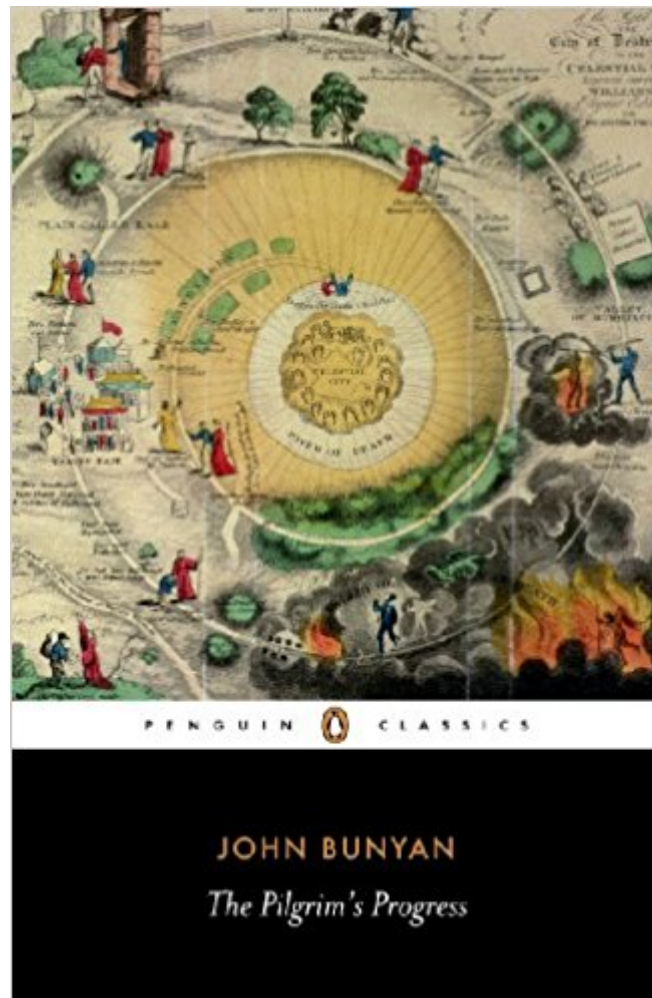




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# The Pilgrim's Progress (Penguin Classics)



## Synopsis

A new edition of one of the greatest allegorical stories ever written—A masterpiece of the English Puritan tradition, *The Pilgrim's Progress* is rich in its imaginative power and its vivid and heartfelt language. It recounts the story of Christian, who appears to the author in a dream, and his journey to Heaven through the trials and tribulations of life. He meets many like-minded pilgrims on his way, such as Faithful and Hopeful, but before they attain their goal they encounter the Giant Despair and the River of Death itself. Translated into more than one hundred languages, *The Pilgrim's Progress* continues to have an immeasurable influence on English literature. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

(in full *The Pilgrim's Progress From This World, to That Which is to Come: Delivered Under the Similitude of a Dream Wherein is Discovered, the Manner of His Setting Out, His Dangerous Journey; and Safe Arrival at the Desired Countrey*) Two-part religious allegory by John Bunyan, at one time second only to the Bible in popularity. It is a symbolic vision of the pilgrimage through life. The first and best-known book, published in 1678, in which the character Christian travels on the

