Pilgrim's Progress Essay

1. Choose one of the narrative scenes for your prompt: write a scene in the style of Bunyan of Christian meeting someone other than who was found in the story or write a modern day scene of Pilgrim’s Progress. One option: write it as a play.

Remember to include the elements of narrative writing: Where is the story set? If writing in the style of Bunyan, notice that the setting could be anywhere and that the characters are not very developed. Since it is an allegory, he is more concerned with the message and strategically places symbols that the characters represent rather than deeply defined characters and descriptive setting in specific time or place. The names of the people, towns, and places are important to Bunyan and do much in the way of describing character and the intended message.

Requirements are as follows: __strong verbs __allegorical names, __allegorical elements, __dialogue, __message

2. Compare and contrast two to three characters from Pilgrim’s Progress which show that the appearance of faith is not the same as genuine religious faith for a five paragraph essay. Remember, there is more than one way to format this essay. Use the text for support. Use scripture to further the argument. This requires a thesis and an outline from which to work. As prescribed by The Elegant Essay, begin with an Introduction with a thesis, three body paragraphs, and a Conclusion summing up the paper. Limit “be” verbs to no more than two per paragraph! Do not use “I” in your paper. Remember to use transitional/comparison words (likewise, however, while, etc.).

3. Write a five paragraph essay exploring the use of symbolism and its relevance to the book Pilgrim’s Progress and its message. Choose two to three symbolic elements and discuss their importance and how they help to convey the intended message of the author. Write an outline, thesis, and use the text for support. As prescribed by The Elegant Essay, begin with an Introduction with a thesis, three body paragraphs, and a Conclusion summing up the paper. Limit “be” verbs to no more than two per paragraph! Do not use “I” in your paper. Do not start any sentences in the same way more than twice in the same paragraph.

4. Knowledge of the Bible contributes to an appreciation of Pilgrim’s Progress. Look up the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:1-14), choose two or three points made by Jesus in this famous passage, and then write a five paragraph essay showing how Bunyan develops those points in the Pilgrim’s Progress. Make sure that the thesis statement is in the Introduction and clearly stated. Begin with an Introduction with a thesis, three body paragraphs, and a Conclusion summing up the paper. Limit “be” verbs to no more than two per paragraph! Do not use “I” in your paper. Do not start any sentences in the same way more than twice in the same paragraph.

GRADING RUBRIC WILL BE TAKEN FROM The Elegant Essay, p. 138 for options #1 and #3; p. 140 for options #2 and #4. Please copy the appropriate one and attach to your typewritten essay. Note the helpful style reminders on pp. 142-143 (tutor will provide copy of these pages if needed).