

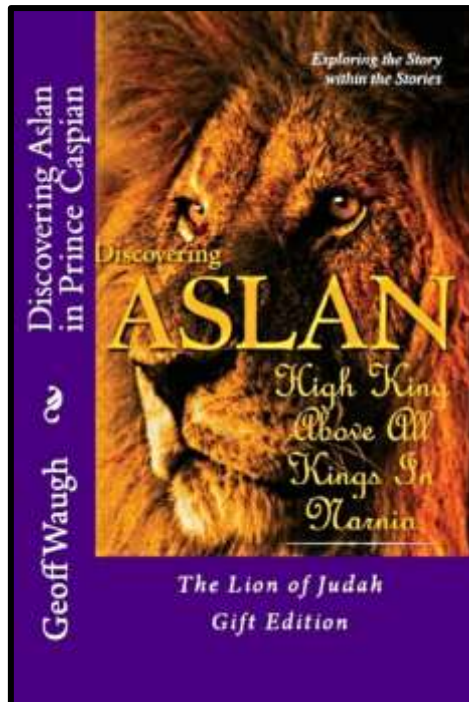
Discovering Aslan in Prince Caspian

by C. S. Lewis

High King above all Kings in Narnia

The Lion of Judah - A Devotional Commentary

Exploring the Story within the Stories



Geoff Waugh

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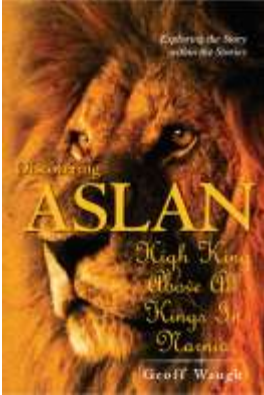
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*Logo: lamp & scroll,
basin & towel,
in the light of the cross*

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Prologue

He is the High King above all kings, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

He is the son of the Great Emperor beyond the sea, beyond the world. He spoke and sang before the creation of the world and brought the world into being.

He commands legions of creatures and people in many worlds. Some creatures loyal to him may seem strange to us, and many of them fly. They worship him and serve him wholeheartedly.

His word is always true. You can depend on him totally. He never lies.

He appears unexpectedly and makes things right. He gave his life to conquer evil and ransom the guilty rebel. He rose again by dawn and appeared first to loving, caring young women.

He has enemies in this world and in other worlds but he defeated them and they are doomed. They tremble at the sound of his name.

All who trust in him are forgiven and set free. He breathes life into hearts of stone. His breath gives life.

He reveals himself to all who choose to follow and obey him, and the more they know him the more they love him. The more you know him the bigger he becomes to you. He loves with unending love.

He chose Peter to lead under his authority and to reign with his royal family. They failed him at times, as we all do, but he always sets things right when anyone asks for his help, trusts him and follows him.

He has all authority in this world and in other worlds. Multitudes love and serve him now and forever. We can talk to him now and always.

He is the subject of this book and many other books. He calls us to respond to him, to believe in him, to love him and to live for him.

He is the Lion of Judah.

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1. Prince Caspian

"Every year you grow you will find me bigger" ¹



The Lion of Judah Reigns ²

A thousand Narnian years after the four children ruled in Narnia, and one year later in earth time, they are drawn back into Narnia.³ Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy discover that Prince Caspian had blown the horn originally given to Susan to blow if help was needed.⁴

Young Prince Caspian, heir to the throne of Narnia, escaped from his cruel, usurping uncle Miraz. Caspian found new friends among the Old Narnian creatures, now hiding and still loyal to Aslan. The Telmarine invaders who now ruled in Narnia regarded the old stories of Aslan and Narnia's history as fables. Caspian's nurse and then his wise old tutor, Doctor Cornelius, taught him that the stories were true.⁵ He believed them and believed in Aslan even though he had never seen Aslan. Similarly today many people believe in Jesus and some people think the truth about Jesus is a fable, or foolishness, or a problem, as in these passages:

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. ... And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him (Hebrews 11:1-3, 6).

Paul, once persecuting Christians, later believed and wrote: *We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength (Corinthians 1:23-25 NRSV).*

Paul also explained how unbelievers

exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever (Romans 1:25).

So the hidden story in ***Prince Caspian*** is about finding and living in truth. C. S. Lewis wrote that his story describes “the restoration of the true religion after corruption.”⁶

I do not describe all the adventures the children had because I focus on who Aslan is, what he does, and how he reflects the Lion of Judah.

Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy arrive in Narnia again and explore the overgrown ruins of their former castle at Cair Paravel. They find jewels of the realm in the ancient treasure chamber – diamonds, rubies, carbuncles, emeralds, topazes, and amethysts. These gems reflect the breath-taking beauty and mystery of the new Jerusalem, the bride of the Lamb in heaven.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, ‘Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.’ And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The angel who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. The city lies foursquare, its length the

same as its width; and he measured the city with his rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal. He also measured its wall, one hundred and forty-four cubits [almost 75 yards] by human measurement, which the angel was using. The wall is built of jasper, while the city is pure gold, clear as glass. The foundations of the wall of the city are adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth cornelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and the street of the city is pure gold, transparent as glass.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life (Revelation 21:9-27 NRSV).

The gems in Cair Paravel also remind us of similar gems that the High Priest of Israel wore on his breastplate, called the breastplate of judgment because he had authority to judge.

