“Next to the Bible, the book I value most is John Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress. I believe I have read it through at least a hundred times. It is a volume of which I never seem to tire; and the secret of its freshness is that it is so largely compiled from the Scriptures. It is really Biblical teaching put into the form of a simple yet very striking allegory.”

- Charles H. Spurgeon

“Besides the Bible, perhaps the greatest book ever written was The Pilgrim’s Progress.”

- Chuck Swindoll

The Grace Awakening (p. 199)

“He who is nearest to the Bible is nearest to The Pilgrim’s Progress in its comprehensive Christ-like spirit. He belongs to that region where men are neither of Paul, nor Apollos, nor Cephas, but of Christ. And as there is no nationality in that Christ who on His human side is the universal man, so he whose work comes nearest to Christ comes nearest to the universal heart. This is why The Pilgrim’s Progress has found its way to almost every people under heaven.”

- Dr. John Brown

Minister of the Church at Bunyan Meeting in Bedford from 1864 to 1903

“The Pilgrim’s Progress is the only book of its kind that possesses a strong human interest, that while other allegories only amuse the fancy, this has been read by thousands with tears.”

- Thomas Babington Macaulay

“Nowhere, perhaps, except in Homer, is there such a perfect description by the use of merely plain words…The Elstow tinker produced an original thing, if an original thing was ever produced.”

- G.K. Chesterton

“Bunyan was more than an artist; and the Pilgrim’s Progress is more than a work of art. The “similitude of a dream” is also the clear vision of one who had probed life to its depths. It is the statement of and appeal to truths which, under whatever form they may be expressed from one age to another, are unchangeable: that there is but one way; that the difference between right and wrong, between good and evil, is fundamental; that the laws of God are inflexible and inevitable; that ignorance, so far from being a venial error, still less a flaunted merit, is a vice and a sin, that root of all other sins and vices…The Pilgrim’s Progress may be left to produce its own impression.”

- J.W. Mackail

Professor of Poetry

Oxford University (1906-1911)
“The name of John Bunyan will stand in the annals of literature as long as time remains and men are literate.”
- Dr. Harold Lindsell
Preface, Ethel Barrett’s *Holy War* with apologies to John Bunyan
September, 1969

“When Augustine and Calvin and Edwards have ceased to be recognized as authorities, the theology they taught, changed from the abstract to the concrete, will be studied and accepted in the simple adventures of Christian and his family, in the deeds of Faithful and the experience of Hopeful, and in the wonderful sights of the Delectable Mountains.”
- Rev. John P. Gulliver, D.D.
President of Knox College
Galesburg, Illinois
1872

“No man can thoroughly understand the *Pilgrim’s Progress* without becoming an accomplished theologian.”
- Rev. John P. Gulliver, D.D.

“How did a man with no book-learning at all come to write by far the best-written religious book in the English language?”
- Alexander Whyte
*Bunyan Characters*

“John Bunyan remains one of the few supreme master craftsmen of English speech. He took the common clay of our language and shaped it into a thing of beauty and a joy forever. His sentences were as clear as crystals, beautiful as pearls, and vital as blood…No anthology of English prose or literature of the world is adequate unless it gives a place to the author of *The Pilgrim’s Progress* and *The Holy War*…Tribute has been paid to Bunyan’s genius; yet in an age that seldom acknowledges the greatness and grandeur of the past, and too often professes to find nothing in its ancestry but an excuse for the present-day vices, Bunyan may again be reclaimed. He was ever Valiant for the Truth, and never Ready to Halt in the quest for the Palace Beautiful. No Mr. Facing-both-ways was he, but a Greatheart defending the City of Mansoul, a moral leader as well as a master weaver of words; a novelist surprisingly subtle in character study, rich in incident, and prodigal in his plots. In his best work he ranks with the greatest writers the world has known. Bunyan’s crown will not tarnish. His fame will not fade.”
- Rev. J.C. Carlile
Address at the rededication of John Bunyan’s tomb in Bunhill Fields
November 10, 1922
“In the centuries that have elapsed since his [John Bunyan’s] death he has ‘lit a candle’ that gives light and leading to millions of English men and women who still seek to follow his humble teaching.”

- London’s *The Daily Telegraph*
  November 11, 1922