

CHRONOLOGY OF JOHN BUNYAN'S LIFE,

PUBLICATIONS AND TIMES

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- 1628** Bunyan born at Elstow, near Bedford (baptized 30 November), the eldest child of Thomas Bunyan (1603–76), a brazier, and his second wife Margaret Bentley (1603–44).
(June) Petition of Right, an early attempt by Parliament to limit the royal prerogative, is accepted by Charles I. (August) George Villiers, 1st Duke of Buckingham, a favourite of Charles's is assassinated.
- 1629** (March) Dissolution of Parliament and beginning of Charles I's personal rule (to 1640).
- 1633** (February) William Prynne imprisoned for an attack on stage-plays. (August) William Laud appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. (October) Birth of Prince James (the future James II). Publication of George Herbert's *The Temple* and John Donne's *Poems*.
- 1637** (June) Puritans William Prynne, John Bastwick and Henry Burton are tried and punished (branded and ears cut off) for publishing pamphlets against episcopacy. (July) Riots in Edinburgh against imposition of the English Prayer Book. (November) Trial of John Hampden for refusing to pay Ship Money.
- 1638** (February) Trial and punishment (by whipping and imprisonment) of John Lilburne, afterwards leader of the Levellers, for 'unlawfull Printing and Publishing of Libellous and Seditious Books'. (November) Abolition of bishops in Scotland provokes military action by the English against the Scots (the First Bishop's War).
- 1639** (June) End of First Bishop's War.

- 1640** (November) First meeting of the Long Parliament. (December) Impeachment of Archbishop Laud.
- 1641** (July) Abolition of Courts of Star Chamber and High Commission and collapse of censorship regulations. (October) Outbreak of rebellion in Ireland. John Milton publishes anti-prelatical tracts.
- 1642** (January) Charles I attempts to arrest five members of the House of Commons. (February) Act excluding bishops from parliament passed. (August) Charles I raises his standard at Nottingham, the official beginning of the Civil War. (September) Theatres closed by Parliament. (October) Battle of Edgehill (indecisive). Thomas Browne's *Religio Medici* published (first authorised edition, 1643).
- 1643** (July) Westminster Assembly of Divines begins meeting (to 1649) to discuss a new Church settlement. (September) Scots enter the war on Parliament's side. John Milton publishes tracts on divorce.
- 1644** Bunyan's mother and sister Margaret die (in June and July respectively). His father remarries within two months. Bunyan joins the Parliamentary forces stationed in the garrison of Newport Pagnell (Buckinghamshire) under the command of Sir Samuel Luke, but seems not to have taken part in much military combat.
(July) Battle of Marston Moor (Parliamentarian victory). (October) Second battle of Newbury (Parliamentarian victory). (November) John Milton's *Areopagitica* published.
- 1645** Bunyan's half-brother Charles is born (in May), but dies shortly afterwards.
(January) Use of the Book of Common Prayer is prohibited and replaced by the Directory for Public Worship. (February) New Model Army is formed. (June) Battle of Naseby (decisive Parliamentarian victory).
- 1646** Bunyan volunteers for service in Ireland, but his regiment is disbanded and he does not serve.
(June) Surrender of Oxford ends the Civil War. (October) Parliamentary ordinance abolishing bishops passed.

