

Mercy goes with Christiana (pp. 216-231)

Page numbers correspond to the Whitaker paperback edition, ISBN 0-88368-096-3

I. Mercy joins Christiana “I would never go near the town any more”

Christiana: “The King ... is one that delighteth in **mercy** _____.”

Mercy: “Then will I go thither, and will take what shall **follow** _____.”

What causes Mercy to weep? **the thought of her lost relations** _____

When the party of pilgrims arrive at the Slough of Despond, what do they discover concerning the repairs ordered by the King?

they discover that rather than being better it is only worse because some, claiming to be the King’s servants only “mar instead of mending” _____

What is the answer to Despond that they seem to hear in their ears? “**Blessed is she that believeth**” (Lk 1.45) _____

II. The wicket gate “I saw ... all of them [go] up to the gate”

Instead of an answer, they heard **a dog ... barking** _____.

The Keeper of the Gate: “Suffer little children to come unto me; and with that he **shut up** _____ the gate.”

Christiana begins to intercede for Mercy, who came to the gate “as she thinks, **without sending for** _____.”

But Mercy knocks loudly for herself, then fainted, afraid that she **presumed upon the Lord’s invitation** _____.

Who is the Keeper of the Gate, and why does he let Mercy in? **He is the Lord himself, who prays for “all them that believe on me”** _____

The pilgrims ask concerning the dog that frightened them, but find that “That dog has another **owner** _____” and he is one “whose barking I turn to **the profit of pilgrims** _____.”

What did the Lord do for the pilgrims in preparation for their journey? **fed them and washed their feet** _____

Why did Christiana consider her decision to trust the Lord good even though she waited a long time before making the decision? Because “‘Tis better **late than never** _____.”

III. Bad fruit “the boys did pluck them and began to eat”

“The garden belonged to **him whose was that barking dog** _____.”

“My sons, you transgress, for that fruit is **none of ours** _____.”

“If she had known whose it was, she would have **been ready to die for fear** _____.”

(This section is not explained at the current point in the story, but will become significant later.)

IV. Attack “two very ill-favored ones”

The two men “began to **lay hands upon them** _____.”

letted = prevented

They “put themselves under the laws provided for **that are provided for the protection of women** _____.”

A man called **Reliever** _____ came to their aid.

“I marveled... that you petitioned not the Lord there for a conductor _____.”

What lesson concerning prayer does Reliever teach? that God doesn't grant the things we need without prayer lest we take them for granted _____

What does Mercy discover about the course of the Christian life? that salvation does not remove us from the presence of danger in this life _____

Finally, what does Mercy see in the act of God to protect them in the way? the work of God's "mere good pleasure" _____