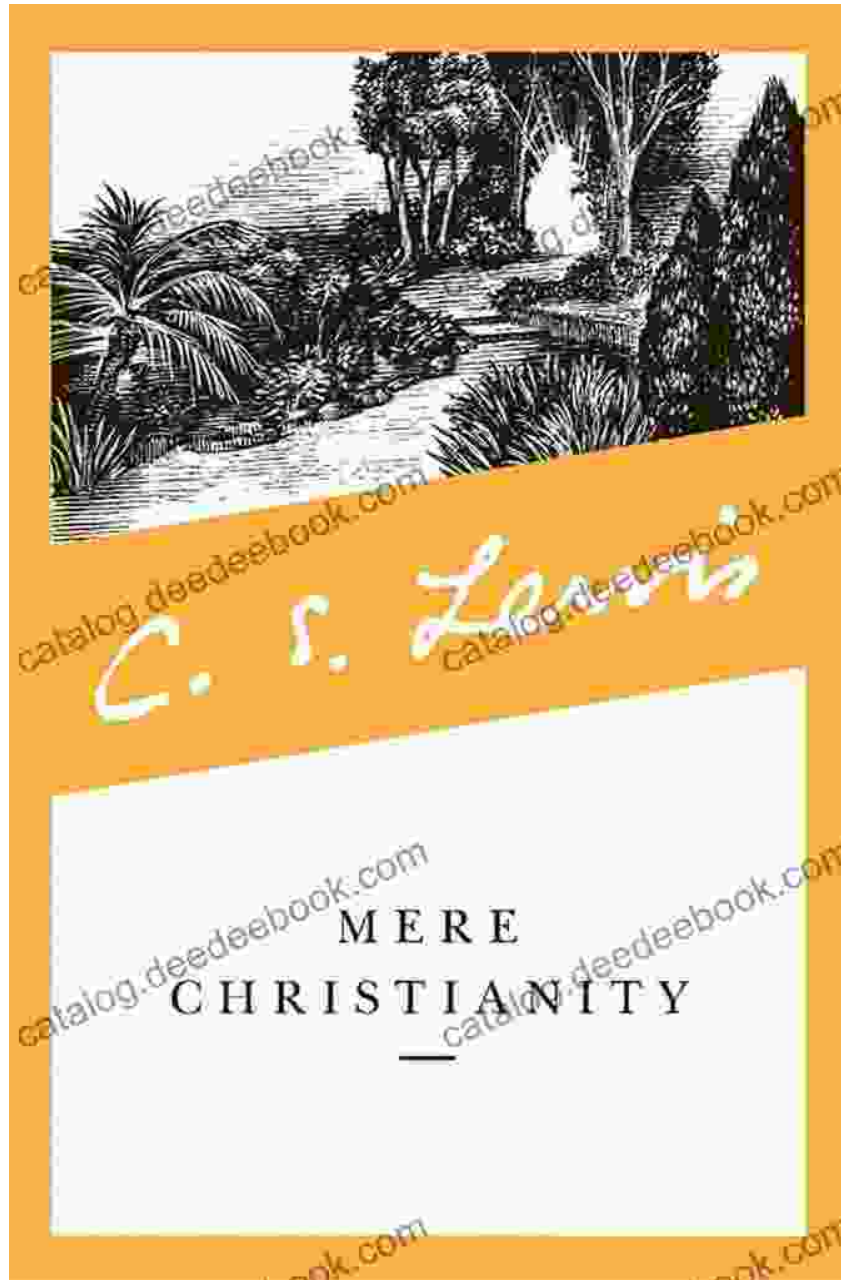
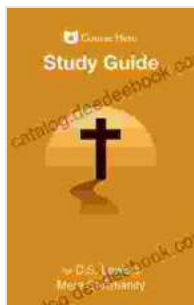


# A Comprehensive Study Guide for "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis



"Mere Christianity" is a classic work of Christian apologetics by C.S. Lewis, which has inspired and challenged readers for decades. This study guide is

designed to help you engage with the book's key ideas and arguments, enhancing your understanding and appreciation of Lewis's thought.



## Study Guide for C.S. Lewis's Mere Christianity (Course Hero Study Guides) by Course Hero

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1162 KB

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 45 pages

Lending : Enabled



### Part 1: The Nature of Law

Lewis begins "Mere Christianity" by examining the universal concept of morality, arguing that it is an objective reality that transcends cultural and individual differences. Key concepts include:

- The Law of Nature: A universal moral code ingrained within human nature that guides our behavior.
- Natural Law and the Moral Law: Lewis explores the relationship between the laws of the natural world and the laws of ethics.
- Conscience: The inner voice that guides our moral decisions and holds us accountable for our actions.

### Part 2: Objections to the Law of Nature

Lewis then addresses common objections to the existence of the Law of Nature, including:

- The Argument from Subjectivism: The claim that morality is subjective and varies from person to person. - The Argument from Cultural Relativism: The view that morality is determined by one's culture and cannot be universally applied. - The Argument from the Evolution of Morality: The idea that moral values have evolved over time and are not absolute.

### **Part 3: The Trilemma of Good and Evil**

Lewis presents a thought-provoking trilemma that challenges our understanding of good and evil:

- The Good and Evil are Objective: If there is no objective standard of goodness, then both good and evil become meaningless. - The Good and Evil are Subjective: If goodness and evil are merely human inventions, then there is no basis for condemning evil or pursuing the good. - The Good is Real and Evil is Not: This option implies that God or some other power exists that establishes goodness but does not create evil.

### **Part 4: The Problem of Pain and Suffering**

Lewis tackles the difficult question of pain and suffering in a world supposedly created by a benevolent God. He explores the following:

- The Problem of Evil: The apparent contradiction between the existence of an all-powerful and loving God and the presence of evil in the world. - The Potential Value of Suffering: The possibility that pain and suffering may serve a purpose in our spiritual growth and development. - God's Hiddenness: The idea that God may choose to remain hidden from us, challenging our faith but also allowing us the freedom to choose Him.

### **Part 5: The Christian Revelation**

In the final part of "Mere Christianity," Lewis examines the Christian faith as a response to the problems of morality and suffering discussed throughout the book. He argues that:

- Jesus Christ as the Fulfillment of the Law: Jesus perfectly obeyed the Law of Nature, revealing its true nature and providing a model for human behavior.
- The Atonement: Jesus' death on the cross serves as a sacrifice that atones for our sins and restores our relationship with God.
- The Resurrection: Jesus' resurrection from the dead provides evidence for His divinity and the hope of eternal life.

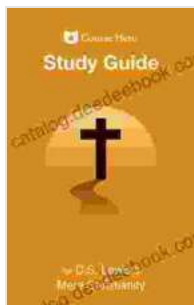
## **Study Tips**

To get the most out of your study of "Mere Christianity":

- Read the book actively: Take notes, highlight important passages, and reflect on the ideas presented.
- Engage with other perspectives: Discuss the book with friends, family, or a study group. Different viewpoints can enrich your understanding.
- Seek further resources: Explore additional books, articles, and online materials to complement your study.
- Apply Lewis's ideas to your own life: Consider how the concepts in "Mere Christianity" relate to your personal beliefs and actions.

"Mere Christianity" is a profound and thought-provoking work that continues to inspire and challenge readers to this day. This study guide provides a comprehensive overview of the book's key arguments and ideas, helping you deepen your understanding and appreciate the enduring impact of C.S. Lewis's thought. Whether you are a Christian seeking to strengthen your faith or an individual exploring the nature of morality and spirituality, "Mere

Christianity" offers valuable insights and a timeless perspective on the human condition.



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