road to salvation from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City, is presented as a dream. Written in homely yet dignified biblical prose, the work has some of the qualities of a folktale, and in its humor and realistic portrayals of Mr. Worldly Wiseman, Faithful, Hopeful, Pliant, and Obstinate, it anticipates the 18th-century novel. In *The Pilgrim's Progress, Second Part* (1684), which deals with the effort of Christian's wife and sons to join him, the psychological intensity is relaxed and Bunyan's capacity for humor and realistic observation becomes more evident. -- The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"This classic has refreshed my spirit time and again when my soul has longed for Christ-centered guidance through a maze of modern detours and diversions. I'm so grateful this special edition of *The Pilgrim's Progress* is now available to not only a new generation of Christians but to believers like myself who need direction and refreshment along our journey toward Home." --Joni Eareckson Tada, A founder and CEO, Joni and Friends International Disability Center; author, *A Spectacle of Glory* and *Beside Bethesda* "If any smoothing of Bunyan's seventeenth-century language plus new colored pictures can set *Pilgrim's Progress* aglow in the hearts of today's young readers, this lovely book will surely do it." --J. I. Packer, Board of Governors' Professor of Theology, Regent College "Every generation is heir to John Bunyan's timeless allegory, and to each generation falls the task of commending this tale anew. The collaboration of editor C. J. Lovik and illustrator Mike Wimmer has yielded a book that could well be a classic for our time. With great care, Lovik has combined the best elements of Bunyan's rich, evocative prose with accessibility for the modern reader. And in Wimmer, Bunyan has met his illustrator for the twenty-first century. The thirty illustrations that grace this edition are a world in themselves-the equal of any that appear in J.R.R. Tolkien's books." --Kevin Belmonte, Lead Historical Consultant, motion picture *Amazing Grace* "If you are looking for a classic edition of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, with a simplified form of Bunyan's original text, traditional color illustrations, and explanatory notes, this is undoubtedly the version for you." --Tim Dowley, Author of *The Christians* "For two centuries following its publication (Part 1 in 1678, Part 2 in 1684), *The Pilgrim's Progress* gained the status of best-read book (apart from the Bible). This magnificent production by Crossway with stunning illustrations by Mike Wimmer should help reinstate Bunyan's classic allegory to the status it belongs. It should be a question we ask ourselves: Have I read *The Pilgrim's Progress*? If not, repent immediately, for in taking up this volume you will find pastoral insights from a pastor of souls to help you discover the biblical way of salvation and aid you in the journey home." --Derek W. H. Thomas, Senior Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, South Carolina; Robert Strong Professor of

Systematic and Pastoral Theology, Reformed Theological Seminary

Atlanta

C. J. Lovik's new edition of *The Pilgrim's Progress* almost takes one's breath away. The text is readable, the notes are clear, and the illustrations are absolutely beautiful. This is a book to be in everyone's library and will definitely occupy a prominent place in the libraries provided for Rafiki's children and adults in Africa. It is a joy to know that Lovik's edition of the Bunyan classic will be read by and to thousands of children throughout the world."

•Rosemary Jensen, Founder and President, Rafiki Foundation; Author of *Praying the Attributes of God and Living the Words of Jesus*"This is one of the best books I've ever read."

•Mark Dever, A pastor, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC; president, 9Marks"The Pilgrim's Progress has long been a favorite of many. Now there is even more to love with this beautiful, updated edition. Editor's notes clarify the ideas in John Bunyan's classic allegory, while footnotes show where in Scripture Bunyan found them. The detailed color illustrations will delight both new readers and long-time lovers of this beloved tale."

•Starr Meade, author, *Training Hearts, Teaching Minds; The Most Important Thing You'll Ever Study*; and *Give Them Truth*"Like countless others, I have been greatly influenced by *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Charles Spurgeon called it 'next to the Bible, the book that I value most.' It has already inspired generations, and I am confident that this new edition will inspire the rising generation. It is refreshingly readable while remaining true to this timeless classic. The illustrations, Scripture references, and study notes make it a superb resource for family devotions and study groups."

•Susan Hunt, former Director of Women's Ministries, PCA; coauthor, *Women's Ministry in the Local Church*"The longer I journey through our dear Immanuel's land, the more grateful I am for John Bunyan's 'dream' and the cruel imprisonment that occasioned it. What a gift weary travelers have been given in this precious, timeless classic-and what beauty, insight, and encouragement was borne out of his suffering! Unafraid to challenge the outward trials of moralism, materialism, and persecution, humble enough to confess his own doubts and despair, Bunyan leads us on our way to the Celestial City we long to see. And what a gift modern readers have been blessed with in C. J. Lovik's careful editing and Mike Wimmer's luminous illustrations! This book is beautiful! *The Pilgrim's Progress* has always been a cherished treasure, but this edition makes Christian's story-our story-sing! I'm so thankful for it!"

•Elyse M. Fitzpatrick, counselor; speaker; author, *Found in Him*"If a picture truly does speak a thousand words, this version of *Pilgrim's Progress* will be the best of all. Combining the beauty of Mike Wimmer's illustrations with this timeless classic is a stroke of genius."

