



CHAPTER V

The Pilgrims Arrive at the Palace Beautiful



ow then they were within sight of the Porter's Lodge, and they soon came up unto it; but they made the more haste after this to go thither, because it is dangerous travelling there in the night. So when they were come to the gate, the guide knocked, and the Porter cried, Who is there? But as soon as the guide had said, It is I, he knew his voice, and came down (for the guide had oft before that, come thither, as a conductor of pilgrims). When he was come down, he opened the gate, and seeing the guide standing just before it (for he saw not the women, for they were behind him), he said unto him, How now, Mr. Great-heart, what is your business here so late tonight? I have brought, said he, some pilgrims hither, where, by my Lord's commandment, they must lodge; I had been here some time ago, had I not been opposed by the giant that did use to back the lions; but I, after a long and tedious combat with him, have cut him off, and have brought the Pilgrims hither in safety.¹

1. How mindful is our Lord of us! How gracious is he to us! What blessed provision doth he make for us! If pilgrims are attacked by giant Grim, and terrified with the sight of lions, they may be sure, that it is only a prelude to some sweet enjoyment of their Lord's love, and that they are near to some sweet asylum, some sanctuary of rest, peace, and comfort. Some bitter generally precedes the sweet, and makes the sweet still sweeter.

1. **PORTER.** Will you not go in, and stay till morning?

2. **GREAT-HEART.** No, I will return to my Lord tonight.

3. **CHRIST.** Oh, Sir, I know not how to be willing you should leave us in our pilgrimage, you have been so faithful and so loving to us, you have fought so stoutly for us, you have been so hearty in counseling of us, that I shall never forget your favour towards us.

4. **MERCY.** Then said Mercy, O that we might have thy company to our journey's end! How can such poor women as we hold out in a way so full of troubles as this way is, without a friend and defender?

5. **JAMES.** Then said James, the youngest of the boys, Pray, Sir, be persuaded to go with us, and help us, because we are so weak, and the way so dangerous as it is.²

6. **GREAT-HEART.** I am at my Lord's commandment; if He shall allot me to be your guide quite through, I will willingly wait upon you. But here you failed at first; for, when He bid me come thus far with you, then you should have begged me of Him to have gone quite through with you, and He would have granted your request. How-

2 Oh, it is hard work to part with Great-heart! How many blessings do we lose for want of asking! Great-heart is at the command of our Lord. O for more power to cry incessantly to the Lord, for the presence of Great-heart, that we may go on more cheerfully and more joyfully in the ways of the Lord.

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ever, at present, I must withdraw; and so, good Christiana, Mercy, and my brave children, Adieu.

7. **WATCHFUL.** Then the Porter, Mr. Watchful, asked Christiana of her country, and of her kindred.

8. **CHRIST.** I came from the City of Destruction; I am a widow woman, and my husband is dead; his name was Christian, the Pilgrim.

9. **PORTER.** He was he your husband?

10. **CHRIST.** Yes, and these are his children; and this, pointing to Mercy, is one of my townswomen.

11. Then the Porter rang his bell, as at such times he is wont, and there came to the door one of the damsels, whose name was Humble-mind;

12. **PORTER.** and the Porter said to her, Go tell it within, that Christiana, the wife of Christian, and her children, are come hither on pilgrimage.

13. She went in, therefore, and told it. But O what noise for gladness was there within, when the damsel did but drop that word out of her mouth!

14. So they came with haste to the Porter, for Christiana stood still at the door. Then some of the most grave said unto her, Come in, Christiana, come in, thou wife of that good man; come in, thou blessed woman; come in, with all that are with thee. So she went in, and they followed her that were her children and her companions. Now when they were gone in, they were had into a very large room, where they were bidden to sit down; so they sat down, and the chief of the house was called to see and welcome the guests. Then they came in, and understanding who they were, did salute each other with a kiss, and said, Welcome, ye vessels of the grace of God; welcome to us your friends.³

15. Now, because it was somewhat late, and because the Pilgrims were weary with their journey, and also made faint with the sight of the fight, and of the terrible lions, therefore they desired, as soon as might be, to prepare to go to rest. Nay,

³ Here is a blessed mark of being vessels of the grace of God, when we delight in the sight of, salute, and welcome others in the way to Zion, and mutually have our hearts and affections drawn out to each other in love. O how sweet is the fellowship of pilgrims below! what must it be above! Infinitely beyond conception. Lord, fire our souls with the thought of ever being with thee, and each other, in thy kingdom!

said those of the family, refresh yourselves first with a morsel of meat; for they had prepared for them a lamb, with the accustomed sauce belonging thereto;⁴ for the Porter had heard before of their coming, and had told it to them within. So when they had supped, and ended their prayer with a psalm, they desired they might go to rest.

