

W E D N E S D A Y N I G H T B I B L E S T U D Y

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

PART 8

DEALING WITH LIONS



Reading: 1 Peter 5:6 - 11

Introduction

- John Bunyan's book portrays the Christian life as a pilgrimage and the Christian as a pilgrim.
- The '*pilgrimage*' begins by God's grace, continues by His grace and finishes by His grace.
- This pilgrimage has a final destination - the '*Celestial City*'.
- There are people starting the pilgrimage and finishing their pilgrimage all the time.
- This pilgrimage has to be finished. [Matthew 24:13].
- Perseverance is required. [Psalm 84:5].

1 Don't Be Going Back

- As '*Christian*' continues on his way, two men, '*Mistrust*' and '*Timorous*' are going back afraid of what may lie ahead.
- They are examples of many '*wannabe*' pilgrims.

- Lot's wife looked back.
- The children of Israel, after leaving the slavery of Egypt, even spoke of going back when things were difficult on their journey.
- Consider [Luke 9:62].
- True Christianity has '*perseverance*' built into it.

2 The Lions

- As the path narrows, Christian sees two lions in the way and he's frightened.
- A man called '*Watchful*' tells him not to fear because the lions are on a chain.
- If he stays in the very centre of the path, the lions may roar but they cannot touch him.
- Bunyan and Peter use the metaphor of a lion to speak of the devil.
- Satan goes under a whole index of alias.'
- When we come to Christ, the devil puts a target on our backs.
- Don't underestimate him, he's a formidable opponent.

But remember :-

- God has Satan on a chain.
- God is sovereign, not Satan.
- Satan may roar and threaten but he cannot touch us.
- Consider Peter in [Luke 22:31/32]. The impact of the prayers of Jesus.
- God has given us armour to march in.
- One day God will crush Satan under our feet. [Romans 16:20].

Teaching Biblically · Thinking Biblically · Living Biblically

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