

The Pilgrim's Progress

HTPC Summer 2019
OPENING ASSEMBLY
Week 8
Chapters 10 and 11

Memory Verse #1 and #2

Any volunteers to recite from memory?

Hebrews 13:14

1 Peter 2:11

Review: Memory Verse #1

For here we have no
lasting city, but we seek
the city that is to come.

(Hebrews 13:14)

Review: Memory Verse #2

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

(1 Peter 2:11)

Memory Verse #3

Hebrews 11:13-16 (just v. 13 still)

“These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.”

The Cross

1. Jesus, You hung on the cross to take my burden from me.
It rolled into the open tomb, and I'm forever free!
Jesus, what You bore, was wrath that was meant for me.
Oh, how can I describe such love as You, Lord, have for me?

2. Jesus, You hung on the cross to give me raiment so new.
You took the rags I wore with shame, oh Savior faithful and true.
You now call me Your own, and I gladly call You "Lord."
And if there be any good in me, it's only because of You.

3. Jesus, You hung on the cross to put this scroll in my hand.
You placed your mark upon my head, and now before You I stand.
Savior, take my life, and make me what You will.
May Your praise be ever on my tongue till my heart lies cold and still.
May Your praise be ever on my tongue till my heart lies cold and still.

Children's Classes Dismissal

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Review

- Allegory is a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one.
- "Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory of the spiritual journey"

Review - Pilgrimage

City of Destruction

- Wages of sin is death
- Condemnation, darkness, blindness, born in sin, eternal death, wrath
- Affections of the Heart for self, the treasures and riches of this world.

Celestial City

- Free gift of God is eternal life
- Salvation, light, sight, born a new, eternal life, blessing
- New Heart - Regeneration
- Affections for God, the treasures and riches of his Kingdom.

Pilgrim's Progress teaches us about our Pilgrimage

- Hard and easy times
- Trials and sacrifice
- Refreshment
- Sin and temptation
- Enemy attacks and protection
- Armor and arrows
- Church / fellowship / companionship

Chapters 10 and 11

- In our study today we see
 - The contrast and friction between
 - those living for what this world has to offer and
 - those who have forsaken the world for God and his kingdom
- Helpful Texts
 - Matthew 4:8-10 Again, the devil took him (Jesus) to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory. All these I give you. Jesus said to him, “Be gone Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve”
 - Mt 16:26 - What good is it to gain the whole world and forfeit your life (also Mark 8:36)
 - Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh
- Living for the world is described in this chapter as
 - “Grabbing for gain on the way to your execution”

Hopeful Replaces Faithful

- Following the unjust death of Faithful, another is raised up by the witness of Christian and Faithful – What they said and did during their sufferings.
- They covenant together vowing to be companions.

Meeting Mr. By-ends

- Diagnostic Question: Where are you from and where are you going?
- Instructive in Pilgrim's Progress is how consistent the pilgrims are in remembering where they are from, and where they are going.
- Where are you from, and where are you going?

Town of Fair Speech

- By-ends not from the City of Destruction
- We learn here that words alone can be mis-leading.
- He is from the City of Fair Speech
- Proverbs 26:23-25 ²⁵ *when he speaks graciously, believe him not, for there are seven abominations in his heart;* ²⁶ *though his hatred be covered with deception, his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.*

The People of Fair Speech

- The “good” people of Fair Speech
- Relatives – Lord Turn About, Lord Time Server, Lord Fair-Speech, Mr. Smooth-man, Mr. Facing-bothways, Mr. Anything, Reverend Two-tongues
- Family
 - Matthew 10:35-37 ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother...³⁶ And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, ...
 - Luke 14:26 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

The People of Fair Speech

- Relatives
- By-end's wife –
 - a fine and virtuous woman,
 - The daughter of Lady Feigning (or pretending)
 - She comes from an honorable and prestigious family

By-ends Religion

- In this example, Mr. By-ends describes his faith commitments as differing from others of a stricter sort in a couple of minor ways
 - We go with the flow vs. striving against the wind. *James 1:6*
 - We are more zealous toward religion when it is refined and elegant *Mat 6:2 and 5*
 - We love religion when the sun is shining on it and people are applauding it

Christian and Hopeful confront his views

- We learn that By-ends is not his name, but a nickname given him.
- He says, “I must bear it as a reproach as other good people have had to before me”
- By-ends: “I have always had the good luck to adjust my views to the present trends of the times. Whenever I have had the chance to gain, I have employed this ability, and I have prospered in this way, let me count it a blessing. But don’t let those who are malicious burden me with their scorn.
- Mr. By-ends primary heart commitment was worldly gain

They Part Company

- By–ends wants to travel with Christian and Helpful in spite of their differences. He wants his liberty though and says don't Lord it over me, or impose other views on me.
- Christian says in order to travel with us, you must be willing to go against the wind and current, and embrace this faith when dressed in rags, and cast in prison in addition to when it is popular.
- By-ends says "I will never desert my old principles – they are harmless and profitable for me."
 - Q - Are they harmless?

