

## **The Delectable Mountains & Beyond** **Pilgrim's Progress #9**

### Introduction:

#### I. The Delectable Mountains

##### A. A place of joy

1. Fellowship with the hospitable
2. A long-distance sighting of Heaven

##### B. A place of warning

Error Hill 2 Tim. 2:17, 18

The By Way to Hell – Esau, Judas, Alexander, Ananias, Saphira

##### C. A place of remembering. Prov. 21:16

The blind man among the tombs. Mk. 5:2ff

God's grace

##### D. Final warnings

The Flatterer – and a note of the way

Enchanted Ground

### Application:

1. In your own experience what have been some Delectable Mountains – conferences, hospitality or the restfulness and worship of the Lord's Day, other examples?
  2. Any of us can err in doctrine. We must take heed.
  3. We cannot go astray and presumptuously believe that God will keep us and bring us back.
  4. God's works of grace are marvelous and humbling.
  5. How often do we take seriously the warnings of scripture rather than depending on our wisdom to get through daily activities?
- #### VI. A Delectable Doctrine – Justification By Faith
- ##### A. Ignorant's Ignorance

1. Salvation by works

- a. I have lived a good life
- b. He is comforted by his feeling
- c. He believes he has a good heart. Jer. 17:9, 10
- d. Believes God will justify him by his obedience.
- e. Christ is not all-sufficient.

2. The danger of salvation by grace.

- a. Individual can sin without worry (Rom. 6:1)
- b. God will forgive no matter what we do.

B. Christian's Counsel

1. Justification by faith

- a. Basic doctrine of the faith.
- b. We cannot save ourselves. (Rom. 5:20, 21)
- c. Our works are but as filthy rags. (Isa. 64:6)
- d. Christ's righteousness covers the truly repentant.  
(Phil. 3:8, 9; Eph 2:8-10; 2 Cor. 5:21)

2. The example of Hopeful

- a. Guilt of sin not satisfied by a false mending.
- b. Confessed his sin and by faith rested in Christ's righteousness.
- c. Words of hope for the truly repentant.  
John 6:35, 37  
1 Tim. 1:15  
Rom. 10:4  
Heb. 7:24, 25, 26

Application:

- 1. Like any doctrine, Justification can be defined wrongly.
- 2. How would you answer one who said salvation by grace alone allows the freedom to sin without fear?
- 3. What place do works have in the Christian's life?
- 4. What, within our culture, lessens the interest of people as to the need to get right with God?

V.     Distraught Christians

A.    Listening to Flatterer

1.    Heed Flatterer's counsel.
2.    Led astray and entrapped. Prov. 29:5, 26, 28
3.    Chastised for their error

B.    Little Faith

1.    Attacked by Faintheart, Mistrust and Guilt.
2.    Robbed of much but not his jewels

Application:

1.    Why are we so prone to flattery?
2.    Areas of spiritual pride in our lives are areas where we are open to flattery. I Cor. 10:12, 13
3.    We can be without assurance of our salvation yet be a Christian. Note those who attack Little Faith.
4.    How can our faith be strengthened?