

The Pilgrim's Progress

HTPC Summer 2019
OPENING ASSEMBLY
Week 12

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)

LEARN TODAY: Memory Verse #3

Hebrews 11:13-16

“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. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 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 for them a city.”

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

Chapter 17 The Pilgrims Enter the Celestial City

Entering the Country of Beulah

- Beulah - “where the air is sweet and refreshing. Since their way lay directly through it, they enjoyed every day they spent in that place, seeing lovely flowers and hearing the continual singing of birds. In this Country the sun shines night and day; thus it is beyond the Valley of the Shadow of Death. It is also out of the reach of Giant Despair; they could not so much as catch a glimpse of Doubting Castle.”

Entering the Country of Beulah

Isaiah 62

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings our glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴**You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married (Beulah).**

⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

⁶On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the LORD in remembrance, take no rest,

⁷and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth.

⁸The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: 'I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink your wine for which you have labored;

⁹but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in the courts of my sanctuary.'

¹⁰Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples.

¹¹Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.'

¹²**And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.**

Entering the Country of Beulah

Dwelling in Beulah Land

¹ Far away the noise of strife upon my ear is falling,
Then I know the sins of earth beset on every hand:
Doubt and fear and things of earth in vain to me are
calling, None of these shall move me from Beulah
Land.

Chorus:

I'm living on the mountain, underneath a cloudless
sky,
I'm drinking at the fountain that never shall run dry;
O yes! I'm feasting on the manna from a bountiful
supply,
For I am dwelling in Beulah Land.

² Far below the storm of doubt upon the world is
beating, Sons of men in battle long the enemy

withstand: Safe am I within the castle of God's Word
retreating, Nothing then can reach me--'tis Beulah
Land. (Chorus)

³ Let the stormy breezes blow, their cry cannot alarm
me; I am safely sheltered here, protected by God's
hand: Here the sun is always shining, here there's
naught can harm me, I am safe forever in Beulah
Land. (Chorus)

⁴ Viewing here the works of God, I sink in
contemplation, Hearing now His blessed voice, I see
the way He planned: Dwelling in the Spirit, here I
learn of full salvation, Gladly I will tarry in Beulah
Land. (Chorus)

Two Shining Ones

- Hebrews 1:14
- “Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?”

The Unavoidable River/Passing Through the River

- 2 Samuel 22:5
- “For the waves of death encompassed me, the torrents of destruction assailed me.”
- Isaiah 43:1-3
- “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.”

Passing Through the River

Preparing ourselves for death:

- Remember the depravity of man and your own sin nature. Genesis 6:5 “The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil, continually.”
- Remember the salvation as offered by God to his people. Isaiah 62:12. “And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.” Your sin is forgiven by the righteousness of Christ not of your own.
- Remember the deeds God has done for you and on his character. Psalm 145:5-7 “On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.”
- Remember Biblical truths about death. 1 Corinthians 15:55 “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory, O death, where is your sting?”
- Pray to have an eternal perspective and even be able to look forward to death. Philippians 1:21 “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Rev 22:20 “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!”

What the Pilgrims Can Expect Ahead

The Shining Ones describe heaven to them and what it will be like.

In heaven, they will expect:

See the Tree of Life and eat of its never-fading fruit

White robes (purity and righteousness of Christ)

Walk and talk with Christ

Never see sorrow, sickness, affliction, and death

Receive consolation for your toil

Reap what you have sown – the fruit of all your prayers and tears and suffering for Christ

Receive treasures and wear crowns of gold

Receive perpetual joy from beholding the Holy One

Will see Christ as He is

Serve Christ continually with praise, shouting, and thanksgiving

Eyes will be delighted by seeing and ears with hearing the Mighty One

Enjoy friends and loved ones who went before you

Have the joy of welcoming everyone who follows you

Clothed with glory and majesty

Suitably equipped to ride out with the King of Glory

Will sit beside Christ on the judgment seat

You will have a voice in judgment on evil-doers

Will return to the City with Christ

A Glad Procession to the Gate

- Revelation 19:9
- “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.”
- Bunyan describes their feeling:
- “But what gave them the greatest joy of all was the thought that they themselves could be so fully accepted as to be invited to make their own dwelling here with such companions—not just for a short time, but for ever and ever. Oh, how could tongue or pen ever express such rapturous joy!”

They Gain Entrance to the City

- Revelation 22:14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.”
- Isaiah 26:2 “Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.”
- Revelation 5:13 “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”
- Revelation 4:8 “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.”

Final Outcome of Ignorance

- Bunyan –
- “Then I saw that there was a way to Hell, not only from the City of Destruction, but even from the Gate of Heaven itself.”

Conclusion

- **“For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”
Philippians 1:21**
- **“Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” Rev 22:20**

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.