

# GRADE SUMMARY

September 30, 2020

Dear: CHRISTOF BUCHERER Degree Program: Doct. ~~Ph.D.~~

Enclosed please find your final grade for the course:

## A SURVEY OF BIBLE DOCTRINES (CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS I)

This grade was a result of an average of the following scores:

84 Test Questions

100 Outline

99 Essay

98 Book Report

\_\_\_\_\_ Work Book

\_\_\_\_\_ Thesis

\_\_\_\_\_ Dissertation

Final Grade 92



[Geben Sie Text ein]

100

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

Outline

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Jacksonville Theological Seminary

Doctor of Theology

July 24, 2020

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

### I. Lesson One

#### What Is God Like?

- A. The evangelical Christian's basis of authority is to be found within the framework of the revelation of God in nature, history, the Bible and Jesus Christ.
- B. A Christian "believes" that there is a God, revealed in Jesus Christ
- C. the theistic answer is less complex to believe than any other
- D. history is called general revelation, while other means are labeled special revelation
- E. There are various characteristics and names of God. The name of God is יהוה (YHVH) in Ex 3:15; 6:2-3

### II. Lesson Two

#### Is the Bible Inspired?

- A. Christians believe in the entire inspiration of Scripture.
- B. A canon is a rule of a certain text, like the Leningrad Codex of the Old Testament or the New Testament, indicating that they are inspired. The Reformers followed the Textus Receptus, which came from Antioch
- C. The Bible was written of 1500 year by over 40 authors as inspired by the Holy Spirit
- D. The Holy Spirit illuminates people who have accepted Jesus Christ as LORD
- E. The Bible contains 39 books (24 books for the Jews as Hebrew Bible) of the Old and 27 books of the New Testament

### V. Lesson Three

#### Jesus Christ the Lord

- A. Jesus Christ was God and Man. We first follow his own claims, that he was God.
- B. Jesus Christ is eternal
- C. Jesus Christ is Yehovah God, who made everything, who forgives sins (I do not believe in "Yahweh")
- D. Jesus Christ was Yehovah God on earth.
- E. He and the Father are **one** God. (Rev 14:4 = God and the Lamb)

### VI. Lesson Four

#### The Holy Spirit

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

- A. The Holy Spirit is God/Jesus Christ
- B. The best known Scriptures for the unity of God is and 2 Cor 13:14 and 1 John 5:7. I do not believe that the text of Mt 28:19 is original.
- C. Sabellianism (A.D. 215) taught, that God is a unity revealing himself in three different modes.
- D. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is YHVH (Yehovah)
- E. Since Pentecost the Holy Spirit is in each Christians life, when he has accepted Jesus

## V. Lesson Five

## The World of Angels

- A. God created angles
- B. Good angles help God, the Seraphim (Isaiah 6:2) and the Cherubim (Gen 3:24)
- C. The devil and his demons have fallen away from by free will
- D. Babylon (Is 14) and Tyre (Ez 28) are pictures of Satan/the devil
- E. Christians cannot be possessed by the demons, since Christians have the Holy Spirit.

## VI. Lesson Six

## The Nature of Man

- A. Man has been made by God/Jesus
- B. Man has sinned
- C. The original sin of Adam as spread to all men
- D. Through God/Jesus Christ on the cross we have been saved
- E. As Christians we need to walk in the light of “God and the Lamb (Jesus)” The original sin of Adam as spread to all men

## VII: Lesson Seven

## Christ’s Salvation

- A. Jesus death on the cross brought salvation to man
- B. Jesus Christ was God-man in order to save us
- C. Every saved person is elected by God from eternity
- D. We are saved by faith through grace alone
- E. Baptism is a symbol of having been saved by Jesus and of entering the church, the body of Christ

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

### IIX. Lesson Eight

#### What Is the Church?

- A. A Church is an Assembly of people committed to Jesus Christ
- B. Churches are governed by elders and deacons, chosen by the church assembly
- C. The church has two ordinances, the Lord's Supper and Believers baptism
- D. The Church started at the day of Pentecost and will be a church until the wedding with the Lord Jesus Christ
- E. The church has different missions, like declaring the Lord in the world, look after its own members

### IIX. Lesson Nine

#### What Does the Future Hold

- A. Jesus Christ will come again
- B. There will be two sorts of resurrections, the one of the saved and the one for the wicked
- C. Revelation 20 speaks of the Millennium and 21-22 of the new heaven and earth
- D. Before Jesus will rule in the Millennium, there will be a rapture of the church
- E. Salvation and Hell are two eternal states, as God and man will have eternal states

A Survey of Bible Doctrines

Essay

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## A Survey of Bible Doctrines

