



Mere Christianity

Week 9: July 15, 2018

“The New Men”

Discovering a Pearl of Great Price

On Tuesday night, April 4, 1944 at 10:20PM, C. S. Lewis’ final radio broadcast, “The New Man,” went out over the airwaves. When told by the BBC’s Eric Fenn that the response to the fourth set of talks was sharply divided, either highly favorable or highly critical, Lewis wrote back, “The two views you report aren’t very illuminating about *me* perhaps; about my subject matter, it is an old story, isn’t it? They love...or hate.”

The end of the broadcast talks did not end Lewis’ public career. His output, and the fame that accompanied it, continued to grow — as did the polarized responses to it. On September 8, 1947, Lewis was featured on the cover of *Time* magazine. The write of the cover story observed, “Outside his own Christian circle, Lewis is not particularly popular with is Oxford colleagues. Some resent his large student following; others criticize his ‘cheap’ performances on the BBC and sneer at him as a ‘popularizer.’” Yet the writer called Lewis “a man who could talk theology without pulling a long face or being dull.”

Lewis’ goal in *Mere Christianity* is to take us on a quest for truths that will ultimately not just change how we think but blow us sky-high, to share with us the excitement of someone who had been walking for a long time across a field he was sure was barren and empty — then, to his lifelong wonder and astonishment, discovered a pearl of great price.¹

Listen anytime to previous lessons on our website.

Simply point your browser to <https://spumccolumbus.com/media/mcaudio/>
or you can listen on our mobile app. Visit <https://spumccolumbus.com/mobile-app/> to download.

¹ From *Discussing Mere Christianity: Exploring the History, Meaning, and Relevance of C. S. Lewis’ Greatest Book* by Devin Brown (Zondervan, 2015)