“You shall make the breastplate of judgment. Artistically woven according to the workmanship of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, you shall make

it. It shall be doubled into a square: a span shall be its length, and a span shall be its width. And you shall put settings of stones in it, four rows of stones: The first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and an emerald; this shall be the first row; the second row shall be a turquoise, a sapphire, and a diamond; the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold settings. And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each one with its own name; they shall be according to the twelve tribes. ... (Exodus 28:15-21).



12 gems on the High Priest's breastplate

Most exciting and significant of all, the children found the gifts they had been given at Christmas in their first adventure in Narnia – Lucy's diamond bottle of healing cordial, Susan's bow and arrows (but not her horn which she may have left behind on their last ride) and Peter's sword and the shield with its red rampant Lion.⁷

The children rescue a dwarf and hear about Prince Caspian who believed in Aslan. Caspian's tutor showed him the rare conjunction of two planets which he felt meant some great good for Narnia.⁸ Caspian also learned about seven noble lords sent off to explore the Eastern Ocean who never returned. His usurping uncle Miraz made sure other nobles were killed and when he had a son of his own he wanted that son to reign. So Caspian's life was in danger and he had to escape.

Doctor Cornelius gave Caspian the magic Horn which Queen Susan left behind at the end of the Golden Age in Narnia. Caspian knew that if he blew the Horn it could bring him strange, unknown help. Do you remember a similar promise God made to Jeremiah whom God chose when he was very young?⁹

'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know' (Jeremiah 33:3).

Young Caspian escapes on his horse into the thick eastern forest, narrowly avoiding branches, until he bangs his head on one and falls unconscious. He wakes among talking beasts and dwarfs who argue about whether they should kill him. They discover he is the true King of Narnia. Trufflehunter the Badger reminds them that "Narnia was never right except when a son of Adam was King."¹⁰

Here we are reminded that our destiny as sons and daughters of Adam is to reign, and to reign under the greater authority of the Lion of Judah.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild

animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them (Genesis 1:26-27 NRSV).

Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, ... And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age’ (Matthew 28:18-20 NRSV).

The Old Narnian creatures gather to support their newly found King Caspian. Glenstrom, a prophet and star-gazer Centaur, reminds them of the stars’ conjunction and that “a son of Adam has once more risen to rule and name the creatures.”¹¹

Reepicheep, the lively, martial mouse with his rapier at his side, places the resources of his band of 12 at King Caspian’s disposal. Here we have an interesting reflection of Jesus’ 12 disciples or even of Israel’s 12 tribes.

Doctor Cornelius joins them at their great council and informs them that Miraz is planning to attack them. They gather at Aslan’s How, a grassy mound above the hill on which the Stone Table stood, to prepare for battle. The high mound, hollowed out into galleries and caves useful for cover and lodging, has the broken engraved Stone in the central cave. The tunnels inside were lined and roofed with smooth stones and on the stones Caspian sees strange characters, patterns and pictures with the form of a Lion repeated many times.¹² The Telmarines are afraid of this place toward the Eastern Sea and fear that something mighty may come from over the ocean.

Miraz’s larger armies attack the Old Narnians and for many days the creatures withstand the assault but suffer defeats and wounding. King

Caspian and Cornelius meet with the three leaders of their army in the central cave of Aslan's How with its Stone Table split down the middle.

This is like the armies of the Lord symbolically gathering around the cross and the empty tomb and going out to win battles in his name. There are also parallels here with Jesus meeting with his inner circle of three at the raising of Jairus' daughter from death, on the Mount of Transfiguration, and in Gethsemane.¹³

Trufflehunter urges Caspian to use the Horn. The inner council includes the visionary badger Trufflehunter and the two dwarfs, doubting Nikabrik and sceptical Trumpkin. They agree with Cornelius that it's time to blow the Horn. They decide to send scouts to Cravel in the east and Lantern Waste in the west in case help arrives there. Patterwig the squirrel runs to Lantern Waste and the dwarf Trumpkin sets off for Cair Paravel at the mouth of the great river. Cornelius advises Caspian to blow the Horn at sunrise. Here is a reminder of the risen Aslan and the risen Jesus seen at dawn.

Trumpkin is captured and the children rescue him from two of Miraz's soldiers. Susan hits the helmet of one soldier with an arrow and they run off in terror thinking they have been attacked by ghosts. Then the children equip themselves and Trumpkin with armour from the castle's treasure chamber and they set out to find Aslan's How.

They navigate upriver and begin their uphill trek through the woods. A bear attacks them but Trumpkin's quick arrow kills it. Lucy wonders if people in our world may lose their truly 'human' qualities and start going wild inside. This reflects Paul's warning:

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality,

wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them (Romans 1:28-32).

The trekking group reaches the edge of a gorge and most of them feel they should immediately head down into the gorge to cross it. Lucy glimpses Aslan higher up and realizes he was showing them the way. No one else, however, saw the Lion and they don't believe Lucy.¹⁴ So they decide to find their own way down into the gorge.

Narnia's air invigorates them and transforms them. Even Lucy, the youngest, became, "so to speak, only one-third of a little girl going to boarding school for the first time, and two-thirds of Queen Lucy of Narnia."¹⁵

Similarly, whoever believes in the Lion of Judah is invigorated and transformed by God's Spirit and a veil that blurs true vision is removed.

Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord (1 Corinthians 3:16-18).

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but

be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect (Romans 12:1-2 NRSV).

He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:6).

After the group begin their way down into the gorge arrows begin to whiz around them. They retreat quickly back up out of the gorge. They sleep soundly that night but Lucy wakes and hears her name called. As she responds to the call she walks into the moonlit woods and discovers the trees moving, walking, and dancing. Then she sees the huge Lion in the moonlight. She runs to him throwing her arms around him and kissing him.

