

Pilgrim's Progress – Characters & Places

Characters of the First Part [the main ones in capitals]

CHRISTIAN, whose name was Graceless at some time before in his life, the protagonist in the First Part, whose journey to the Celestial City is the plot of the story.

EVANGELIST, the religious man who puts Christian on the path to the Celestial City.

Obstinate, one of the two residents of The City of Destruction who run after Christian when he first sets out in order to bring him back

Pliable, the other of the two, who goes with Christian until both of them fall into the Slough of Despond. Pliable then returns home when he gets out of the slough.

Help, Christian's rescuer from the Slough of Despond

MR. WORLDLY WISEMAN, a resident of a place called Carnal Policy, who persuades Christian go out of his way to be helped by a Mr. Legality and then move to the City of Morality

GOODWILL, the keeper of the Wicket Gate through which one enters the "straight and narrow way" (also referred to as "the King's Highway") the Celestial City. In the Second Part we find that this character is none other than Jesus Christ Himself.

Beelzebub, literally "Lord of the Flies," one of the devil's companion archdevils who had erected a fort near the Wicket Gate from which he and his companions could shoot arrows at those who are about to enter the Wicket Gate.

THE INTERPRETER, the one who has his House along the way as a rest stop for travelers to check in to see pictures and dioramas to teach them the right way to live the Christian life. He has been identified as the Holy Spirit. He also appears in the Second Part.

Shining Ones, the messengers and servants of "the Lord of the Hill," God. They are obviously the holy angels.

Formalist, one of two travelers on the King's Highway, who do not come into through the Wicket Gate but climb over the wall that encloses it. He takes one of the two bypaths that avoid the Hill Difficulty but is lost

Hypocrisy, the companion of Formalist. He takes the other of the two bypaths and is also lost.

Timorous, one of two who try to persuade Christian to go back for fear of the chained lions near the House Beautiful. His companion is: **Mistrust**

Watchful, the porter of the House Beautiful. He appears in the Second Part

Discretion, one of the maids of the House Beautiful, which represents the church

Prudence, another of the House Beautiful maidens. She appears in the Second Part

Piety, another of the House Beautiful maidens. She appears in the Second Part

Charity, another of the House Beautiful maidens. She appears in the Second Part

APOLLYON, literally "Destroyer," the lord of the City of Destruction and one of the devils companion archdevils, who tries to force Christian to return to his domain and service. His battle with Christian takes place in the Valley of Humiliation, just below the House Beautiful. He appears as a dragon like creature with scales and bats wings. He takes darts from his body to throw at his opponents

FAITHFUL, Christian's friend from the City of Destruction, who is also going on pilgrimage. Christian meets him just after he gets through the Valley of the Shadow of Death

Madame Bubble, a temptress who tries to get Faithful to leave his journey to the Celestial City

Adam the First, an elderly man who also tries to persuade Faithful to leave his journey

Moses, the severe violent avenger who tries to kill Faithful for his momentary weakness in wanting to go with Adam the First out of the way

Talkative, a hypocrite from the City of Destruction, who lived on Prating Row, known to **Christian**. Christian and Faithful overtake him on the way.

Lord Hate-good, the judge who tries Faithful in Vanity Fair

Envy, the first witness against Faithful

Superstition, the second witness against Faithful

Pick-Thank, the third witness against Faithful

HOPEFUL, the resident of Vanity Fair, who takes Faithful's place as Christian fellow traveler

Mr. By-Ends, a hypocritical pilgrim who perishes in the Hill Lucre mine with three of his friends **GIANT DESPAIR**, the owner of Doubting Castle, where Christians are imprisoned and murdered. He appears in the Second Part and is slain by **GREAT-HEART**

Giantess Diffidence, Despair's wife. She appears in the Second Part, and is slain by **OLD HONEST Knowledge**, one of the shepherds of the Delectable Mountains

Experience, another of the Delectable Mountains shepherds

Watchful, another of the Delectable Mountains shepherds

Sincere, another of the Delectable Mountains shepherds

IGNORANCE, a traveler who joins the King's Highway on the pleasant lane from his city **Conceit**, he follows Christian and Hopeful and on two occasions talks with them. He is thrown from the Celestial City gate through one of the doorways to hell.