- 1647** Bunyan is demobilised (in July) and returns to his father's house in Elstow. (October to November) Putney Debates between Levellers and officers of the New Model Army concerning democracy and the constitution. (November) Charles I escapes from custody. Publication of Leveller manifesto, *An Agreement of the People for a Firm and Present Peace, Upon Grounds of Common-Right and Freedom*.
- 1648** April) Outbreak of Second Civil War (ends August). (December) Colonel Pride's purge of the Long Parliament to secure a majority for bringing the King to trial by creating the 'Rump' Parliament.
- 1649** Probably in October, Bunyan marries his first wife (name unknown); four children will be born of the union. She brings as a dowry Arthur Dent's *The Plaine Mans Path-way to Heaven* (1601) and Lewis Bayly's *The Practise of Pietie* (1612?). Bunyan attends the parish church in Elstow, but feels himself to be a grievous sinner and endures what will be a prolonged period of spiritual crisis (lasting until about 1655), subsequently described in *Grace Abounding* (1666). (January) Trial and execution of Charles I. (February) Abolition of the monarchy and the House of Lords. Milton publishes *The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates*, defending the regicide. (April) Gerrard Winstanley's Diggers establish communities in Surrey. (May) Act declaring England a republic ('the Commonwealth') is passed. Leveller mutiny suppressed by Fairfax and Cromwell at Burford, Oxfordshire. (August–October) Cromwell's campaign in Ireland.
- 1650** Birth of Bunyan's first child Mary (baptized 20 July), who is blind. He experiences a spiritual awakening after hearing 'three or four poor women' in Bedford talking about their religious beliefs, and begins attending the separatist open-communion Baptist congregation of John Gifford in Bedford. Around this time he comes into contact with Ranters. (July–September) Cromwell invades Scotland and defeats Scots at Dunbar. Act repealing all laws compelling attendance at the Church of England is passed.
- 1651** (January) Charles II crowned at Scone in Scotland. (September) Cromwell defeats Charles II and the Scots at Worcester. Charles II begins exile in France (to 1660). Publication of Thomas Hobbes's *Leviathan*.

- 1652** (May) Beginning of First Anglo-Dutch War (lasts until 1654). Publication of Gerrard Winstanley's *The Law of Freedom in a Platform*.
- 1653** (April) Cromwell forcibly dissolves the Rump Parliament. (July) Meeting of the Nominated ('Barebones') Parliament (resigns December). (December) Cromwell becomes Lord Protector. Publication of Margaret Cavendish's *Poems, and Fancies*. First tracts by Quakers are published.
- 1654** (September) Opening of first Protectorate Parliament. Publication of John Milton's *Second Defence of the English People*.
- 1655** Bunyan moves from Elstow to Bedford. He is admitted a full member of the Bedford congregation, possibly after accepting baptism by total immersion, and begins to preach, first to the Bedford congregation and then more widely. Death of John Gifford, succeeded as pastor of the Bedford congregation by John Burton.
(August) Rule of the Major-Generals established. (December) Cromwell allows readmission of Jews to England.
- 1656** On at least three occasions, Bunyan engages in public controversy with the Quakers. His first published work, *Some Gospel-Truths Opened According to the Scriptures*, is an attack on the Quakers. It is responded to by Edward Burrough in *The True Faith of the Gospel of Peace Contended for, in the Spirit of Meekness* (1656).
(September) Opening of second Protectorate Parliament following the exclusion of over 100 MPs by the Protectorate council. (October) James Naylor, a Quaker, is arrested and charged with blasphemy for reenacting the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Publication of Margaret Cavendish's *Natures Pictures*. Publication of James Harrington's *The Commonwealth of Oceana*.
- 1657** Publication of Bunyan's second work, *A Vindication of the Book Called, Some Gospel-Truths Opened*, a rejoinder to Edward Burrough's *The True Faith of the Gospel of Peace*. Burrough replies in *Truth (the Strongest of All) Witnessed Forth in the Spirit of Truth, Against All Deceit* (1657).
(April) A planned Fifth Monarchist uprising in London led by Thomas Venner is foiled and the conspirators imprisoned. (May) Cromwell refuses the crown.

1658 Publication of *A Few Sighs from Hell*, an attack on professional clergy and the rich which became one of Bunyan's most popular non-fiction works. Death of Bunyan's first wife.

(September) Death of Oliver Cromwell. Richard Cromwell becomes Lord Protector. Publication of Richard Allestree's *The Whole Duty of Man*.