“Welcome, child,” he says,¹⁶ just as he had welcomed them when they first saw him in Narnia. We are totally welcome when we believe in the Lion of Judah who loves us so much that he died for us.

Lucy found Aslan bigger. He tells her that because she was older he seemed bigger to her. He says that he himself is not older, and added, “But every year you grow you will find me bigger.”¹⁷

When I first read those words many years ago, I smiled in surprised delight. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8) but we keep growing! I suspect there is no end to our growth because there’s always more room to grow and become more Christ-like. As we grow, Jesus and God become bigger to us.

When Lucy complains about the others not believing her she hears Alan’s faintest suggestion of a growl. She quickly realizes that she could have responded to him but she chose to go with the others instead.

We often do that. Jesus calls us to follow him but his call challenges and even alarms us. We find it easier to just fit in with others and go along with them.

Lucy realizes it would have turned out all right if she had followed Aslan. He tells her to return to the others and tell them she has seen him again, even if they don't believe her. He reminds her that things never happen the same way twice in Narnia and that "It has been hard for us all in Narnia before now."¹⁸

Our Lord and God is like that, always creative, always making things new and right, even when it is hard. The cross was the hardest of all. Near the end of the Bible we read:

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new"
(Revelation 21:5).

When Lucy tells Aslan she is ready to obey him he declares that now she is a lioness, "And now all Narnia will be renewed."¹⁹ Similarly, when we obey the Lion of Judah he renews all things in and through us as we obey him.

Jesus often talked like that, for example:

And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people'
(Matthew 4:19 NRSV)

Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead"
(Matthew 8:22).

He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him (Matthew 9:9).

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me (Matthew 16:24 NRSV).

Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me" (Matthew 19:21).

Like Lucy we may find it hard to hear and heed the call to 'Follow me'. We need to avoid two bad extremes. On one hand, some people may deliberately and wilfully disobey that call and turn their back on their Lord and Saviour. At the other extreme some people may follow every wild whim and crazy idea that they think is following Jesus.

However, like Lucy we can learn to know and love our High King and greatest Friend. He reveals himself to us, especially through his eternal Word, by his Spirit living within us.

Lucy wakes the sleeping party who grumble at first but then decide to believe her. So they follow Lucy who follows Aslan. Only Lucy could see him at first. Lucy thought of things she could have said to her unbelieving, critical sister but "forgot them when she fixed her eyes on Aslan."²⁰ We also need to look to Jesus.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:1-2 NRSV).

Many people eventually believe and follow our Lord and King because they believed and followed those who know and love him.

Aslan leads Lucy and the others to a safe path down into the gorge. As they follow him, they find the path that he leads them along. Many passages in Scripture tell us to find the path God has for us, such as:

Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light to my path.

(Psalm 119:105)

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me (John 14:6).

They follow Aslan as he leads them along the right path and across stepping stones in the river. The others began to see him as they follow him. We too see our Lord and Leader more clearly as we obey and follow him.

Aslan leads them up from the gorge to Aslan's How - a mound built over the hill of the Stone Table where Aslan was killed and rose again. There they all greet him and find him again both majestic in his awesome authority and wisdom, but also gracious in his pure love and acceptance.

To Peter, who apologizes for leading them wrong, Aslan says, "My dear son." To Edmund, for whom Aslan died, he says, "Well done." To Susan, who hung back, Aslan says "Come, let me breathe on you." Her fears begin to give way to bravery.²¹

The Lion roars in the early dawn and the earth trembles. So did his enemies at the sound of his voice. We find similar scenes on the mountain of Jerusalem, as described in these passages:

Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!' (Matthew 27:50-54)

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me' (Matthew 28:1-10 NRSV).

All the creatures loyal to Aslan, including the forest trees, gather around him, dancing and celebrating his return and appearance among them. God's people celebrate their deliverance many times in Scripture,

such as with their release from captivity by God's power as God's servants obeyed him and led them to freedom. Here are examples:

After Moses led the people through the Red Sea:

Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances (Exodus 15:20).

Jeremiah's prophecy about the people being set free:

*"Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
And declare it in the isles afar off, and say,
'He who scattered Israel will gather him,
And keep him as a shepherd does his flock.'
For the LORD has redeemed Jacob,
And ransomed him from the hand of one stronger than he.
Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion,
Streaming to the goodness of the LORD—
For wheat and new wine and oil,
For the young of the flock and the herd;
Their souls shall be like a well-watered garden,
And they shall sorrow no more at all.*

*"Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance,
And the young men and the old, together;
For I will turn their mourning to joy,
Will comfort them,
And make them rejoice rather than sorrow.
I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance,*

And My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, says the LORD.”
(Jeremiah 31:10-14)

Aslan sends Peter, Edmund and Trufflehunter into the inner chamber of Aslan’s How. There they fight and kill supporters of the White Witch, including Nikabrik, who wants to call her back from the dead. High King Peter meets King Caspian and says, “I haven’t come to take your place, you know, but to put you into it.”²²

That’s our royal role in God’s kingdom – not to take anyone’s place but to put them into it. Leaders have a special responsibility and opportunity to equip God’s people for effective service²³ and all of us can encourage and help others, as described in these scriptures:

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

*by becoming obedient to death –
even death on a cross!
Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:3-11 NIV).*

High King Peter, challenges King Miraz to a duel in the medieval fashion. Peter begins his letter with, “Peter, by the gift of Aslan, by election, by prescription, and by conquest ...”²⁴ He acknowledges that his authority is in Aslan, not in himself.²⁵ He sends King Edmund, with a giant and a centaur, to deliver his written challenge to Miraz. Proudly the usurper accepts the challenge.

