



- Let's Review:
  - "The Author's Apology For His Book!"
    - You Are Welcome To Read Along:
    - Or Just Watch & Listen & Enjoy!

- **Play:** - "**The Author's Apology For His Book!**"

4. Before We Look More Closely At:

- This "Apology" - Let's Open Up Our Bibles As Well:
  - To 1 Corinthians 9!
- So - "Apology" Here:
  - Does Not Mean That John Bunyan:
    - Was Sorry He Wrote The Pilgrim's Progress!
- Instead - It Meant That:
  - He Wanted To **Defend** His Writing It:
    - Since There Were Not Only Questions From Others:
      - But - There Were Even Questions In His Own Mind:
        - About This Style Of Writing!
- We Need To Remember That:
  - John Bunyan Lived During The Time Of:
    - What Many Consider To Be:
      - Strict English Puritanism!
  - And - The Literature Of The Day:
    - Was Very Serious, Wordy, And Doctrinal:
      - With Points & Sub-Points & Even More!

\* So - In The First 5 Paragraphs - He Tells Us About:

**1. The Development Of The Story!**

- From The First Paragraph - Bunyan Explains That:
  - It Was Written When:
    - He "Had Undertook To Make Another; Which, When Almost Done, Before I Was Aware, I This Begun!"
  - It Is Believed That The Other Book:
    - Bunyan Was Working On Was:
      - "The Heavenly Footman" - Which Was Based On 1 Corinthians 9:24:
        - "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain!"
- In Fact - The Way He Concludes That Book:
  - Could Also Be A Good Conclusion For The Pilgrims Progress:
    - "Well Then Sinner, What Sayest Thou? Where Is Thy Heart? Wilt Thou Run? Think Quickly, Man, It Is No Dallying In This Matter! Confer Not With Flesh And Blood; Look Up To Heaven, And See How Thou Liketh It; Also To Hell! If Thou Dost Not Know The Way, Inquire At The Word Of God! If Thou Wantest Company, Cry For God's Spirit! If Thou Wantest Encouragement, Entertain The Promises! But Be Sure Thou Begin Be-Times; Get Into The Way; Run Apace And Hold Out To The End; And The Lord Give Thee A Prosperous Journey! Farewell!"
- And So - The Thoughts:
  - That 1 Corinthians 9:24 Suggested To Him:
    - About (P2) - "The Way And Race Of Saints" - Soon Flourished In His Mind:
      - "Like Sparks That From The Coals Of Fire Do Fly!"
        - So That - He Decided To Write Another Book - **This** Book:
          - He Says - For "Mine Own Self To Gratify!" (P3)

\* But Then - He Tells Us Of:

**2. The Dilemma Of The Story!**

- On The Next Page - XXII - Paragraphs 1-6 - Bunyan Describes:
  - How He Showed His Book To Some Of His Friends:
    - Some Of Whom Were Probably There In Prison With Him:
      - To See What They Thought!
  - This Shows That Bunyan Himself:

- Was A Bit Reluctant To Give To The Public:
  - What He Had Written In Private!
- And - How Did His Friends Respond?
  - Some - Approved - Others - Disapproved!
    - P1 - “Some Said, John, Print It; Others Said, Not So: / Some Said, It Might Do Good; Others Said No!”
  - Well - Obviously - Bunyan Had It Published:
    - In Order To See Just How God:
      - Might Use It - Or Not!
      - He Left It To The Providence Of God!
  - But - He Was Still Concerned:
    - About Those Who “Said No!”
      - And So - He Sought To Address Their Concerns!
      - And That’s Why - We See:

### 3. *The Defense Of The Story!*

- From P7 On Page XXII - To - P3 On Page XXIII - Where He Begins:
  - P7 - “May I Not Write In Such A Style As This?”
    - So - Apparently - One Of The Main Objections To His Story:
      - Was That It Was Different Than All Of The Other Christian Writings Of That Day!
        - It Was A Story Book Instead Of A Text Book!
        - It Was Written As An Allegory Instead Of Theology!
    - Well - To Defend His Method:
      - He Wants Us To See How Different Methods:
        - May Be Used - To Accomplish:
          - The Same Mission! Like:
  - The Mission Of The Clouds:
    - In P7 - Rain May Fall From Both:
      - Dark & Bright Clouds:
        - To Water The Earth & Bring Forth Fruit!
  - Or - The Mission Of The Fisherman:
    - In P8 - “Behold! How He Engageth All His Wits; / Also His Snares, Lines, Angels, Hooks, And Nets!”
      - And Even Then - There Might Be Other Ways:
        - Necessary To Catch A Wily Fish!
    - Sometimes - From Pg. XXIII:
      - “They Must Be Grop’d For, And Be Tickled Too!”
  - Or - The Mission Of The Fowler:
    - In P1 On Pg. XXIII - One Who Catches Birds!
  - Or - The Mission Of The Treasure-Hunter:
    - In P2 - For Pearls / Gold!
      - One Interesting Phrase - “If A Pearl May In A Toad’s Head Dwell!”
        - May Have Been A Myth - Or - It May Describe The Beauty Of A Toad’s Eye - Attached To An Otherwise Not-So-Beautiful Head!
  - Bunyan’s Point - There Might Be Different Methods:
    - For Accomplishing The Same Mission!
      - And That Is What Bunyan Was Doing:
        - With The Pilgrims Progress!
    - He Realized That When Jesus Called To His Disciples:
      - In Matthew 4:19 - “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men!”
        - It Meant That It, At Times, It Might Take Different Methods To Present The Same Message:
          - To The Fish We Are Called To Catch!
    - Much Like What The Apostle Paul Said:
      - In 1 Corinthians 9:22 - “To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all [men], that I might by all means save some!”
  - This Does Not Mean That:
    - We Water Down Or Compromise The Truth!
      - It Simply Means That God Allows Different Holy Means To Reach Men With The