First, what is God like? Man's reason is to think about God. We can see God from our conscience, nature, history, the Bible and Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ has shown him. John 1:18 "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." Jesus himself is God, who became man and was ascended to be God again. Phil 2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." In Revelation we always see: "God and the Lamb". They are "one" God and the "light" of the world (Gen 1:3, Is 60:1-2; Micha, John 1:4-5; Rev 21:23) and the Jerusalem and the world to come. Micha 7:8 "YEHOVAH (Jesus) shall be a light to me." Jesus Christ is Yehovah. John 8:58; Ex 3:14-15. (I disagree with Yahweh!). Yehovah is not the "Tetragrammaton and Adonai mixed together". The vowels are not "A", "O" "AI". But "E", "O", "A"! Jesus said, that "he and the Father are one." John 10:30 The name of Jesus is קִבְרֵ אֱנָשׁ "Kibar Enash" = "Son of Man". This Aramaic word appears only once (!!!) in the Bible and the connection is, that to this "Son of Man" "was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed." Dan 7:14 – Since Jesus is the "everlasting" God, he is Yehovah, since the verb of Yehovah comes from "to be". So,

## A Survey of Bible Doctrines

in the Old Testament he is the one “I will be who I will be” Ex 3:14 and the “A and the O” (Aleph and Tav) in Rev 1:8,11; 21:6 and 22:13. Without the Bible we do not know what God is like. In Greek it is: “εγω εμι” = “I AM WHO I AM”. Ex. 3:14; John 8:58). God/Jesus is the “ETERNAL”. John N. Darby has translated YEHOVAH in French as “ETERNEL”. In German it is “DER EWIGE” Jews talk about “DER EWIGE” but they usually don’t take the name “YEHOVAH” into their lips. The Bible does not have “godless people”. The word “godless” in the Bible does not appear in Hebrew. In Hebrew it is the “.ra' and rāshâ' is a Hebrew adverb for "morally wrong, bad, or wicked person. Asēbēs Greek adjective means "impious, irreverent, wicked, and ungodly. "The definition is “ungodly” but the meaning of the verb is not ungodly. Translation is “the wicked” (ασεβεις/ιψη). The reason why we do not have “ungodly people in the Bible, is found in the Ten Commandemnts: “You shall have no other gods before Me.” Ex 20:3 God has certain characteristics: He is omniscient, holy, love, true, free, omnipotent, infinite, immutable, omnipresent and sovereign. God in Hebrew is Elohim, his name if Jehovah, He is often called Adonay (Adonai = Lord), his characteristics as above in English are: Elyon (highest), Nissi (will provide), Olam (eternal), Shalom (provides peace) Shaddai (almighty), Jireh (will provide), Maccaddeshcem (who makes us holy), Roi (seeing), Tsidkenu (our righteousness), Shammah (is there), God of Israel, Qadosh (holy) Shadday (most high).\* The word “Trinity is not found in the Bible”. The author suggests “Tryunity” (“Dreieinigkeit” in German). The trinity is expressed in the “name” (singular) of one God (Matt 28:19). The word “person” for God is not good, since we do not pray to three persons. Christ then often becomes inferior to God the Father. God revealed himself in Jesus Christ. (John 1:18) Christians are monotheists.

Second, is the Bible inspired? Yes, the Bible is inspired by God. 2. Tim. 3:16; 2. Peter 1:16,21. The Bible is also called “The Word of God”. The Bible was written over 1600 years by over 40 people. To read the Bible we need “illumination” (giving us the meaning by the

## A Survey of Bible Doctrines

Holy Spirit). We believe in “the plenary, verbally, infallible, inspired, and inerrant - in - the original - manuscripts Word of God.” The Holy Spirit was given to teach us the whole truth. No jot (yod) or title has to be removed from Scripture. (Mt 5:18). Some Hebrew letters are difficult to distinguish, like the “dalet” from the “res”. “I AM” means what it literally says, that God is a God of every “presence”. (Ex 3:14, John 8:58) Jesus says, that he is YEHOVAH/KYRIOS according to Psalm 110:1. (e.g. Mt 22:44). Since Psalm 82:6 says, that we are “gods”, Jesus can also say, that he is the Son of God. (John 10:34). Figures of speech are for instance the “four corners of the earth” (Rev 1:7) The Bible has 39 Old Testament books (Jews call it the Tanakh, 24 books). The New Testament has 27 books. The 12 apocryphal books are not counted, neither by the Jews, nor the early Christians. Jerome translated the Vulgate out of the Hebrew Bible in the fourth Century. The “Aitken Bible” was the first King James Version printed in US history in 1782, which is about 238 years ago. The Greek translation of the Bible, the Septuagint (LXX), was translated from about 250 BCE until about 132 BCE. The Torah (the five books of Moses/Pentateuch) was translated by 72 Hebrew scholars for Pharaoh Ptolemy II. The New Testament has more than 5500 manuscripts. We have historic, poetic and prophetic Scripture. A word differs, if it is singular or plural, like “seed” זרע = [szar'ah] (singular). The law in Bible changed into grace: John 1:17 “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” Rom 6:14 “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.” The New Testament explains the Old Testament.