As Peter prepares for the fight they discover that Aslan had sent a host of hundreds and thousands to join and support them. They are huge people, beautiful people, like gods and goddesses and giants. Readers who know Scripture may remember the vast hosts of heaven who support and help us in the war against evil.

The heavenly hosts surround us and protect us more than we realize. Usually they are unseen but occasionally may be revealed. Elisha, the man of God, knew about heaven’s army.

Therefore he [Syria’s king] sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?”

So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, and said, "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

Now Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, nor is this the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." But he led them to Samaria.

So it was, when they had come to Samaria, that Elisha said, "LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and there they were, inside Samaria!

Now when the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, "My father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?"

But he answered, "You shall not kill them. Would you kill those whom you have taken captive with your sword and your bow? Set food and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master." Then he prepared a great feast for them; and after they ate and drank, he sent them away and they went to their master. So the bands of Syrian raiders came no more into the land of Israel (2 Kings 6:14-23).

Heaven's mighty messenger, probably an Archangel, helped Daniel after he had been praying for three weeks. God's messenger had to overcome opposition, and heaven's prince Michael helped him.

Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.

Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come" (Daniel 10:10-14).

Angels, who are God's messengers, often appear in crisis times to help or warn God's people. Did you know that an ass saw an angel blocking his path and that donkey complained to the prophet who mistreated him? Angels were especially active at Jesus' birth, after his temptations, in Gethsemane, and at the resurrection. They helped Peter and Paul and others. They constantly help us and appear sometimes in human form.²⁶

God's servant John saw the heavenly hosts.

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except

Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

*KING OF KINGS AND
LORD OF LORDS.*

(Revelation 19:11-16)

Films, novels and the media often depict evil powers, demons, sorcerers, witches, spells and secret rituals. Bombarded with that, we can easily forget how the mighty, risen Lion of Judah has triumphed and leads vast hosts of loyal subjects in this world and in other worlds.

Peter in Narnia, armed with faith in the great Lion depicted on his shield, fights the experienced warrior Miraz in mortal combat.

Two Telmarine nobles, traitors to Miraz, lead their army in attack when Miraz falls and they kill him, wanting to replace him.

The battle is joined near Beruna, a small town with its long bridge north of Aslan's How, where the children had won battles in the Golden Age of Narnia at the Fords of Beruna. At Aslan's word, the tree creatures free the river, as they demolish the bridge, and it returns to being the Fords of Beruna again.²⁷

The Old Narnians, rapidly put their attacking enemies to flight and welcome Aslan as he bounds toward them carrying Susan and Lucy on his back like he did after the time he rose triumphantly from death.

Aslan sets people free everywhere he goes once again. All who join the liberated company also join the enthusiastic celebrations. Aslan heals

an old, ill woman who then discovers that water drawn for her has become wine. She rides on Aslan as they all join Peter's army which now surrounds Miraz's defeated soldiers. There Caspian is reunited with the healed woman, his old nurse.

These scenes vividly reflect what Jesus did, healing so many people and setting them free, turning water to wine at a wedding, and empowering his followers to do what he told them to do.²⁸

Peter brings Caspian to Aslan who welcomes him and enquires if Caspian feels sufficient to take up the kingship. Caspian says he doesn't think so because, as he admits, "I'm only a kid. Aslan approves: "If you had felt yourself sufficient, it would have been a proof that you were not"²⁹

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up (James 4:10).

Paul acknowledged his weaknesses and how the Lord is with us even in our weakness.

He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

Lucy heals the wounded Reepicheep with her cordial but at Aslan's appearance the mouse leaps up only to find his tail is missing. He asks Aslan's help. Aslan grants it, not for the mouse's dignity, but because of the love and loyalty between the mice, and still more for the kindness they showed to the dead Aslan on the Stone Table when they ate away the cords that bound him.

Aslan feasted the Narnians with abundance for everyone.³⁰

Aslan opens a doorway into other worlds and offers that good option to the Telmarines who don't want to serve King Caspian. Then the children bid farewell to him and their friends and walk through the door, finding themselves back on the train station, ready to return to school.

We live in two worlds. Our physical world is most obvious. We are also spiritual beings who live in a spiritual world as well. When we believe in Jesus and follow him we are born again into God's kingdom. When we talk to God or worship him or pray for others and for ourselves, we are functioning actively in our spiritual world, in God's kingdom. When we read Scripture and allow God's Spirit to speak to us, and especially when we obey his word, we are active in our spiritual world. We live in the kingdom of God as well as in the kingdoms of this world.

Jesus explained this to Nicodemus.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can

these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?’

‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God’ (John 3:1-21).

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2. The Author and his Books

C. S. Lewis and *The Chronicles of Narnia*

“Aslan came bounding into it. ... I don’t know where the Lion came from or why He came. But once He was there, He pulled the whole story together.”³¹

Aslan is the only character who appears in all of the seven books of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. He leaps from Narnia into our hearts and minds, inviting us to discover life ‘further up and further in’ with him. I found him the most fascinating of all the characters in these stories.

This book is a devotional commentary and reflection on the Lion of Judah as he is reflected in Aslan in *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C. S. Lewis.

Clive Staples Lewis (1898-1963), born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, named himself Jack from the age of four. He called Warren, his older brother by two years, Warnie. They remained close friends and companions for life.



Little Lea, home of the Lewis family from 1905 to 1930.

