

## Pilgrim's Progress (Part 6)

**Quote:** "I have given Him my faith, and sworn my allegiance to Him; how, then, can I go back from this, and not be hanged as a traitor?"  
—John Bunyan

- **Recap Previous Lesson**

- Valley of the Shadow of Death
- Mouth of Hell
- Pope & Pagan
- Faithful's Journey

- **(1) Talkative**

- "I will talk of things heavenly, or things earthly; things moral, or things evangelical; things sacred, or things profane; things past, or things to come; things foreign, or things at home; things more essential, or things circumstantial: provided that all be done to our profit." (Talkative)
  - This is an entirely different approach by the enemy
  - Unlike the obvious (Apollyon, Wanton, Adam the First)
- "Now did Faithful begin to wonder; and . . . he said to him, but softly, What a brave companion have we got! Surely, this man will make a very excellent pilgrim."
  - Faithful is taken in by Talkative's ways
  - Faithful is impressed at Talkative's knowledge of the Bible
  - Faithful didn't spend time at Palace Beautiful
    - there he would have learned discernment
- Talkative is "a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal" (1 Corinthians 13:1, The Amplified Bible)
  - no substance
- Christian says that he knew Talkative in the City of Destruction
  - the son of Say-Well
  - "he is but a sorry fellow" (Christian)
  - he will talk this way whether he is with you or on the "ale-bench"
    - he can talk of spiritual things when around Christians and tell a dirty joke when around sinners
    - talks out of both sides of his mouth
  - lived on Prating-Row (prating = empty, foolish, trivial talk; idle chatter)
    - all who know him call him "Talkative of Prating-Row"
    - he is known as "a saint abroad and a devil at home"
  - Talkative thinks knowing and saying so will make him a good Christian; but he deceives himself
- Christian's wisdom spares Faithful from being taken in by Talkative
  - Faithful now realizes that *saying* and *doing* are two different things
  - Faithful tells Talkative, "You are a man whose religion lies in talk"
  - Talkative is offended & parts ways with Faithful

- **Evangelist**

- meets w/Christian and Faithful while they are in the "wilderness"
  - wilderness = a place of dryness
- listens to Christian & Faithful tell of their journey thus far
- gives good advice
- warns Christian & Faithful
  - one of you will die in the next town

- unnatural and painful death
- "quit yourselves like men"
  - "Act like men and be courageous" (1 Corinthians 16:13, The Amplified Bible)
- **Town of Vanity**
  - Fair held all year called "Vanity Fair"
    - so called because the town is "lighter than vanity" (Psalm 62:9)
      - when weighed in a balance, they are lighter than a "breath of air" (other translations)
    - no serious substance to this town & its people
  - Historical Reference
    - Thought to be based on an annual fair held near Cambridge
    - size = ½ square mile
    - duration = several weeks
  - History of Town of Vanity
    - created by Beelzebub, Apollyon, Legion & their companions
    - created to divert honest pilgrims from the Way
    - promotes all kinds of merchandise & delights
      - if you are moral: houses, lands, wives, husbands, etc.
      - if you are immoral: harlots, lusts, murderers, adulteries, etc.
      - something for everyone
  - Layout of Vanity Fair
    - Cultural rows (streets)
      - Britain Row, French Row, Italian Row, Spanish Row, German Row
      - Chief of all the Fair = Rome
        - \* her merchandise is greatly promoted
          - + "gold and precious stones and pearls" (Revelation 17:4)
          - + this is the mother of all harlots (Roman Catholicism)
        - \* England (and others) have taken a great dislike to her
          - + 1538 England broke with the Roman Catholic Church
            - King Henry VIII wanted a divorce
            - King Henry VIII created the Church of England
    - Carefully placed where all pilgrims must pass through
      - The Prince of princes had to pass by this way as well
        - \* discuss direction of this Prince (from Celestial City to the Cross)
      - Beelzebub offered to make him Lord of the Fair
        - \* all he had to do was show reverence to Beelzebub (Matthew 4:9)
      - The Prince left without buying even one of these vanities
  - Much like the City of Destruction
  - **Christian & Faithful were noticed:**
    - (1<sup>st</sup>) Clothing: unlike anything the people of Vanity wore
      - robes of righteousness (same clothing Formalist & Hypocrisy made fun of – couldn't replicate)
    - (2<sup>nd</sup>) Speech: few could understand Christian & Faithful
      - they spoke "the language of Canaan"
        - \* the heavenly country
      - "Jesus said unto them . . . Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil . . ." (John 8:42-44).
    - (3<sup>rd</sup>) Cared not for the wares (merchandise) of Vanity

