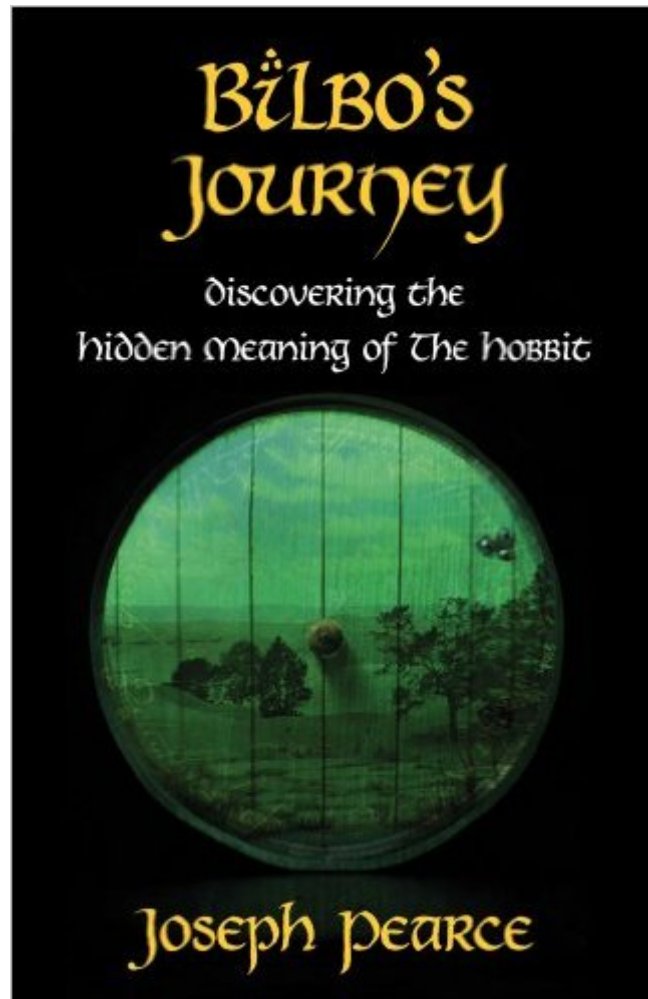


The book was found

# Bilbo's Journey: Discovering The Hidden Meaning In The Hobbit



## Synopsis

Discover the Christian meaning in *The Hobbit In Bilbo's Journey* go beyond the dragons, dwarves, and elves, and discover the surprisingly deep meaning of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic novel *The Hobbit*. Bilbo's quest to find and slay the dragon Smaug is a riveting tale of daring and heroism, but as renowned Tolkien scholar Joseph Pearce shows, it is not simply Bilbo's journey, it is our journey too. It is the Christian journey of self-sacrifice out of love for others, and abandonment to providence and grace. In *Bilbo's Journey: Discovering the Hidden Meaning of The Hobbit* you will relive the excitement of Tolkien's classic tale, while discovering the profound Christian meaning that makes *The Hobbit* a truly timeless adventure.

## Book Information

Paperback: 147 pages

Publisher: Saint Benedict Press (November 23, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1618900587

ISBN-13: 978-1618900586

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #670,176 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales, Legends & Mythology](#) #5804 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods](#) #6143 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism](#)

## Customer Reviews

Many regard Joseph Pearce as today's premiere Catholic biographer. He's profiled many literary icons like Shakespeare, G.K. Chesterton, and C.S. Lewis. His book on J.R.R. Tolkien remains my favorite Tolkien biography. Thus I was excited to hear about Pearce's new book on *The Hobbit*, published alongside its December film adaptation. *Bilbo's Journey: Discovering the Hidden Meaning in The Hobbit* (Saint Benedict Press, 144 pages, paperback) goes beyond the fantasy to unearth the profound Christian truths hidden within Tolkien's classic work. Tolkien himself described the Lord of the Rings trilogy, which *The Hobbit* precedes, as a "fundamentally religious and Catholic work." This underlying dimension is often noble, as in the virtue and self-sacrifice we spot in Bilbo, the dwarves, and the elves. These characters, Pearce notes, embody Jesus' beatific teachings. But there are

also darker dimensions like the pride, lust, and greed we see in figures like Smaug, which affirm Jesus' warning that "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). When examined through this Catholic lens, *The Hobbit* becomes a multi-layered spiritual journey: "[The Hobbit] is a rite of passage from ignorance to wisdom and from bourgeois vice to heroic virtue. Its main character, Bilbo, represents each of us journeying toward God and moral perfection." Pearce also shows how this journey is aided by religious forces like providence. Though Tolkien never mentions God throughout his fiction, his characters consistently face dire odds but emerge through the help of so-called "luck."

Pearce and Tolkien believed that *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* were fundamentally religious and Catholic works. Apparently critics had either missed or resented this interpretation. Pearce paraphrased Tolkien in suggesting that the real reason for critical prejudice against Tolkien's and similar works had grown out of a particular hostility toward Christianity. The failure to see and understand the hidden meaning of Tolkien's works, parallels an episode within the pages of *The Hobbit* where the company of dwarfs and even Gandalf could not see, let alone interpret directions on an ancient map. Elrond did see, understand and read that hidden message because he viewed it on a midsummer's eve under a crescent moon. These were the same conditions in effect when the message was first inscribed. Similarly, to fully grasp the hidden meaning of *The Hobbit*, the tale must be read with Catholic eyes. Who better to uncover the hidden meaning of *The Hobbit* than noted Catholic author Joseph Pearce, who wrote biographies of J. R. R. Tolkien and two of the major influences in Tolkien's intellectual and literary development--Hilarie Belloc and G. K. Chesterton. To further support his assertions Pearce delved into many of the sources used by Tolkien in writing *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* allowing him to share Tolkien's perspective.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Bilbo's Journey: Discovering the Hidden Meaning in *The Hobbit* *The Hobbit* and the Lord of the Rings (the Hobbit / the Fellowship of the Ring / the Two Towers / the Discovering Wine: A Refreshingly Unfussy Beginner's Guide to Finding, Tasting, Judging, Storing, Serving, Cellaring, and, Most of All, Discovering Wine It's Never Too Late to Begin Again: Discovering Creativity and Meaning at Midlife and Beyond *Hobbit* Hospitality: Recipes for Second Breakfast, Elevenses, and Afternoon Tea An Unexpected Cookbook: The Unofficial Book of Hobbit Cookery Middle-earth Envisioned: *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*: On Screen, On Stage, and Beyond *The Hobbit* (BBC Drama Series/Audio Cassettes) *El Hobbit*. Movie Edition (Spanish Edition) *The History of the Hobbit: Mr Baggins* and *Return to Bag-End: Mr Baggins v. 1* *Hobbitus Ille: The Latin Hobbit*

Everyday Calculus: Discovering the Hidden Math All Around Us The Hidden Meaning of Dreams  
The Definitive Book of Body Language: The Hidden Meaning Behind People's Gestures and  
Expressions Discovering The Enneagram: An Ancient Tool a New Spiritual Journey A Hidden  
Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life Why The Dutch Are Different: A Journey Into  
the Hidden Heart of the Netherlands Healing from Hidden Abuse: A Journey Through the Stages of  
Recovery from Psychological Abuse Journey Through Denmark (Journey Through series) The  
American Journey, Modern Times, Spanish Reading Essentials and Note-Taking Guide (THE  
AMERICAN JOURNEY (SURVEY)) (Spanish Edition)

[Dmca](#)