
C. S. Lewis

1898 - 1968

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Clive Staples Lewis is known to his readers as CS Lewis. He began as an atheist, but is known as a prolific Christian apologist. He progressed from atheism to theism, then to Christianity. His conversion to Christianity came in 1931.

He was born in Belfast, Ireland. Lewis entered Oxford to be educated in 1917 and remained close by thereafter. He taught at Oxford beginning in 1925, and later at Cambridge from 1954 to 1963, where he married an American English teacher, Joy Gresham in 1956. She died of cancer in 1960.

He wrote *The Pilgrim's Regress: An Allegorical Apology for Christianity, Reason and Romanticism* in 1933 as his first Christian apology, and went on to write 25 Christian books that sold millions of copies. Many people associate him with the *Chronicles of Narnia*, an allegorical Christian series of seven books which has sold over 100 million copies and been made into three major motion pictures. He was a friend of JRR Tolkien.

His theological contribution in *The Great Divorce* (1946) and *Miracles* (1947) are respected by many theologians and general readers. His book, *Mere Christianity*, was adapted from a series of radio broadcasts from 1942 to 1944. His writings have enduring appeal.

Because he has been one of the most quoted Christian writers since he began his role as a Christian apologist, below are quotes from Lewis' writings to allow him to speak for himself:

"Since it is so likely that children will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage." *On Stories: And Other Essays on Literature*.

“Each day we are becoming a creature of splendid glory or one of unthinkable horror.” *Mere Christianity*.

“There are only two kinds of people: those who say to God, ‘Thy will be done,’ and those to whom God says, ‘All right, then, have it your way.’” *The Great Divorce*.

“No man knows how bad he is till he has tried very hard to be good.” *Mere Christianity*.

"The sun looks down on nothing half so good as a household laughing together over a meal." *The Weight of Glory*.

“The instrument through which you see God is your whole self. And if a man's self is not kept clean and bright, his glimpse of God will be blurred.” *Mere Christianity*.

“A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word 'darkness' on the walls of his cell.” *The Problem of Pain*.

"In our own case we accept excuses too easily; in other people's, we do not accept them easily enough." *The Weight of Glory*.

"If God forgives us we must forgive ourselves otherwise its like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than him." *Collected Letters of C. S. Lewis*.
"Of all the bad men, religious bad men are the worst." *Reflections on the Psalms*.

"One road leads home and a thousand roads lead into the wilderness." *The Pilgrim's Regress*.

"Christianity, if false, is of no importance and, if true, is of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important." *God In The Dock*.