

## PILGRIM'S PROGRESS 5 ARRIVAL AT THE PEARLY GATES

### **Intro:**

- 1) Where do we get our ideas of what heaven will look / be like?
- 2) Is fear a good thing or a bad thing?
- 3) How does each person “sink or swim” according to thier own faith?

### **Scene 26 - The delectable mountains**

- 1) What has Christian been through since he last saw the delectable mountains? (Palace Beaut.)
- 2) How is this a different persepective from what he got from afar?
- 3) What do these mountains represent?
- 4) According to **I Peter 5:2-3**, who are these shepherds?
- 5) Define each shepherd’s name and the role they play in the shepherding of souls
  - Knowledge (**Titus 1:9-11**)
  - Experience (**I Tim. 3:6**)
  - Watchful (**Acts 20:28**)
  - Sincerity (**I Corinthians 13:1**)
- 6) Who were Hymaneus and Philetus? What do they represent today?
- 7) What do Christian and Hopeful see from the hill Caution?
- 8) According to **Hebrews 4:12-13**, why do past sins come back to haunt us?
- 9) What is the door in the hillside? Why would a gateway to Hell exist in the Church?
- 10) How difficult is it to avoid hypocrisy or just “going through the motions”?
- 11) What is the “perspective glass” through which we catch a glimpse of heaven?
- 12) Why do thier hands shake as they look through the glass? Compare to **I Cor. 13:12**

### **Scene 27 - Have you met ignorance?**

- 1) Where does Ignorance come from (what’s his country)?
- 2) How did he enter he Way?
- 3) How does Ignorance hope to enter the Celestial City?
- 4) Read **Luke 18:18-22**. Does a good life guarantee an entrance to the heavenly Kingdom?
- 5) Why doesn’t Ignorance take Christian’s advice to return to the Wicket Gate?

- 6) How do you know when further discussion on a matter will prove unfruitful?
- 7) Is it “unChristian” of us to leave someone behind / stop evangelizing?
- 8) Who do Christian and Hopeful meet next?
- 9) How does one Turn-Away from God? Is it sudden? Gradual? Spectacular?

### **Scene 28 - The Assault on Little-Faith**

- 1) What does it mean to be “o ye of little faith”?
- 2) What type of Christian does Little-Faith represent?
- 3) According to **II Corinthians 4:16-18**, how do we defend against Faint-Heart?
- 4) In **Matthew 6:25-34**, what bulwark against Mistrust are we given?
- 5) How does Guilt wage a “war of attrition” against our spirits?
- 6) What was Little Faith actually robbed of?
- 7) When engaged in theological debate, are we more concerned with winning over our brother or winning the argument? How does this play out in the Church today?
- 8) Look at **Galatians 6:3** Why is sometimes difficult to appreciate the depth of another’s sin?
- 9) Who is Great-Grace? What are his limitations?
- 10) Why are these spiritual “villians” not so easily overcome?
- 11) What warning does battlehardened Christian give about desiring to meet our enemies?
- 12) What things must we do when confronted by enemies of the Gospel?

### **Scene 29 - “For he disguises himself as an angel of light”**

- 1) What difficult choice looms before Christian and Hopeful?
- 2) Why do they not recognize the stranger as Flatterer?
- 3) What is Flatterer’s goal?
- 4) What does the “whip of small cords” in their rescuer’s hand represent?
- 5) What does this angel do to set them on the right path? **Proverbs 13:24**
- 6) How did they respond to being disciplined? How do we?
- 7) How do you think Ignorance (trailing behind them) avoided their fate?

### **Scene 30 - A fool says in his heart, “There is no God”**

- 1) What arguments from Atheist (then or now) seem compelling?

- 2) How many renounce Christianity after several years of walking in the Way? Why?
- 3) What does it mean to walk by faith and not by sight? **II Corinthians 5:7**

**Scene 31 - Enchanted Ground** (surprised no poppies are growing there)

- 1) What are the causes of spiritual slumber?
- 2) See **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** Why should we avoid walking the Way alone?
- 3) How did Hopeful come to faith? Do you think this is typical today?
- 4) Do you think Hopeful would have come to faith without Faithful?
- 5) What does their conversation tell us about evangelism efforts in the Church today?
- 6) How does knowledge of Scripture both help and hinder one's conversion?
- 7) How does one's faith shape how one views the world (worldview)?

**Scene 32 - Ignoring Ignorance**

- 1) Why does Ignorance seem to have an easier time along the Way?
- 2) With what does Ignorance fill his mind? Is this the same as saving faith?
- 3) Why is the popular advice to "follow your heart" a bad thing?
- 4) Look at **Romans 3:10-12**. How does a nonbeliever think about thier heart?
- 5) What is keeping Ignorance from accepting Christ and His righteousness?
- 6) Ignorance is sincere in what he believes. How is sincere belief not enough?
- 7) Ignorance does not see the need for God to reveal Himself. What do the folowing say:

**II Corinthians 4:6**

**John 6:44**

**Ephesians 1:17-19**

**Ephesians 4:17-18**

**Scene 33 - It's just Temporary**

- 1) What, according to Christian, are the 4 signs of Godly fear?

---

---

- 2) How do many try to suppress fear and conviction of sin?
- 3) What is your definition of the term "Backsliding"?

4) Look at the following verses and see if this backsliding is temporary or permanent.

**Mark 14:27**

**Galatians 6:1**

**Hebrews 6:4-6**

**Luke 8:13**

- 5) What are the 4 reasons for backsliding that Hopeful gives?
- 6) What is meant by “the slippery slope” in the life of a believer?
- 7) What are the “stages” of a backslide that Christian propounds

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Scene 34 - the land of Beulah**

- 1) Looking at **Isaiah 62:1-12** and **Song of Songs 2:10-12**, describe this land
- 2) How does Beulah show we’re “nearing the end”?
- 3) What does it mean in **Ecclesiastes 3:11** to have your heart set on eternity?
- 4) What can Christian and Hopeful see from this land?
- 5) How does their reaction fit with Paul’s words in **Philippians 1:21-23**
- 6) Is it really a gain to die?
- 7) How are a Christian’s thoughts on death different from a non-believer’s?

### **Scene 35 - the Lethe (River of Death)**

- 1) Why do so many religions have the afterlife across a river or other body of water?
- 2) There were three main rivers one would cross in Hades (Greek myth). What did each separate? Which one are Christian and Hopeful crossing?

- Styx
- Lethe
- Archeron

- 3) What determines the depth of the river and its ease of passage?
- 4) Is there any other way across the river except swimming / walking through it?
- 5) What happens to Christian as he enters? See **Psalm 69:1-2** and **Psalm 42:7**
- 6) What do the following promises of God have to say about this stage of our journey?

**II Timothy 4:6-8**

**Isaiah 43:2**

**Hebrews 13:5-6**

- 7) Have you ever helped someone “across the river”?

### **Scene 36 - “Have you ever been called home to the ringing of silver trumpets”**

- 1) How is heave described in the following passages:

**Hebrews 12:22-24**

**Revelation 2:7**

**Revelation 3:4**

**Revelation 21:4**

**Revelation 22:3-4**

**Isaiah 57:1-2**

**Matthew 8:11**

- 2) Who calls to them from the walls? (Why is not St. Peter?)
- 3) What do they need to gain admittance?
- 4) What are some of the “honors” bestowed on Christian and Hopeful?
- 5) Who do they meet once in the city?
- 6) What happens to Ignorance as he follows the pilgrims? **Matthew 22:11-14**
- 7) Why do you think Bunyan chose to close his “dream” with such a warning?