The boys explored fields and forests around their country home on sunny days. During the many wet days they often climbed into an old wardrobe and told each other imaginary stories about magic kingdoms with talking creatures, knights and dragons. They created the mythical animal kingdom of Boxen and Jack wrote stories about dressed up creatures, knights in armour and a chivalrous talking mouse.

The boys enjoyed annual summer holidays at the seaside with their mother and their nurse. Their solicitor father usually stayed at home to work. Maps of Narnia have similarities to the land of Jack's childhood which included a ruined castle on the eastern sea where the boys often played nearby in their holidays.



Dunluce Castle: Medieval Irish Castle on the east coast

Their mother died of cancer when Jack was nine. He prayed for God to heal her, but she died. The following year Jack began attending boarding schools in England. He was very unhappy and rejected God for the next 20 years.

After serving as a young volunteer in France during World War I until shrapnel wounded him, Lewis gained a scholarship to Oxford where he completed graduate degrees in Philosophy and Literature. Then as an Oxford don (professor), Lewis met with other professors and writers each week to read and discuss their work in a group called The Inklings. That group included J. R. R. Tolkien (author of *The Lord of the Rings*) who influenced Lewis toward Christianity. Lewis enjoyed reading myths and fairy tales by Christian authors such as George McDonald, whom he regarded as his mentor for such writing.

'Myth became fact'³² for Lewis. He began to believe the eternal truths the myths illustrated.

Lewis describes his struggle and journey to faith in *Surprised by Joy*. "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 England."³³ He soon began explaining Christianity using many literary forms and has been called the greatest Christian writer of the twentieth century and apostle to the sceptics.³⁴

He usually read and memorized a chapter of the Bible every day³⁵ and amazed his students and peers with his vast memory. He could recall much of what he had read. People who knew him said that he had the most astonishing memory of anyone they had ever known. Some of his students would read a line from a book in his library and Lewis would then name the book, the author, and frequently recite the rest of the page.

A Fellow and Tutor in English Literature at Oxford University from 1925 to 1954, he then held the Chair of Medieval and Renaissance Literature at Cambridge University until he retired just before his death. His marriage to Joy Davidman Gresham in 1956 ended with her death from cancer in 1960. Lewis continued to care for his step-sons Douglas and David.

Lewis's writings often refer to mythology, poetry, history, linguistics, theology and Scripture. *The Chronicles of Narnia* contain layers of such references.



The Kilns, near Oxford

During the bombings of London in the Second World War the Lewis brothers and their housekeeper, Mrs Moore, cared for a number of children from London in their red brick country house, The Kilns, near Oxford. Lewis realized that the children did not have the rich heritage of reading fairy tales that he had loved as a boy. So he decided to write his own, ones he would have enjoyed.

Lewis wrote *The Chronicles of Narnia* from 1949 to 1953. They first appeared in annual publications in this order:

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (1950)

Prince Caspian (1951)

The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader' (1952)

The Silver Chair (1953)

The Horse and His Boy (1954)

The Magician's Nephew (1955)

The Last Battle (1956)

Reading the stories in their published order opens the magic of Narnia as it appeared originally. That sequence is like discovering the unfolding story in the Bible by beginning with the Gospels, then exploring the New Testament, then finding its background in the Old Testament and its culmination in Revelation, the final book.

When Lewis wrote *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* it stood alone as a complete story. At that time he did not plan more books. They came later. So that first book has a clear and full picture of how Aslan became the saviour and deliverer of Narnia through his death and resurrection and how the children participated in that triumph.

Lewis explained his writing sequence this way in a letter to Laurence: "When I wrote *The Lion, [the Witch, and the Wardrobe]* I did not know I was going to write any more. Then I wrote *P.[rince] Caspian* as a sequel and still didn't think there would be any more, and when I had done *The Voyage [of the "Dawn Treader"]* I felt quite sure it would be the last. But I found I was wrong. So perhaps it does not matter very much in which order anyone reads them."³⁶ I follow the published order in this book because I focus on the unfolding picture of Aslan in those stories and how they reflect the Lion of Judah in our world and in other worlds.

The historical sequence in *The Chronicles of Narnia*, is:

The Magician's Nephew

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

The Horse and His Boy

Prince Caspian

The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'

The Silver Chair

The Last Battle

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Reflections on reflections

This book has reflections (pondering, meditating, thinking) on reflections (mirror images, similarities, parallels).

The Chronicles of Narnia reflect eternal truths from the Bible and from other books. The stories of Aslan in Narnia reflect and allude to many Bible events and truths especially concerning the Lion of Judah. So this book you are reading reflects (ponders and meditates) on those fairy tale reflections of the real Lion of Judah.

It's like reflecting on and pondering about your reflection in a beautiful pool. The pool reflects the real you but the reflections are not the real you. Sometimes your reflection in the pool is clear, beautiful and exactly like you as you may see it on sunny days. Sometimes on cloudy days or when the pool ripples in the breeze your reflection is less clear. Similarly, some Aslan passages clearly reflect the Lion of Judah as he was and is right now. At other times the similarities are not so obvious but well worth pondering.

The fairy tales about Narnia are not allegories, such as John Bunyan wrote in *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Bunyan portrayed Bible truths in allegory. The character named Christian in his story represents being a Christian. The character Faithful describes faithfulness and Giant Despair describes despair.

