Sectional Contents

Foreword | xiii

Introduction. C. S. Lewis—On The Christ of A Religious Economy. I. Creation and		
Sub-Creation 1 1. Who or What is the Christ 1 2. Why C. S. Lewis 3 3. Aims and Objectives 4 4. Explanations, Qualifications 6 i. Revelation and Reason 6 ii. Patristic 7 iii. Platonism 7 iv. Apologist/Apologetics 8 v. Creation, Fall, Incarnation, Resurrection, Second Coming, and the Four Last Things 8 vi. Ontology 9 vii. Liberal/liberal, Modernism 9 viii. Pagan 10 ix. Romantic 11 5. " and the Collected Works of C. S. Lewis" 11 6. The Christ of a Religious Economy 12		
PART ONE THE FALL, ORIGINAL SIN, AND AN EXISTENTIAL CRISIS Chapter 1. Creation and The Fall I: C. S. Lewis—A Doctrine of Creation 17		
1. Introduction 18		
2. "And God said" 18		
3. Lewis on Creation: The Work of Christ 20		
4. First Axiom: God the Triune Creator 20		
5. Second Axiom: The Actuality of Creation 25		
6. Third Axiom: Purpose, Character, and Nature 27		
i. Theological Principle A: Creation as Separation 30		
ii. Theological Principle B: The Myth of Creation 31		

ON THE CHRIST OF A RELIGIOUS ECONOMY. I. CREATION AND SUB-CREATION

	iii. Theological Principle C: Humanity's Relation to God and Creation 3 Why the Human? 33 Purpose 35
	Relation and Obedience 36
	The Fall 36
	vi. Theological Principle D: Sub-Creation and Sub-creators 37
7.	Fourth Axiom: The New Creation 40
	i. Cause and Cross, Creation and Consummation 40
	ii. Lewis: Markers of the New Creation 42
	iii. Nature and Grace 45
8.	Rebellion 46
Chap	ter 2. Creation and The Fall II: Lewis's "Augustinian" Account 47
1.	Introduction 47
	The Fall: The Biblical Account 48
3.	Augustine's Doctrine 50
	i. A Judeo-Christian Anthropology 50
	ii. A Roman Catholic and Anglican Perspective 51
4	iii. Concupiscence 53
4.	homo incurvatus in se: What does Lewis have to Say? 54
	i. The Fall and the Unfallen 54
	ii. postlapsarian: The Fallen 55iii. prelapsarian: The Unfallen 59
	iv. lapsarian: Original Sin 60
5	A Doctrine of Total Depravity 62
٥.	i. An Inverted Understanding 62
	ii. A Doctrine of Limited, or Pseudo-Depravity 64
6.	Whither Atonement? 65
Chap	ter 3 Creation and The Fall III: Innocence and Sin Re-Interpreted 67
	Introduction 68
	The Fall: Re-Told 68
	The Fall: Variation on a Theme 71
	i. An Idealistic Inversion? 72
	ii. Dostoevsky: The Dream of a Ridiculous Man, 73
	Innocence Corrupted 73
	Religion as the Result of the Fall 74
	iii. Milton, Paradise Lost 76
	iv. Golding: Lord of the Flies 78
	v. A Hedonistic Paradise 79
4.	Lewis-Pullman: The Fall Re-Visited, or Re-Defined? 80
	i. An Unholy Inversion 80
	ii. Paradise Retained 82
	iii. "All get what they want; they do not always like it." 84
	iv. Obedience-Disobedience: A Dialectic 85

