

0. THE PATH TO GOD - Story Preface

1. DOES GOD ALLOW EVIL?

2. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA

3. THE PATH TO GOD

4. THE PATH TO FAITH

5. LORD OF THE RINGS

6. FAME

7. LOVE ARRIVES

8. DEATH COMES TOO SOON

9. JACK'S IMPACT

10. LEARNING LINKS

The path to God did not come easily for Jack Lewis.

Completing his studies, he chose a career which took him to Oxford and the world of medieval literature. Not content with fantastic tales of the past, he became close friends with one of the greatest storytellers of his time: J.R.R. Tolkien (author of *Lord of the Rings*). And he closely studied George MacDonald (author of *Phantastes*).

Interrupted briefly by service in WWI (where he was injured at the front), Lewis returned to Oxford and became a tutor at Magdalen (pronounced MAWD-lin) College, where he remained for 29 years. He took part in brisk discussions about faith (or his lack thereof).

Although now an atheist, he continued to speculate whether God did, in fact, exist. In 1929 - after long talks with close friends, such as J.R.R. Tolkien - Jack "admitted God was God."

You must picture me alone in that room in Magdalen, night after night feeling, whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet.

That which I greatly feared had at last come upon me. In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all of England.

C. S. Lewis *Surprised by Joy*

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-PATH-TO-GOD-Shadowlands>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-PATH-TO-GOD-Shadowlands>

Media Stream

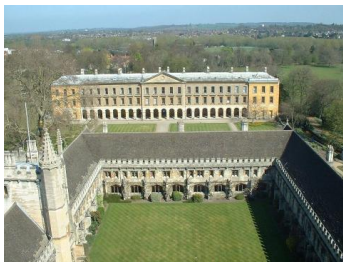


C.S. Lewis - With Paddy Moore During World War I

Photo of C.S. Lewis and Paddy Moore, online courtesy C S Lewis Centenary Group.

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C.S. Lewis - Magdalen College, Oxford

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C.S. Lewis - As a Boy

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C.S. Lewis - Youthful Days

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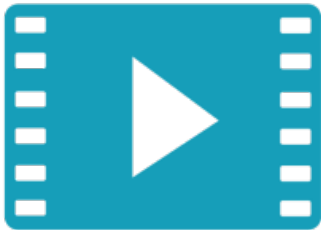
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C.S. Lewis - Conversion

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C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien - A Talk Between Friends

Clip from "Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*: A Catholic World View," online via EWTN's Channel at YouTube. Copyright, EWTN, all rights reserved. Clip provided as fair use for educational purposes and to acquaint new viewers with the program.

Program created by Tolkien scholar, Joseph Pearce, and featuring the artwork of Jef Murray.

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