

The Pilgrim's Progress

HTPC Summer 2019
OPENING ASSEMBLY
Week 4

Memory Verse #1

Volunteer to recite from
memory.

Memory Verse #1

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

(Hebrews 13:14)

Memory Verse #1

All together from memory

(Hebrews 13:14)

Memory Verse #2

Volunteer to recite from memory.

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 #2

All together from memory
(1 Peter 2:11)

The Christian's Hope Can Never Fail

1. We travel through a barren land,
With dangers thick on every hand;
But Jesus guides us through the vale;
O, The Christian's hope can never fail.
2. Huge sorrows meet us as we go,
And devils aim to overthrow;
But vile infernals can't prevail;
O, The Christian's hope shall never fail.

3. We trust upon the sacred word,
The oath and promise of the Lord;
And safely through each tempest sail;
O, The Christian's hope can never fail.

The Pilgrim's Progress

Chapter 4 (pp. 38-58)

- False Christians along the Way
- The Hill of Difficulty
- The Pleasant Arbor and the Lions at the Gate
- Reception at The Palace Beautiful
- Supper and Tour at The Palace Beautiful
- Resuming the Pilgrimage

False Christians Along the Way

Chapter 4 (pp. 38-39)

- Simple: *spiritual dullness* = naiveté + ignorance
 - ❖ Prov. 1:22
- Sloth: *spiritual lethargy* = carnal self-indulgence
 - ❖ Eph. 5:14
- Presumption: *spiritual arrogance* = pride + self confidence + self-sufficiency
 - ❖ Numbers 15:30

More False Christians Along the Way

Chapter 4 (pp. 39-41)

- Formality: the false, external religious performer
 - ❖ Mt. 7:21
- Hypocrisy: the false religious pretender
 - ❖ Mt. 6:5

“The worse of hypocrites is he who whitens himself till he deceives himself.... But a man’s heart may deceive his heart, and he may persuade himself that he is a godly and righteous man when he knows nothing about it.”

--- Samuel Rutherford

The Hill of Difficulty

Chapter 4 (pg. 39)

- The Hill: toilsome trials that distress Christians
 - ❖ Isaiah 49:10-11; 1 Pet. 4:12-13
- Way of Destruction/Danger: the comfortable (but longer and deadlier) pathway
 - ❖ Mt. 7:13-14
- The Steep, Straight Way: the good way that leads to life
 - ❖ Mt. 7:12; Rom. 5:3-4 (the true pilgrim's attitude)

The Pleasant Arbor and Lions at the Gate

Chapter 4 (pg. 39-46)

- The Pleasant Arbor: promised spiritual rest
 - ❖ Mt. 11:28-30
- Christian Loses His Scroll: times of loss of spiritual assurance
 - ❖ Why? 1 Cor. 3:1-4
 - ❖ John 10:27-30; Eph. 1:13-14;
- The Lions at the Gate: fear of external and internal opposition - restrained by Christ. (2 Cor. 7:5)

Reception at the Palace Beautiful

Chapter 4 (pg. 47-55)

- The Palace Beautiful: the biblical local church
- Watchful: a cautious church elder(s). *Question*:
“What is your name?”
- Young Lady Discretion: wisdom in questions of admission to church membership

Reception at the Palace Beautiful

Chapter 4 (pg. 47-55)

The graces of the biblical local church: the young ladies

- Prudence (Wisdom - Col. 1:9)
 - ❖ Questions: focus on his conscience
- Piety (Spiritual Devotion - 1 Tim. 5:4)
 - ❖ Questions: focus on his pilgrimage
- Charity (Love - 1 Pet. 1:22)
 - ❖ Questions: focus on his family life/relationships

Supper and Tour at the Palace Beautiful

Chapter 4 (pg. 53-56)

- The Supper: The Lord's Supper - fellowship meal (Luke 22:19)
- The Room Called Peace: resting in peace with Christ (Rom. 5:1)
- The Study: the Word of God, beginning with Jesus (Jn. 1:1-3)
- The Armory: resources for fortifying the pilgrim (Eph. 6:1-18)

Resuming the Pilgrimage

Chapter 4 (pg. 56-58)

- A View of the Delectable Mountains
 - ❖ Seen from the Palace rooftop
 - ❖ Clear view of Immanuel's Land (Ps. 107:30)
 - ❖ Unobscured by sin (Lam. 5:16-17)
 - ❖ Encouragement - drawing closer to the City
- Into the Valley of Humiliation (next week)

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.