

The Pilgrim's Progress
Chapter 8 – The Pilgrim Meets the Family
August 13, 2014

- I. The Two Lions
- A. What do the two lions represent in the story? Can they represent anything else?
Represent the combined threat of the civil authorities and the state church to oppress Nonconformists and convince them to renounce their faith and conform to religious and social norms.
- B. Should we expect persecution?
1. **There was persecution is Jesus' day.** (John 12:42-43)
 2. **Jesus said that those who were persecuted for righteousness sake were blessed** (Mt 5:10-11)
 3. **Jesus warned his disciples that they would face suffering.** (Luke 21:12)
 4. **Paul said that believers would face persecution.** (Philippians 1:29, 2Tim 3:12)
- C. What are some examples of Satanic opposition that the church faces today? How can we be encouraged by the example of the lions?
- II. The Family/Places
- A. The Beautiful Palace **Who built the house and why? The Lord of the Hill. For the relief and security of pilgrims. Also for the caring of pilgrims.**
- B. Graceless: **lacking in divine grace : immoral, unregenerate**
- C. The Porter (Watchful): **carefully observant or attentive : being on the watch**
- D. Discretion: **Cautious reserve in speech. Ability to make responsible decisions**
- E. Prudence: **skill and good judgment in the use of resources. caution or circumspection as to danger or risk**
- F. Piety: **Reverence for God or devout fulfillment of religious obligations.**
- G. Charity: **benevolent goodwill toward or love of**
- H. Peace (chamber): **a state of tranquillity or quiet**
- I. The study
- J. The armory
- III. Questions **(to determine Christian's status and for the best improvement of time)**
Why is it important for believers to share their stories with one another?
How did people of the house treat Christian after he shared his story (even after his failures and shortcomings)? What can we learn from this?
- A. From whence he was, and whither he was going?
- B. How he got into the way?
- C. What he had seen and met with in the way?
- D. What moved you at first to betake yourself to a pilgrim's life?
- E. But how did it happen that you came out of your country this way?
- F. But did you not come by the house of the Interpreter?

“the remembrance of which will stick by me as long as I live, especially three things: to wit, how Christ, in despite of Satan, maintains his work of grace in the heart; how the

man had sinned himself quite out of hopes of God's mercy; and also the dream of him that thought in his sleep the day of judgment was come."

- G. what saw you else in the way?
- H. Do you not think sometimes of the country from whence you came?
- I. Do you not yet bear away with you some of the things that then you were conversant withal?
- J. Do you not find sometimes as if those things were vanquished, which at other times are your perplexity?
- K. Can you remember by what means you find your annoyances at times as if they were vanquished?

"Yes: when I think what I saw at the cross, that will do it; and when I look upon my broidered coat, that will do it; and when I look into the roll that I carry in my bosom, that will do it; and when my thoughts wax warm about whither I am going, that will do it."

- L. And what is it that makes you so desirous to go to Mount Zion?

"Why, there I hope to see Him alive that did hang dead on the cross; and there I hope to be rid of all those things that to this day are in me an annoyance to me: there they say there is no death, Isa. 25:8; Rev. 21:4; and there I shall dwell with such company as I like best. For, to tell you the truth, I love Him because I was by Him eased of my burden; and I am weary of my inward sickness. I would fain be where I shall die no more, and with the company that shall continually cry, *Holy, holy, holy.*"

- M. Have you a family; Are you a married man?
- N. why did you not bring them along with you?
- O. did you pray to God that he would bless your counsel to them?
- P. But did you tell them of your own sorrow, and fear of destruction?
- Q. But what could they say for themselves, why they came not?
- R. But did you not, with your vain life, damp all that you, by words, used by way of persuasion to bring them away with you?

IV. Next Week: DVD#7 "The Valley of Humiliation" and *The Pilgrim's Progress* Chapter 9 "The Pilgrim Goes Through Valleys".

- I. Biblical description of heaven
 - A. Heaven is God's presence fully manifested
 - B. Heaven is a place
 - 1. Jesus goes to prepare a place (John 14)
 - 2. In God's house there are many dwelling places
 - C. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are there
 - D. Our brothers and sisters in Christ are there (Hebrews 12)
 - E. We will sit together there (Ephesians 2:6)
 - F. Our treasure and inheritance are there
 - G. Our citizenship is there (Philippians 3:20)

“Brethren, is not this the very cream of heaven? There have been many suggestions of what we shall do in heaven, and what we shall enjoy, but they all seem to me to be wide of the mark compared with this one, that we shall be with Jesus, be like him, and shall behold his glory. Oh, to see the feet that were nailed, and to touch the hand that was pierced, and to look upon the head that wore the thorns, and to bow before him who is ineffable love, unspeakable condescension, infinite tenderness! Oh, to bow before him, and to kiss that blessed face! Jesus, what better do we want than to see thee by thine own light — to see thee, and speak with thee, as when a man speaketh with his friend? It is pleasant to talk about this, but what will it be there when the pearl gates open? The streets of gold will have small attraction to us, and the harps of angels will but slightly enchant us, compared with the King in the midst of the throne. He it is who shall rivet our gaze, absorb our thoughts, enchain our affection, and move all our sacred passions to their highest pitch of celestial ardor. We shall see Jesus.” Charles Spurgeon