1659 Publication of *The Doctrine of the Law and Grace Unfolded*, Bunyan's most important exposition of his theological principles. He marries his second wife, Elizabeth (three children born of the union). No copies have survived of a tract he apparently writes in support of a woman accusing Quakers of witchcraft, but it is replied to by the Quaker James Blackley, in *A Lying Wonder Discovered . . . Also this Contains an Answer to John Bunions Paper Touching the Said Imagined Witchcraft* (1659). Bunyan is also attacked by George Fox in *The Great Mystery of the Great Whore Unfolded* (1659). His right to preach is challenged by Thomas Smith, keeper of Cambridge University Library and Professor of Arabic, at a public disputation at Toft, near Cambridge. He is defended by the General Baptist Henry Denne, in *The Quaker No Papist, in Answer to the Quaker Disarm'd* (1659). On Christmas Day he preaches in the parish church at Yelden at the invitation of the Rector, William Dell, but against the wishes of some of the parishioners.

(May) Rump Parliament is restored by the Army. Richard Cromwell resigns as Lord Protector. (August) Defeat of a Royalist rebellion in Cheshire led by Sir George Booth. (October) Restored Rump Parliament is prevented by the Army from sitting. General George Monk declares for Parliament against the Army, and marches from Scotland towards London.

1660 Death of the Bedford congregation's minister, John Burton. William Wheeler is invited to become the minister, but declines. On 12 November Bunyan is arrested for illegal preaching at the hamlet of Lower Samsell (Bedfordshire), and is sent to prison in Bedford to await trial. His wife Elizabeth gives premature birth to an infant who dies shortly afterwards.

(February) The Long Parliament is restored. It votes to bring back the monarchy and dissolves itself. (April) Charles issues Declaration of Breda, apparently granting religious toleration. (May) Charles II enters London and is proclaimed king. House of Lords and episcopacy are restored. Reopening of the

theatres with actresses on stage. Trial and execution of regicides. Founding members of the Royal Society begin meeting. Samuel Pepys begins his *Diary* (continued until 1669).

1661

In early January Bunyan is tried under an Elizabethan statute of 1593 which had outlawed preaching at conventicles. The indictment charges that he has ‘devilishly and perniciously abstained from coming to church to hear divine service’ and that he is ‘a common upholder of several unlawful meetings and conventicles, to the great disturbance and distraction of the good subjects of this kingdom’. He is found guilty and sentenced initially to three months in prison (but continued refusal to give an undertaking to stop preaching means that he remains in prison for twelve years). His wife petitions for his release at the assizes in August, but her pleas are rejected. Bunyan writes an account of his trial and imprisonment in a series of five letters to members of the Bedford congregation (later published as *A Relation of the Imprisonment of Mr. John Bunyan* (1765), usually reprinted with *Grace Abounding*). His first prison book, a lengthy poem entitled *Profitable Meditations*, is published. He is occasionally allowed out of prison on parole, and even travels to London, but objections are raised and he is subsequently closely confined. He makes shoelaces to help support his family, as well as writing.

(January) Bodies of Oliver Cromwell and two other regicides are exhumed and hung on the gallows at Tyburn. Thomas Venner leads a Fifth-Monarchist uprising in London, quickly suppressed. (May) First session of the ‘Cavalier’ Parliament. Bishops restored to the House of Lords. Corporation Act requiring all municipal officers to swear the oaths of allegiance, supremacy and non-resistance. Widespread persecution of Nonconformists begins. (November) Quaker Act singles out Quakers for special persecution. Publication of *Mirabilis Annus, Or The Year of Prodigies and Wonders* (Second Part, 1662).

1662

Probably towards the later part of this year, Bunyan’s *I Will Pray with the Spirit* is published, attacking the use of the Book of Common Prayer in worship. (No edition of this date survives, but a ‘second edition’ appeared in 1663.)

(April) Book of Common Prayer as revised by Convocation accepted by Parliament. (May) Act of Uniformity, outlawing the holding of a number of Puritan views in the Church of England, schools, and universities. Act to License and Control Printing re-establishes censorship of the press. (August) Ejection from the Church of England of

about 2,000 Puritan ministers who refuse to conform as required by the Act of Uniformity. (December) Charles II's first Declaration of Indulgence is overruled by Parliament.