16. **CHRIST.** But let us, if we may be so bold as to choose, be in that chamber that was my husband's when he was here.

17. So they had them up thither, and they lay all in a room. When they were at rest, Christiana and Mercy entered into discourse about things that were convenient.

18. **CHRIST.** Little did I think once, that when my husband went on pilgrimage, I should ever have followed.

19. **MERCY.** And you as little thought of lying in his bed, and in his chamber to rest, as you do now.⁵

20. **CHRIST.** And much less did I ever think of seeing his face with comfort, and of worshipping the Lord the King with him; and yet now I believe I shall.

21. **MERCY.** Hark! Don't you hear a noise?

22. **CHRIST.** Yes; it is, as I believe, a noise of music, for joy that we are here.

23. **MERCY.** Wonderful! music in the house, music in the heart, and music also in Heaven, for joy that we are here!⁶

⁴ The Lamb is the food of pilgrims, and the end of their conversation. Reader, can you feed upon Christ by faith? Is the Lamb the nourishment of thy soul, and the portion of thy heart? Canst thou say, from sweet and blessed experience, his flesh is meat indeed, and his blood is drink indeed? Is it thy delight to think of him, hear of him, speak of him, abide in him, and live upon him? O bless him, and praise him for this distinguishing mercy, this spiritual appetite. It is peculiar to his beloved ones only.

⁵ Pray, mind the above sweet note, "Christ's bosom is for all pilgrims." It is there the weary find rest, and the burdened soul ease. O for more reclinings of soul upon the precious bosom of our dear Lord! We can be truly happy nowhere else.

⁶ O what precious harmony is this! how joyful to be the subjects of It, and to join in it! The free, sovereign grace of God is the delightful Theme; and glory to God in the highest, the universal chorus. It is the wonder and joy of sinners on earth, and of angels in heaven.

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24. Thus they talked a while, and then betook themselves to sleep. So, in the morning, when they were awake, Christiana said to Mercy:

25. **CHRIST.** What was the matter that you did laugh in your sleep tonight? I suppose you were in a dream.

26. **MERCY.** So I was, and a sweet dream it was; but are you sure I laughed?

27. **CHRIST.** Yes; you laughed heartily; but, pr'ythee, Mercy, tell me thy dream.

28. **MERCY.** I was a-dreamed that I sat all alone in a solitary place, and was bemoaning of the hardness of my heart. Now, I had not sat there long, but methought many were gathered about me, to see me, and to hear what it was that I said. So they hearkened, and I went on bemoaning the hardness of my heart. At this, some of them laughed at me, some called me fool, and some began to thrust me about.

29. With that, methought I looked up, and saw one coming with wings towards me. So he came directly to me, and said, *Mercy, what aileth thee?* Now, when he had heard me make my complaint, he said "*Peace be to thee.*" He also wiped mine eyes with his handkerchief, and clad me in silver and gold. He put a chain about my neck, and earrings in mine ears, and a beautiful crown upon my head.

30. Then he took me by the hand, and said, *Mercy, come after me.* So he went up, and I followed, till we came at a golden gate. Then he knocked; and when they within had opened, the man went in, and I followed him up to a throne, upon which one sat, and He said to me, *Welcome, daughter.* The place looked bright and twinkling, like the stars, or rather like the sun; and I thought that I saw your husband there. So I awoke from my dream. But did I laugh?⁷

⁷ Pray observe this dream: it is a most precious one indeed. We find it true in the broad day of sweet experience; for then it is we get the most blessed visits from our dear Lord, when we get by ourselves, and bemoan the deadness of our poor hearts. True, we may be laughed at, called fools, and despised by the profane and self-righteous, who do not feel the hardness of their hearts, nor bemoan themselves for it; yet the loving, compassionate, tender-hearted Saviour is ever near to us, he feels for us, sympathizes with us, will manifest himself to us, and revive us with the sense of peace, the joy of hope, and the comforts of love; and allure us, that where he is, there we shall soon be, where pain of heart, and sorrow of soul, shall be no more for ever. Therefore, so far from thinking yourself not to be a

31. **CHRIST.** Laugh! aye, and well you might, to see yourself so well. For you must give me leave to tell you, that I believe it was a good dream; and that, as you have begun to find the first part true, so you shall find the second at last. "God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed." We need not, when a-bed, lie awake to talk with God. He can visit us while we sleep, and cause us then to hear His voice. Our heart oftentimes wakes when we sleep; and God can speak to that, either by words, by proverbs, by signs and similitudes, as well as if one was awake.⁸

32. **MERCY.** Well, I am glad of my dream; for I hope, ere long, to see it fulfilled, to the making me laugh again.

