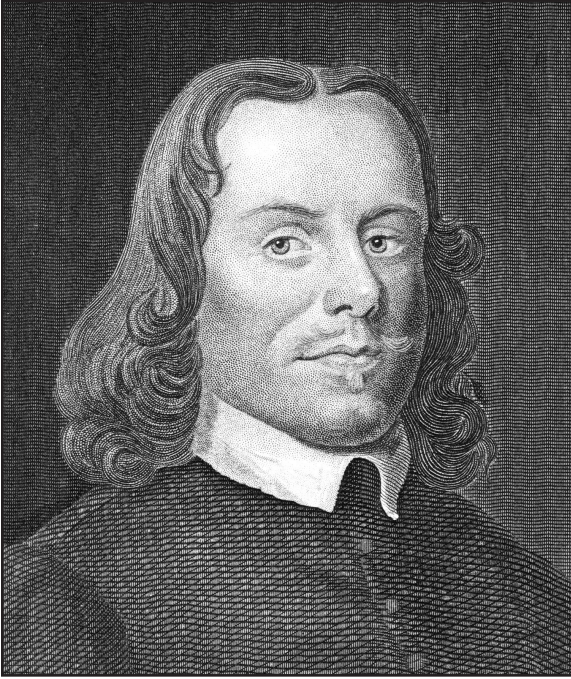


Introduction



John Bunyan was born in the small village of Elstow, England, in 1628. He was the son of a poor tinker (a traveling mender of pots and pans) and received very little formal education. During the English Civil War, he joined the Parliamentary Army. Bunyan moved back to Elstow after the war and resumed his father's trade as a tinker.

In his autobiography, *Grace Abounding*, Bunyan described himself as a reckless, rebellious young man. Nonetheless, after his conversion to Christianity, Bunyan began fervently embracing the teachings of Scripture and passionately preaching. However, because he was preaching without a license, Bunyan was imprisoned several times. During his imprisonment in 1676, he began to write *Pilgrim's Progress*.

While writing *Pilgrim's Progress*, Bunyan drew mainly from his knowledge of the Bible. Thus, there are many references to Bible verses and Bible stories scattered throughout the book. Bunyan also wrote *Pilgrim's Progress* as an **allegory**, a literary device that uses the characters and settings of the story to represent or express deeper truths.

Over 300 years later, *Pilgrim's Progress* still remains a defining book in English literature. It is one of the best-selling books of all time, the Bible being the first. In *Dangerous Journey*, Oliver Hunkin has used the exact words of John Bunyan to depict the journey of Christian as he travels from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City.

Comprehension Questions

After reading the introduction in the study guide and in *Dangerous Journey*, answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Who is the author of *Pilgrim's Progress*?

John Bunyan is the author of *Pilgrim's Progress*.

2. Where and when was John Bunyan born?

John Bunyan was born in Elstow, England, in 1628.

3. In what war did John Bunyan fight?

John Bunyan fought in the English Civil War.

4. What is a tinker?

A tinker is a traveling mender of pots and pans.

5. How did John Bunyan describe himself in his autobiography?

John Bunyan described himself as a reckless, rebellious young man.

6. When did John Bunyan begin to change his ways?

After his conversion to Christianity, John Bunyan embraced the teachings of the Scriptures and began preaching the gospel.

7. Why was John Bunyan imprisoned?

He was imprisoned for preaching publicly without a license.

8. What did John Bunyan begin writing while in prison?

John Bunyan began writing *Pilgrim's Progress*.

9. What was the main source that Bunyan used while writing *Pilgrim's Progress*?

John Bunyan used his knowledge of the Bible as his main source.

10. What is an allegory?

An allegory is a literary device that uses the characters and settings of a story to represent deeper truths.

Reading Notes

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| settle his brains | calm his mind |
| wicket-gate | a gate built into a large wall |
| bog | wet, marshy ground |

Characters

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| Christian | Obstinate | Help | Mr. Legality |
| Evangelist | Pliable | Mr. Worldly Wiseman | |

Vocabulary

1. he broke out with a **lamentable** cry mournful, sad
2. Sometimes they would **deride** him to mock or poke fun
3. **discoursing** all the while engaging in conversation
4. the Slough of **Despond** a state of discouragement
5. a very **judicious** man showing good judgment

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What is the name of Christian's city and what does he learn of its fate?
The name of Christian's city is the City of Destruction. Christian learns that the city is
doomed to burn with fire from heaven.
2. What is Christian desperate to get rid of?
Christian is desperate to get rid of the burden on his back.
3. How does Evangelist instruct Christian to get rid of his burden?
Pointing Christian in the direction of the wicket-gate, Evangelist tells him to knock and
await further instructions.