Pilgrim's Regress, C. S. Lewis's first book written after he became a Christian, is an allegory. It tells about the pilgrim John and his adventures on a mysterious island which produce an intense longing in him. John meets such people as Mr. Enlightenment, Media Halfways, Mr. Mammon, Mother Kirk, Mr. Sensible, and Mr. Humanist. He encounters dragons and

giants and journeys through places such as the city of Thrill and the Valley of Humiliation. That allegory describes the pilgrimage to faith in fairy tale.

The stories of Narnia are different. They have allegorical elements with many allusions, parallels and references to Bible truths and other literature, but Lewis insisted that these stories are not Christian allegory. He described it this way:

I'm not exactly "representing" the real (Christian) story in symbols. I'm more saying "Suppose there were a world like Narnia and it needed rescuing and the Son of God (or the 'Great Emperor oversea') went to redeem *it*, as He came to redeem ours, what might it, in that world, all have been like?"³⁷

Lewis explained that these stories began with an image he had when he was 16 of a faun with an umbrella and parcels in a snowy forest. About 35 years later he developed that picture into the first story. Other pictures came into his mind: a queen on a sledge and a great lion. "At first I had very little idea how the story would go. But then suddenly Aslan came bounding into it. I think I had been having a good many dreams about lions at that time. Apart from that, I don't know where the Lion came from or why He came. But once He was there, he pulled the whole story together, and soon he pulled the other six Narnian stories in after Him."³⁸

Lewis's insights and strong faith fill these stories. He gives us layers of truth to unearth. We find similar hidden truths in parables in the Bible.³⁹

The Chronicles of Narnia surprise and delight us at every age. As we grow we may understand more of the great, eternal story hidden within these fairy tales.

The stories of Aslan illustrate in fairy tale the greater story of the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Replying to a child's enquiry about the lion's name, Lewis wrote. "I found the name in the notes to Lane's *Arabian*

Nights: it is the Turkish for Lion. I pronounce it Ass-lan myself. And of course I meant the Lion of Judah.”⁴⁰ So the Aslan passages reflect the greatest story of all, the story of the Lion of Judah. The last book in the Bible declares that the Lion of the tribe of Judah has triumphed (Revelation 5:5).

Aslan reminded Lucy and Edmund that they would know him truly in their own world when they left Narnia: “But there I have another name. You must learn to know me by that name. This was the very reason why you were brought to Narnia, that by knowing me here for a little you may know me better there.”⁴¹

Lewis encouraged readers to make that discovery. He replied to Hila, an 11 year old girl who wrote a letter asking about Aslan’s other name: “As to Aslan’s other name, well I want you to guess. Has there ever been anyone in *this* world who (1.) Arrived at the same time as Father Christmas. (2.) Said he was the son of the Great Emperor. (3.) Gave himself up for someone else’s fault to be jeered at and killed by wicked people. (4.) Came to life again. (5.) Is sometimes spoken of as a Lamb (see the end of the Dawn Treader). Don’t you really know His name in this world.”⁴²

Most children did. Many adults did not.

Lewis was still answering letters during the month before he died peacefully in his sleep at almost 65 on 22nd November, 1963 (the same day that President Kennedy was killed). His brother Warren typed his letters for him in the last weeks of his life.

One written to a girl, Ruth, dated 26th October 1963, says:

If you continue to love Jesus, nothing much can go wrong with you, and I hope you may always do so. I’m thankful that you realized [the] “hidden story” in the Narnian books. It is odd, children nearly *always* do, grown-ups hardly ever.⁴³

Lewis explained it this way:

The whole Narnian story is about Christ. That is to say, I asked myself 'Supposing that there really was a world like Narnia and supposing it had (like our world) gone wrong and supposing Christ wanted to go into that world and save it (as He did ours), what might have happened?' The stories are my answers. ... The whole series works out like this.

The Magician's Nephew tells the Creation and how evil entered Narnia.

The Lion etc the Crucifixion and Resurrection.

Prince Caspian restoration of the true religion after corruption.

The Horse and His Boy the calling and conversion of a heathen.

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader the spiritual life (especially in Reepicheep).

The Silver Chair the continuing war with the powers of darkness.

The Last Battle the coming of the Antichrist (the Ape), the end of the world and the Last Judgment.⁴⁴

The triumphant Lion of Judah features this way in these stories:

- Creator and Sustainer in *The Magician's Nephew*.
- Saviour and Redeemer in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.
- The Way, the Truth and the Life in *The Horse and His Boy*.
- Restorer and Commander in *Prince Caspian*.
- Guide and Guardian in *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*.
- Revealer and Victor in *The Silver Chair*.
- Judge and Conqueror in *The Last Battle*

I hope this book helps you to discover more about who Aslan really is in our world and in other worlds.

Read and enjoy *The Chronicles of Narnia* first. Then dip into this book to discover more about Aslan in the world of Narnia and in our world. I give you devotional reflections from *The Chronicles of Narnia* in this book using many references from the Bible. You may think of other biblical allusions and similarities not included in this book.

Most of my Bible quotations are from the New King James Version, the closest to the Authorised Version so familiar to C. S. Lewis. I also use inclusive language quotes from the New Revised Standard Version, identified with (NRSV) and some popular ones from the New International Version identified with (NIV). Many children love the *Good News Bible* for its clear language and line drawings. It has useful section headings with cross-references (as does the NRSV). Those headings help you find a similar story or passage in other parts of the Bible. I quote Scripture passages in narrative form and in poetry as they were before verse numbers were introduced in print from 1551.⁴⁵

See www.biblegateway.com for many translations in many languages. You can see any one verse “in all English translations” by finding the reference or verse and then following the link. It gives you over 50 English translations of any one verse together on one page. You could check out John 3:16! You can type a phrase into Bible Gateway to find it in many Bible passages. You can also type a phrase into Google to find many links and references including Bible verses.