- Same Holy Message Of The Gospel!
- For Believers - Not Only:
  - Does God Save Your Soul - He Also:
    - Sanctifies Your Imagination!
- So That Now:
  - We Can Use Even Our Imaginations:
    - For God's Glory & Other's Good!
- And - This Is What John Bunyan Sought To Accomplish:
  - With The Pilgrims Progress!
    - P7 Pg. XXII - "My End – Thy Good!"
  - But - Then - Even Further - Bunyan Explains:

#### 4. *The Design Of The Story!*

- Bunyan Knew That Even His Previous Defense:
  - Might Not Satisfy Some Of His Objectors!
    - So - From P3 On Pg. XXIII - To - P3 On Pg. XXV:
      - He Shows How His Story Is In Good Company:
        - When It Comes To Presenting Spiritual Truth!
    - After All - From P5 Pg. XXIII:
      - "Were Not God's Laws, His Gospel Laws, In Olden Time Held Forth By Types, Shadows, And Metaphors?"
        - Of Course They Were!
  - In The Old Testament:
    - The People, Places, Things & Events Are Given To Us:
      - As Spiritual Allegories / Illustrations Of What The Christian Life Is All About!
        - 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 - "Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; / And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; / And did all eat the same spiritual meat; / And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ!"
  - In The New Testament:
    - P3 - Pg. XXIV - Bunyan Writes:
      - "Yea, Who So Considers Christ, His Apostles Too, Shall Plainly See, That Truths To This Day In Such Mantles Be!"
        - Didn't Jesus Teach In Parables?
          - And So - Bunyan Argues:
  - In This Age:
    - There Are 3 Findings That Not Only:
      - **Permit** Him To Write His Story:
        - As An Allegory - But Even:
          - **Encourage** Him To Do So!
    - After All - It Is The Lord Who:
      - "Gave Gifts Unto Men!" (Ephesians 4:8)
        - And - As Bunyan Writes - P2 - Pg. XXV:
          - "For Who Knows How, Better Than He That Taught Us First To Plough, To Guide Our Minds And Pens For His Design? And He Makes Base Things Usher In Divine!"
      - This Is An Echo Of What The Apostle Paul Wrote:
        - In 1 Corinthians 1:27-28 - "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; / And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, [yea], and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are!"
    - So - Bunyan Believed That The Lord:
      - Could Use Even Him & His Little Book:
        - To "Make [Truth's Golden Beams] Cast Forth Its Rays, As Light As Day!" (P3 Pg. XXV)
      - And So - He Finished His "Apology" With:

#### 5. *The Desire Of The Story!*

- From P4 Pg. XXV - To The End - On Pg. XXVI:
  - From P4 - “And Now, Before I Do Put Up My Pen, / I’ll Show The Profit Of My Book, And Then / Commit Both Thee And It Unto That Hand / That Pulls The Strong Down And Makes Weak Ones Stand!”
  - Bunyan Asks The Lord To Use This Story:
    - As A Guide & A Map:
      - For Every Pilgrim Who Has A Burden Of Sin On Their Back!
  - P5 - “This Book, It Chalketh Out Before Thine Eyes!”
    - Now - Doesn’t The Bible Do This?
      - Yes - Of Course!
- But So Do Other Books - Like Bunyan’s:
  - As They Brings Together God’s Words:
    - To Those Who Have Not Yet Been “Weaned From The Milk!” (Isaiah 28:9)
  - So That They Can Receive God’s Truth:
    - “Precept Upon Precept; Line Upon Line; Here A Little, And There A Little!” (28:10)
- And So - What Was John Bunyan’s Desire For His Story?
  - P1 Pg. XXVI:
    - This Book Will Make A Traveller Of Thee,  
If By Its Counsel Though Wilt Ruled Be;  
It Will Direct Thee To The Holy Land,  
If Thou Wilt Its Directions Understand;  
Yea, It Will Make The Slothful Active Be;  
The Blind, Also, Delightful Things To See!

**Conclusion:**

1. And So - In The Final 3 Paragraphs:
    - Bunyan Invites Everyone - Including You & Me:
      - To Pick Up His Book:
        - No Matter What Our Reason May Be!
    - Because - When You Do So:
      - You Might Be Surprised:
        - With What You See!
  2. Instead Of Smothering The Truth:
    - It Illuminates:
      - “Truth’s Golden Beams!”
    - And - Millions Who Have Read & Studied This Book:
      - As A Companion To God’s Book:
        - Have Found It To Contain:
          - P3 XXVI - “Nothing But Sound And Honest Gospel Strains!”
  3. And As We Close:
    - Listen To John Bunyan’s Final Invitation & Admonition:
      - In The Last Lines Of His Apology:
        - “O Then Come Hither, And Lay My Book, They Head, And Heart Together!”
- \* God Has Given You - Like John Bunyan - An Imagination!
- \* How Will You Use It?
- In Your Meditation Of God’s Word!
  - In Your Mission As A “Fisher Of Men!”

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