33. **CHRIST.** I think it is now high time to rise, and to know what we must do.

34. **MERCY.** Pray, if they invite us to stay awhile, let us willingly accept of the proffer. I am the willinger to stay awhile here, to grow better acquainted with these maids. Methinks Prudence, Piety, and Charity have very comely and sober countenances.

35. **CHRIST.** We shall see what they will do.

36. So when they were up and ready, they came down, and they asked one another of their rest, and if it were comfortable, or not.

37. **MERCY.** Very good; it was one of the best night's lodging that ever I had in my life.

38. **PRUDENCE** and Piety, If you will be persuaded to stay here awhile, you shall have what the house will afford.

39. **CHAR.** Aye, and that with a very good will, said Charity. So they consented and staid there about a month, or above, and became very profitable one to another. And because Prudence would see how Christiana had brought up her children, she asked leave of her to catechize them. So she

pilgrim, because you feel hardness of heart, and bemoan it, be assured that it is a most blessed sign that Christ's heart of love is set upon you.

⁸ O how blessed are they who are watching and waiting continually, to hear the small, still voice of the Spirit, speaking rest and peace to their souls by the blood of the Lamb! O how condescending is our Lord, thus to visit us, and converse with us in the way to his kingdom!

gave her free consent. Then she began at the youngest, whose name was James.



The Catechizing of James

40. **PRUDENCE.** And she said, Come, James, canst thou tell me who made thee?

41. **JAMES.** God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

42. **PRUD.** Good boy. And canst thou tell me who saves thee?

43. **JAMES.** God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

44. **PRUD.** Good boy still. But how doth God the Father save thee?

45. **JAMES.** By his grace.

46. **PRUD.** How doth God the Son save thee?

47. **JAMES.** By His righteousness, death, and blood, and life.

48. **PRUD.** And how doth God the Holy Ghost save thee?

49. **JAMES.** By His illumination, by His renovation, and by His preservation.⁹

50. Then said **PRUDENCE** to Christiana, You are to be commended for thus bringing up your children. I suppose I need not ask the rest these questions, since the youngest of them can answer them so well. I will therefore now apply myself to the next youngest.



⁹ The infinite love of the Farther, and the redeeming grace of the adorable Saviour, however great and glorious, will never bring a soul to heaven without an enlightening, regenerating, and sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. A deep conviction of the truth of this would cut off many presumptuous hopes, and lead souls to cry for mercy and salvation. They would be afraid to rest in notions, in professions or formality; and would see the necessity of being made new creatures in Christ, in order to their having a title to, or meetness of soul for, heaven and happiness. Thus, the apostle prays for the Ephesians, "that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto [them] the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him." (Ephs. i. 17.)

The Catechizing of Joseph

51. **PRUD.** Then she said, Come, Joseph (for his name was Joseph), will you let me catechize you?

52. **JOSEPH.** With all my heart.

53. **PRUD.** What is man?

54. **JOSEPH.** A reasonable creature, so made by God, as my brother said.

55. **PRUD.** What is supposed by this word "saved"?

56. **JOSEPH.** That man, by sin, has brought himself into a state of captivity and misery.

57. **PRUD.** What is supposed by his being saved by the Trinity?

58. **JOSEPH.** That sin is so great and mighty a tyrant, that none can pull us out of its clutches, but God; and that God is so good and loving to man, as to pull him indeed out of this miserable state.

59. **PRUD.** What is God's design in saving, of poor men?

60. **JOSEPH.** The glorifying of His name, of His grace, and justice, &c., and the everlasting happiness of His creature.

61. **PRUD.** Who are they that must be saved?

62. **JOSEPH.** Those that accept of His salvation.

63. **PRUD.** Good boy, Joseph; thy mother has taught thee well, and thou hast hearkened to what she hath said unto thee.



The Catechizing of Samuel

64. Then said Prudence to Samuel, who was the eldest but one,

65. **PRUD.** Come, Samuel, are you willing that I should catechize you also?

66. **SAMUEL.** Yes, forsooth, if you please.

67. **PRUD.** What is Heaven?

68. **SAM.** A place and state most blessed, because God dwelleth there.

69. **PRUD.** What is hell?

70. **SAM.** A place and state most woeful, because it is the dwelling-place of sin, the devil, and death.

71. **PRUD.** Why wouldest thou go to Heaven?

