



What Every Christian Should Know About The Life and Works of C. S. Lewis

by Jeffrey Breshears

Our Areopagus seminar for the first semester of 2018 is one of my favorite courses in our catalogue: “C. S. Lewis: The Life and Works of a ‘Mere Christian’.” As most Christians know, Lewis was an intellectual dynamo and one of the 20th century’s most gifted and prolific writers. A first-rate scholar, Christian apologist, poet, sci-fi writer, and author of children’s fantasy novels, he wrote with charm, wit, profound insight, and occasional eloquence. Disinterested in impressing the *literati* and the academic elite, he wrote for the common man in a conversational and accessible tone without pandering to his audience.

Mere Christianity, Lewis’ informal primer in Christian apologetics, is arguably the most significant Christian book of the 20th century. In 2000 *Christianity Today* magazine voted it the most influential Christian book of the century, and **The Screwtape Letters** was #2 on the list. More than 50 years after his death, 36 of his books are still in print, and collectively they have sold over 250 million copies.



variance with 20th century trends and fads. Paradoxically, because his writings address the perennial issues of life, they are timeless and always relevant.

Lewis was a “mere Christian” – a “Great Tradition Christian” as he described himself – and as such he appeals to serious believers across theological

and denominational lines. Throughout his Christian life he was convinced that sectarianism is one of the Devil’s most effective weapons against Christianity.

As the early Christian scholar Clement of Alexandria taught, every committed Christian should aspire to be...

- A Bible scholar;
- A theologian;
- A philosopher;
- An apologist; and
- A social critic.

To the extent that Lewis incorporated all of these traits, he serves as an inspiring example for us all.

Join us as we learn about this devout and gifted man who contributed so much to making the Christian faith understandable, credible and relevant to modern man.

Lewis was one of the great Christian thinkers of the 20th century. Although neither a professional philosopher, a theologian, a Bible scholar, a historian, a psychologist, nor a social scientist, he wrote perceptively in all of these areas. Furthermore, and a rarity among intellectuals, he reconciled and balanced reason and imagination. Lewis understood that when taken to extremes, reason leads to Rationalism and imagination leads to Romanticism (and escapism).

As a Christian writing in a post-Christian age, Lewis offered a scathing critique of modernistic secular humanism. Like J.R.R. Tolkien, Lewis’ writings were self-consciously and deliberately at

The Areopagus Calendar

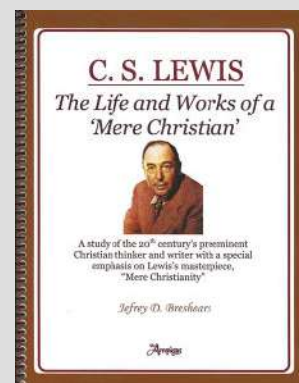
The Areopagus Winter/Spring Seminar

C. S. LEWIS: The Life and Works of a ‘Mere Christian’

C. S. Lewis was one of the most influential Christians of the 20th century and a prolific author whose writings have impacted Christians across all denominational lines and traditions. Furthermore, he lived a fascinating life.

Lewis was no average Christian, but he was, in his own words, a ‘mere Christian’ – one whose life was devoted to the basic core beliefs and practices of the historic Christian faith. In that respect, he serves as a model for us all.

Join us for this incisive and inspiring study of the life and writings of a man whom all committed Christians should know, understand, and appreciate.



Tuesdays, Jan. 9 - April 17
7:00 PM

Perimeter Church / Ministry Center

Wednesdays, Jan. 10 - April 18
7:00 PM

Johnson Ferry Baptist Church / Room 108

2017 RECOMMENDED BOOKS

— APOLOGETICS —

Gregory Koukl, *The Story of Reality: How the World Began, How It Ends, and Everything Important That Happened in Between* (Zondervan)

— CULTURAL APOLOGETICS —

Rod Dreher, *The Benedict Option: A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation* (Sentinel)

John Stonestreet and Brett Kunkle, *A Practical Guide to Culture: Helping the Next Generation Navigate Today's World* (David C. Cook)

— BIBLICAL STUDIES —

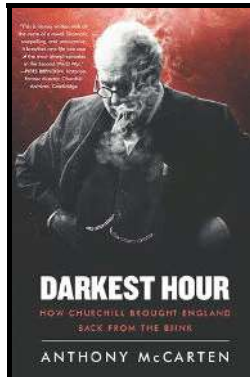
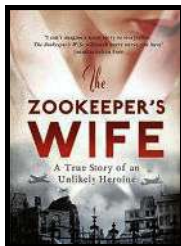
Jefrey D. Breshears, *Introduction to Bibliology* (Wipf and Stock)

— CHRISTIAN HISTORY —

Eric Metaxas, *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World* (Viking Press)



Four recommended films of 2017
with significant theological, philosophical,
historical, or socio-cultural themes



The Areopagus Calendar

Sunday Morning Study Group

The Reformation Era: Part 2

The Anabaptist Movement,
The English and Scottish
Reformations,
The Reformation in France, and
The Legacy of the Reformation

A continuation of our in-depth study of the Protestant Reformation that we began in 2017, this class focuses on many aspects of Reformation history that are often overlooked. Even if you missed Part 1 of our study, you'll find this substantive course to be vital in terms of filling in gaps in your knowledge and otherwise "connecting the dots."

Sundays
11:15 AM

Johnson Ferry Baptist Church
Room 270

* * * * *

The Areopagus Christian Heritage Tour of America

*A unique tour of many of
the most significant sites in
early and modern American
Christian history*

— SEPTEMBER 21-29 —

America has been blessed in terms of the spiritual and religious influences that have impacted our national history from colonial times to the present. Our 8-day "Christian Heritage Tour of America" features many of the most important and influential sites in New England, New York City, Washington, D.C., and other cities that have contributed to our unique heritage.

*For more information on this unique tour
check our Areopagus website.*