 5. In the Shadow of Christ: Sin and Sinners 87 i. A Consciousness of Sin 88 Screwtape's Inverted Understanding 88 An Orthodox Teaching 89 Disorder and Responsibility 90 Personal Responsibility 91 "The more important sins" 92 ii. Sinfulness and Desperation 93 6. The Answer: The Christ 94
Chapter 4 Creation and The Fall IV: The Human Condition before God 97
 Introduction 97 Creation, Neo-Pelagianism, and Transmission 98 Solving the Problem for Ourselves 98 Lewis: Grace and Free Will 98 Born this Way? 100 Inheritance? 102 Graceless Stress in a Hostile World 105 The Independence/Interdependence of Decisions 106 eritis sicut Deus: "The Idea" 108 The Fall: The Freedom Taken to Redefine 108 "I deduced from all of this the utter necessity of faith in Christ." 110 Reason and Natural Law 111 Created Freedom and Custodianship: The Human Condition 114 Lewis on the Hell of the Self: Condemnation and Destruction 114 What If?—Ontological Custodianship 117
PART TWO CHRIST REVEALED THROUGH ANALOGICAL AND SYMBOLIC NARRATIVE
Chapter 5 Analogical and Symbolic Narratives I: Narrative Theology, Supposition and Genre, Mythopoeic Theorizing—Imagining The Christ 123
 Introduction 124 Theology after "Modernism" and "Liberalism" 124 Narrative Theology 126 Lewis: Analogical-Symbolic Narratives 128 A Veiled Understanding Outside the Church 128 Genre and Source 128 Narnia: Lewis's "Supposal" 131
i. Mythopoeic Theorizing 131ii. "The Whole Narnian Story is about Christ" 133

iii. Aslan . . . or Christ? | 136

iv. "The Probable and the Marvelous" | 136

ON THE CHRIST OF A RELIGIOUS ECONOMY. I. CREATION AND SUB-CREATION

6. How Successful is Lewis's Supposition? | 138

Chapter 6 Analogical and Symbolic Narratives II: Christology and Christlikeness— Hiddenness and Multiple Incarnations | 141

- 1. Introduction | 142
- 2. Christ, Translated and Transposed | 142
 - i. The imago Christi and the imitatio Christi | 142
 - ii. Christlike—and the Christ | 144
 - iii. Christlikeness—Ransom and Psyche | 144
- 3. The Hidden Christ I: By Analogy | 145
- 4. The Hidden Christ II: The Space Trilogy | 146
 - i. Christ's Servants | 146
 - ii. The Anti-Christ | 147
- 5. The Question of Multiple Incarnations | 150
 - i. The Limits of Atonement? | 150
 - ii. Aquinas Poses the Question | 151
- 6. Lewis on Multiple Incarnations | 151
 - i. The Doctrine of Universal Redemption | 152
 - ii. Quarantine, Cosmic Implications and Atonement: Wither Humanity? | 152
 - iii. Created Diversity | 157
- 7. The Argument Extended | 158
 - i. Rahner and Fisher and Fergusson on Multiple Incarnations | 158
 - ii. Bonting, Drees, and Mascall on Multiple Incarnations | 159
 - iii. Hebblethwaite on Multiple Incarnations | 160
 - iv. Crisp on Multiple Incarnations | 163
 - v. Ward on Multiple Incarnations | 165
- 8. The Argument Resolved? | 165

Chapter 7 Analogical and Symbolic Narratives III: Christology and Christlikeness—Trinitarian Considerations \mid 167

- 1. A Doctrine of God | 168
 - i. God is Triune | 168
 - ii. Immanence and Economic Action | 168
 - iii. God is Love | 169

Deus caritas est—ὁ θεὸς ἀγάπη ἐστίν—God is Love | 169

The Eschatological Direction of the Love of God | 169

Ever-Focusing on the Other | 170

- 2. A Christian Analogy? | 172
- 3. The Trinity in The Space Trilogy | 173
- 4. A Triune Salvation History? | 174
- 5. Trinitarian Considerations | 175
 - i. Christian Concepts | 175
 - ii. Creation | 176
 - iii. The Tree and the Garden | 176
 - iv. Sacrifice and Resurrection | 177
 - v. Salvation | 178

