

C.S. Lewis

The Juxtaposition of Faith and Literature

Abstract

Clive Staples Lewis, born in 1898 was known as many things in his time, including British army lieutenant, Oxford professor, radio personality, novelist, literary critic, and poet to only name a few. In modern times, he is most known for his series of novels known the The Chronicles of Narnia, which have been made popular by recent movie adaptations. What many do not know about Lewis are his works of Christian theology and apologetics, as well as how his faith shaped and inspired the stories he is famous for creating. In my presentation I will explore the relationship and interaction between Lewis' faith and the many works of literature he produced throughout his life until his death in 1964.



Religious Background

Born to an Irish Anglican family, Lewis walked away from the Christian religion after the death of his mother in 1908. It wasn't until 1929 when Lewis "reconverted" back to Christianity after the influences of his closest friends including J.R. Tolkien, author of *The Lord of The Rings* and a devout catholic. C.S. Lewis conversion quickly began to fuel his writings and his faith became the center of his creativity.

Christian Allegory and Imagery In The Chronicles of Narnia

- ***The Magician's Nephew***: tells the Creation and how evil entered Narnia
- ***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe***: the Crucifixion and Resurrection of the savior.
- ***Prince Caspian***: restoration of the true religion after corruption.
- ***The Horse and His Boy***: the calling and conversion of a heathen
- ***The Voyage of the Dawn Treader***: the spiritual life of adherents of Christianity
- ***The Silver Chair***: the continuing war with the powers of darkness
- ***The Last Battle***: the coming of the Antichrist and the end of the world and the Last Judgment

Work Cited

- Beversluis, John, and Lyle Dorsett. "C.S. Lewis." Christian History | Learn the History of Christianity & the Church. Web.
- "The Deeper Truth Behind The Chronicles of Narnia." CBN.com, 7 July 2016, <http://www1.cbn.com/books/deeper-truth-behind-chronicles-Narnia>