I. The Cross “where Christian’s burden fell off his back”

Christiana: “We should have pardon by _______________ word and _______________ deed.”

Great-heart: “Pardon by the deed done, is pardon obtained by _______________ _______________ some one for _______________ another.”

In Great-heart’s discourse on righteousness, what particular aspect of Christ’s righteousness does he say is imputed (credited, applied) to those who believe?

Christ’s righteous obedience; his perfect law-keeping __________________________________________

The other aspects of Christ’s righteousness, as Great-heart speaks of them, are also important in enabling the believer to be saved. What three benefits do they offer?

1. “The righteousness of his Godhead gives _______________ virtue to his obedience”
2. “The righteousness of his manhood giveth _______________ capability to his obedience”
3. “The righteousness … [of] the union of these two natures … giveth _______________ authority to that righteousness to do the work”

Imputed righteousness is important to Bunyan. When he comprehended it, he found personal assurance of salvation:

Now I could look from myself to him, and would reckon, that all those graces of God that now were green on me, were yet like those cracked groats and four-pence-half-pennies, that rich men carry in their purses, when their gold is in their trunks at home. Oh! I say my gold was in my trunk at home! In Christ my Lord and Saviour. Now Christ was all; all my righteousness, all my sanctification, and all my redemption.1

The doctrine of imputed righteousness lay at the heart of the preaching of John Bunyan. It was there explicitly or implicitly whenever he expounded the gospel. It was fundamental to the thinking of a man who took seriously the demands of the Law of God. He knew by painful personal experience that he had no hope of meeting those demands for ‘there is none righteous, no not one’. Only as the Law’s demands were met by Jesus Christ and imputed to him could he stand before God. The sufferings of Christ were endured for his sins and Christ’s active obedience imputed to him ensured that the Law’s demands were met. Only as he grasped these truths for himself could he see that there was ‘Grace abounding to the Chief of Sinners’.2

Christiana: “Was not this it that made my good Christian’s burden _______________ fall from off his shoulder, and that made him give _______________ _______________ three leaps for joy?”

According to Great-heart’s (and Bunyan’s) theology, why could some not have the same joy as Christian, Christiana, and Mercy in seeing and understanding the work of Christ in providing salvation by word and deed? they had not received God’s special call, only God’s common call which provides no benefits _____

II. Retracing Christian’s steps “when Christian went by on pilgrimage”

Simple, and Sloth, and Presumption were hanged up in irons ________________________________________.

For what offences did these three suffer? they dissuaded others from the way and spoke ill of the Lord and Land to which pilgrims were going ________________________________________

trow = believe, think

The by-ways where _______________ Formality and _______________ Hypocrisy lost themselves at the foot of the Hill _______________ _______________ of Difficulty

1 John Bunyan, Grace Abounding, p. 36, para. 232, quoted by Robert Oliver.

This guide adapted from one written by Dr. Bill Lovegrove, available at Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Greenville, SC
See http://www.mountcalvarybaptist.org/ — follow the links under Ministries to Sunday School, then to the Pilgrim’s Progress section
What precautions had been made to prevent others from entering these by-ways? the entrance had been barricaded and hedged up, yet some would still go in ________________________________

____________________________

Christiana: “I dare say this is a ____________ breathing hill.”

James (one of the boys): “I had rather go up the ______________ ladder to life, than down the hill to death.”

III. The Arbour “a little above is the Prince’s arbor”

Mercy: “I think this is a ______________ losing place”

Great-heart: “The cause is ______________ sleep, or ______________ forgetfulness… Pilgrims should ______________ watch…”

What is the danger of “resting places” in the Christian pilgrimage? the danger is that when at rest, Pilgrims may forget spiritual things that are needful ________________________________

____________________________

IV. The way to the House Beautiful “this way had of late lain much unoccupied”

What warning lay in the way in memory of Timorous and Mistrust? a stage, a place where those who sought to discourage Christians would be punished ________________________________

____________________________

Who appears to block the way and ‘back the lions’?

one ________________________________ - _____________________ Grim Bloody-man

Remembering that the House Beautiful represents a true local church that equips the saints for the pilgrimage, who might this giant represent? the Pope ________________________________

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