- people were angry because Christian & Faithful wouldn't buy
  - "What will ye buy?"
    - \* "We buy the truth."
    - \* the town of Vanity doesn't trade in the truth
    - \* the truth provides stiff competition for the wares of Vanity (falseness)
- **A Hubbub and Great Stir**
  - people were angry – "if this type of pilgrim continues to come, we'll soon be out of business"
  - such a commotion that Christian & Faithful were "taken to examination," beaten, and put in a cage
    - people began to make fun
    - others (less prejudiced) blamed the men of the fair for abusing Christian & Faithful
    - this caused a fight to break out
    - The Great One of the Fair was notified
    - Christian & Faithful were blamed for causing this fight
      - \* beat again, led (in chains) up and down the Fair (humiliating) as an example to others (as a warning not to speak for them or join them)
    - Christian & Faithful's conduct won to their side some of the people of Vanity
      - \* this enraged the other people
      - \* Christian & Faithful were returned to the cage
        - + this time their feet were put in stocks
- **The Trial**
  - quite possibly drawn from Bunyan's own experiences
  - **Judge: (2)** Lord Hate-good
    - He "hates the good and loves the evil" (Micah 3:2)
  - **Indictment:** "That they were enemies to, and disturbers of, the trade; that they had made commotions and divisions in the town, and had won a party to their own most dangerous opinions, in contempt of the law of their prince."
  - **Three Witnesses:**
    - **(3)** Envy: this man is one of the vilest in our country; he said that Christianity and the customs of our town are opposed – they can never be reconciled
      - \* accuses Faithful of treason (untrue; Faithful is not a citizen of this town)
    - **(4)** Superstition: this man said that our religion was for naught, and with it we couldn't please God
      - \* "what he could say for their lord the king against" Faithful?
        - + encouraged (before his testimony) to speak against the prisoner (prejudiced)
    - **(5)** Pickthank:
      - \* Pickthank = one who "picks" (informs) on people for the "thanks" of others
        - + Pickthank is also encouraged to speak against the prisoner (prejudiced)
      - \* testimony: "this man spoke against our prince (Beelzebub) and against his honorable friends"
        - + **Beelzebub's Honorable Friends: (6)** the Lord Old Man, **(7)** the Lord Carnal Delight, **(8)** the Lord Luxurious, **(9)** the Lord Desire of Vain Glory, **(10)** my old Lord Lechery, **(11)** Sir Having Greedy, with all the rest of the nobility
  - Faithful is permitted to speak in his defense
  - Judge Hate-good addresses the Jury:
    - calls the witnesses "Worthy Gentlemen"
    - speaks of legal precedents (in the Bible)

- \* Pharaoh's command (throw Hebrew boys in the River)
- \* Nebuchadnezzar (worship the golden image)
- \* Darius (pray only to the king)
- \* All these examples were AGAINST God (thus, didn't prevail)
- **The Jury:**
  - (12) Mr. Blindman: "I clearly see that this man is a heretic."
  - (13) Mr. No-good: "Away with such a fellow from the earth."
  - (14) Mr. Malice: "I hate the very looks of him."
    - \* (Malice = a desire to harm others)
  - (15) Mr. Love-lust: "I could never endure him."
  - (16) Mr. Live-loose: "Nor I, for he would always be condemning my way."
  - (17) Mr. Heady: "Hang him!"
    - \* (Heady = domineering, overbearing)
  - (18) Mr. High-mind: "He's a sorry scrub."
  - (19) Mr. Enmity: "My heart riseth against him."
    - \* (Enmity = deep-seated hatred)
  - (20) Mr. Liar: "He is a rogue."
    - \* (Rogue = unprincipled, deceitful, unreliable person)
  - (21) Mr. Cruelty: "Hanging is too good for him."
  - (22) Mr. Hate-light: "Let us dispatch him out of the way."
  - (23) Mr. Implacable: "Might I have all the world given me, I could not be reconciled to him; therefore let us forthwith bring him in guilty of death."
    - \* (Implacable = impossible to please or satisfy)
- **Faithful's Death**
  - Condemned to the most cruel death possible
    - beat & battered
    - slashed with knives
    - stoned
    - cut with swords
    - burned at the stake
  - Faithful's death is thought to be based on passages Bunyan read in *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*
  - Faithful is taken into Heaven
    - description based on the story of Elijah
- **Christian Escapes**
- **(24) Hopeful Joins Christian**
  - Converted by the conduct of Christian & Faithful
    - He is not the only one; when Christiana passes through, she is told:
      - "I think the blood of Faithful lieth with load upon them till now, for since they burned him they have been ashamed to burn any more. In those days we were afraid to walk the Streets, but now we can shew our heads."
- **(25) By-Ends (By-End = secret purpose, selfish advantage)**
  - overtakes Christian & Hopeful
    - from the town of Fair-Speech
    - ashamed of his name
      - "This is not my name, but indeed it is a nickname that is given me by some that cannot abide me, and I must be content to bear it as a reproach."
    - speaks of his kindred in the town of Fair-Speech

