

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

PART 11

V A N I T Y F A I R [P A R T 1]



Reading: John 18:33 - 36

Introduction

- In Chapter 9 of *'Pilgrim's Progress'* Christian has found another pilgrim to pilgrimage with.
- His name is *'Faithful'*.
- Evangelist has told them that they will soon have to pass through *'Vanity Fair'* which is not conducive for pilgrims.

1 The Nature Of Vanity Fair

- The chief lord of the Fair is called *'Beelzebub'* (Satan/the devil).
- You can only acquire in it stuff that is useless/worthless in the light of eternity.
- It is where merchandise that means nothing in eternity is offered.
- The Fair offers all kinds of sinful enjoyments.
- The Fair's citizens are liars, thieves, murderers, fools etc.
- Christian and Faithful have no intention of buying anything at the Fair.
- They dress differently and talk differently from those who work and live at the Fair.

- They want to get out of the Fair asap.
- They are subsequently arrested, imprisoned and put on trial for their opinions of the Fair.
- Faithful is executed but God sees to it that Christian escapes.

2 Vanity Fair Symbolises The World

- The Christian pilgrim has a 3 fold enemy: the devil, the flesh and the world.
- What does the Bible have to say about the '*world*'?
- Consider the following Scripture references. [John 12:31].
- Paul: [Romans 12:2], [Galatians 1:4], [Ephesians 2:2].
- James: [James 1:27] and [James 4:4].
- John: [1 John 2: 15 - 16].
- The Lord Jesus: [John 16:33], [John 17:16] and [John 18:36].

3 What Exactly Is Meant By The World?

- The Greek word is '*kosmos*'.
- The Bible uses the word 'world' in a number of ways:
- The physical planet upon which we live.
- The population of the planet. [John 3:16].
- This world's anti God system of thinking and doing things.

Finally

- It was '*this world*' that put the Son of God on a cross and would do so again if given the chance.
- Far too many professing believers like stopping and shopping at '*Vanity fair*'.
- **Beware:** It will kill you too.

Teaching Biblically · Thinking Biblically · Living Biblically

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