

I. Goodwill “So he went on with haste...to the gate”

vouchsafe = give or grant vouchsafe an **answer** _____

grave = serious a grave person named **Goodwill** _____

haply = by chance haply they might **die** _____

durst = dared as far as I durst **towards the house of Legality**

In his testimony, Christian tells Goodwill who he is and why he is come to the Wicket Gate. What are the implications of Christian's answers?

The implication is that Christian has come to a place of conviction about sin and has turned in faith to Christ — he is born again. _____

The Gate and the Way: Matthew 7:13-14. Why must the believer strive to enter the narrow gate and the strait way if salvation is by faith, not by works?

The world, the flesh, and the devil present many challenges to faith and the life of faith which must be overcome by walking by faith [striving]. _____

II. Interpreter “He came at the house of the interpreter...”

Two theories about his identity:

John 14:26, the interpreter is **the Holy Spirit** _____

Acts 8:30-31, the interpreter is **a preacher** _____

The pictures or illustrations in Interpreter's house suggest that many **lessons** _____ are necessary for complete understanding of the Christian life.

A. **A brave picture** “Christian saw the picture of a very grave person...”

Why did Interpreter tell Christian he was showing this picture?

So that Christian can discern the false from the true. _____

Who would this grave person be? **A faithful minister of the Gospel** _____.

This man... is one of a thousand; he can **bear and nurse children** _____!

B. **A dusty room** “A very large parlour that was full of dust...”

parlour = **the heart** _____ sweeper = **the Law** _____

dust = **sins** _____ water = **Grace** _____

“There is nothing half so worthy of abhorrence as the human heart; and could you and I but once see our heart, we should be driven mad, so horrible would be the sight.” (Charles Spurgeon, *New Park Street Pulpit*, I:44.)

C. **Passion and patience** “A little room, where sat two children...” [See Psalm 73]

Who does Passion represent? **the men of this world who mind temporal things** _____

Who does Patience represent? **the saint who seeks the spiritual things and the reward to come** _____

Amity = friendship or harmony. Bunyan describes that it is a bad thing to find such amity between what two things?

things present _____ and our fleshly appetites _____

D. **The fire** “a fire was burning against a wall”

fire = **new life in Christ** _____ man pouring water = **Satan** _____

oil = **the work of grace** _____ man pouring oil = **Christ** _____

What is significant about the fact the man pouring oil is hidden from view? **it is difficult to see how Christ and his grace will overcome the wiles of the devil and keep the Christian to the end** _____

E. **The valiant man** “Set down my name, sir...”

Acts 14:22 enter the kingdom through _____

“... then Christian smiled, and said, I think verily I know the meaning of this.” What is the meaning of this, and how is it that the man is able to win through to the castle? (See Eph 6.17)

The Christian, equipped with the arms of faith, is enabled to enter the kingdom of God. _____

“How hot are we on the thermometer of zeal when it comes to our prayers, witnessing, mortifying the flesh, reading the Scriptures, and attending to the Word of God preached? A lazy, careless attitude toward Christ and his kingdom is not how the Bible describes the Christian life.” (Maureen Bradley, *The Pilgrim’s Progress Study Guide*, p. 24)

See Matthew 11.12.

F. **The iron cage** “there sat a man in an iron cage”

His past condition:

A professor (one who made a profession of faith)

Fair (free of obstacles, “fair sailing”) for the **Celestial City** _____

But he left off (stopped) to **watch** _____ and **be sober** _____

His present condition:

Now a man of **despair** _____

I have so hardened my heart, that I cannot **repent** _____

Doctrine of reprobation, three views:

1. He was elected of God to damnation (strong Calvinist view)
2. He was simply not elected (weak Calvinist view)
3. He was abandoned by God because of his choice (Arminian view)

“Black... are those [who oppose eternal life] most willingly, whom God doth leave to live and die.” — John Bunyan

Christian asks (and we ask) “is there no hope for such a man as this?” Can this picture be true? [Related Bible passages: Rom. 11:22, Heb. 3:12-14, 1 John 2:19, Heb. 6:1-6]

One who so laments his sin but remains unrepentant is not really desirous of repentance – he may lament the consequences of his sin but true repentance (a soul born again) would turn to Christ and be saved. _____



G. **The Dreamer** “one rising out of bed”

garner = place to store grain

The man was afraid because “the day of judgment was come, and I was **not ready** _____”

III. Interpreter “Then said the interpreter...”

goad = pointed rod to prod an ox with

What would be like goads? **sermons, scriptural lessons such as these** _____

All these sights were “things to make me **stable** _____”