72. **SAM.** That I may see God, and serve Him without weariness; that I may see Christ, and love Him everlastingly; that I may have that fullness of the Holy Spirit in me that I can by no means here enjoy.

73. **PRUD.** A very good boy also, and one that has learned well.



The Catechizing of Matthew

74. Then she addressed herself to the eldest, whose name was Matthew;

75. **PRUD.** Come, Matthew, shall I also catechize you?

76. **MATTHEW.** With a very good will.

77. **PRUD.** I ask, then, if there were ever anything that had a being antecedent to, or before God?

78. **MATT.** No; for God is eternal; nor is there anything excepting Himself, that had a being until the beginning of the first day. "For in six days the Lord made Heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is."

79. **PRUD.** What do you think of the Bible?

80. **MATT.** It is the holy Word of God.

81. **PRUD.** Is there nothing written therein but what you understand?

82. **MATT.** Yes. A great deal.

83. **PRUD.** What do you do when you meet with such places therein that you do not understand?

84. **MATT.** I think God is wiser than I. I pray also that He will please to let me know all therein that He knows will be for my good.¹⁰

85. **PRUD.** How believe you, as touching the resurrection of the dead?

86. **MATT.** I believe they shall rise, the same that was buried; the same in nature, though not in cor-

¹⁰ Though this is answered with the simplicity of a child: yet it is, and ever will be, the language of every father in Christ. Happy those whose spirits are cast into this humble, evangelical mould! O that this spirit may accompany us in all our researches, ways, and through all our days.

ruption. And I believe this upon a double account: **First**, because God has promised it **secondly**, because He is able to perform it.¹¹



87. **PRUDENCE.** Then said Prudence to the boys, You must still hearken to your mother, for she can learn you more. You must also diligently give ear to what good talk you shall hear from others; for, for your sakes do they speak good things. Observe, also, and that with carefulness, what the heavens and the earth do teach you; but especially be much in the meditation of that Book that was the cause of your father's becoming a pilgrim. I, for my part, my children, will teach you what I can while you are here, and shall be glad if you will ask me questions that tend to godly edifying.



The visit of Mr. Brisk

88. Now, by that these Pilgrims had been at this place a week, Mercy had a visitor that pretended some goodwill unto her, and his name was Mr. Brisk, a man of some breeding, and that pretended to religion; but a man that stuck very close to the world. So he came once or twice, or more, to Mercy, and offered love unto her. Now Mercy was of a fair countenance, and therefore the more alluring.

89. Her mind also was, to be always busying of herself in doing; for when she had nothing to do for herself, she would be making of hose and garments for others, and would bestow them upon them that had need. And Mr. Brisk, not knowing where or how she disposed of what she made, seemed to be greatly taken, for that he found her never idle. I will warrant her a good housewife, quoth he to himself.

90. Mercy then revealed the business to the maidens that were of the house, and inquired of them concerning him, for they did know him better than she. So they told her, that he was a very busy young man, and one that pretended to relig-

¹¹ Here is the foundation of faith, and the triumph of hope, God's faithfulness to his promise, and his power to perform. Having these to look to, what should stagger our faith, or deject our hope? We may, we ought to smile at all carnal objections, and trample upon all corrupt reasonings.

ion; but was, as they feared, a stranger to the power of that which was good.

91. **MERCY.** Nay then, said Mercy, I will look no more on him; for I purpose never to have a clog to my soul.¹²

92. Prudence then replied that there needed no great matter of discouragement to be given to him, her continuing so as she had begun to do for the poor, would quickly cool his courage.

93. So the next time he comes, he finds her at her old work, a-making of things for the poor.

94. **MR. BRISK.** Then said he, What! always at it?

95. **MERCY.** Yes, either for myself or for others.

96. **MR. BRISK.** And what canst thou earn a day?

97. **MERCY.** I do these things, that I may be rich in good works, laying up in store a good foundation against the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life.

98. **MR. BRISK.** Why, pr'ythee, what dost thou with them?

99. **MERCY.** Clothe the naked.

100. With that his countenance fell. So he forbore to come at her again; and when he was asked the reason why, he said, that Mercy was a pretty lass, but troubled with ill conditions.¹³

101. When he had left her, **PRUDENCE** said, Did I not tell thee, that Mr. Brisk would soon forsake thee? yea, he will raise up an ill report of thee; for, notwithstanding his pretence to religion, and his seeming love to Mercy, yet Mercy and he are

¹² Most blessed resolution! Ah, pilgrims, if ye were more wary, lest, by your choice and conduct, ye brought clogs to your souls, how many troubles would ye escape, and how much more happy would you be, in your pilgrimage! It is for want of this wisdom and conduct, that many bring evil upon themselves.