Third, Jesus Christ is Lord – Hebr. 1:10 says that he is LORD/YEHOVAH. In verse 8 and 9 he is also God. So, the LORD God who made the heavens and the earth is Jesus Christ. He is also our Judge. John 5:22 “For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment to the Son.” He also forgave our sins at the cross. He forgave sins even before the cross, when he healed a sick. The people did not believe, that Jesus is God, so, he said, I forgive your sins,

## A Survey of Bible Doctrines

which will be demonstrated by your healing. Mark 2:4b "let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the sick of the palsy, Son, your sins be forgiven you." Jesus also walked on the water. Mt 14:32 "And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. 33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth you are the Son of God." The Son of God in Bible times, meant, that Jesus was God. Luke 1:35 says, that Jesus is the Son of God. The Jews translated this as the "Son of YEHOVAH", a Gospel from the Vatican.<sup>1</sup> Jesus Christ was God and man. He gave us an example. He is the great "I AM" = YEHOVAH. Hebr. 1:10; Mt 22:44; John 8:58; Rev 1:8. This can be seen in my new [YEHOVAH-King James Version](#). Since Jesus is God, he has all the attributes of God. He is "omni-present, eternal, powerfull, he is the Lord of Hosts and has all the name of his Father, since In Hebr. 1:2 it says, that Jesus is the "heir". To be the "heir" means, he has all what the Father has. John 10:30/14:9. It does not mean, that Jesus has a beginning. Daniel 7,13-14 says that Jesus is King forever. The same is said of Jesus in Rev 11:15 and many other parts of the Bible.

Fourth, the Holy Spirit is the third person of God. The Holy Spirit is God. He was involved in creation. We find him in the second verse of the Bible: "And the Spirit of God moved on the face of the waters." When we know that we are sinners, we can receive Jesus Christ into our lives and the Holy Spirit will baptize us. This is a fact and not a feeling. The baptism of the Holy Spirit was first seen in the speaking in tongues of the first disciples. Today we have many gifts of the Holy Spirit, which we find in 1 Cor 12, Romans 12 and Eph 4. We must not quench the Holy Spirit. To be spirit filled, it means, we praise God and sing songs or lead a life, pleasing to God/Jesus Christ our Lord. God is Spirit. Joh 4:24. The Holy Spirit comes from the Father and the Son. This is so, because we can find it in the Bible. Jesus said: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said to you." John

14:26. As Christians, who have accepted Jesus into our lives, we have the Holy Spirit will never leave us.

Fifth, angels are creatures *made* by God. Some of them have fallen away, with the prince being the devil. Angles are sometimes cherubims (Gen 3:24) or seraphims (Is 6:2). Of many angles we do not know to which group they belong. Humans are protected by angles, especially children. Angles appear in at least 34 of 66 books of the Bible. In Jesus time, they were present at his birth and when he suffered, died, rose and went to heaven. When the church started by the Holy Spirit in Acts 2, angles were helping the apostles and disciples. Angles will also be present at the end of the age. They will gather the elect and be present in the millennium. They will also be present in the New Jerusalem (Rev 21-22). Satan appeared in the Garden of Eden. He has his demonic powers (demons). The angle of the Lord in the Old Testament may be YEHOVAH himself. (Genesis 18:1; Ex 3:2,14; Josh 5:14). But the angle of the Lord/YEHOVAH (in Luk 1:11/Mt 1:20,24) is not Jesus. In the book of Job and Daniel, we see Satan at work in form the “prince of Persia” (Dan 10:13). Christians, who have the Holy Spirit, cannot be possessed by Demons, but Satan attacks them and tries to tear them away with his powers from a holy living or clear teaching. Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire at the end of the age. (Rev 20:10) Jesus died for us to free us from Satan, if we believe in him. The archangel Michael (Jude 9) is not Jesus, as Jehovah’s Witnesses and old Seventh Day Adventists claimed. To pray to Jesus is paying to God, since he is “LORD and God” in Joh 20:28. Speaking in tongues is not (an evil spirit possession), but a gift of God, which remains today (not as the author describes). But I do not know, what speaking in tongues means for today, since I myself see it as “gibberish”. The author Charles C. Ryrie is a cessationist who does not believe in prophecies and speaking in tongues for today, because, as I believe, he was a Dallas Seminary professor, where only cessationist teaching is condoned. <sup>i</sup>

