

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

John Bunyan



Edited by Ben Quine
THE WORLD VIEW LIBRARY

JOHN BUNYON
(1628-1688)

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Edited by David Quine

Series editor Ben Quine

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FROM THE WORLD VIEW LIBRARY
Edited by Ben Quine

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Every great work of art will communicate not just beauty but also ideas about the world we live in. And so, we encourage you to think carefully and ask questions while reading: What ideas are presented in this work? What do the characters and situations say about the nature of man and the universe? Is there a God, according to the text? If so, what is He like? And what happens to man after death?

It is our desire to help bring this classic literature to life, and we hope that the World View Library will lead you to a deeper understanding of the living God and His creation.

BEN QUINE
AUGUST 2007

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

In the Similitude of a Dream

As I walked through the wilderness of this world, I lighted on a certain place where was a Den, and I laid me down in *that* place to sleep; and, as I slept, I dreamed a Dream. I dreamed, and behold, *I saw a Man clothed with rags, standing in a certain place, with his face from his own house, a Book in his hand, and a great Burden upon his back.* I looked, and saw him open the Book, and read therein; and, as he read, he wept and trembled; and, not being able longer to contain, he brake out with a lamentable cry, saying, "*What shall I do?*"

In this plight, therefore, he went home, and refrained himself as long as he could, that his wife and children should not perceive his distress; but he could not be silent long, because that his trouble increased. Wherefore at length he brake his mind to his wife and children; and thus he began to talk to them: *O my dear Wife, said he, and you the Children of my bowels, I, your dear friend, am in myself undone by reason of a Burden that lieth hard upon me; moreover, I am for certain informed that this our City will be burned with fire from Heaven; in which fearful overthrow, both myself, with thee my wife, and you my sweet babes, shall miserably come to ruin, except (the which*

THE JAIL

1 For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; And all of us wither like a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. Isaiah 64:6

For my iniquities are gone over my head; As a heavy burden they weigh too much for me. Psalm 38:4

HIS OUTCRY

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" Acts 2: 37

THIS WORLD

20 HE KNEW NO WAY OF ESCAPE AS YET

yet I see not) some Way of escape may be found, whereby we may be delivered. At this his relations were sore amazed; not for that they believed that what he had said to them was true, but because they thought that some frenzy distemper had got into his head; therefore, it drawing towards night, and they hoping that sleep might settle his brains, with all haste they got him to bed. But the night was as troublesome to him as the day; wherefore, instead of sleeping, he spent it in sighs and tears. So, when the morning was come, they would know how he did. He told them, *Worse and worse*: he also set to talking to them again; but they began to be hardened. They also thought to drive away his distemper by harsh and surly carriages to him; Sometimes they would deride, sometimes they would chide, and sometimes they would quite neglect him. Wherefore he began to retire himself to his Chamber, to pray for and pity them, and also to condole his own misery; he would also walk solitarily in the fields, sometimes reading, and sometimes praying: and thus for some days he spent his time.

Christian Walking in the Field

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you an your household."

Acts 16:30,31

Now, I say, upon a time, when he was walking in the fields, that he was, as he was wont, reading in his Book, and greatly distressed in his mind; and, as he read, he burst out, as he had done before, crying, "*What shall I do to be saved?*"

I saw also that he looked this way and that way, as if he would run; yet he stood still, because, as

I perceived, he could not tell which way to go. I looked then, and saw a Man named *Evangelist* coming to him and asked, *Wherefore dost thou cry?*

He answered, Sir, I perceive by the Book in my hand, that I am condemned to die, and after that to come to judgement; and I find that I am not willing to do the first, nor able to do the second.

Then said *Evangelist*, Why not willing to die, since this life is attended with so many evils? The man answered, Because I fear that this Burden that is upon my back will sink me lower than the grave, and I shall fall into *Tophet*. And, Sir, if I be not fit to go to Prison, I am not fit to go to Judgement, and from thence to Execution; and the thoughts of these things make me cry.

Then said *Evangelist*, If this be thy condition, why standest thou still? He answered, Because I know not whither to go. Then he gave him a *Parchment Roll*, and there was written within, *Fly from the Wrath to come*.