¹³ How easily are the best of characters traduced, and false constructions put upon the best of actions! Reader, is this your lot also? Mind your duty. Look to your Lord. Persevere in his works and ways; and leave your character with him, to whom you can trust your soul. For if God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall harm us, if we be followers of that which is good?

of tempers so different, that I believe they will never come together.

102. **MERCY.** I might have had husbands afore now, though I spake not of it to any; but they were such as did not like my conditions, though never did any of them find fault with my person. So they and I could not agree.

103. **PRUD.** Mercy in our days is little set by, any further than as to its name; the practice, which is set forth by thy conditions, there are but few that can abide.

104. **MERCY.** Well, said Mercy, if nobody will have me, I will die a maid, or my conditions shall be to me as a husband. For I cannot change my nature; and to have one that lies cross to me in this, that I purpose never to admit of as long as I live. I had a sister named Bountiful, that was married to one of these churls; but he and she could never agree; but because my sister was resolved to do as she had begun, that is, to show kindness to the poor, therefore her husband first cried her down at the cross, and then turned her out of his doors.

105. **PRUD.** And yet he was a professor, I warrant you.

106. **MERCY.** Yes, such a one as he was, and of such as he, the world is now full; but I am for none of them all.¹⁴



Matthew Falls Sick

107. Now Matthew, the eldest son of Christiana, fell sick, and his sickness was sore upon him, for he was much pained in his bowels, so that he was with it, at times, pulled as it were both ends together.¹⁵ There dwelt also not far from thence,

¹⁴ Though we are to beware of a censorious spirit in regard to professors, yet when they give sad evidence by their walk, that they are not what they profess to be, humble, holy followers of the Lamb, we are by no means to be deceived by them. For we have an unerring rule laid down by our Lord, to judge of them, "Ye shall know them by their fruits" (Matt. vii. 16), yea, and we ought to be faithful to them too, by reproving them in the spirit of humility and love. O that more of this prevailed!

¹⁵ See the effects of sin. It will pinch and gripe the conscience, and make the heart of a gracious soul sick.

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one Mr. Skill, an ancient and well approved physician. So Christiana desired it, and they sent for him, and he came. When he was entered the room, and had a little observed the boy, he concluded that he was sick of the gripes. Then he said to his mother, what diet has Matthew of late fed upon?

108. **CHRIST.** Diet,-- nothing but that which is wholesome.

109. **MR. SKILL.** The physician answered, This boy has been tampering with something that lies in his maw undigested, and that will not away without means. And I tell you, he must be purged, or else he will die.

110. **SAM.** Then said Samuel, Mother, mother, what was that which my brother did gather up and eat, so soon as we were come from the gate that is at the head of this way? You know that there was an orchard on the left hand, on the other side of the wall, and some of the trees hung over the wall, and my brother did plash and did eat.¹⁶

111. **CHRIST.** True, my child, said Christiana, he did take thereof, and did eat; naughty boy as he was, I did chide him, and yet he would eat thereof.

112. **SKILL.** I knew he had eaten something that was not wholesome food; and that food, to wit, that fruit, is even the most hurtful of all. It is the fruit of Beelzebub's orchard. I do marvel that none did warn you of it; many have died thereof.¹⁷

113. **CHRIST.** Then Christiana began to cry; and she said, O naughty boy! and O careless mother! What shall I do for my son!

¹⁶ See how useful pilgrims may be, in faithfully reminding each other of their conduct. Though this sin was committed some time past, and neither Matthew nor his mother thought of it, yet it must be brought to light, and repented of.

¹⁷ Here is conviction for the mother, in not warning of sin, and chiding for it. She takes it home, falls under the sense of it, and is grieved for it. A tender conscience is a blessed sign of a gracious heart. Ye parents, who know the love of Christ, watch over your children: see to it, lest ye smart for their sins, in not warning and teaching them that the fear of the Lord is to depart from all evil, yea, to abstain from the very appearance of it.

114. **SKILL.** Come, do not be too much dejected; the boy may do well again, but he must purge and vomit.

115. **CHRIST.** Pray, Sir, try the utmost of your skill with him, whatever it costs.

116. **SKILL.** Nay, I hope I shall be reasonable.

117. So he made him a purge, but it was too weak; it was said, it was made of the blood of a goat, the ashes of a heifer, and with some of the juice of hyssop, &c. When Mr. Skill had seen that that purge was too weak, he made him one to the purpose; it was made *ex carne et sanguine Christi*.¹⁸ (You know physicians give strange medicines to their patients). And it was made up into pills, with a promise or two, and a proportionable quantity of salt. Now he was to take them three at a time fasting, in half a quarter of a pint of the tears of repentance.