- 1663** Publication of Bunyan's *Prison-Meditations*, a poem of seventy stanzas; *Christian Behaviour*, a conduct book; and (probably) *A Mapp Shewing the Order & Causes of Salvation & Damnation* (though no copy of this date survives). In December Samuel Fenne and John Whitman are elected co-pastors of the Bedford congregation. Publication of 'Third Folio' edition of Shakespeare's works. Publication of Samuel Butler's *Hudibras* (Second Part, 1664; Third Part, 1678). Roger L'Estrange appointed Surveyor of the Press.
- 1664** (November) First Conventicle Act outlaws all religious meetings not conducted according the Book of Common Prayer. The widowed Lucy Hutchinson begins writing the *Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson*, her regicide husband (completed 1671; first published 1806).
- 1665** Publication of Bunyan's *The Holy City*, a millenarian treatise, and also, probably, his sermon-treatise, *The Resurrection of the Dead*, and two poems, *One Thing is Needful* and *Ebal and Gerizzim* (though no copies of editions of these works bearing this date have survived).
(February) Outbreak of second Anglo-Dutch War (to 1667). (October) Five Mile Act prohibits ejected ministers from coming within five miles of where they had previously ministered or living in any incorporated town. The Great Plague begins in London.
- 1666** Publication of Bunyan's spiritual autobiography, *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*.
(September) Great Fire of London. Publication of Margaret Cavendish's *Observations upon Experimental Philosophy. To which is added ... A New Blazing World*.
- 1667** (October) Fall of Charles II's first minister, Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon. Publication of John Milton's *Paradise Lost*; John Dryden's *Annus Mirabilis*; Thomas

Sprat's *History of the Royal Society*; and *Poems* of Katherine Philips (the 'matchless Orinda').

- 1668** Bunyan is probably writing *The Heavenly Footman* (published posthumously in 1698), but sets it aside and begins writing *The Pilgrim's Progress* (not published until 1678).
John Dryden created Poet Laureate.
- 1669** Isaac Newton appointed Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University.
Publication of Abraham Cowley's *Works*.
- 1670** In May, twenty-eight members of the Bedford congregation are arrested at an illegal meeting at John Fenne's house.
(February) Second Conventicle Act, leading to harsher persecution of Nonconformists. (May) Treaty of Dover secretly concluded between Charles II and Louis XIV, committing Charles to return England to Roman Catholicism.
Publication of Samuel Parker's *A Discourse of Ecclesiastical Politie*; and John Milton's *History of Britain*.
- 1671** On 21 December Bunyan is elected pastor of the Bedford congregation.
Publication of John Milton's *Paradise Regained* and *Samson Agonistes*.
- 1672** Bunyan is included in a list of Nonconformists to be granted a royal pardon and is allowed out of prison in February or March. Under the terms of the Declaration of Indulgence he applies for and on 9 May is granted a licence to preach at a barn in Bedford belonging to Josiah Ruffhead, a cordwinder. The Bedford congregation later purchase this barn to use as a meeting place. On Sunday 6 October Bunyan preaches in Leicester. His *A Confession of my Faith* is published. It includes an attack on closed-communication Baptists who held that church membership should only be granted to those who had undergone baptism by water, and was replied to by Thomas Paul, in *Some Serious Reflections on that Part of Mr. Bunion's Confession of Faith: Touching Church Communion with Unbaptized Persons* (1673), and by John Denne, in *Truth Outweighing Error* (1673). Also published is Bunyan's *A Defence of the Doctrine of Justification, by Faith in Jesus Christ*, an attack on the Latitudinarian clergyman Edward Fowler's *Design of Christianity* (1671). Fowler (or one of his

associates) responds with *Dirt Wip't Off: or A Manifest Discovery of the Gross Ignorance, Erroneousness and most Unchristian and Wicked Spirit of One John Bunyan, Lay-Preacher in Bedford* (1672).

(March) Outbreak of third Anglo-Dutch war (to 1674). Charles II issues second Declaration of Indulgence permitting worship by Nonconformists and Roman Catholics. Publication of Andrew Marvell's *The Rehearsal Transpros'd* (Second Part, 1673).