- By-Ends' kindred: **(26)** Lord Turn-about, **(27)** Lord Timeserver, **(28)** Lord Fair-speech, **(29)** Mr. Smooth-man, **(30)** Mr. Facing-both-ways, **(31)** Mr. Any-thing, **(32)** Mr. Two-tongues (preacher)
- By-Ends' wife: **(33)** Lady Feigning's daughter
  - \* (Feign = pretend, give a false appearance)
  - \* said to be a virtuous woman, the daughter of a virtuous woman
    - + (false appearances)
- the entire town seems to be made up of people who want to "look good" spiritually, but have no substance
- Christian & Hopeful forsake By-Ends & keep their distance from him
- Three men following By-Ends:
  - **(34)** Mr. Hold-the-World: cannot let go of material things (things of the world)
    - \* Hold on at all costs to the "good things of this life"
    - \* twists Scriptures to prove his point
  - **(35)** Mr. Save-All: miserly, not willing to help anyone in need
  - **(36)** Mr. Money-Love: a self-made man, who will cheat others & boast of his success
    - \* they had all gone to school together in the town of Love-gain in the county of Coveting
    - \* schoolmaster: **(37)** Mr. Gripeman
      - + (Old English "Gripe" = to clutch, hold onto tightly)
      - + taught his students the art of lying, flattering, putting on the disguise of religion, how to hold tightly to worldly possessions
  - By-Ends tells his friends Christian & Hopeful are "too righteous" for them
    - \* they are "separatists" (too good to fellowship with others – discuss spirit of the 8<sup>th</sup> beast; false unity)
    - \* they put questions to Christian & Hopeful; Christian answers so wisely that they cannot answer him
- **Hill of Lucre**
  - "Lucre" = money or profits
  - this hill immediately follows the plain of Ease
  - hill is little (gives the appearance of a small thing)
  - Attractive Silver Mine in this hill
  - **(38)** Demas – calls out for Christian & Hopeful to come and see
    - promises great gain for very little effort
    - Hopeful wants to have a look, but Christian has heard of this place
      - many have died here; the treasure is a snare to pilgrims
  - Christian: "thou art an enemy to the right ways of the Lord of this way, and hast been already condemned for thine own turning aside" (2 Timothy 4:10)
    - How did Christian know of Demas?
      - perhaps in Palace Beautiful he heard of Demas when learning Bible stories (pedigree of the Lord of the Hill)
  - By-Ends and his companions come along
    - they want to see this silver mine
    - they are never seen again
      - either because of their continual digging
      - or they fell into the pit
      - or they were smothered by the "damps" (discouragements)

- **Monument by the Way**

- looks like a woman
  - in the way, but looking longing back at the Hill of Lucre
- Hopeful sees writing above the head
  - "Remember Lot's wife"
- "Had we listened to Demas, we might have been like this woman"
  - Let us learn from this: Lot's wife escaped one judgment (Sodom) but was destroyed by another
    - don't become overconfident
    - notice: Lot's wife did not set one foot out of the Way
      - \* discuss why she was punished

## NEW CHARACTER LIST

1. Talkative
2. Lord Hategood
3. Envy
4. Superstition
5. Pickthank

### **Beelzebub's Honorable Friends:**

6. The Lord Old Man
7. The Lord Carnal Delight
8. The Lord Luxurious
9. The Lord Desire of Vain Glory
10. My old Lord Lechery
11. Sir Having Greedy

### **The Jury:**

12. Mr. Blindman
13. Mr. No-good
14. Mr. Malice
15. Mr. Love-lust
16. Mr. Live-loose
17. Mr. Heady
18. Mr. High-mind
19. Mr. Enmity
20. Mr. Liar
21. Mr. Cruelty
22. Mr. Hate-light
23. Mr. Implacable

24. Hopeful
25. By-Ends

### **By-Ends' Kindred:**

26. Lord Turnabout
27. Lord Timeserver
28. Lord Fair-speech
29. Mr. Smooth-man
30. Mr. Facing-both-ways
31. Mr. Any-thing
32. Mr. Two-tongues (parson)
33. Lady Feigning's daughter (By-Ends' wife)
34. Hold-the-World
35. Save-all
36. Money-Love
37. Gripeman
38. Demas