Scholars find many references to other books in the Narnia stories, especially the literature from the middle ages. That was a time of city states with kings and queens, lords and ladies, knights on horses defending truth and an age of nobles and peasants loyal to their king whose word was law. Lewis taught Medieval and Renaissance literature so his own books contain many references to those times and their literature.

Some scholars see a key to *The Chronicles of Narnia* in the way ancient and medieval people perceived the world and the universe, a view familiar to Lewis. A common view then was that the stars and planets directly affected human events. One example is how astrologers or wise men from the east followed the star to Bethlehem because it announced the birth of a great new king.⁴⁶ Like the Psalmist, they saw the glory of God in the heavens.

*The heavens declare the glory of God;
And the firmament shows His handiwork* (Psalm 19:1).

Before Copernicus (1500s) and the telescope (1600s) scholars described the universe and stars and planets in terms of seven great heavenly bodies. Some scholars see this as a code in the seven Narnia books, identifying each main heavenly body with a Narnian story. Lewis would not have intended such a code originally because he planned no further Narnia books after each of the first three. Some scholars think that when he later planned seven books there may have been a hidden link to that medieval world-view of the heavens. The children's adventures may be seen to reveal Jesus as King, Commander, Light, Mirror, Word, Life and Mystery:⁴⁷

- Jesus as King in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, where the children rule under Jupiter's orb.
- Jesus as Commander in *Prince Caspian* where children rule with forest folk under Mar's wooden shield.
- Jesus as Light in *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* where they drink light and slay dragons under the Sun's golden embrace.
- Jesus as Mirror showing God's glory in *The Silver Chair* where they avoid lunacy and reflect truth under the mirroring Moon.

- Jesus as Word in *The Horse and His Boy* where they learn truth under the active word of Mercury.
- Jesus as Life in *The Magician's Nephew* where they witness creation and learn to love under Venus, the Morning Star.
- Jesus as eternal Mystery in *The Last Battle* under Saturn's awful and awe-full influence.

Aslan, reflecting Jesus, is central to every Narnia story, and the children and other characters reflect many aspects of our relationship with Jesus.

Here's a brief overview of the seven Narnia books in historical sequence. This helps you to see links between the main characters across all the stories.

The Magician's Nephew

Digory Kirke's uncle Andrew gives magic rings to him and his friend Polly. The rings transport them into other worlds. Digory wants to find a cure for his dying mother but first meets the Witch Jadis and then the great Lion Aslan and sees Narnia created. A London cabby Frank and his wife Helen, drawn into these other worlds, become the first king and queen of Narnia. How can Digory help his mother?

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Professor Kirke⁴⁸ welcomes the four children⁴⁹ into his country home where Lucy, the youngest, discovers the world of Narnia through the Wardrobe,⁵⁰ followed by Edmund, then with Peter and Susan as well. Edmund, enticed by the White Witch queen, becomes a traitor to Aslan. How can Aslan redeem him and rescue Narnia with the children's help?

The Horse and His Boy

Orphan peasant boy Shasta and nobleman's daughter Avaris plan to escape from slavery in the southern kingdom of the Calormenes with two talking horses. They discover a plot against Narnia and want to warn its famous rulers, kings and queens Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy. Aslan helps. Will they get caught?

Prince Caspian

The four children, drawn into Narnia a thousand years after they ruled there, help Prince Caspian to gain his rightful throne. Aslan guides them again. Talking beasts, including the bold mouse Reepicheep, and the trees come to their aid. What must be done to win this war?

The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'

Edmund, Lucy and cousin Eustace join King Caspian sailing east on the Dawn Treader seeking seven lords previously sent away. Reepicheep urges them on toward the end of the world where he wants to find Aslan's own country. Aslan helps them again. Are all the lords still alive and can they be rescued?

The Silver Chair

Aslan sends Eustace and his schoolmate Jill on a quest to find King Caspian's lost son Prince Rilian, last seen with a beautiful enchantress. The children must remember and obey Aslan's instructions, but will they?

The Last Battle

Eustace and Jill discover that King Tirian needs help in Narnia which is falling into the hands of its enemies the Calormenes. Aslan appears to be a vicious, cruel taskmaster. What is this deception and can Narnia survive destruction?

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The Lion of Judah

Aslan is a powerful and vivid reflection of the true Lion of Judah. See the Appendix for my book series on The Lion of Judah. They are devotional commentaries on Jesus.

I do not summarize all the children's adventures that you find in *Prince Caspian*. Read the stories yourself and discover many adventures that I don't mention. In this book I focus on the triumphant Lion of Judah, beautifully reflected in Aslan. So this book is, most of all, a book about the Lion of Judah, our King of kings and Lord of lords who is alive right now and reigns for ever.

Here are some interesting translations from the verse in the Bible about the Lion of the tribe of Judah:

Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed ... (New King James Version).

Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has won the victory (New Living Translation).

Stop crying and look! The one who is called both the 'Lion from the Tribe of Judah' and 'King David's Great Descendant' has won the victory (Contemporary English Translation).

Stop weeping! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root (Source) of David, has won (has overcome and conquered)! (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition)

Jesus' human root or ancestry is in the kingly line of David, Israel's great king from the tribe of Judah. Judah's father Jacob was renamed Israel

(meaning triumphant with God, or prevails with God, or Prince with God⁵¹). Jacob had 12 sons who became the ancestors of the 12 tribes of Israel. Jacob's son Judah had descendants who included David and Jesus. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were the first three generations and patriarchs, or founding ancestors, of the nation of Israel.