The Man therefore read it, and, looking upon *Evangelist* very carefully, said, Whither must I fly? Then said *Evangelist*, pointing with his finger over a very wide field, Do you see yonder *Wicket-Gate*? The man said, No. Then said the other, Do you see yonder Shining Light? He said, I think I do. Then said *Evangelist*, Keep that Light in your eye, and go up directly thereto: so shalt thou see the Gate; at which, when thou knockest, it shall

Christian no sooner
leaves the World but
meets *Evangelist*, who
lovingly him greets With
60 Tidings of another: And
doth show Him how to
mount to that from this
below.

And inasmuch as it is
appointed for men to die
once and after this comes
judgment ... Hebrews 9:27

"O that a man might plead
with God As a man with his
neighbor! Job 16:21

70 For Topheth has long been
ready, Indeed, it has been
prepared for the king He
has made it deep and large,
A pyre of fire with plenty of
wood; The breath of the LORD,
like a torrent of brimstone,
sets it afire. Isaiah 30:33

80 But when he saw many of the
Pharisees and Sadducees
coming for baptism, he said
to them, "You brood of vipers,
who warned you to flee from
the wrath to come? ... Then
Jesus arrived from Galilee at
the Jordan coming to John,
to be baptized by him. But
John tried to prevent Him,
saying, "I have need to be
baptized by You, and do You
come to me?" Matt. 3:7,13,14

If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple
 Luke 14:26

When they had brought them outside, one said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you, and do not stay anywhere in the valley; escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away." Gen. 19:17

**THEY THAT FLY FROM
 THE WRATH TO COME
 ARE A GAZING STOCK
 TO THE WORLD**

For I have heard the whispering of many,
 "Terror on every side!
 Denounce him; yes, let us denounce him!"

All my trusted friends,
 Watching for my fall, say:
 "Perhaps he will be deceived,
 so that we may prevail
 against him And take our
 revenge on him."

Jeremiah 20:10

while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:18

be told thee what thou shalt do. So I saw in my dream that the Man began to run. Now, he had not run far from his own door, but his Wife and Children, perceiving it, began to cry after him to return; but the man put his fingers in his ears, and ran on, crying, *Life! Life! Eternal Life!* So he looked not behind him, but fled towards the middle of the Plain.

The Neighbours also came out to see him run; and, as he ran, some mocked, others threatened, and some cried after him to return; Now among those that did so, there were two that resolved to fetch him back by force. The name of the one was *Obstinate* and the name of the other *Pliable*. Now by this time the Man was got a good distance from them; but however, they were resolved to pursue him, which they did, and in a little time they overtook him. Then said the Man, Neighbours, *Wherefore are ye come?* They said, To persuade you to go back with us. But he said, That can by no means be; You dwell, said he, in the City of *Destruction*, the place also where I was born: I see it to be so; and, dying there, sooner or later, you will sink lower than the grave, into a place that burns with Fire and Brimstone: Be content, good neighbours, and go along with me.

What! said *Obstinate*, and leave our Friends and our Comforts behind us!

Yes, said *Christian*, for that was his name, because that all *which you shall forsake* is not

worthy to be compared with a little of that which I am seeking to enjoy; and, if you will go along with me, and hold it, you shall fare as I myself; for there, where I go, is enough and to spare. Come away, and prove my words.

OBSTINATE: What are the things you seek, since you leave all the World to find them?

CHRISTIAN: I seek an *Inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away*, and it is laid up in Heaven, and safe there, to be bestowed, at the time appointed, on them that diligently seek it. Read it so, if you will, in my Book.

OBSTINATE: Tush! said *Obstinate*, away with your Book; will you go back with us or no?

CHRISTIAN: No, not I, said the other, because I have laid my hand to the Plough.

OBSTINATE: Come, then, neighbour *Pliable*, let us turn again, and go home without him; There is a Company of these crazy-headed coxcombs, that, when they take a fancy by the end, are wiser in their own eyes than seven men that can render a Reason.

PLIABLE: Then said *Pliable*, Don't revile; if what the good *Christian* says is true, the things he looks after are better than ours: my heart inclines to go with my Neighbour.

OBSTINATE: What! more Fools still! Be ruled by me, and go back; who knows whither such a brain-sick fellow will lead you? Go back, go back, and be wise.

"But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger!"

Luke 15:17

to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

1 Peter 1:4

But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

Hebrew 11:16

But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:62

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