118. When this potion was prepared, and brought to the boy, he was loath to take it, though torn with the gripes, as if he should be pulled in pieces.

119. **SKILL.** Come, come, said the physician, you must take it.

120. **SAM.** It goes against my stomach, said the boy.

121. **CHRIST.** I must have you take it, said his mother.

122. **SAM.** I shall vomit it up again, said the boy.

123. **CHRIST.** Pray, Sir, said Christiana to Mr. Skill, how does it taste?

124. **SKILL.** It has no ill taste, said the doctor; and with that she touched one of the pills with the tip of her tongue. Oh, Matthew, said she, this potion is sweeter than honey. If thou lovest thy mother, if thou lovest thy brothers, if thou lovest Mercy, if thou lovest thy life, take it.

¹⁸ Mr. Bunyan's great modesty and humility are truly admirable: though he quotes Latin, yet, as he did not understand it, he tells us, "The Latin I borrow." The English is, "Of the flesh and of the blood or Christ." This is the only potion for sin-sick souls. Feeding upon Christ's flesh and blood by faith, keeps us from sinning; and when sick of sin, these, and nothing but these, can heal and restore us. Yet there is in our nature an unaccountable reluctance to receive these, through the unbelief which works in us. So Matthew found it.

125. So with much ado, after a short prayer for the blessing of God upon it, he took it, and it wrought kindly with him. It caused him to purge, it caused him to sleep, and rest quietly; it put him into a fine heat and breathing sweat, and did quite rid him of his gripes.¹⁹

126. So in little time he got up, and walked about with a staff, and would go from room to room, and talk with Prudence, Piety, and Charity, of his distemper, and how he was healed.

127. **CHRIST.** So when the boy was healed, Christiana asked Mr. Skill, saying, Sir, what will content you for your pains and care to, and of my child?

128. **SKILL.** And he said, You must pay the Master of the College of Physicians, according to rules made in that case and provided.

129. **CHRIST.** But, Sir, said she, what is this pill good for else?

130. **SKILL.** It is an universal pill; it is good against all the diseases that Pilgrims are incident to; and when it is well prepared, it will keep good, time out of mind.

131. **CHRIST.** Pray, Sir, make me up twelve boxes of them; for if I can get these, I will never take other physic.

132. **SKILL.** These pills are good to prevent diseases, as well as to cure when one is sick.²⁰ Yea, I

¹⁹ See the blessed effects of receiving Christ, when under the sense of sin, and distress for sin. O what a precious Saviour is Jesus! What efficacy is there in his blessed flesh and precious blood, to purge the conscience from guilt. Lord, what a mercy is it, that though we sin, yet thou art abundant to pardon, yea, multiplieth thy pardons; yea, and also givest poor, pained, broken-hearted sinners to know and feel thy pardoning love. Oh, it is this sense of Christ's love and pardoning grace, which heals, restores, and makes our hearts happy in Christ, and joyful in God! Who that know themselves, and their guilt and wretchedness, can rest without this!

²⁰ I repeat it again: feeding. by faith on the flesh and blood of Christ, keeps the soul from sinning, as well as heals and restores the soul when sick of the malady of sin. Oh, pilgrims, let not a day pass without having recourse to the life and death of the Son of God, and having by faith upon him, who shed his blood to save us, and gives his flesh to nourish us, and who says, "My flesh is meat

dare say it, and stand to it, that if a man will but use this physic as he should, it will make him live forever. But, good Christiana, thou must give these pills no other way but as I have prescribed; for, if you do, they will do no good. So he gave unto Christiana physic for herself, and her boys, and for Mercy; and bid Matthew take heed how he eat any more green plums, and kissed them, and went his way.



Questions the Children Put to Prudence

133. It was told you before, that Prudence bid the boys, that if at any time they would, they should ask her some questions that might be profitable, and she would say something to them.

134. **MATT.** Then Matthew, who had been sick, asked her, Why, for the most part, physic should be bitter to our palates.

135. **PRUD.** To show how unwelcome the Word of God, and the effects thereof, are to a carnal heart.

136. **MATT.** Why does physic, if it does good, purge, and cause that we vomit?

137. **PRUD.** To show that the Word, when it works effectually, cleanseth the heart and mind. For look, what the one doth to the body, the other doth to the soul.

138. **MATT.** What should we learn by seeing the flame of our fire go upwards? and by seeing the beams and sweet influences of the sun strike downwards?

