lord of the Rings Treebeard talks about how all the Ents used to be more active but now they spend most of their time sleeping, and that there are fewer and fewer of them.