By-ends Finds New Friends

- Mr. Hold-the-world, Mr. Money-love, and Mr. Save-all.
- Taught by Mr. Grasp-man
- Lived in the town of Love-gain, in the country of coveting.
- They lived by **the art of getting ahead (ends), by whatever means** including violence, cheating, flattery, lying or putting or religion.
- What is our End? WLC Q1 Glorify God and enjoy him forever!

By-ends and Friends Evaluate Christian and Hopeful

- Rigid and dogmatic
- Overly righteous and extreme legalism cause them to condemn
- They move forward no matter the weather
- **Risk all for God vs. securing life and estate.**
- They are for holding their ideas when all the world is against them
- They are for religion in rags, vs. silver slippers, sunshine and applause

By-end Poses a Question to his Friends

- Suppose a person – a minister, a business man or other should have an opportunity to get the good blessings of life (the end). However, the only way he can attain them it seems, is to become extraordinarily zealous in certain religious matters (the means) that he had previously shown no interest in. Can he still be an honest man while taking advantage of this means to achieve his end?

Money-love's Answer

- Money-love offers answers by highlighting two examples
 - First, a Minister
 - End - Sets his sights on a higher standard of living
 - Means - Preaching more zealously and altering his principles to accommodate his listeners
 - Defense – He can maintain his integrity, here is why:
 - It is legal to desire greater compensation
 - Obviously it is God's will because his desire for money made him a better preacher
 - His compromising his principles evidences a self-denying spirit (really?)
 - Any minister who can exchange a little for a lot and become a better minister should be viewed favorably

Money-love's Answer

- Second example, a business man
 - End – Improve his business, estate (rich wife and wealthier customers)
 - Means – Becoming religious
 - Defense – It is legitimate because:
 - Becoming religious is always commendable
 - Nothing wrong with getting a rich wife or better customers
- Money-love's Conclusion: It is good and profitable to become a devout person for the purpose of receiving all these benefits.
- His companions applauded his insightful analysis

Christian Answers

- Christian: “Even a baby in the faith can answer ten thousand such questions.”
- If it is wrong to follow Christ for the basic need of food (loaves and fish) *John 6:26-27*
- how much more an abomination it is to use Him and religion as a means to get and enjoy the world!
- Only pagans, hypocrites, devils, witches and sorcerers are of such an opinion.
 - Pagans Shechem (Genesis 34:20-23)
 - Hypocrites Pharisees (Luke 20:46-47)
 - Devils Judas (John 13:27-29, 17:12)
 - Sorcerers Simon (Acts 8:19-22)

Christian's Answers

- Last – The person who uses religion to gain the world, will also give religion up to gain the world.
- By-end and his friends did not know how to respond so they lagged behind
- Christian said to Hopeful:
“If these men cannot stand before mere mortals, how will they stand before God? And if they are silenced by mere earthen vessels, what will they do when they are rebuked by the One whose tongue is a consuming fire?”

Chapter 11 – The Appeal of Demas

- Paul says regarding Demas in 2 Tim 4:10 *“For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica”*
- Demas calls out, “Come take a look. There is treasure here that will provide richly for you.”
- Hopeful wanted to look but Christian had heard of this place.
- After additional calls from Demas, they call him an enemy of both righteousness and the Lord of this way, a son of Judas.
- By-ends came behind them and at Demas’ first call went over and was never seen again

Lot's Wife

Genesis 19:26 But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt

- Hopeful said “Let grace be cherished, and let me be ashamed that such a thing was ever in my heart.”
- Let Lot's wife be a lesson to all who remember the example of judgment to those who desire the world over the way
- They compared Demas and his friends to those who grasp for more gain while on the way to being executed. Their hearts are in a desperate condition.
- They also rejoiced in the Lord's mercy which had protected their heart from loving this world.

The River

- The River is a picture of God's provision and comfort along the Way
- Here they drank from the pleasant water in the River, slept and woke
- Their weary spirits were revitalized
 - David called it the River of God: Psalm 65:9
 - The Apostle John called it the River of the Water of Life Rev 22:1

The Rough Way

- They came to a place where the River and the Way parted for a time.
- The road was rough and they became discouraged so that they were tempted to leave the Way
- Much like Israel in the Wilderness.
 - *Numbers 21:4 The people spoke against God and Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness.*
- Q - What had Israel forgotten?
- Q – What is true about the Way that we are prone to forget?

By-path Meadow

- They pressed on until they saw By-path Meadow where they noticed a path that led parallel to the way, but on the other side of the fence.
- Because it would make traveling much easier, Christian (the older Christian) led Hopeful that way
- They followed a man called Vain-confidence, but darkness caused him to fall into a pit, never to be heard of again.
- This awful event helped them realize the danger they were in.
- As they headed back they realized that it is easier going out when already in, than going back when we are out of the way.

Closing Assembly

He Who Would Valiant Be

1. He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy follow the Master.
There's no discouragement shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

2. Who so beset him round with dismal stories
Do but themselves confound—his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might; though he with giants fight,
He will make good his right to be a pilgrim.

3. Since, Lord, Thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit,
We know we at the end, shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labor night and day to be a pilgrim.