The Flatterer, a deceiver who leads Christian and Hopeful out of their way

Characters of the Second Part [the main ones in capitals]

Mr. Sagacity, a narrator who meets the author in his dream, and recounts to him some of the earlier story of **CHRISTIANA**

CHRISTIANA, wife of **CHRISTIAN**, who leads her four sons and neighbor **MERCY** on pilgrimage

MATTHEW, **CHRISTIAN** and **CHRISTIANA'S** eldest son, who marries **MERCY**

SAMUEL, second eldest son, who marries Grace, Mr. Mnason's daughter

JOSEPH, third eldest son, who marries Martha, Mr. Mnason's daughter

JAMES, youngest son, who marries Phoebe, Gaius's daughter

MERCY, **CHRISTIANA's** neighbor, who goes with her on pilgrimage and marries **MATTHEW**

Mrs. Timorous, relative of the Timorous of the First Part, who comes with **MERCY** to see **CHRISTIANA** before she sets out on pilgrimage

Ill-favoured Ones, two evil characters **CHRISTIANA** sees in her dream, whom she and **MERCY** actually encounter when they leave the Wicket Gate

MR. GREAT-HEART, the guide and body-guard sent by the **INTERPRETER** with **CHRISTIANA** and her companions from his house to their journey's end. He proves to be one of the main protagonists in the Second Part

Giant Grim, who "backs the [chained] lions" near the House Beautiful, slain by **GREAT-HEART**

Humble-Mind, one of the maidens of the House Beautiful along with Discretion, Prudence, Piety, and Charity

Mr. Brisk, a suitor of **MERCY's**, who gives up on her when he finds out that she makes clothing only to give away to the poor

Mr. Skill, the physician called to the House Beautiful to cure Matthew of his illness in eating the apples of Beelzebub

Giant Maul, a giant that **GREAT-HEART** kills as the pilgrim's leave the Valley of the Shadow of Death

OLD HONEST, a pilgrim that joins them, a welcome companion to **GREAT-HEART**.

Mr. Fearing, a pilgrim whom **GREAT-HEART** had "conducted" to the Celestial City in an earlier pilgrimage. He was noted for his timidity.

Gaius, an innkeeper the pilgrim's stay with for some years after they leave the Valley of the Shadow of Death. He gives his daughter Phebe to **JAMES** in marriage. The lodging fee for his inn is paid by the Good Samaritan.

Giant Slay-Good, killed by **GREAT-HEART** from whom he rescues Mr. Feeble-mind.

Phoebe, Gaius's daughter, who marries **JAMES**.

Mr. Ready-to-Halt, a pilgrim who meets **CHRISTIANA'S** train of pilgrims at Gaius's door, and becomes the companion of Mr. Feeble-mind, to whom he gives one of his crutches.

Mr. Mnason, a resident of the town of Vanity, who puts up the pilgrims for a time, and gives his daughters Grace and Martha in marriage to **SAMUEL** and **JOSEPH** respectively.

Grace, Mnason's daughter, who marries **SAMUEL**

Martha, Mnason's daughter, who marries **JOSEPH**

Mr. Despondency, a rescued prisoner from Doubting Castle

Much-Afraid, his daughter

Mr. VALIANT-FOR-TRUTH, a pilgrim they find all bloody, with his sword in his hand, after leaving the Delectable Mountains

Mr. Stand-Fast, a pilgrim found while praying for deliverance from Madame Bubble

Madame Bubble, mistress of the Enchanted Ground, who is the adulterous woman mentioned in the biblical book of Proverbs

Places in The Pilgrim's Progress

City of Destruction, Christian's home, representative of the world (cf. Isaiah 19:18)

Slough of Despond, the miry swamp on the way to the Wicket Gate, one of the hazards of the journey to the Celestial City

Mount Sinai, a frightening mountain near the Village of Morality that threatens all who would go there

Wicket Gate, the required beginning of the straight and narrow way to the Celestial City

House of the Interpreter, a type of spiritual museum to guide the pilgrims to the Celestial City

Hill and Sepulchre, surmounted by three crosses, emblematic of Calvary and the tomb of Christ

Hill Difficulty, both the hill and the road up is called "Difficulty" it is flanked by two treacherous byways Danger and Destruction

House Beautiful, a fine home that serves as rest stop for pilgrims to the Celestial City. It apparently sits atop the Hill Difficulty

Valley of Humiliation, the valley the other side of the Hill Difficulty, where Christian meets Apollyon

Valley of the Shadow of Death, a treacherous valley with a quick sand bog on one side and a deep chasm/ditch on the other side of the King's Highway going through it

Gaius's inn, a rest stop in the Second Part

Vanity and Vanity Fair, a city through which the King's Highway passes where a yearlong fair is held

Hill Lucre, location of a reputed silver mine, that proves to be the place where By-Ends and his companions are lost

Plain Ease, a pleasant area traversed by the pilgrims

By-Path Meadow, the place leading to the grounds of Doubting Castle

Doubting Castle, the home of Giant Despair and his wife

The Delectable Mountains, know as "Immanuel's Land." Lush country from whose heights one can see many delights and curiosities. One can see them from the House Beautiful

The Enchanted Ground, an area through which the King's Highway passes that has air that makes pilgrims want to stop to sleep. If one goes to sleep in this place, one never wakes up

The Land of Beulah, a lush garden area just this side of the River of Death

The River of Death, the dreadful river that surrounds Mount Zion, deeper or shallower depending on the faith of the one traversing it

The Celestial City, the "Desired Country" of pilgrims, heaven, the dwelling place of the "Lord of the Hill," God.