139. **PRUD.** By the going up of the fire we are taught to ascend to Heaven, by fervent and hot desires. And by the sun's sending his heat, beams, and sweet influences downwards, we are taught that the Saviour of the world, though high, reacheth down with His grace and love to us below.

140. **MATT.** Where have the clouds their water?

141. **PRUD.** Out of the sea.

142. **MATT.** What may we learn from that ?

143. **PRUD.** That ministers should fetch their doctrine from God.

indeed, and my blood is drink indeed." (John vi 55.)

144. **MATT.** Why do they empty themselves upon the earth?

145. **PRUD.** To show that ministers should give out what they know of God to the world.

146. **MATT.** Why is the rainbow caused by the sun?

147. **PRUD.** To show that the covenant of God's grace is confirmed to us in Christ.

148. **MATT.** Why do the springs come from the sea to us, through the earth?

149. **PRUD.** To show that the grace of God comes to us through the body of Christ.

150. **MATT.** Why do some of the springs rise out of the tops of high hills?

151. **PRUD.** To show that the spirit of grace shall spring up in some that are great and mighty, as well as in many that are poor and low.

152. **MATT.** Why doth the fire fasten upon the candlewick?

153. **PRUD.** To show, that unless grace doth kindle upon the heart there will be no true light of life in us.

154. **MATT.** Why is the wick and tallow, and all, spent to maintain the light of the candle?

155. **PRUD.** To show that body and soul, and all, should be at the service of, and spend themselves to maintain, in good condition, that grace of God that is in us.

156. **MATT.** Why doth the pelican pierce her own breast with her bill?

157. **PRUD.** To nourish her young ones with her blood, and thereby to show that Christ the blessed so loveth His young, His people, as to save them from death by His blood.

158. **MATT.** What may one learn by hearing the cock crow?

159. **PRUD.** Learn to remember Peter's sin, and Peter's repentance. The cock's crowing shows also that day is coming on; let then the crowing of the cock put thee in mind of that last and terrible day of judgment.



The Journey Resumed

160. Now, about this time their month was out; wherefore they signified to those of the house that it was convenient for them to up and be going.

161. **JOSEPH.** Then said Joseph to his mother, It is convenient that you forget not to send to the house of Mr. Interpreter, to pray him to grant that Mr. Great-heart should be sent unto us, that he may be our conductor the rest of our way.

162. **CHRIST.** Good boy, said she, I had almost forgot. So she drew up a petition, and prayed Mr. Watchful, the Porter, to send it by some fit man, to her good friend Mr. Interpreter; who, when it was come, and He had seen the contents of the petition, said to the messenger, Go tell them that I will send him.

Object lessons

Eve's Apple

163. When the family where Christiana was, saw that they had a purpose to go forward, they called the whole house together, to give thanks to their King for sending of them such profitable guests as these. Which done, they said to Christiana, And shall we not show thee something, according as our custom is to do to pilgrims, on which thou mayest meditate when thou art upon the way? So they took Christiana, her children, and Mercy, into the closet, and showed them one of the apples that Eve did eat of, and that she also did give to her husband, and that for the eating, of which they both were turned out of Paradise; and asked her what she thought that was?

164. **CHRIST.** Then Christiana said, It is food or poison, I know not which. So they opened the matter to her, and she held up her hands and wondered.²¹

Jacob's Ladder

165. Then they had her to a place, and showed her Jacob's ladder. Now at that time there were some angels ascending upon it. So Christiana

²¹ It is not enough that the Holy Spirit convinces us of sin, at our first setting out on pilgrimage, and makes us sensible of our want of Christ; but he also keeps up a sight and sense of the evil of sin, in its original nature, as well as actual transgression. This often makes us wonder at sin, at ourselves, and at the love of Christ in becoming a sacrifice for our sins. And this also humbles us, makes us hate sin the more, and makes Christ, his atonement and righteousness, more and more precious in our eyes, and inestimable to our hearts.

looked, and looked, to see the angels go up; and so did the rest of the company.

166. Then they were going into another place, to show them something else; but James said to his mother, pray, bid them stay here a little longer, for this is a curious sight. So they turned again, and stood feeding their eyes with this so pleasant a prospect.

The Golden Anchor

167. After this, they had them into a place where did hang up a golden anchor, so they bid Christiana take it down; for, said they, you shall have it with you, for it is of absolute necessity that you should, that you may lay hold of that within the veil, and stand steadfast, in case you should meet with turbulent weather; so they were glad thereof.²²

The Mount of Sacrifice

168. Then they took them, and had them to the mount upon which Abraham our father had offered up Isaac his son, and showed them the altar, the wood, the fire, and the knife, for they remain to be seen to this very day. When they had seen it, they held up their hands and blessed themselves, and said, O what a man for love to his Master, and for denial to himself, was Abraham!



