

**Pilgrim's Progress #2**  
**Pilgrim and the Slough of Despond**

This book is an allegory.

**Introduction:** Bunyan speaks of the wilderness of this world. Note how wilderness is used in scripture.

- Dt. 32:10
- Num. 14:25, 34, 35
- Isa. 14:17
- Mt. 3:1, 3
- Mt. 4:1
- Jn 3:14

- I. Main Characters in this section:
  - a. Pilgrim—carrying a great burden, he leaves his family in order to find relief from the burden he carries on his back.
  - b. Evangelist—the faithful pastor, patterned after Bunyan's pastor, John Gifford.
  - c. Obstinate and Pliable—two who accompany Pilgrim early in his journey.
  - d. Mr. Worldywiseman—Pilgrim, to his latter sorrow, listens to this man's advice.
  
- II. Leaving home—City of Destruction (Isa. 19:18)
  - a. Description of Pilgrim
    - i. Burdened—Ps. 38:4 and Mt. 11:28-30
    - ii. In rags—Isa. 64:6
    - iii. Bible in hand
  - b. Despair of family
  - c. Counsel of Evangelist
    - i. Follow the narrow way (Enter the wicket gate).
      1. Mt. 7:13-14; Jn. 14:6
    - ii. Follow the light

**Application:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

III. Leaving fellow travelers

- A. Obstinate and Pliable
  - a. Failed persuaders
  - b. Interested Pliable
    - i. Heaven itself and those there

- ii. Everlasting life
  - iii. No more sorrows
- B. Slough of Despond
  - a. Pliable turns back (Mt. 13:20,21)
  - b. Pilgrim is helped. (I Cor. 11:28)
  - c. Pilgrim failed to see God's promises.
    - i. Mt. 11:28-30
    - ii. Isa. 55:6,7
    - iii. Jn. 6:37

**Application:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

III. Leaving the Path

- a. Mr. Worldly-Wiseman
  - i. Against Evangelist's counsel—too difficult
  - ii. Advises a better way—the village, Morality.
- b. The high hill (Mt. Siani)
  - i. Troubled trek—Ex. 19:16-18
  - ii. Failed trek—Gal. 3:10, Rom. 3:21-24
- c. Evangelist intervenes
  - i. Counsels against the hope of legality
  - ii. Points Christian again to the Way of the Cross
- d. Entry in the Wicket Gate
  - i. Individual Entry
  - ii. Unchanging Entry

**Application:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

**Next week:** Christian visits the House of the Interpreter