

## Week Three | A Burden Lifted. A Journey Begun

### **Scripture Reading:**

Zechariah 3:1-5

### **Summary:**

Having been equipped at the House of the Interpreter, Christian now comes to the cross. He finally loses his burden. Despite this glorious experience of relief, Christian returns to his journey and almost immediately reaches to the Hill of Difficulty.

Christian gives his full effort to making the climb. He finally reaches an arbor where he stops to rest, but this turns into indulgent deep sleep. After being awoken with a fright, he resumes his journey but forgets his scroll at the arbor. Thankfully, he is able to retrace his steps and find the scroll. Finally, he arrives at the House Beautiful.

### **Glossary:**

Timorous     A fearful and timid character who lacks courage.

### **Questions:**

1. What removed Christian's burden, when nothing else could?

2. Immediately, Christian “was relieved and delighted and exclaimed with a joyful heart...” Would you agree or disagree that joyful affections is a sign of true conversion? Are there biblical passages you can think of which support your point of view?

3. Along the climb up Hill of Difficulty, Christian loses his scroll. What does this scroll represent? And how might Christians today also experience the loss of their scroll?

4. About halfway up the Hill there is a resting place. But instead of using the place for quick respite, Christian fell into a deep sleep. What do you think is the meaning of this?

5. House Beautiful is said to be built “for the relief and security of Pilgrims”; it is fellowship with other believers. As such, who or what do the lions represent by intimidating pilgrims from coming into the fellowship?

6. Before being brought into fellowship, Christian is asked about his experience or journey to conversion. Do you think it is important to know if someone is a Christian before welcoming them into Christian fellowship? Why, or why not?