## A Survey of Bible Doctrines

Sixth, the world has been made by God/Jesus Christ. Man was made in the image of God. As God is Father, Son and Holy Ghost, we have body, soul and spirit. The heart is our inmost part of our life. Because of sin we all die. But since Jesus has suffered the penalty of our sin, we are saved, when we believe in him. Jesus Christ is YEHOVAH ELOHIM, the same God as the Father YEHOVAH ELOHIM. So, the Son by the Holy Spirit was made man and saved us. So, God is our Savior. Jesus means YE-SHUA = God saves. Evolutionists do not believe in God and sin, or have a crippled understanding of it. I believe that a day for God is like 1000 years for man. Psalm 90:4; 2. Peter 3:8. Since God is light, the sun was only created on the fourth day. So, because God is light, it says in Genesis 1:11 “Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed”. So, grass, herb and seed was available before the sun! Photosynthesis is a chemical reaction that takes place inside a plant, producing food for the plant to survive. So, according to the Bible, the Photosynthesis took place before the sun shone on the earth! Now, there is no mutation between living beings. Apes cannot become man. This means, that Darwin (12 February 1809 – 19 April 1882) was wrong. The universal flood created layers of the earth, which explain, why they may have been created in a very short time, within one year! Gen 7:24: “And the waters prevailed on the earth an hundred and fifty days.” Here is a fossil from Himalaya: <http://buchererpianos.ch/fossil.jpg>, “Langza and Lalung lie along a belt of fossil-rich sediment in Spiti. Climbers who have been to the top of Mount Everest brought back rocks in which the fossils of sea lilies were discovered.”: <https://weather.com/en-IN/india/news/news/2018-06-29-fish-fossil-himalayas>

Seventh, we are saved by believing in Jesus, that he is the son of God who died for our sins and has brought union for us with God. Jesus Christ himself is this God and the Father in heaven. Joh 3:13 “And no man has ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.” Jesus himself says that he is the Father: Joh. 14,8-9 “Philip said to him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficient for us. Jesus said to

him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet have you not known me, Philip? he that has seen me has seen the Father; and how say you then, Show us the Father?" The word "Lord" means "YEHOVAH". Jesus is our "YEHOVAH Jesus"! If we do not recognize that, we will not be saved. The author of the book says "YAHWEH". But he means "YEHOVAH". Only at our time, some people know now Hebrew well enough, to pronounce it correctly in my understanding. It can be heard from a Jew:

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/aa/He-YHWH.ogg>. Only as YEHOVAH God died for us and was "stung" (Zech 12:10; Joh. 19:37, Rev 1:7 for us, we were saved. Rev. 1:8 declares Jesus as YEHOVAH ELOHIM SHADDAY). If we are not clear about Jesus, we do not know for what we live. Only with the LORD Jesus we are born by his Spirit into to Church. Once we are saved, we do not lose our salvation. Hebr 10:39 "But we are not of them who draw back to perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." We can lose some of our reward, but not our salvation. 1 Cor. 3,15. Christians only believe in one God and not two: (a) Father, b) Son). The Son is not a lesser God as Jehovah's Witnesses say and as many Christians make him.

Eighth, the Church, is an assembly of committed Christians to Jesus Christ. It was appointed by Christ, depending in Peter the Stone with Christ being the Cornerstone. It started on the day of Pentecost. Peter was involved in starting the Church for the Jews (Acts 2), the Samaritans (Acts 8) and the gentiles (Acts 10). After this other Apostles like Paul and John continued setting up the church. The leadership of the church is mentioned especially in 1 Timothy and Titus with having elders and deacons. Elders/Bishops were the main leaders of the churches, after the Apostles ceased. Elders and deacons were mainly men. Baptism comes from "baptizo" = to dip. Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Ordinances, which are symbols of the death of Christ or the Union with him by death and resurrection. There are local churches and there is an universal church, which is the body of Christ. The church was a mystery, described by Paul in Ephesians 2:11-3:13. The wedding of the Church and Jesus Christ is

