Christian and Hopeful left Atheist who continued on his own journey, laughing as he went. Bunyan saw in his dream that “they traveled until they came into a certain country where the air tended to make strangers drowsy.” Hopeful began to get very sleepy and told Christian he could hardly keep his eyes open. “Let’s take a short nap,” he said.
Christian responded by saying, “By no means! We may never wake up.” Hopeful argues that “sleep is sweet for the man who works. We will be refreshed if we take a nap.” Then Christian helped Hopeful see his error by reminding him that the shepherds had warned them about the Enchanted Ground. Hopeful realized that had Christian not been with him, he would have run the risk of dying.
Enchanted

- **Enchant**, v., to exert magical influence upon; to bewitch, lay under a spell. Also, to endow with magical powers or properties (OED).
- The figurative use of the word means “to influence irresistibly or powerfully, as if by a charm; to hold spellbound; in bad sense, to delude, befool.”
- **Enchanted**, adj., “deluded, captivated as by magic.”
An enchanted forest is a place of magic and danger, a location beyond which people normally travel, where strange things might occur, and strange people might live.
Enchanted Forests in Literature

- *Hansel and Gretel* (cannibalistic witch).
- *Beauty and the Beast* (Beauty’s father becomes lost in the forest).
- *Snow White* (found refuge with dwarfs in forest).
- *Rumpelstiltskin* (revealed his true name in the forest).
- In Shakespeare, forests become places of metamorphosis and resolution.
Enchanted Forests in Literature

• George MacDonald’s *Phantastes* (the hero finds himself in a dark and tangled forest that blots out sunlight and is utterly still, without beasts or birdsong).

• *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (the wild and dangerous parts of Oz are forested and inhabited with animated trees with human-like traits).
Enchanted Forests in Literature

- J.R.R. Tolkien made use of forests such as Mirkwood, Fangorn, and Old Forest to represent enchantment. Remember the Ents from *The Lord of the Rings*?
- Tolkien’s elves are strongly associated with forests in Rivendell, the Elven sanctuary.
- In general, enchanted forests are unknown places to the characters where strange dangers lurk.
Now the Pilgrims enter on the Enchanted Ground. The air of that region tends to such drowsiness that it disposed the Pilgrims to lie down at once and sleep...Sleeping here, there is no safety; for if you give way to your almost irresistible inclination, it becomes more irresistible, you are in imminent danger of the lethargy of spiritual death. Wherefore, beware of spiritual indolence; it is a gradual, but fearful
and powerful temptation. Wherefore, let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober...Pray earnestly to God to infuse more life and earnestness in your devotions, to give you a more vivid view and sense of eternal realities, to wake you up, and to shake you from this sloth, and to make you vigorous and fervent in spirit. This is what is needed.”

- G.B. Cheever
“So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation” (I Thess. 5:6-8).
“For this reason it says,

‘Awake, sleeper,
And rise from the dead,
And Christ will shine on you.’

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil” (Eph. 5:14-16).
Principles Regarding Sleep

• We are to value sleep for its refreshing and revitalizing power.

• Too much sleep involves a culpable indolence which leads to poverty (“Slothfulness casts into a deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger” - Prov. 19:15).

• Metaphorically, to sleep means to live as if there will never be a judgment day.
Principles Regarding Sleep

• *To sleep* indicates spiritual and moral laxity. It means not to be prepared.
• On the other hand, *to be alert* means to live a sanctified life and to be spiritually awake. “The watchful individual has his lamps burning and his loins ‘girded,’ and it is in that condition that he looks forward to the return of the Bridegroom” (Kistemaker).
Principles Regarding Sleep

• *To be alert* implies the habit of regular prayer, including thanksgiving. ("Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving" - Col. 4:2).

• *To be alert* implies that we are in spiritual warfare. ("Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" - I Pt. 5:8).
“Let us look steadfastly to the Lord, and be sober, i.e., let us cast away the cares of this world which burden us with their weight and let us obliterate our perverted desires, and mount swiftly and without entanglement to heaven. This is spiritual sobriety when we use this world with such moderation and restraint that we are not entangled with its charms.”
Sir Walter Scott

“He is one of the many, many hundreds in whom indolence has strangled genius.”
Christian’s Song

When saints do sleepy grow, let them come hither,
And hear how these two pilgrims talk together:
Yea, let them learn of them, in any wise,
Thus to keep ope their drowsy, slumb’ring eyes.
Saint’s fellowship, if it be manag’d well,
Keeps them awake, and that in spite of hell.
After Hopeful acknowledged the wisdom from Ecclesiastes that “two are better than one” (Eccl. 4:9), Christian suggests that they should engage in a good conversation to prevent them from getting sleepy in this place. He proceeds to ask Hopeful, “What caused you to begin thinking about how your were doing spiritually?” The rest of the chapter is Hopeful’s personal testimony of God’s grace in his life.
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

• For a long time, I was excited about the material things sold at our fair (Vanity Fair).
• I enjoyed rioting, reveling, drinking, swearing, lying, uncleanness, Sabbath-breaking, and other things that tended to destroy my soul.
• At first, I was not willing to acknowledge my sin; I did everything I could “to shut my eyes to the light.”
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

- I stayed in my sins because I was ignorant of the fact that God was working in me, I enjoyed sinning, and I didn’t want to give up my old friends.

- Certain things, however, brought my sins back into my mind: meeting a good man in the street, hearing someone read from the Bible, a headache, the thought of dying, and that I would quickly come to judgment, etc.
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

• Then I thought I had better try to fix my life, so I got involved with religious exercises.
• Several biblical texts impacted me: Is. 64:6 (filthy rags); Rom. 3:20 (the law does not save); and Lk. 17:10 (unprofitable servants).
• I realized that I had committed enough sin in one day to send me to hell.
• Then I spoke openly with Faithful.
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

• Faithful told me that he had to obtain the righteousness of a Man who had never sinned.

• Though I heard Faithful, I thought Jesus was unwilling to save me.

• Faithful encouraged me to go to Him and investigate. With that, he gave me a book that Jesus had given by inspiration.
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

• I prayed and asked God to be merciful to me a sinner, and allow me to know and believe in Jesus Christ.
• At first, the Father did not reveal the Son in me, so I was tempted to stop praying.
• However, I knew that if I stopped praying, I would die (something I did not want to do).
• I continued to pray until the Father showed me His Son.
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

• I did not see Him with my physical eyes, but with the eyes of my understanding (Eph. 1:18-19).

• Jesus said, “My grace is sufficient for you” (II Cor. 12:9).

• I realized that I had to “look for my righteousness in His person and for the satisfaction of my sins by His blood.”
A Summary of Hopeful’s Testimony

• The impact upon my life was this: it forced me to see that the whole world, even with all of its righteousness, is in a state of condemnation...It made me feel ashamed for the vileness of my former life...I saw the beauty of Jesus Christ...It made me long to live a holy life and to do something for the honor and glory of the name of the Lord Jesus.
Soteriology

• In theology, *soteriology* is the doctrine of salvation (from the Greek, *soteria*, meaning salvation).

• **Objective soteriology** refers to the redemptive works of Christ.

• **Subjective soteriology** refers to the application of that redemption to sinners.
The ordo salutis (the way of salvation) is concerned with the relation of the various elements in the application of redemption to one another.

- Calling
- Regeneration
- Faith
- Repentance
- Conversion

- Justification
- Adoption
- Sanctification
- Perseverance
- Glorification
## The Spiritual-Decision Process

**Dr. James F. Engel**

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**NEW CREATURE**
"You must picture me alone in that room at Magdalen, night after night, feeling, whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet. That which I greatly feared had at last come upon me. In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England"
A Model for Your Testimony

1. What life was like before I became a Christian (see Acts 26:4-11).
2. What happened when I received Christ (see Acts 26:12-18).
3. How Christ has changed my life (see Acts 26:19-23).
Some Basic Principles

• Keep your testimony short and simple.
• Avoid clichés that are meaningless to non-Christians.
• Try to identify with your audience.
• Don’t glory in former depravity.
• Accentuate the positives of the Christian life.
• Express confidence in your eternal destiny.