

KING ARTHUR AND HIS KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE *by Roger Lancelyn Green*

JOURNAL QUESTIONS

BOOK ONE, CHAPTER ONE, "THE TWO SWORDS"

WHAT MAIN VIRTUE DO YOU EXPECT ARTHUR TO WORK TOWARD ATTAINING AS KING? USE AN EXAMPLE TO SUPPORT YOUR VIEW. WHAT SPECIFIC VICE MIGHT HINDER HIS PURSUIT OF THIS VIRTUE? USE AN EXAMPLE TO SUPPORT YOUR VIEW. HOW MIGHT THIS AFFECT HIS RULE OF THE REALM OF LOGRES?

BOOK ONE, CHAPTER TWO, "BALYN AND BALAN"

WHAT IS THE DOLOROUS STROKE? WHO DEALT IT? WHAT SIGNIFICANCE IS ATTACHED TO IT? WHAT MIGHT IT SYMBOLIZE WITH REGARD TO VIRTUE AND VICE?

BOOK ONE, CHAPTER THREE, "THE FIRST QUEST OF THE ROUND TABLE"

DESCRIBE THE FIRST QUEST OF THE ROUND TABLE. HOW DID THIS IMPACT THE CREATION OF THE CODE OF CHIVALRY? WHAT IS THE CODE OF CHIVALRY, AND WHAT DOES IT CONSIST OF? HOW MIGHT IT AFFECT THE REALM OF LOGRES?

BOOK ONE, CHAPTER FOUR, "THE MAGIC OF NIMUE AND MORGANA LE FAÏ"

EXPLAIN HOW BOOK ONE, CHAPTER FOUR FORESHADOWS EVENTS TO COME LATER. GIVE AT LEAST ONE DETAILED EXAMPLE. DO YOU THINK THE FALL OF LOGRES IS INEVITABLE? ASSESS ARTHUR'S ABILITY TO LEAD HIS KINGDOM THROUGH DIFFICULT SITUATIONS. (REMINDER: FORESHADOW MEAN TO HINT AT SOMETHING TO COME LATER).

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER ONE, "SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREED KNIGHT"

DESCRIBE SIR GAWAIN'S QUEST LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY. DID HE PROVE HIS VALOR? IF SO, HOW? IF NOT, THEN, WHY NOT? BE SPECIFIC.

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER TWO, "THE FIRST QUEST OF SIR LAUNCELOT"

DESCRIBE SIR LAUNCELOT'S QUEST LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY. DID SIR LAUNCELOT PROVE HIMSELF TO BE AN HONORABLE KNIGHT? IF SO, HOW? IF NOT, THEN, WHY NOT?]

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER THREE, "SIR GARETH, OR THE KNIGHT OF THE KITCHEN"

DESCRIBE THE QUEST OF THE KITCHEN KNIGHT LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY. HOW DOES IT RELATE TO THE VIRTUE OF MERCY AND VICE OF CRUELTY?

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER FOUR, "SIR TRISTAM AND THE FAIR ISEULT"

EXPLAIN THE TRAP THAT SIR TRISTAM FELL INTO. HOW DOES HE GET OUT OF IT? WHAT DOES THIS SHOW US ABOUT HIS STRUGGLE BETWEEN VICE AND VIRTUE?

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER FIVE, “GERAINT AND ENID”

WHO DOES GERAINT SERVE? USE EXAMPLES TO SUPPORT YOUR ANSWER. WHAT DOES THIS SHOW US ABOUT HIS VIRTUES? WHAT DOES IT SUGGEST ABOUT THE NATURE OF COURTLY LOVE?

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER SIX, “SIR GAWAIN AND THE LADY RAGNELL”

DESCRIBE SIR GAWAIN'S QUEST LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY. WHAT TRIAL MUST HE ENDURE? DOES HE OVERCOME IT? IF SO, HOW? WHAT DOES HE DEMONSTRATE ABOUT THE VIRTUE OF BEAUTY AND THE VICE OF UGLINESS?

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER SEVEN, “SIR PERCIVALE OF WALES”

DESCRIBE SIR PERCIVALE'S QUEST, ESPECIALLY HIS ENCOUNTER WITH THE LADY BLANCHEFLEUR. WHY DOES SHE SAY HE IS “MORE BLESSED” THAN SIR LAUNCELOT? WHAT MIGHT THIS FORESHADOW?

BOOK TWO, CHAPTER EIGHT, “THE STORY OF LAUNCELOT AND ELAIDE”

DESCRIBE SIR LAUNCELOT'S QUEST LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY. DO YOU THINK SIR LAUNCELOT UPHELD THE CODE OF CHIVALRY? EXPLAIN YOUR VIEW USING AT LEAST THREE EXAMPLES.