1673 Publication of Bunyan's *The Barren Fig-Tree*, a sermon, and *Differences in Judgment about Water-Baptism, No Bar to Communion*, a response to Thomas Paul's *Some Serious Reflections*. Paul responds, but no copy is known, and Henry Danvers includes a postscript in his *Treatise of Baptism* (1673) attacking Bunyan for his views on baptism.

(March) Charles II is forced to withdraw the Declaration of Indulgence under pressure from Parliament. Test Act compels all civil and military office-holders to take communion according to the rites of the Church of England. Charles II's brother and heir, James, Duke of York, refuses to take the sacrament at Easter and marries the Italian Catholic Mary of Modena, raising the prospect of a Roman Catholic ruling dynasty.

1674 Publication of Bunyan's *Peaceable Principles And True*, a response to the attacks on him by Thomas Paul and Henry Danvers. Henry Denne replies in *Hypocrisie Detected, or Peaceable and True Principles* (1674), though no copy of this has survived, and some time later William Kiffin also quotes from Bunyan's book in *A Sober Discourse of Right to Church-Communion* (1681). A local scandal is caused when Bunyan takes a young woman, Agnes Beaumont, to a meeting behind him on horseback. When her father dies suddenly, it is rumoured that she has poisoned him at Bunyan's instigation, but she is cleared of murder by a coroner's jury. Bunyan refers to the incident in the third edition of *Grace Abounding*. Beaumont's own account, *A Narrative of the Persecution of Agnes Beaumont*, circulated in manuscript and was eventually published in 1760.

Death of John Milton.

1675 Publication of Bunyan's sermon, *Light for Them that Sit in Darkness*, and a catechism, *Instruction for the Ignorant*. In March a warrant for his arrest is issued in

Bedford, and he apparently goes into hiding for a few months, possibly finding refuge with Nonconformists in London. In April he is declared to have been excommunicated from the Church of England ‘having been presented by the churchwardens for refusing to come to church and receive the sacrament’, and the Bishop of Lincoln procures a writ *de excommunicato capiendo* under which Bunyan is arrested the following December.

(February) Charles II cancels the licences to preach granted under the Declaration of Indulgence of 1673. Rebuilding of St Paul’s Cathedral by Christopher Wren begins (completed 1711).

1676 Publication of two sermon-treatises by Bunyan, *The Strait Gate*, and *Saved by Grace*. His father dies. Beginning of his second imprisonment, December 1676 to June 1677.

George Etherege, *The Man of Mode*. Bishop Henry Compton’s census of religious nonconformity.

1677 Bunyan is released from prison in June, probably owing to the intervention of John Owen who obtained an order from the chancellor, Heneage Lord Finch directing the Bishop of Lincoln to liberate Bunyan.

(October) William of Orange is betrothed to Mary, daughter of James, Duke of York and his wife, the late Ann Hyde, daughter of the Earl of Clarendon. Publication of Andrew Marvell’s *An Account of the Growth of Popery, and Arbitrary Government*, and of Aphra Behn’s *The Rover*.

1678 In February, Nathaniel Ponder publishes the first part of *The Pilgrim’s Progress*. Shortly afterwards, *Come, & Welcome, to Jesus Christ* is published, and becomes one of Bunyan’s most popular non-fiction works.

(August) Allegations begin to circulate of a ‘Popish Plot’ to assassinate Charles II.

(October) Charles II issues anti-Catholic proclamations. The murder of Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey leads to a wave of anti-Catholic hysteria. (November–December) Four people (including the former secretary of the Duke of York) are executed for allegedly taking part in the Popish Plot (and a further 35 people are executed between then and 1681). Death of Andrew Marvell.

1679 Publication of Bunyan’s *A Treatise of the Fear of God*.

(January) The 'Cavalier' Parliament is dissolved. (March) The first 'Exclusion' Parliament meets (to May). Impeachment of the first minister, Sir Thomas Osborne, Earl of Danby. Bill to exclude James, Duke of York from the succession is discussed in Parliament, marking the beginning of the 'Exclusion Crisis' (which lasts until 1681). Censorship lapses with expiry of the Licensing Act. (November) Pope-burning demonstrations in London (and in November 1680). Death of Thomas Hobbes.

