

Pilgrim's Progress through the Wastelands of Heresy & Revivalism

by William Weeks

It has been many years since the pilgrims Christian, Faithful, and Hopeful trod the soil to the Celestial City. Since that time deceivers have multiplied, and are more crafty in their presentation of error. Religious interest in the time of the pilgrims in our story, Thoughtful and Ardent, has increased and the land has seen the uprising of revivals of religion; but not all are convinced that these religious revivals are genuine or based in sound doctrine. Thoughtful and Ardent encounter numerous adversaries and enemies to true godliness as they travel the same road that Bunyan's pilgrims did hundreds of years before. Preachers like Dr. Smoothman, Mr. Blindguide, and Mr. Save-all espouse their doctrines to all who will listen, and many are happy with what they hear from them. Soon after starting their journey, Thoughtful and Ardent meet fellow pilgrims Feel-well, Love-self, and No-law, who come into the way through the stile of The Hypocrite's Hope, and whose theology differs greatly from their own.

One day while traveling just a little west of Pilgrim Street, Thoughtful and Ardent meet Mr. Bold, one of the leaders in the revival movement sweeping the land. They notice that some of the things taught by Mr. Bold, and the manner in which his revivals are conducted, are troubling to them. They then hear of Mr. Meek, who conducts his meetings in a vastly different way than Mr. Bold, and are eager to hear more of his ministry. Many other adventures and deceivers await the pilgrims as they travel the narrow way to the Celestial City through the Tower of Spiritual Pride, the village of False Peace, Vanity Fair, and a new town which has grown up near the hill Lucre.

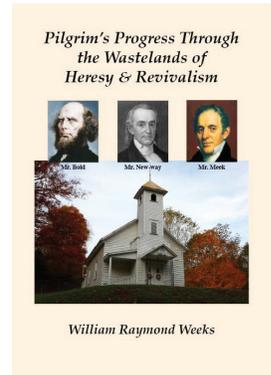
As a chronicle of how we got where we are today in doctrine and practice, especially regarding our evangelistic practices, *Pilgrim's Progress Through the Wastelands of Heresy and Revivalism*, stands as a masterful work which needs to be read by all who profess to be Christians. The main characters in this book are real people and the highly entertaining narrative instructs and informs the reader of heresy and error prevalent in the church today through the eyes of real historical events. Two of the characters are Mr. Bold, who represents Charles Finney, and Mr. Meek, who represents Asahel Nettleton. In these pages the classic struggle which changed Christian theology are recorded by one of the eyewitnesses to the events, Rev. William Weeks. You will recognize clearly the message of today's churches in the narrative story of this book and it will change the way you think about modern Christianity. This book is filled with sound theology and scripture which desimate false theologies from liberalism to modern evangelicalism.

"I am astonished that so much doctrinal, practical, and experimental knowledge, together with such conclusive reasoning against the numerous heresies and delusions of the day, should be thrown into so small a volume. The author has presented a faithful testimony in favor of the disinterested nature of true religion, and against the deceitful and deleterious forms of selfishness, with which our times abound. I deem the book one of the most sensible and useful productions of the age." Rev. Alvan Cobb, of Taunton, Mass.

"The labor of distinguishing between true and false religion is carried out with a masterly hand, in its relations to all the main doctrines and experience of Christianity. The work, in short, is adapted to a broad field of usefulness, by the side of that of the works of Edwards on kindred subjects.

"As a specimen of the author's painting to the life, we might refer to the portrait which he has drawn of Dr. Nettleton. Yet this is not a mere portrait to be admired; but set, as it is, in contrast with opposite characters, it is made to give living instruction. A wide circulation of this book would be a good work for our churches." Rev. Dr. Cooke.

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