

Answers to the canterbury tales literature guide

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Why does the group make its pilgrimage in April? However, Chaucer also wryly notes that the pilgrims opt to go to Canterbury in April, when people “long to go on pilgrimages.” In other words, the good weather more than any particular spiritual conviction motivates the pilgrimage, implying a potential lack of depth in the characters' spiritual commitment.

Why are the pilgrims going to Canterbury? During the Middle Ages thousands of pilgrims came on a journey to Canterbury each year to visit the shrine of Thomas Becket to pray and seek help for their problems. Many would come long distances, including from all over Europe. Some would come on foot, while those who could afford it might ride on horseback.

What time of year do the pilgrims go to Canterbury? Geoffrey Chaucer in The Canterbury Tales suggests that April is the time to go on pilgrimage to Canterbury, where was maintained the famous shrine to St Thomas Becket. Many started from Winchester, where a shrine contained St Swithun's body.

What are the characters in The Canterbury Tales going on a pilgrimage to Canterbury? The use of a pilgrimage as the framing device enabled Chaucer to bring together people from many walks of life: knight, prioress, monk; merchant, man of law, franklin, scholarly clerk; miller, reeve, pardoner; wife of Bath and many others.

What is the symbolic significance of the pilgrimage occurs in April? The pilgrimage begins in April, when all of nature is starting to flower and people are experiencing reawakening of both religious and sexual zeal. Springtime appears as a

symbol of both courtly and erotic love throughout many of the Tales.

Why didn't Chaucer finish The Canterbury Tales? “He was searching for a new mode of romance writing,” she says. But Chaucer's experimentation is also the reason he never would have finished “The Squire's Tale,” she says. The tale, in short, is random, and the problems with the narrative were unfixable.

How does Geoffrey Chaucer portray the idea of pilgrimage? Answer: In “The Prologue to The Canterbury Tales,” Chaucer uses the pilgrimage as a device to bring together a diverse group of people from different social classes and backgrounds, who would not have otherwise interacted, and present them as storytelling.

What does the Prioress seem most concerned with? What does she seem to be more preoccupied with than religion? The word, counterfeit, reveals Chaucer's attitude toward the Prioress, who appears to be fake. Her attempt to seem dignified shows that she is preoccupied with social status rather than religion.

Why is the knight going on the pilgrimage in The Canterbury Tales? He has served the Christian God by fighting in the crusades, and now, goes to pay homage to a Christian saint in Canterbury, another show of the Knight's unwavering beliefs and faith.

Do people still make pilgrimages to Canterbury? Today, pilgrims still follow the Pilgrim's Way but now it is a designated route, one coming down from Southwark and the other across from Winchester.

What does the host say will happen at the end of the pilgrims journey? Whomever the Host decides has told the most meaningful and comforting stories will receive a meal paid for by the rest of the pilgrims upon their return. The Host also declares that he will ride with the pilgrims and serve as their guide at his own cost.

Which character is a corrupt church official in The Canterbury Tales? In this case, Chaucer's Friar in The Canterbury Tales is corrupt. He behaves in quite the opposite manner of his title's definition. While he does beg very well, using his lisp to add sympathy to his cause, the Friar keeps the money for himself and refuses to live in poverty.

What is the main message of Canterbury Tales? "The Canterbury Tales" main theme is renewal. The story is set in spring, which symbolizes new life, and the pilgrims are on a journey seeking spiritual renewal.

Who is the only pilgrim not described in the prologue? Chaucer. Chaucer is both the narrator and a character in The Canterbury Tales; however, he presents a fictional version of himself, who is far more foolish than Chaucer, the author. Chaucer is a pilgrim, but he does not offer a description of himself; instead, the reader gets to know Chaucer through his narration.

Who is the nun in the prologue to the Canterbury Tales? The Nun in The Canterbury Tales is one of the twenty-nine pilgrims making the journey to Canterbury. The narrator describes the Nun, whose real name is Madame Eglantine, as looking very humble and having excellent manners when eating.

Why do people go on pilgrimages in April? The pilgrimage takes place in April (the spring), just as the weather begins to get sunnier and warmer. Chaucer explains that while the plants begin to sprout, grow and recover from the droughts of March, the people are preparing to go on their pilgrimage to Canterbury and are recovering from the frigid winter.

Why do the Pilgrims choose the month of April? The first day of spring occurs in the later half of the month of March, so April puts the travelers on their pilgrimage in early spring. This time of year is appropriate for a pilgrimage for a couple of reasons. First, weather improves in the spring. Winter is a harsh time to travel because of the colder temperatures.

What was the reason for the pilgrimage? Seeking forgiveness By the thirteenth century, the idea of the pilgrimage as penance had developed and taken root in the church as was recognised as a legitimate form of penance. The bishop could impose a penance for a serious ecclesiastical crime and the pilgrimage was a favourite form.

What is the purpose of going on a pilgrimage? Journeying to a place of special significance plays a part in almost all cultures and religions (see Place and Journey in Cultures and Faiths Worldwide). The goal may be a site given prominence by particular events, the shrine of a saint or other significant figure, or a remarkable

geographical feature.

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