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER ONE, “HOW THE HOLY GRAIL CAME TO CAMELOT”

IN THIS CHAPTER, WE MEET SIR GALAHAD, THE BEST KNIGHT IN THE WORLD. WHAT FAMILY LINEAGE DOES HE CLAIM? WHAT VIRTUES DOES HE POSSESS? USE EXAMPLES TO SUPPORT YOUR VIEW. WHAT SYMBOLS FROM PART ONE OF THE STORY COALESCE (COME TOGETHER) TO SUGGEST HIS IMPACT ON THE “HOUR OF THE GLORY OF LOGRES” (278).

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER TWO, “THE FIRST ADVENTURES OF SIR GALAHAD”

THIS CHAPTER CONTINUES THE QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRAIL, FULFILLING PROPHECIES FROM THE FIRST PART OF THE BOOK AND ADDING LEGENDARY ELEMENTS TO BIBLICAL ALLUSIONS. DESCRIBE THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE STRANGE WHITE KNIGHT AND SIR GALAHAD. WHAT DOES SIR GALAHAD LEARN? WHAT ITEM DOES HE GAIN? WHAT TITLE DOES HE GAIN? WHAT VIRTUES DOES HE DEMONSTRATE UPON PARTING WITH THE STRANGE KNIGHT?

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER THREE, “THE ADVENTURES OF SIR PERCIVALE”

IN THIS CHAPTER, SIR PERCIVALE HAS A NUMBER OF STRANGE ENCOUNTERS THAT ALTERNATE BETWEEN WAKE AND SLEEP. DESCRIBE EACH OF HIS TEMPTATIONS. WHAT DO THEY SYMBOLIZE? WHAT DOES HE GAIN ONCE HE ULTIMATELY AWAKENS? HOW IS HIS WAKEFULNESS BOTH LITERAL AND SPIRITUAL?

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER FOUR, “THE ADVENTURES OF SIR BORS DE GARNIS”

YET ANOTHER KNIGHT OF THE ROUND TABLE VENTURES FORTH IN AN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THE QUEST OF THE HOLY GRAIL. AT THE OUTSET OF HIS QUEST, SIR BORS

DE GANNIS LEARNS THAT HE MAY REACH THE GRAIL ONLY IF HE IS PURE OF HEART. TO TEST THIS, HE MUST DECIDE BETWEEN SAVING HIS BROTHER OR A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS. WHICH OPTION DOES HE CHOOSE? WHY? DO YOU THINK HE MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE? EXPLAIN.

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER FIVE, “THE ADVENTURES OF SIR LAUNCELOT”

DESPITE HIS MANY VIRTUES, WE LEARN IN THIS CHAPTER THAT SIR LAUNCELOT IS ALSO HELD BY VICE. WHAT GRAVE SIN HAS SIR LAUNCELOT COMMITTED? WHAT EFFECT DOES HIS SIN HAVE ON HIS QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRAIL? HOW MIGHT HE REDEEM HIMSELF?

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER SIX, “HOW LAUNCELOT AND GAWAIN CAME TO CARBONEK”

DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SIR LAUNCELOT AND SIR GAWAIN. IN WHAT ESTEEM DO THEY HOLD ONE ANOTHER? HOW DO THEY JOINTLY PURSUE THE QUEST OF THE HOLY GRAIL? WHICH KNIGHT DO YOU LIKE MORE?

BOOK THREE, CHAPTER SEVEN, “THE END OF THE QUEST”

THIS CHAPTER CONCLUDES THE QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRAIL. WHO ACHIEVES THE QUEST? WHAT VIRTUES DOES HE HAVE THAT SETS HIM APART FROM ALL THE OTHERS ON THE QUEST? WHAT BIBLICAL FIGURE DOES HE SYMBOLIZE? HOW?

BOOK FOUR, CHAPTER ONE, “LAUNCELOT AND GUINEVERE”

DESPITE SIR GALAHAD'S ACHIEVEMENT OF THE QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRAIL, THE REALM OF LOGRES IS STILL DOOMED TO FALL. SIR LAUNCELOT AND LADY GUINEVERE CONTRIBUTE GRAVELY TO THIS FATEFUL OUTCOME. WHAT VICIES DO THEY DEMONSTRATE? COMPARE AND CONTRAST THEIR RESPECTIVE “GUILT.” WHO IS MORE CULPABLE?

BOOK FOUR, CHAPTER TWO, “THE PLOTS OF SIR MORDRED”

THE PLOTS OF SIR MORDRED SET IN MOTION EVIL FORCES PREDESTINED TO BRING ABOUT THE END OF KING ARTHUR'S “REALM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.” DESCRIBE KING ARTHUR'S RESPONSE UPON LEARNING OF THE BETRAYAL OF SIR LAUNCELOT AND LADY GUINEVERE. SHOULD HE HAVE SHOWN MORE MERCY? EXPLAIN YOUR VIEW.

BOOK FOUR, CHAPTER THREE, “THE LAST BATTLE”

KING ARTHUR RECEIVES A GRIEVOUS WOUND IN “THE LAST BATTLE.” WHO DELIVERS THE WOUND? WHAT MIGHT HEAL THE WOUND? WHAT MIGHT THE WOUND SYMBOLIZE?