

# Morality, Love and Redemption in The Select Works of CS Lewis

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## Abstract

Clive Staples Lewis was a British literary scholar and playwright. He was also an Anglican lay theologian. A lay theologian is someone who is not ordained. CS Lewis delves into the genres of fantasy, children's literature, science fiction and Christian Apologetics. Christian theology is the study of Christianity, its beliefs and practices. This paper studies some of the author's critically acclaimed works.

**Keywords:** CS Lewis, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, The Screwtape Letters.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Clive Staples Lewis was a British literary scholar and playwright. He was also an Anglican lay theologian. A lay theologian is someone who is not ordained. CS Lewis delves into the genres of fantasy, children's literature, science fiction and Christian Apologetics. Christian theology is the study of Christianity, its beliefs and practices. Christian Apologetics is a branch of Christian Theology and this branch has taken many forms over different centuries. He has also held academic positions in English literature. He is famous for his *The chronicles of Narnia*, a book series, and the novel *The Screwtape Letters*.

## II. THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WADROBE

*The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe* is a portal fantasy novel. It comes under the genre of children's literature. In portal fantasy novels, the characters enter a fantasy world and the fantastical elements remain restricted to that particular zone, beyond which the human world exists. *The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe* was published in 1950. It is the first novel in the series *The chronicles of Narnia*, which comprises of a total of seven novels. This novel was highly successful and then later, adapted into a film. It also comes under the genre of Christian Literature. Christian Literature features moral values and Christian messages. The setting of the novel is Narnia. Narnia is a fantasy world which was created by CS Lewis. In the Country of Narnia, there exist animals and mythological creatures. The inhabitants of Narnia are ruled by the White Witch. The White Witch is Evil, as she froze Narnia in the Hundred Years Winter. Her name is Jadis, and she is the antagonist. Four children of English descent are the protagonists of the novel, and the youngest, Lucy, discovers Narnia when she walks through a wardrobe. Morality love and redemption are the main themes.

## III. THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS

*The Screwtape Letters* is a Christian Apologetic novel. Christian Apologetics defend Christianity. The novel is written in an epistolary form. An epistolary novel is written in the form of letters. *The Screwtape Letters* is also a satirical novel. Christian theological issues are the main focal points of the novel. Screwtape is a senior demon. He writes letters to Wormwood, his nephew, who is the tempter. CS Lewis tries to depict human life, its temptation and feelings, but from the viewpoints of the devil. Screwtape is a mentor to Wormwood. Wormwood is an inexperienced tempter. Screwtape gives thirty-one letters to Wormwood. In the letters, he has given advice on how to make "the Patient" (the person who Wormwood is tempting) abandon God and undermine God's words. The letters portray Screwtape's opinions on the nature of human beings and the *Bible*. In the novel, Satan is referred to as "our father below" and God as "the enemy." Screwtape describes love, pride, war and gluttony in his letters. However, Wormwood fails in his quest since

the patient is killed and goes to heaven. Thus, it is an absolute failure from Wormwood. Morality, love and redemption are the main themes.

#### **REFERENCES**

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