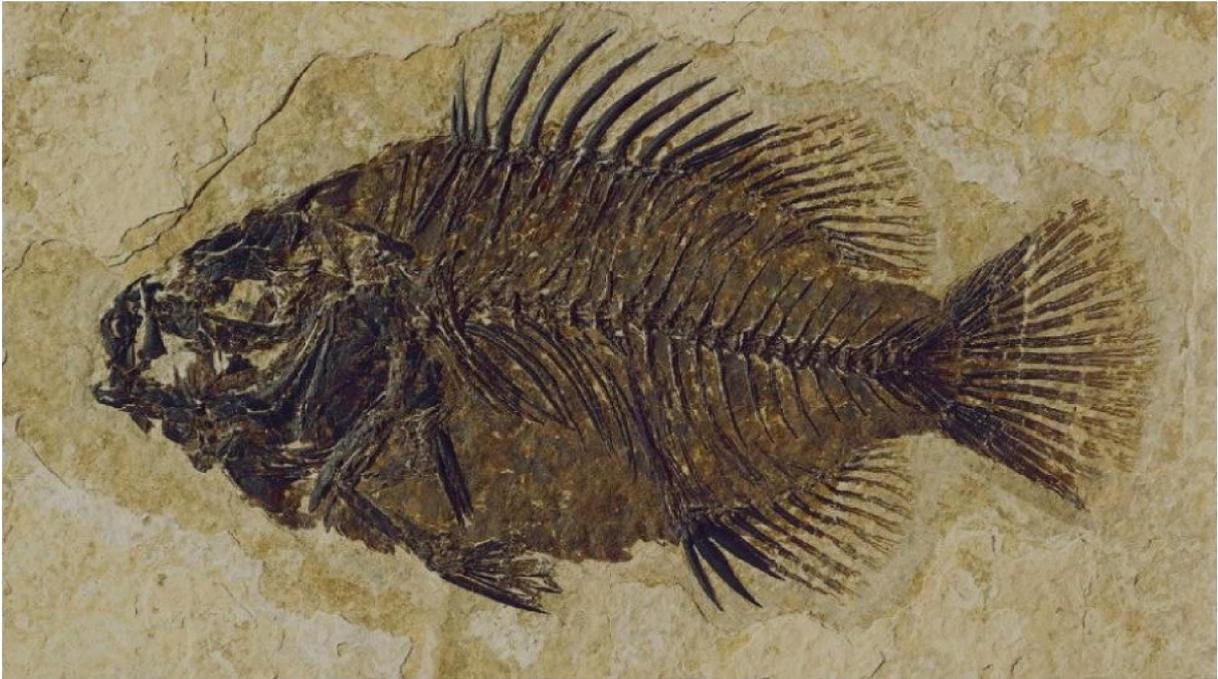
## A Survey of Bible Doctrines

described in Revelation 19:7 “Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.”

Ninth, the future holds the Jesus Christ will return. He returns in two phases: a) at the rapture (1 Cor 15:51-52; 1 Thess 4:16-17) and b) in Revelation 19 as the Word with a robe dipped in blood to defeat the armies, which have assembled against God and Jerusalem and to establish the millennium, where he will reign for 1000 years. Jesus will judge the church in the first resurrection, which will be before the millennium in different phases to prepare his bride, the church, for the wedding he will hold with her (us) who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord God and Savior. The unrighteous will rise at the end of the millennium and be judged by God. Rev 20:12 “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” The author of the book says that it will be Jesus Christ who will also be judging there. Joh 5:22 For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment to the Son. Since God is eternal, our salvation will also be eternal as our torment, if we do not believe in Jesus. I do not know when the rapture happens and I link it to Rev 11.15 “And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.” I do not place this event in an exact position in the last seven years of Daniel 9:24-27.

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cessationism\\_vs\\_continuationism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cessationism_vs_continuationism)



**Fossil from the Himalaya region**

A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

**Book Report**

Christof Bucherer

Jacksonville Theological Seminary

August 12, 2020

**Title of Book:** Mere Christianity, C. S. Lewis

**Mere Christianity****1. Introduction****Who wrote the book?****About the Author****2. The Focus of the Book****What did I learn from the book?****a) What are the key points of the book?****b) What do I take away from the book?****3. How does the book relate to the course of my program?****1. Introduction****Who wrote the book?**

C. S. Lewis (Clive Staples Lewis, 29 November 1898 – 22 November 1963) was a British writer and lay theologian. He held academic positions in English literature at both Oxford University (Magdalen College, 1925–1954) and Cambridge University (Magdalene College, 1954–1963). He is best known for his works of fiction, especially *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, and *The Space Trilogy*, and for his non-fiction Christian apologetics, such as *Mere Christianity*, *Miracles*, and *The Problem of Pain*.

