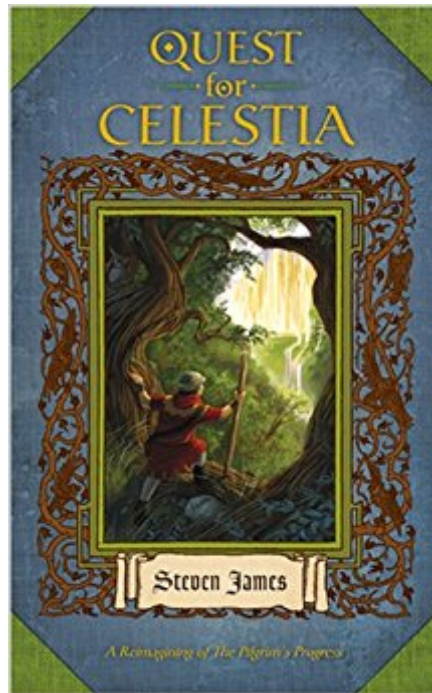




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Quest For Celestia: A Reimagining Of The Pilgrim's Progress



Synopsis

Join Kadin on his journey to Celestia in this creative reimagining of John Bunyan's Christian classic, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Kadin's faith is challenged and strengthened as he seeks to rid himself of the growth on his neck and make his way to Celestia. Steven James uses his master storytelling ability to re-create the life-changing journey of *The Pilgrim's Progress* for readers ages 14 to 19.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When my publisher first approached me with the idea of reimagining *The Pilgrim's Progress*, I was immediately interested--but I didn't want to paraphrase it or anything like that. I wanted to retell the story as a fantasy adventure rather than an allegory. So, I dove into the story headfirst. They loved the concept and we went for it. Hint: This book was out of print for a while. Look for the newest edition, published by AMG, because I altered and re-edited nearly every scene to sharpen the story.

Critically acclaimed author Steven James has written more than twenty books, including the bestselling thriller series *The Bowers Files*. One of the nation's most innovative storytellers, Steven developed his skill as a performer at East Tennessee State University (MA in storytelling). He lives in Tennessee with his wife and three daughters.

This is my favorite book. I love the way it uses dragons other fantasy aspects to parallel the

Christian life. It was a breath of fresh air and an easy read.

This is a must read (or to be read to) book for children in elementary through middle school ages. It is action packed and full of morals and values about good vs. evil. It is in great condition and arrived on time. Thank you!

A great allegory, reminiscent of Hannah Hurnard's classic *Hinds Feet on High Places*. Well written, fast paced, with lessons that are, for the most part, cleverly woven into the story and not too preachy, *The Quest for Celestia* is both fun and thought provoking. A great read and highly recommended!

I decided to read this because I've never read *The Pilgrim's Progress* (first published more than 300 years ago) but often wondered what it was about. So I can't compare it to the original but I assume that all the elements are there. It's basically a simple tale of a young man's quest to reach a fabled city of peace and happiness, and is also a subtle analogy for a person's search for God. But don't get the wrong idea here; this isn't a religious book. It's a great tale for anyone who enjoys fantasy, and the wisdom in it is universal, important for everyone regardless of their religious persuasion. The story begins when 18-year-old Kadin meets someone believed to be a dangerous wizard. The 'wizard' is run out of town, but not before he gives Kadin a book that is supposed to be evil. Kadin tries to get rid of it, but the book keeps returning until eventually he reads it. The words change his life. He learns that Celestia isn't a myth, as he's grown up believing. He also discovers that he has a nasty growth on his shoulder and so does everyone else in his town, though no one else can see it. The only way he can get rid of this disease, which grows more painful each day, is to travel to Celestia where it can be removed. From the blurb - His quest leads him to a fantastical world of witches, dragons, giants, danger, and deception. Tracked by an evil lord and accompanied by only one friend, Kadin must face his greatest fear to find the healing he longs for most. Kadin's quest becomes more than physical journey, it becomes a search for truth, because evil and ignorance often don the disguises of good and understanding. Events reveal what is true and what is not, and Kadin learns, amongst other things, that he must follow the path as laid out in the map in the book, because the easy route is not always the right one. I like the way people's beliefs are shown to be merely beliefs about the world, not the way the world actually is, even though they swear that what they live by is the truth. In this book, the Christians (as in Kadin and his friends) are shown to have the real truth, but in our world, it could just as easily be Christians whose beliefs don't match reality.

I guess it depends on how you see reality, or perhaps which reality you believe in. Thinking about it may even lead you to believe that there is no absolute reality. Such is the thought provoking nature of this book. The characters are well developed and easy to relate to. Their actions and relationships with each other are believable and their motivations are clear. The ending is inspiring and heart-warming. I would buy this for kids and teens of all ages because it is an exciting, well written story and has the added benefit of some real wisdom in it.

Quest for Celestia was a great read! I wasn't too sure if I'd like it, but once I read a couple chapters, I was into the story and ended up loving it! Ever since I began reading the Patrick Bowers Files, in 2011, Steven James has been one of my favorite authors. I've enjoyed all ten fiction novels I've read of his, including Quest for Celestia. This book had a different feel to it than the other books (as can be expected, since they are thrillers and this is a fantasy/reimagining of The Pilgrim's Progress). Overall, I loved reading this book! I'm so glad I decided to buy it earlier this month. I recommend Quest for Celestia to anyone that typically enjoys these types of reads. I am eagerly anticipating the release of Steven James' upcoming books, Checkmate (Patrick Bowers Files) and Blur (Blur Trilogy). *I did not get this for review. I purchased my copy. As always, all thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.*

There is only one story that really matters: THE story of God reaching down into history to redeem a people for Himself. We live in that story, as we journey as vagabonds toward heaven. Four hundred years ago, a prisoner in an English jail retold THE story in such a fresh and masterful way that his words have been a bestseller ever since. That prisoner, of course, was John Bunyan, and his retelling of THE story was his masterpiece Pilgrim's Progress. Now, a master storyteller of our generation has taken his turn at retelling THE story with the novel Quest for Celestia: A Reimagining of the Pilgrim's Progress. Patterned after the manner of Pilgrim's Progress, Quest for Celestia follows a young man, Kadin, as his eyes are opened to a great quest to visit a glorious city. His perilous journey takes him through the same type of allegorical adventures and dangers that echo both Bunyan and every Christian's life. Written in a fast-paced first-person style, this novel is an easy read akin to the Chronicles of Narnia. It has both a male and female protagonist with a mild dash of romance thrown in to better appeal to readers of both sexes. Entertaining and inspiring, Quest for Celestia is a great read for young and old, both those familiar with Bunyan's original masterpiece and those new to the genre of imaginative retellings of God's redemptive story.

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