•Steve Murphy, Publisher, *Homeschooling Today* magazine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I love this book, it is a classic and well worth the read whether you consider yourself a "christian" or not, so when I saw this version for 99¢, including the audio narration, I was thrilled and purchased it right away. Then I started to read it, in the prologue there is a note from some priest who has taken it upon himself to pare down the book by removing all of the "sermons" that he believes slow the story down. While that is fine for some people who may prefer this pared down version, it should be advertised up front as "abridged", which it is not. Had I known I was getting a much less meaningful version of the book, I would never have purchased it, which is why I rated it as 1 star.

This classic allegory by John Bunyan is well worth reading with the original spelling, and Scriptures in the margins. Modern editions tend to omit the Biblical citations originally written by Bunyan in the margins, by which you lose a lot of spiritual nourishment, and of course, updating the spelling never doeth any favours. A true classic, second only of course to The Holy Bible. Christian and Christiana's journeys make you ponder the meaning of the Scriptures, and if thou hast a willing spirit, to give thy life unto the only begotten Son of God. Only by accepting Christ as Lord and Saviour canst thou be saved from eternal damnation in the fires of Hell, where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 'For God so loveth the world, that He hath given His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.' - The Holy Gospel Of Jesus Christ According To Seint John 3:16.

The book is used, but in very good to excellent shape. It is a hardbound edition with a leather appearing cover (I haven't tested it). The book seems to be intact and not torn or disfigured. The text appears to be the original text in late 17th Century English. Some of the words and phrases are 'curious' compared to current English, but largely is not impossible or deceptive to read. (The same difficulty applies to the King James version of the Bible and the works of Shakespeare; probably other works as well.) The story is an allegory of a Christian's life, encountering the distractions and perils of life in a hostile, or at least non-sympathetic world. All in all a solid work. John Bunyan wrote this book while in prison for the crime of 'preaching without a license'. In England at the time, a 'preaching license' was issued by the Church of England - under authority of the Monarch of England. Issuance was predicated on agreement with and adherence to the then current teaching and doctrine of the Church of England. John Bunyan didn't agree or adhere. Instead, Bunyan was part of the Reformation movement, leading to what is now known as the 'evangelistic' theory of Christianity; and incidentally to the concept of religious freedom in the sense no one (quasi-political)

group could control religious expression in a nation. One notes the text and story line is fairly obvious. John Bunyan was not given to subtlety in either. Recommended to all Christian believers, but probably not those who might consider Christianity as a way of life. It can be a bit daunting.

Best copy of The Pilgrim's Progress in modern English. The others are large books that are too expensive. I got one copy for me and one for my teenage daughter. We read it together with pauses in between in order to teach her about the Faith.

I have read a lot of books to grow in my faith and to help keep me on the narrow path that leads to eternal life with Jesus and this book really shows you how to do it. Any Christian who is really serious about their salvation should read this book. It encourages, comforts and protects you by giving the truth on what you need to know when you decide to pick up your cross and follow Jesus. We tend to forget how easily it is to be pulled from the narrow road we are on when following Jesus. We also sometimes do not understand the severity on how being obedient is what The Lord requires. This book reminds us how to stay on the narrow road and to not be deceived by things of this world. This was a joy to read and it was so comforting knowing what God has in store for the faithful that choose to follow Him. :)

This is a great Christian classic! It is a straightforward allegory of the perils of the Christian life. The main protagonist is literally named Christian, and he is on a literal journey to heaven. But it is also a great portrait of the struggles of the human spirit individually and the human condition collectively. I would put it with such favorite reads of mine as 'The Hobbit' and 'Watership Down'. Struggle and hope, faith versus adversity, any athlete and/or person struggling with their faith and looking for inspiration can take this book to their favorite quiet spot, and not be disappointed. Any business person looking for motivation: ditto. It deals with virtually every type of struggle known to man. It deals with rejection, physical adversity, hopelessness, doubt, temptations to comfort and ease, guilt, and so on, and does so very creatively. And if you ever wondered where the term "vanity fair" came from, I think this book must be its origin. Vanity fair is an interesting place to visit, but you don't want to live there! It is a must read, and not just for Christians. Look, just read it, okay?

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