**About the Author**

He wrote about 30 books. Lewis had a possible relationship with the mother of a student friend who died at the end of WWI. This friend died in 1951. In 1956, Lewis then married an American writer Joy Davidman; she died of cancer four years later at the age of 45. According to ethics, people accused him of marrying a married wife who divorced and then married him. The problem with the wives former husband was that her first husband

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

was a drinker. C. S. Lewis died with only almost 65. I read his life story, Narnia and one or two similar books, like The Screwtape Letters .

### **2. The Focus of the Book**

His book: "Mere Christianity" is a book which has some dogmatic but also ethical points.

I am most interested in his belief in God, Jesus Christ and the Trinity. He believes that

God is separate from the world. He believes, that Jesus Christ is "begotten" and not

created. He compares that with man, who can *carve* an image but God *created* man.

Despite of God's creation, he says, that Christ is "begotten" which to him means Christ is not made like man makes a carved image.

### **What did I learn from the book?**

#### **a) What are the key points of the book?**

The key points of the book are three themes. They were broadcasted in three sessions.

Out of the sound files C. S. Lewis made a book of four subjects. He altered some to the

language from colloquial to written style and altered some small ideas which had

developed since in his mind. He says that he is not a theologian but an Anglican who is

not to high, low or evangelical.

### **I. Right and Wrong as a Clue to the Meaning of the Universe**

#### **1. The Law of Human Nature**

C. S. Lewis is a philosopher. So, he questions the law of nature and says that we as

humans do not follow it.

#### **2. Some Objections**

Moral Law and natural instincts are not the same. As Christians we believe in a moral

law.

### **3. The Reality of the Law**

The author searches for the law of Christ.

### **4. What Lies Behind the Law**

Here the author speaks about the natural and the religious view. He says, that if something behind creation that we should know, it would make itself/himself known. Science cannot make by itself known, where there is some creator behind his creation. So, the only person who can know anything about creation is man. And man knows something about moral law, because man is not just something that “happened”. Studying man from outside, we could not make any judgment about him. From observing the facts of creation we would not find out if there was a creator. If God is only a life-force, it means, God takes no responsibility for us. Between Atheists and Theists there are theistic evolutionists, according to C. S. Lewis. But if they do not believe in God, then the meaning of theistic evolution is meaningless.

### **5. We Have Cause to be Uneasy**

In this section C. S. Lewis says, that we must believe in God to understand, that we as humans are not able to meet the moral law. As a Christian, we believe, that other religions may have some truth. We see the universe but the moral law of good and evil is inside us, which we as humans cannot meet. This law has been met by God on our behalf. As Christians we believe “how God Himself becomes a man to save man from the disapproval of God.” Lewis wrote many children’s books, where you need phantasy to understand the mysteries. But one mystery to him which became reality is Jesus Christ how God Himself becomes a man to save man from the disapproval of God, because all we read about Jesus Christ is, that he was a sinless person, that means he was God in human form.

## **II. What Christian believe**

### **1. The Rival Conceptions of God**

Here Lewis shows how he had to give up his atheism. Since we can see that things have been made intelligent, we must believe, that there is an intelligent God. Since animals can see, there must be a background, that there is a God who gives sight to animals.

### **2. The Invasion**

Here Lewis speaks about Dualism. But he has realized, by reading the New Testament, that there is a power above good and evil. He started to believe, that there must be a devil, who has turned from good to bad, without exactly describing him, for we „humans” do not know.

### **3. The Shocking Alternative**

Jesus for Lewis is God who has become man. Jesus to him is not a lunatic who would say: “I am humble and meek” and not be God, since if a man would say that, we would say, that he should say the opposite: “I am strong and powerful”. So, all what Jesus did was pointing to the fact that He is God.

### **4. The Perfect Penitent**

Here Lewis looks at repentance. He believes that God became man. So, we have to repent to accept God’s justification for us which he endured on the cross and accept that He died for us.

### **5. The Practical Conclusion**

Christ was ‘perfect’, because he was God, and ‘surrender and humiliation’, because he was man. With our faith in Jesus, we have gained a new life and are happy to have it.

This is something more than following his teachings. Now we need to be prepared for the Christ-life. There are three steps: baptism, faith and the Lord’s Supper. Lewis believes, that the Christ-life repairs the Christian all the time, to repeat the voluntary death of

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

Christ. Christ-life is reached by mentally believing and physically by baptism and Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper). He says that we have to choose Christ today.

### III. Christian Behavior

#### 1. The Three Parts of Morality

...are first faire play, second, harmonizing, third, the general purpose of human life. This can be illustrated by a car, ships or music. If you play dance music, but you must play a march, it is not the same thing. Another three things are first the things inside a man, second, relations between man and man, third, the relation with the power that made him. From now on in the book the author treats subjects from the Christian point of view.