1680 Nathaniel Ponder publishes Bunyan's *The Life and Death of Mr. Badman*. In November the Bedford congregation excommunicate John Wildman for being 'an abominable liar and slanderer of our beloved brother Bunyan'.

(October) The second 'Exclusion' Parliament meets. An Exclusion Bill passes in the Commons, but is defeated in the Lords. Death of John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, and publication of his *Poems*.

1681 (March) The third 'Exclusion' Parliament meets at Oxford. An Exclusion Bill passes in both Commons and Lords, but Charles II dissolves Parliament and rules without one until 1685. John Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel*. (July) The opposition leader Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, is imprisoned on a charge of treason, but is released (in November) when a London Grand Jury issues a verdict of *ignoramus*. From now until 1684, the period of the 'Tory Reaction', there are purges of Whigs from public offices, and savage persecution of Nonconformists. Publication of Andrew Marvell's *Miscellaneous Poems*.

1682 Publication of a spurious 'second' part of *The Pilgrim's Progress* by the General Baptist Thomas Sherman. Dorman Newman and Benjamin Alsop publish Bunyan's *The Holy War*. Probably in June, Bunyan preaches at Pinners' Hall in London, one of the most important meeting-places of Nonconformists. Publication of his sermon-treatise, *The Greatness of the Soul*.

(November) The Whig leader, the Earl of Shaftesbury, flees to Holland.

1683 Publication of Bunyan's *A Case of Conscience Resolved*, in which he argues against separate women assemblies.

The Rye House Plot (to assassinate the King and the Duke of York) is discovered and William Lord Russell and Algernon Sidney are executed. Corporations are purged of Whigs. Foundation of the Ashmolean Museum.

1684 Nathaniel Ponder publishes the authentic Second Part of *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Also published are Bunyan's sermon-treatises *A Holy Life, the Beauty of Christianity; Seasonable Counsel: or, Advice to Sufferers*; and a poem, *A Caution to Stir Up Against Sin*. Suicide of the apostate John Child, at one time a member of the Bedford congregation.

James Duke of York is restored to the Privy Council. Publication of Aphra Behn's *Love-Letters Between a Noble-Man and his Sister* (Second Part, 1685, Third Part, 1687).

1685 Publication of Bunyan's *Questions about the Nature and Perpetuity of the Seventh-Day-Sabbath*, arguing against Sabbatarians who worshipped on Saturdays, and *A Discourse upon the Pharisee and the Publicane*. He preaches in Southwark at Stephen More's open-communion church. On 23 December Bunyan draws up a deed of gift giving all his property to his wife, evidently from a concern that he might be arrested and his property confiscated.

(February) Death of Charles II and accession of James II. (July) Battle of Sedgemoor ends in the defeat of a rebellion against James II led by Charles II's illegitimate son, James, Duke of Monmouth. It is followed by the 'Bloody Assizes' of Lord Chief Justice Jeffries. (October) Revocation of the Edict of Nantes is followed by Louis XIV's *dragonnades* against Huguenots, and their flight to England. Licensing Act is renewed for seven years. Publication of Aphra Behn's *Miscellany*. Montaigne's *Essays* translated by Charles Cotton.

1686 Publication of Bunyan's *A Book for Boys and Girls: Or, Country Rhimes for Children*.

(March) James II issues a Direction to Preachers, forbidding the preaching of anti-Catholic sermons, and orders the release of about 1,600 Quakers from prison. (May) Bishop of London refuses to suspend a clergyman who disobeyed James's Directions. (June) James wins a legal case allowing him to dispense individuals from the provisions of the Test Acts. (July) James establishes Court of Ecclesiastical Commission, which subsequently suspends the Bishop of London. (November)

James II establishes a Licensing Office to sell to Nonconformists certificates of dispensation from penal legislation.