The Song of Prudence

169. After they had showed them all these things, Prudence took them into the dining-room, where stood a pair of excellent virginals; so she played upon them, and turned what she had showed them into this excellent song, saying—

*Eve's apple we have showed you,
Of that be you aware;
You have seen Jacob's ladder, too,
Upon which angels are.
An anchor you received have;
But let not these suffice,
Until, with Abr'am, you have gave*

²² This is the anchor of hope. That keeps the soul safe, and steady to Jesus, who is the alone object of our hope. Hope springs from faith. It is an expectation of the fulfillment of those things which are promised in the word of truth, by the God of all grace. Faith receives them, trusts in them, relies upon them, and hope waits for the full accomplishment and enjoyment of them.

Your best a sacrifice.



The Arrival of Great-heart

170. Now, about this time, one knocked at the door; so the Porter opened, and behold Mr. Great-heart was there; but when he was come in, what joy was there! For it came now fresh again into their minds, how but a while ago he had slain old Grim Bloody-man the giant, and had delivered them from the lions.

171. **GREAT-HEART.** Then said Mr. Great-heart to Christiana, and to Mercy, My Lord hath sent each of you a bottle of wine, and also some parched corn, together with a couple of pomegranates; He has also sent the boys some figs and raisins, to refresh you in your way.²³

172. Then they addressed themselves to their journey; and Prudence and Piety went along with them. When they came at the gate, Christiana asked the Porter if any of late went by? He said, No; only one some time since, who also told me, that of late there had been a great robbery committed on the King's highway, as you go; but, he said, the thieves are taken, and will shortly he tried for their lives. Then Christiana and Mercy were afraid; but Matthew said, Mother, fear nothing, as long as Mr. Great-heart is to go with us, and to be our conductor.

173. **CHRIST.** Then said Christiana to the Porter, Sir, I am much obliged to you for all the kindnesses that you have showed me since I came hither; and also for that you have been so loving and kind to my children; I know not how to gratify your kindness. Wherefore, pray, as a token of my respects to you, accept of this small mite; so she put a gold angel in his hand, and he made her a low obeisance, and said, Let thy garments be always white, and let thy head want no ointment. Let Mercy live, and not die, and let not her works be few. And to the boys he said, Do you fly youthful lusts, and follow after godliness with them that are grave and wise; so shall you put gladness into your mother's heart, and obtain

²³ Oh, how reviving and refreshing are these love-tokens from our Lord! Great-heart never comes empty-handed. He always inspires with courage and confidence. Let us look more into, and more heartily, believe, the word of truth and grace; and cry more to our precious Immanuel, and we shall have more of Great-heart's company. It is but sad travelling without him.

praise of all that are sober-minded. So they thanked the Porter, and departed.



The Journey Resumed

174. Now I saw in my dream, that they went forward until they were come to the brow of the hill, where Piety, bethinking herself, cried out, Alas! I have forgot what I intended to bestow upon Christiana and her companions; I will go back and fetch it. So she ran and fetched it. While she was gone, Christiana thought she heard in a grove, a little way off, on the right hand, a most curious melodious note, with words much like these—

175. *Through all my life Thy favour is
So frankly show'd to me,
That in Thy house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.*

176. And, listening still, she thought she heard another answer it, saying—

*For why? The Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.*

177. So Christiana asked Prudence what it was that made those curious notes?

178. **PRUD.** They are, said she, our country birds; they sing these notes but seldom, except it be at the spring, when the flowers appear, and the sun shines warm, and then you may hear them all day long. I often, said she, go out to hear them; we also oftentimes keep them tame in our house. They are very fine company for us when we are melancholy; also they make the woods, and groves, and solitary places, places desirous to be in.²⁴

179. **PIETY.** By this time Piety was come again; so she said to Christiana, Look here, I have brought thee a scheme of all those things that thou hast seen at our house, upon which thou mayest

²⁴ You see, these joyful notes spring from a sense of nearness to the Lord, and a firm confidence in his divine truth and everlasting mercy. Oh, when the Sun of Righteousness shines warmly on the soul, and gives it clearly to see these, it makes pilgrims sing most sweetly, and shout most joyfully indeed! These songs approach very nearly to the heavenly music in the realms of glory.

look when thou findest thyself forgetful, and call those things again to remembrance for thy edification and comfort.

Notes:

