

although many biblical allusions and not-fully-worked-out appeals will be found in it.

3. The Influence of the Work

It became a major consultant in the new constitution of 1690 after the Glorious Revolution. Its concepts are seen in the political ideas of Locke SECOND TREATISE ON GOVERNMENT, 1690 although the biblical base is minimized. Its ideas show up in the Declaration of Independence, probably influenced by Witherspoon, as regarding covenant and equality. Addressed for the benefit of those "creating" a new government in England (following the fall of Charles I) it was seen as too much of a challenge to the land in its time and the influence was felt more in the successive centuries. The "Rutherford Institute", named for its author and currently headed by John W. Whitehead, is the chief interpreter of LEX REX today.

4. Some observations:

Although the work was intended as an expression of policy in its day, by being more broadly extended to the hopes of men in all ages, it has exerted this wide influence. The lesson is to avoid what is largely provincial in favor of the issues that are universally needed. In addition, as we will note in other works, it is important that the work be constructive as well as destructive and Rutherford achieved this in practical discussions of how one should act and what course one might take in the face of tyranny.

B. THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS...from this world to that which is to come

1. The author:

John Bunyan was a nonconformist preacher with dates of 1628-1688. He was "self-taught" in the best sense of the word and had a good bit of academic ability..poverty and "caste" prevented his getting much of an education. He fought against the cavaliers in the rebellion and sometime afterward joined the nonconformist church in Bedford. Gaining a personal assurance of grace was not easy for Bunyan...when it came he went to preaching and evangelizing. Unwilling to stop preaching with the return of Charles II, he went to Bedford prison for the greater part of the years 1660-1672. He did much writing during this time including the "Progress". Bunyan was a composite theologically...Calvinist in matters of grace but separatist in matters of polity...and holding many minor diverse things as well. Following his prison release he continued as a dissenter pastor and evangelist.

2. Of the Book Itself:

Envisioned in the form of a dream, the book recounts the journey of an individual believer from ruin to blessing. The Pilgrim is relieved of his burden at the cross and from thereon "perseveres" through a number of difficulties and temptations as well as threats from the Enemy. It is intended to show 1) the force of grace in our lives and 2) the necessity of commitment. It is written to a