

Mere Christianity

Book I: Right and Wrong as a Clue to the Meaning of the Universe

The Law of Nature

1. How does Lewis define and use this term? How does it relate to the concept of absolute truth?

Objections to Lewis' Natural Law

1. How does Lewis explain the difference between instinct and the natural law?
2. What objection(s) does Lewis raise to the idea of moral law simply being based on how one has been trained?

The Reality of Law

1. What does Lewis mean when he claims the law of nature (moral law) is not constructed by man? Do you agree? Why or why not?

What Lies Behind the Law

1. Lewis notes some limitations of science: Discuss some limitations and their implications for man.

We Have Cause to be Uneasy

1. Do you agree with Lewis' assessment of the general direction of mankind?
2. Lewis states that God is not soft or sentimental. Do you agree?
3. What does he mean by this assertion? How does this differ from some popular concepts of God?

Read Romans 1 - 3. List at least three arguments made by Paul that are similar to the arguments made by Lewis in this book.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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Book II: What Christians Believe

The Rival Conceptions of God

1. What are the different beliefs in God as outlined by Lewis? What does he use as the basis for these classifications?
2. List the two major ideas about God discussed by Lewis in this chapter.
3. What is Lewis' answer to his earlier (atheistic) objection to the existence of God?

The Invasion

1. What are the two views of good and evil discussed by Lewis?
2. Why does Lewis state we "go to church"? Do you agree? Why or why not?

The Shocking Alternative

1. Can one possibly have a free will and be incapable of doing wrong? Why or why not?
2. What is the great sin Satan has taught mankind? Is this addressed in Exodus 20:1-17?
3. Why can't Jesus be considered a good moral teacher without accepting his deity?

The Perfect Penitent

1. Why does Lewis suggest God sent Jesus to the earth to die? How does this relate to Romans 5:6-8? 1 John 4:7-12?
2. What does the word repentance mean? How does Lewis suggest God helps in this process?

The Practical Conclusion

1. Christianity is more than an intellectual affirmation of certain facts about Jesus—it also involved physical activity... Why?
2. What is to be the Christian's motive for doing what is right?
3. How does Lewis deal with the concept of new life being available only to Christians?

Look at 1 Peter 2:21-24. How does this relate to the "Practical Conclusion" of Lewis?

List at least three scriptures that could be raised as objections to the concept of Jesus simply being a good moral teacher (scriptures that claim he is more).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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Book III: Christians Behavior

The Three Parts of Morality

1. List Lewis' three parts of morality.
2. Why is the "as long as I don't hurt anybody" philosophy is considered non-Christian?

The "Cardinal" Virtues

1. List the seven virtues. Which are cardinal and which are theological?
2. Compare the list above with 1 Corinthians 13 noting where any are mentioned.

Social Morality

1. In what way does Lewis believe "the Church" can legitimately lead in society?
2. What three societies does Lewis mention? What did they condemn that ours embrace?

Morality and Psychoanalysis (psychoanalysis was more popular in Lewis' time)

1. Are there similarities between one whose anger kills and whose anger causes laughter?

Sexual Morality

1. What is the difference between social modesty and Christian chastity?
2. Describe Lewis's food analogy. What does this say about sexual morality?

Christian Marriage

1. To what does Lewis compare divorce?
2. What does love's passion compel two people to do?

Forgiveness

1. What does Lewis suggest one do to aid in the process of "loving your enemies"?
2. Does forgiveness imply there will be no consequences? Why or why not?

The Great Sin

1. What are the four misunderstandings about pride listed by Lewis? (See Phil. 2:3-11)

Charity

1. How does helping the poor relate to our understanding of God's love?

Hope

1. What desires for Heaven are present within us all?

Faith (& Faith, level II)

1. What is Lewis's definition of faith? How does this relate to Hebrews 11:1?
2. What is the new of obedience mentioned by Lewis?
3. What two parodies of faith have Christians been accused of believing?

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Book IV: Beyond Personality or First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity

Making and Begetting

1. How does Lewis define the word Theology?
2. What is the difference between begetting and creating?

The Three-Personal God

1. How does Lewis explain the difference between God's personality and a human's?

Time and Beyond Time

1. How does Lewis conceive of God being able to hear prayers offered at the same time?
2. If life is a straight line, where is God in relation to the line?

Good Infection

1. What advantage(s) does Lewis see in using the Bible to explain the relationship between God (eternal, the Father) and Jesus Christ (the Son)?
2. What is key difference mentioned between Christianity and other religions?
3. What is the "good infection" to which Lewis refers in this chapter?