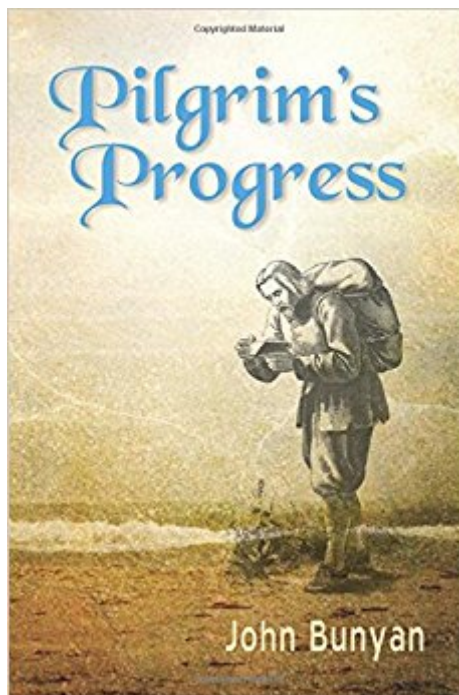




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Pilgrim's Progress (Bunyan): Updated, Modern English. More Than 100 Illustrations.



Synopsis

Often disguised as something that would help him, evil accompanies Christian on his journey to the Celestial City. As you walk with him, you'll begin to identify today's many religious pitfalls. These are presented by men such as Pliable, who turns back at the Slough of Despond; and Ignorance, who believes he's a true follower of Christ when he's really only trusting in himself. Each character represented in this allegory is intentionally and profoundly accurate in its depiction of what we see all around us, and unfortunately, what we too often see in ourselves. But while Christian is injured and nearly killed, he eventually prevails to the end. So can you. The best part of this book is the Bible verses added to the text. The original Pilgrim's Progress listed the Bible verse references, but the verses themselves are so impactful when tied to the scenes in this allegory, that they are now included within the text of this book. The text is tweaked just enough to make it readable today, for the young and the old. Youngsters in particular will be drawn to the original illustrations included in this wonderful classic.

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Customer Reviews

Often disguised as something that would help him, evil accompanies Christian on his journey to the Celestial City. As you walk with him, you'll begin to identify today's many religious pitfalls. These are presented by men such as Pliable, who turns back at the Slough of Despond; and Ignorance, who believes he's a true follower of Christ when he's really only trusting in himself. Each character represented in this allegory is intentionally and profoundly accurate in its depiction of what we see

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John Bunyan was born November 1628, in Elstow, England. A celebrated English minister and preacher, he wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678), the book that was the most characteristic expression of the Puritan religious outlook. His other works include doctrinal and controversial writings; a spiritual autobiography, *Grace Abounding* (1666); and the allegory *The Holy War* (1682).

Pilgrim's Progress is a classic that is just as powerful today as it was when it was first written in 1678. If you are like me though, you have struggled with the reading of this beloved book. The way we speak now has changed a lot through the years and sometimes picking up a book from a different time period can be challenging to read. I am excited to tell you about the new publication of *Pilgrim's Progress*. It is updated, in Modern English, but still has the original illustrations. This made such a huge difference for me. What an enjoyable read it was! I did find myself, especially at the beginning, comparing it to the original text. I wanted to see for myself how much it was changed and amazingly, very little. It's tweaked just enough to make it easy to read for today's readers. Another very unique feature about this new publication is the Bible verses that are added to the text. I'm not talking about just a Bible reference either. Entire verses including where they are found in the Bible are throughout the whole book. For example: In my dream, I saw a man clothed with rags standing in a certain place, with his face turned from his own house. In his hand he held a book, and he bore a great burden upon his back. (For my iniquities are gone over my head; as a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. -Psalm 38:4) This was such an amazing aspect for me. It enriched the reading in such a spiritual way. I applaud whoever came up with the idea to do this. I'm sure it took a lot of work and study, but it was well worth it. *Pilgrim's Progress* is not a quick read. It is something to be savored. To be meditated upon. I found myself reading some of the lines/paragraphs more than once. Then I would sit and close my eyes and think on it. If you allow it, it can speak volumes to your heart. What an encouragement for the Child of God! I would highly recommend reading this account of *Pilgrim's Progress* and feel your life will be enriched deeply in doing so. ***This book was

provided to me by Aneko Press in exchange for my honest review.

In this allegorical classic, Christian, who is the pilgrim, represents all that the author considers good Christians. He reads the Bible, the Hebrew Bible and New Testament, and feels that he is carrying a very heavy burden, and he seeks a way to unburden himself of this burden. He is encouraged by an evangelist to go to Mount Zion, and is promised that if he arrives he will be unburdened. The evangelist points out a gate and suggests that he go through that gate. Although his family, wife and children, beg him to stay, he covers his ears and leaves them. Neighbors try to dissuade him from his journey, but he rejects their advice. He is led by a secular man to Mount Sinai and this man tries to persuade him to ascend Mount Sinai and find at its top legality and morality, but the evangelical man returns and warns him that those who follow the way of Mount Sinai are *“cursed.”* Christian faces many difficulties, which the author Bunyan allegorically describes as the difficulties that Christians face on earth. For example, even as he reaches the gate, he is pulled through quickly and told that Beelzebub and his crew hurl missiles at those who try to enter the gate to stop them from doing so. He is then told to follow the straight path and not swerve to the right or left, to enticing by-paths. He is also told that he will have to bear the load on his back until he comes to *“the place of Deliverance for there it will fall from your back of its own accord.”* On his way, he meets the Interpreter who teaches him that he must despise everything in this world. He emphasizes again that the law *“defiled”* man: *“when the commandment came, sin revived.”* So begins the journey of Christian.

This classic of the Christian allegory category is without peer in describing the human condition and God’s answer for the desperation all feel before they encounter the Love and Grace of God in their lives. The outstanding application of the King James Scriptures throughout the story from beginning to end will inspire those familiar with God’s timeless Word, and educate those who never had the training afforded by reading it’s message. I first was exposed to it over 50 years ago, and have since read the biography of John Bunyan, an itinerant tinker imprisoned for preaching without a license back in the mid 1500’s when the Church of England had supplanted the Catholic Church and was being used to control the people. John Bunyan spent years in jail, and while there, God used him to write *Pilgrim’s Progress* and other works. A book everyone should read, you will find an example of all of humanity in this story, the good and the bad, the saint and the sinner, the overcomer and the backslider. They are all here along with yourself.

Long ago I started reading the original version, but quit as it was tiresome and slow going. I consider myself an eager and responsive reader of even some tough manuscripts, but for some reason that one beat me down. I felt it was one classic I should not give up on, however, so when I saw the modern version listed I gave it another go and am satisfied having read it through. I am a true believer, and felt that some Biblical truths were stretched and even amiss, but overall was provoked and pricked by the simple faith examples that apply to my own relationship with the Lord. I believe that anyone of faith who reads this, simple though they may find the text, will find themselves pondering how they stand within their own pilgrimage to the heavenly shore.

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