1687

Bunyan is consulted by representatives of the King about which parliamentary candidates would be most likely to support royal policy and vote for repeal of the Test Acts. Seven members of his congregation are appointed to the Bedford corporation, and it is possible that Bunyan himself is offered, but does not accept, 'a place of publick Trust'.

(April) James attempts to force Magdalen College, Oxford to appoint a Roman Catholic as its President. He issues a Declaration of Indulgence suspending the Test and Corporation Acts. Publication of Halifax's *Letter to a Dissenter*, warning Nonconformists against allying themselves with the King. James begins a campaign to try to secure the election of a parliament that would repeal the Test and Corporation Acts. Publication of John Dryden's *The Hind and the Panther*, and Isaac Newton's *Principia Mathematica*.

1688

Publication of Bunyan's *Solomon's Temple Spiritualiz'd; A Discourse of ... the House of God; The Water of Life; The Advocateship of Jesus Christ; and Good News for the Vilest of Men*. On 19 August, Bunyan preaches to John Gammon's open-communion congregation meeting in Boar's Head Yard, off Petticoat Lane in London. While staying at the house of the grocer John Strudwick, in Holborn, he falls ill and dies on 31 August, probably from a fever contracted while riding to London in heavy rain from Reading (where he had been engaged in pastoral business, seeking to reconcile an estranged father and son). On 2 September he is interred in Strudwick's tomb in the Nonconformist burial ground at Bunhill Fields, Finsbury. Following his death a number of spurious works are published, including *An Exhortation to Peace and Unity Among All that Fear God* (1688) and *Mr. John Bunyan's Dying Sayings* (1688).

(April) James II issues second Declaration of Indulgence. (June) Trial and acquittal of the 'Seven Bishops' who refuse to read the Declaration in their churches. Birth of a son, James, to James II and Mary of Modena. Leading Whigs and Tories invite William of Orange to invade England. (November) William of Orange lands at Brixham (near Torbay, Devon) and occupies Exeter. Risings in his support in Cheshire, Nottingham and York. (December) James II flees to France. An assembly of ex-MPs issues writs for a new parliament. Publication of Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko*.

- 1689** Posthumous publication of Bunyan's *The Acceptable Sacrifice* and his *Last Sermon*. (January) The Convention Parliament declares the throne 'vacant', and the crown is offered to William and Mary. Toleration Act passed, granting freedom of worship (but not full civil rights) to Nonconformists. (February) Declaration of Rights is read to William III and Mary II, and they are crowned joint monarchs. About 400 non-jurors refuse to swear oath of allegiance to William III and Mary II. (March) James II lands at Kinsale in south-west Ireland. (August) William III sends army to Ireland. (December) Declaration of Rights enacted as Bill of Rights. Publication of John Locke's first *Letter Concerning Toleration* (a second and third follow in 1690 and 1692), and his *Two Treatises on Government* (dated 1690). Death of Aphra Behn.
- 1690** (July) William III defeats James II at the Battle of the Boyne. Publication of John Locke's *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*.
- 1691** Death of Elizabeth Bunyan.
- 1692** Bunyan's friend Charles Doe publishes *The Works of that Eminent Servant of Christ, Mr. John Bunyan* in folio, including twelve previously unpublished works: *An Exposition on the First Ten Chapters of Genesis; Of Justification by an Imputed Righteousness; Paul's Departure and Crown; Of the Trinity and a Christian; Of the Law and a Christian; Israel's Hope Encouraged; The Desire of the Righteous Granted; The Saints Privilege and Profit; Christ a Compleat Saviour; The Saints Knowledge of Christ's Love; A Discourse of the House of the Forest of Lebanon; Of Antichrist, and His Ruine*.
- 1694** Publication of George Fox's *Journal*.
- 1696** Richard Baxter's *Reliquiae Baxterianae* published by Matthew Sylvester.
- 1698** Charles Doe publishes *The Heavenly Foot-man*, probably written by Bunyan in early 1668, its central metaphor of the Christian life as a race sparking the idea of *The Pilgrim's Progress*.