

**The Pilgrim's Progress**  
**Chapter 15– “The Pilgrims Reach the Delightful Mountains”**  
**October 15, 2014**

*“What does this mean?” – Christian*

- I. The initial meeting
  - A. Context
    - 1. Delectable: Extremely \_\_\_\_\_ and extraordinarily \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2. Delectable Mountains: The church.
    - 3. The Doubting Castle
  - B. Questions from the Pilgrims
    - a.i.1. Whose Delightful Mountains are these?
    - a.i.2. Who do the sheep belong to?
    - a.i.3. Is this the way to Celestial City?
    - a.i.4. How far is it to there?
    - a.i.5. Is the way safe or dangerous?
    - a.i.6. Is there here a place of relief for Pilgrims who are weary and faint in the way?
  - C. Questions from the Shepherds
    - 1. Where did you come from?
    - 2. How did you get in the way?
    - 3. What have you done to persevere in the way?
- II. The Four Shepherds (Barry Horner)
  - A. Knowledge: acquaintance with \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, as from study or investigation.
  - B. Experience: knowledge or practical wisdom gained from what one has \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Watchfulness: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_; closely \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. Sincerity: Freedom from \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

III. The Hills

- A. The Hill called Error
- B. The Hill called Caution

"Do not suppose, when you are depressed, that, therefore, you are not growing. Many of God's plants grow best in the dark, and he often puts them in the dark to make them grow. When you are growing upwards, recollect that there is such a thing as growing downward. You may have had, yesterday, a divine manifestation that took you up to the top of the Delectable Mountains. You must not think you are big because you are up on high, for pigmies perched on Alps are pigmies still... If, on the other hand, you are deep down in a mine, do not imagine that you are any the smaller for that reason. I can tell you that you will often grow faster in the dungeon than on the top of a mountain; but it is not a pleasant place to be in. When our depravity is revealed to us, when our desolation of spirit, and our utter hopelessness and powerlessness are uncovered and made manifest by God's Holy Spirit, we grow, I believe, even faster than we do when, on the wings of seraphs, we are privileged to mount on high. So, do not measure your growth in grace by your feelings. Some of you make a kind of barometer of your feelings. Do not do so. If we are in Christ, we are in Christ by faith, and not by feelings; and recollect that, whether your feelings are good or bad, you are no more or less a child of God. Your faith, sinner, unites you with the Lamb,—not your feelings. Trust him in darkness, trust him in distress, lean on him when you cannot see him; and when there seems nothing to walk on, still tread, for the ground is firm beneath the foot of faith."  
Charles Spurgeon

- C. An entrance to Hell
- D. The Hill called Clear

IV. The exhortation

- A. Knowledge gave them a map of the way.
- B. Experience warned them to beware of the Flatterer.
- C. Watchful told them not to sleep on Enchanted Ground.
- D. Sincere wishes them Godspeed.

V. Next Week: Chapter 16 "The Pilgrims' Discussion About Little Faith"