vi. End Times and Final Judgment | 179 vii. Resurrection Life | 179 viii. The Stable, Door, and Garden | 179 6. A Doctrine of the Trinity | 181 7. A Narnian Trinity | 183 i. The Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit | 183 ii. The Father: The Emperor-beyond-the-Sea | 184 iii. The Son: Aslan—An Epiphanic Enfleshed Theophany | 186 iv. The Son: Aslan—an Enfleshed Logos—Corporeal and Creaturely | 187 Incarnation or Theophany | 187 λόγος ἄσαρκος/λόγος ἔνσαρκος | 188 "He no longer looked to them like a lion." | 189 v. The Holy Spirit: The Spirit of the Emperor-beyond-the-Sea and of Aslan | 190 8. Pneuma The Holy One: I. A Disquieting Presence | 191 i. A Haunting | 192 ii. "Who Proceeds from the Father and the Son" | 192 9. Pneuma The Holy One: II. Action and event | 193 i. The Breath of Aslan | 193 ii. The Comforter | 195 iii. The Enabler | 196 iv. The Chastiser and the Moral Guide | 196 v. The Guide and a Symbol of Hope | 198 10. A Triune Statement of Self-Revelation | 198 i. Trinitarian Language | 198 ii. A Trinitarian Revelation: Courage and Hope | 199 iii A Trinitarian Revelation: "I am that I am" | 200 11. Conclusion: A Narnian Doctrine of God? | 202 Chapter 8 Analogical and Symbolic Narratives IV: Salvation, Encounters, and Judgment—the Work of the Aslan-Christ | 203 1. Introduction | 203 2. The Aslan-Christ I: Lewis's Mythopoeic Sub-Creation | 204 i. Aslan | 204 ii. Perception: A Human Model | 205 Dread and Wrath, Terror and Amazement A Troubling Presence, An Enfleshed Form Fear and Trembling, Hidden and Apophatic | 209 Beauty and Love, Grief and Intensity | 211 3. The Aslan-Christ II: Encounters | 212 i. The Nature of the Encounters | 212 ii. Encounters: An Awesome Meeting | 213 4. The Aslan-Christ III: Pagan Encounters | 215 i. Encounters: Shasta and Aravis, Bree and Hwin | 215 Shasta—The Conversion of a Pagan? | 215 Aravis—The Conversion of a Religious? | 218 Bree and Hwin—The Conversion of Sentient Beings? | 220

ON THE CHRIST OF A RELIGIOUS ECONOMY. I. CREATION AND SUB-CREATION

- ii. Encounters: Emeth | 222
 5. The Aslan-Christ IV: Judgment—A Narnian Eschaton | 225
 i. The Finality of Judgment | 225
 ii. A Shifting Puzzle? | 227
 iii. Neo-Kantian, Feuerbachian Dwarves? | 229
 Faith and Disbelief | 229
 "Oh Adam's sons, how cleverly you defend yourselves against all that might do you good." | 230
 A Baptized Imagination | 234
- Chapter 9 Analogical and Symbolic Narratives V: Father Christmas in Narnia?— Intimations of Atonement and Salvation | 239
 - 1. Introduction: How Does It Work? | 240

Matthew 25: Pagan Salvation? | 235

- 2. Explanations and Criticisms | 241
- 3. The Problem | 244

iv.

- 4. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe | 245
- 5. St. Nicholas, Father Christmas, Santa Claus, Kris Kringle, Jupiter, Jove | 246
- 6. Platonic Idealism and Reality | 247
 - i. Revelation and Myth-Making | 248
 - ii. Transposition | 249
 - iii. Illumination and Intimation | 250
- 7. Father Christmas in Narnia: An Existential Theological Proposition | 252
 - i. The Gift Bearer | 252
 - ii. Cross-Cultural Fertilization | 253
 - iii. Sin, Treachery, and Atonement | 255
 - iv. A Narnian Fall | 256
 - v. "Always Winter and Never Christmas" | 257
- 8. Towards a Narnian Atonement | 258
 - i. Freedom . . . under "The Law" | 259
 - ii. A Ransom Theory of Atonement | 259
 - iii. A Debt Theory of Atonement | 261
- 9. Conclusion | 262