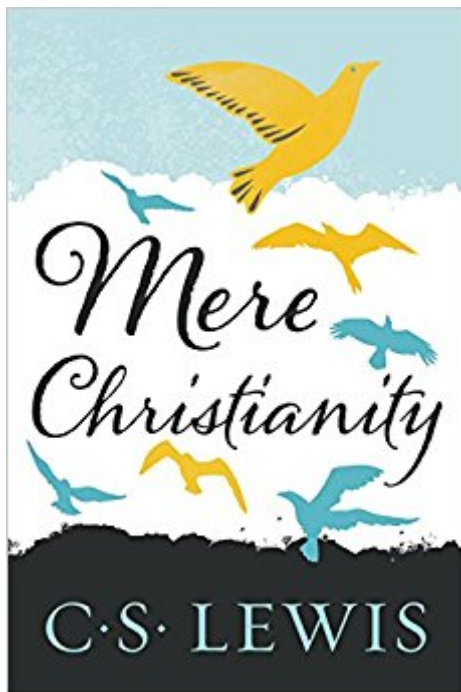


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Mere Christianity



Synopsis

In the classic *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis, the most important writer of the 20th century, explores the common ground upon which all of those of Christian faith stand together. Bringing together Lewis's legendary broadcast talks during World War Two from his three previous books *The Case for Christianity*, *Christian Behavior*, and *Beyond Personality*, *Mere Christianity* provides an unequaled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear this powerful apologetic for the Christian faith.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In 1943 Great Britain, when hope and the moral fabric of society were threatened by the relentless inhumanity of global war, an Oxford don was invited to give a series of radio lectures addressing the central issues of Christianity. Over half a century after the original lectures, the topic retains its urgency. Expanded into book form, *Mere Christianity* never flinches as it sets out a rational basis for Christianity and builds an edifice of compassionate morality atop this foundation. As Mr. Lewis clearly demonstrates, Christianity is not a religion of flitting angels and blind faith, but of free will, an innate sense of justice and the grace of God. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

The late Lewis, Oxford professor, scholar, author, and Christian apologist, presents the listener with a case for orthodox Christianity. This is definitely not the shouting, stomping, sweating, spitting televangelist fare so often parodied; Lewis employs logical arguments that are eloquently

expressed. He describes those doctrines that the four major denominations in Britain (Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic) would have in common, e.g., original sin, the transcendent Creator God, and the divinity of Jesus as well as his atonement and bodily resurrection. Geoffrey Howard reads both works, and his performance is superb; he is clear and unhurried, giving just the right emphasis and/or inflection. The volume on the Blackstone edition is recorded at a higher level than HarperAudio's. Otherwise there were no perceived differences in the recordings. If your institution can afford it, the Blackstone production would be preferred because of its sturdy case and the announcement of side changes. Whether or not one agrees with Lewis's arguments, it is a pleasure to hear such a skillful reading of an eloquent work. Public libraries as well as institutions that teach religion/theology or speech should consider. Michael T. Fein, Central Virginia Community Coll., Lynchburg

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Mere Christianity is a GREAT book, but DO NOT BUY THIS VERSION.- It has NO text justification so that each line is a random length and many lines are a single word (see picture)- It has NO paragraph spaces, chapter headings, or page numbers- It has weird text at the start for what appears to be a digital version of the book (see photos)It looks like someone copied all the text from a webpage, put in a document and just hit "print" without any editing or formatting or anything. DO NOT BUY this version.

It is difficult to limit my excitement about this classic work by C.S. Lewis. I first read the book while in college and now I am taking several fellows through the book in a small group setting. It is a timeless classic that is as true today as when it was originally penned by Lewis as a series of talks given in London over the BBC during the challenging days of WW2. One must remember the historical setting when they read through the work. Because this is a compilation of a series of talks, Lewis did not assume that the people who heard his first series of lectures necessarily heard the lectures in the second series. As a result, one might think he is mildly repetitive. As you work through this great book take some time to digest the material in each chapter and reflect upon the material that Lewis covers and the thoroughness of his argument and perspectives. The book is a chronology of the thinking processes Lewis went through as his spiritual journey traveled from atheism and reluctantly to Theism and ultimately to Christianity. It is amazingly refreshing and valid for any reader. One thing I have discovered about Lewis is that he typically packs more into one sentence than most authors do in a paragraph. I cannot recommend this work high enough.

C.S. Lewis builds Christian doctrine from the ground up, for both believers and non-believers alike. He does not assume that a reader already knows x or believes y. He expertly (and extensively) uses metaphor to help mere humans understand the incomprehensible facts about God. For the non-believer, it is a great opportunity to get a bare-bones explanation of everything Christians believe. For the believer, it is a great help in understanding why you believe what you believe. Many Christians, without really realizing it, believe things without knowing why. Lewis's explanation of Christian doctrine from the ground up helps the Christian fill in the blank parts of their theological understanding. There is not one single day in which an idea from this book doesn't pass through my mind, and I use logic from the book on a regular basis to explain what I believe and why. I would highly recommend this book.

A must read. He presents things as unbiased and matter of fact while sharing his inner musings and rationale. With no religious background at all there is material that still resonates on a personal level and touches on ideas or beliefs that may have been previously considered with or without knowing that's what you were contemplating. With a religious background, much of the content mirrors familiar passages and concepts clearly portrayed in Scripture. The concept of "natural law" or a basic understanding of what drives and convicts humanity to act in ways they feel that they "should" or "ought to" touch on the very foundation of defining goodness, and thereby the lack of goodness as well. If you're unsure what you believe then you have the world to gain and nothing to lose by reading this. If you know what you believe or are skeptical of certain things at first, then at least you leave with a possibly different perspective not priorly considered.

This is in my top 3 favorite Lewis books. I have almost all of them in print. Hubby does not like to read so he listens to books as he commutes to and from work. This is becoming one of his favorites as well. If you love Christian apologetics, this is for you. It is a fantastic faith 'solidifier'. It also makes a great gift for those who are skeptics of the Christian faith. It seems as though Lewis has the skeptic in mind when he writes. He's remarkable! As a former, professed atheist, C.S. Lewis has a profound way of communicating his experience and journey towards faith and ultimately the Christian faith. Though his writings can be somewhat complicated, he has a way of making sure his readers eventually understand his point(s). He has an amazing gift in doing so. The narrator of this book has a very pleasant voice. He has a slight accent which gives the listener a sort of 'confidence', if you will, in the authenticity of the words which helps convey the honesty of the

thoughts behind those words. I absolutely recommend this book.

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