

# Pilgrim's Progress: The Celestial City (pp. 188-199)

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## I. Beulah “whose air was very sweet and pleasant”

Beulah = ‘married’ (see Isa 62.4, compare KJV and NAS): What part of the Christian’s pilgrimage do you think the country of Beulah represents?

The last stages of life before death when the saints walk close with the Lord and seem to slip from one world to the next \_\_\_\_\_

“They ... heard the voice of the turtle \_\_\_\_\_ [dove] in the land.” (S. of S. 2:12)

“Christian with desire \_\_\_\_\_ fell sick.” (S. of S. 2:5)

“You have but two difficulties \_\_\_\_\_ more to meet with.”

What are these two difficulties (not explicitly mentioned in the text)?

1. Death \_\_\_\_\_ without

2. Doubt \_\_\_\_\_ within

“Consider that thou must die but once; I mean as to this world, for if thou, when thou goest hence, dost not die well, thou canst not come back again and die better.”<sup>1</sup>

## II. A River “betwixt them and the gate”

At the sight of this river the pilgrims were much stunned \_\_\_\_\_.

Who was allowed to take the path that bypassed the river? Enoch \_\_\_\_\_ and Elijah \_\_\_\_\_

Hopeful: “Brother, I see the gate, and men standing by to receive us \_\_\_\_\_.”

Christian: “It is you they wait for \_\_\_\_\_.”

What causes Christian so much despair in the crossing of the river? the memories of his sins and unworthiness \_\_\_\_\_

What brings Christian out of this last despair? the encouragement to think on Christ and his promises \_\_\_\_\_

## III. The Celestial City “the city stood upon a mighty hill”

Why were the pilgrims able to ascend the hill with such ease? they had left their mortal garments behind them \_\_\_\_\_.

“You are going now to the paradise of God \_\_\_\_\_.”

“There your eyes shall be delighted with seeing \_\_\_\_\_ and your ears with hearing \_\_\_\_\_ ...”

Who? the Mighty One \_\_\_\_\_!

They were met by a company of the heavenly host \_\_\_\_\_ and

several of the King’s trumpeters \_\_\_\_\_.

After that they shut up the gates; which, when I had seen, I wished myself among them \_\_\_\_\_.

## IV. Mr. Ignorance “I saw Ignorance come up to the river side”

A ferryman named Vain-hope \_\_\_\_\_ helped him over.

Then they asked him for his certificate \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>1</sup> John Bunyan, quoted in Offor, *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:686, subsequently quoted in Maureen Bradley, *The Pilgrim’s Progress Study Guide*, p. 102.

There was a way to **hell** \_\_\_\_\_, even from the gates of heaven.

## **V. Conclusion “I have told my dream to thee”**

Be not extreme in playing with **the outside of my Dream** \_\_\_\_\_.

Don't let my similitude put you into **a laughter** \_\_\_\_\_, or **a feud** \_\_\_\_\_.

Do thou **the substance of my matter** \_\_\_\_\_ see.