#### 2. The "Cardinal Virtues"

We have now four cardinal virtues and three theological virtues. About the "cardinal virtues": Prudence, Temperance, Justice and Fortitude. *Prudence* means "common sense". The word of Christ he is using falsely as a word of Paul: "harmless as doves and wise as serpents". (Matt 10:16) He says that an uneducated believer as Bunyan can change the world by the book he has written: "Christian". *Temperance* is a way of knowing when to stop doing things which are wrong for us. Words like "bridge-mania" are only used by C. S. Lewis. (someone who is addicted to the bridge game). It means, we should not overdo things in our life. *Justice* is what we mean by "fairness", and *Fortitude* means "guts". These virtues are like a safe haven for humanity.

#### 3. Social Morality

Here we read about loving God and others as we love ourselves. Attention is drawn not charge interest.

#### 4. Morality and Psychoanalysis

He says Christianity is opposed to people like Freud and Jung. This is only said about the

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

philosophical theme and not the medical, since C. S Lewis a philosopher and not a medic.

“Good people know about bad good and evil, but bad people do not know about either.”

### **5. Sexual Morality**

Here sexual faithfulness to your own marriage partner is considered and is the rule for everybody. Marriage is the only place to be sexual active. You must ask God for help of chastity. He says that hatred is more dangerous than wrong sexual behavior.

### **6. Christian Marriage**

Marriage is a “one flesh being”. Only a “violin and a bow” make it to be a violin. So, marriage is made for reproduction. If we do not become one flesh, we will not reproduce. Marriage is for life. Marriage rests on the eternal promise we have made a Christian. Love is far better than Sensuality. “in love” does not mean to love. The excitement of marriage does not last 50 years. But love can last 50 years. A thing will no live unless it first dies. He also believes that the means should be the head of the marriage. (as I do)

### **7. Forgiveness**

Forgiveness it to love the neighbor as ourselves. Since the neighbor is also the enemy, the love means a lot so strength from us. But when we look at ourselves, we can see the cruelty in ourselves. So, since we need to love the other, as we love ourselves, we must begin to start to love ourselves. Since the author is for killing but not murdering, in war or in court, he also says, that sex may be good but not adultery. So, because the Bible is for soldiers, it does not mean, that they never should kill. I am a pacifist. But I understand non-pacifism.

### **8. The great Sin**

Lewis calls the great sin: pride. It is above all other sins. This is so, because the devil was proud against God. Society functions according to pride. This starts in the early years of a

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

person, when you are treated according to your abilities. It might come up with your neighbors. Religious pride is difficult, because we think we are so humble, when in fact we are proud. I thought in the chapter, Lewis would preach about the sin against the Holy Spirit. But he was not. So, I think, this sin is what Jesus condemned.

### **9. Charity**

Here Lewis writes about “charity” as “giving to the poor. He says, that this kind of charity of people or God would be a matter of our will and not of our feelings.

### **10. Hope**

Hope is the thing we as Christians strive for. It is heaven. In heaven, we have “symbols” which we admire as humans: music, crowns, gold etc. But these things are not mentioned as real. People, who strove for heaven during life, are people who impressed this life, because they knew, that the next life will come and has a reward for them and others.

### **11. Faith**

The first meaning of faith is belief, accepting the doctrines of Christianity.

### **12. Faith**

“Christ offers something for nothing.” – “If you have handed over yourself to him, it must follow that you are trying to obey him.” (p. 116) I think this is, when we have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord in our lives and are being filled with the Holy Spirit. He quotes: “Work out your salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God who works on you.” (Phil 2:12-13) So, faith as a Christian is letting God do the work in ourselves. But, “working our salvation” and “letting “Christ do the work” go together. We must do both, or let both happen. It is like the teaching of Paul and James. Faith and Works.

## **IV. Beyond Personality: Our First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity**

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

### **1. Making and Begetting**

p. 124 “By attaching ourselves to Christ we become sons of God.” - “before the worlds” Christ is begotten, not created. What God begets is begotten, what God creates is created. That is why men are not sons of God as Christ is.”

### **2. The Tree-personal God**

p. 127 talks about an un-personal god, where we would be absorbed. This means, when we die, we stop to exist. But this is not the Christian answer. On p. 128 he believes that God is “three persons while remaining one being”. He says, because Jesus died and rose from the dead, we as humans have seen this God alive. He says that we need to stay in the Christian community.

### **3. Time and Beyond Time**

Here he speaks about time which has nothing to do with our time. People have discovered this “idea”. P. 133 “His (God’s) life does not consist of moments which follow each other.” God’s life is 1920 and 1960 “at the same time”! p. 134 “But God has no history.” The idea of God having no history the author says is not a Christian idea, but the idea of many theologians and people.

### **4. Good Infection**

p. 137 “... but there never was a time before the Father produced the Son.” Jesus is the self-expression of the Father. It is a relation of love. God contains no meaning, if God is not two persons. But God is not a person, but a dynamic, pulsating activity. They are a joint life. The Spirit of God unifies them. The Father is like above, the Son like beside and the Holy Spirit within us. We only have “bios” and no “zoe”. “bios” to him is natural life, “zoe” to him is spiritual life. “Good Infection” means, becoming a Christian.

### **5. The Obstinate Toy Soldiers**

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

God has become man in Jesus Christ. So, there was born a new man. People use different terms of Salvation. One may say, you have been washed in the blood of the lamb, the other may say, you can say, Christ defeated death, Christ died for our sins, the Father has done all in his Son for us, all this is true and we should not get caught up in a particular phraseology, according to Lewis. The toy soldier is only an example of man before he becomes a Christian.

### **6. Two Notes**

These are notes about whether God could have created different sons. But since the Son is like the Father, you this cannot be.

### **7. Let's Pretend**

The "pretence" to be Christ, when praying the Lord's prayer, he thinks, makes us more like Christ. I do not agree. Christ is besides us in our lives. By him we must admit, that we sin and make mistakes, but pretending to be like Christ makes us better human beings. (as I understood Lewis)

### **8. Christianity Hard or Easy**

To become a Christian we have to turn over to Christ. Christ in us by the Holy Spirit helps us to live godly lives. To become a Christian means, that we crucify our old life.

### **9. Counting the Cost**

God can make us different than we think he would. It is Jesus Christ who does this, who is the Almighty.

### **10. Nice People or New Men**

Lewis writes: "there are people in other religions who are being led by God's secret influence to concentrate on those parts of their religion which are in agreement with

## A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

Christianity, and thus belong to Christ without knowing it. Read Acts 17:30 “In the past God overlooked such ignorance...” God is Jesus Christ who overlooks ignorance and treats people according to their deeds. This is why I believe that I will see heathen in heaven. He quotes: “Some of the last will be first and some of the first will be last.” p. 169. On p. 170 he writes: “God became man to turn creatures into sons”.

### 11. The New Men

To become a Christian is not improvement but transformation. Christians are creatures of God who have become sons of God. To become Christians is a voluntary decision. The world was disappointed by the crucifixion. Jesus Christ came to life again. When history tried to kill Christ, he came somewhere else alive again. Christianity continued despite paganism, atheism or Islam. “No wonder they hate us.” p. 174 “His will is to become ours and we are to think his thoughts, to “have the mind of Christ” as the Bible says. p. 175 Light brings a difference between men and salt will improve the taste of a meal. We shall give up our lives for the life in Christ.

#### b) What do I take away from the book?

My idea about the book has changes. I first saw it as a treatise of theological subjects with some practical application. But in the end I found it rather like a tract of how to become a Christian, <sup>on</sup> the terms of C.S. Lewis. He speaks about his own experience of becoming a Christian as an atheist. The content is biblical, despite the author does not quote ~~any~~ scripture. But he brings quotes, like the “Lord’s Prayer”, <sup>and</sup> some quotes of Jesus and Paul. He mentioned evolution in his last chapter, but does not write of it as a different religion to Christianity. So, he does not make readers to be “Evolutionists”. I also do not think that this subject alters anything of what he recommended to think while reading his book.

#### 3. How does the book relate to the course of my program?

The book contains Biblical Doctrines, especially that the Father and the Son have a

### A Survey of Biblical Doctrine

relationship, which is love. This relationship is also the Holy Spirit. So, God and the Son, in his idea is not different. Only the Father is “above” us, the “Son” beside us and the “Holy Spirit” within us. He also uses words, which in a modern book would not be tolerated, like “negro”. He does speak about man and his imperfect state, which he loses by becoming a Christian. He says, that pagans, who have not heard of Christ, if they live “Christ-like” will be saved. So, he does not make any remarks about “hell”, despite he makes clear, that we do not become Christians, we will not be saved. But as Christians, he believes, that we are sometimes very different. So, most subjects of doctrine are touched but it is not a “biblical doctrinal book” as my other book in the course was, but it gives you some philosophical thinking about those ideas. The most striking are, that God acts not according to our time and may be in our past or future (outside time), and the second is, that pagans may be saved, if they live Christ-like. My idea about pagans is similar, that God judges them, but according to Acts 17:30 Luke says: “In the past God overlooked such ignorance...”.