Judah's father Jacob called him a young lion and prophesied that 'the sceptre shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh comes' (Genesis 49:9-10 NKJV), or 'until he comes to whom it belongs' (RSV), or 'until tribute comes to him' (NRSV, ESV). Revelation 5:5 declares that the Lion of the tribe of Judah has triumphed, announcing that Jesus, the sacrificial Lamb, was also the conquering Lion.

Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals' (Revelation 5:5).

The word Joshua/Jesus means the LORD saves, or the LORD is salvation. That is why the angel announcing his birth said, '*... you are to name him Joshua/Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins*' (Matthew 1:21). It is the same name as Moses' general, Joshua, who led the Israelites into their promised land.

The earliest English translations of the Bible used the name Jesus for Joshua/Jesus of Nazareth, and the name Joshua for others with that same name.⁵² So in English the name Jesus became unique and sacred for Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world.

We see Jesus' ancestry in the opening sentence of the New Testament: "*The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham*" (Matthew 1:1).

The Bible is full of prophecies about David's royal descendant, the Messiah, also translated as 'Christ' from the Greek word *Christos*. Messiah (from Hebrew) and Christ (from Greek) mean Anointed One. Jesus fulfilled the prophecies about the One who was the anointed Messiah.⁵³

Jesus challenged his opponents by reminding them that David's descendent, the Messiah, was greater than David.

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?"

They said to Him, "The Son of David."

He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying:

"The LORD said to my Lord,

"Sit at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"?"

If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore (Matthew 22:41-45; see also Mark 12:35-37 and Psalm 110:1).

We can expand David's Psalm this way: "The LORD God said to my Lord the Messiah, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool under Your feet." It reminds me that the Lion of the tribe of Judah is triumphant, has prevailed, has won the victory, has overcome and conquered.



The official symbol of the city of Jerusalem since 1950 features a rampant Lion representing the Lion of Judah, the symbol of the Tribe of Judah and the Kingdom of Judah, whose capital was Jerusalem. The emblem background represents the Walls of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, and the olive branch represents the quest for peace. The inscription above the crest is the Hebrew word for Jerusalem.

The Bible tells us that the Lion of Judah was slain and conquered death just outside Jerusalem.⁵⁴

The name 'Jerusalem' includes *salem* from the same root as *shalom*, meaning peace, so it is known as **the City of Peace**. Its Greek name is either *Ierousalēm* (Ἱεροσολήμη) or *Hierosolyma* (Ἱεροσόλυμα) with a root in *hieros* (ἱερός) meaning holy, so it is also called **the Holy City**.

Jerusalem is called the holy city in the Bible, as in these verses.

Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion; Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city! (Isaiah 52:1)

Now the leaders of the people dwelt at Jerusalem; the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine-tenths were to dwell in other cities (Nehemiah 11:1).

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many (Matthew 27:50-53).

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (Revelation 21:2).

For Christians, of course, it is the Holy City because that is where the Lion of Judah died and rose again triumphant over death. It's interesting that a title for the Messiah is Prince of Peace.

*For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

(Isaiah 9:6 NRSV)

The Lion of Judah is in fact the Messiah, the Son of God and Son of Man, the King of kings and Lord of lords who shall reign for ever and ever.⁵⁵ We can know and trust and love the Lion of Judah, fall at his feet, look into his eyes by faith and be embraced by his amazing grace and love. That happened to Shasta in *The Horse and his Boy*.

Shasta “knew none of the true stories about Aslan, the great Lion, the son of the Emperor-beyond-the-Sea, the High King above all kings in Narnia. But after one glance at the Lion’s face he slipped out of the saddle and fell at his feet. He couldn’t say anything but then he didn’t want to say anything, and he knew he needn’t say anything.

“The High King above all kings stooped toward him. Its mane, and some strange and solemn perfume that hung about the mane, was all round him. It touched his forehead with its tongue. He lifted his face and their eyes met. Then instantly the pale brightness of the mist and the fiery brightness of the Lion rolled themselves together into a swirling glory and gathered themselves up and disappeared. He was alone with the horse on a grassy hillside under a blue sky. And there were birds singing.”⁵⁶

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Conclusion

Nine-year-old Laurence worried that he loved Aslan more than Jesus. So his mother wrote to C. S. Lewis, care of the Publishing Company. She was surprised to receive his answer ten days later.

Lewis explained: "Laurence can't really love Aslan more than Jesus, even if he feels that's what he is doing. For the things he loves Aslan for doing or saying are simply the things Jesus really did and said. So that when Laurence thinks he is loving Aslan, he is really loving Jesus: and perhaps loving Him more than he ever did before."⁵⁷

I hope this book helps you to know Aslan better in the world of Narnia, and to know the Lion of Judah in and beyond our world also. Aslan is a wonderful fairy tale reflection of Jesus. Even more wonderful is Jesus himself.

Jesus promised to be with us always. He is with us now, caring for us and helping us, even though we do not see him yet. One day we will see him and really know how great and good he is.

Many people who have had a near death experience or may have died and been revived tell us that they were drawn into the amazing Presence of Light and Love. They often report that it was so wonderful, so pure and loving that they really wanted to stay there for ever. Christians identified that experience as being with God or with Jesus.

That is the beautiful destiny for everyone who loves Jesus and trusts in him. Meanwhile we can talk to him in our mind and heart anytime and get to know him better from the Bible, especially through the Gospels.

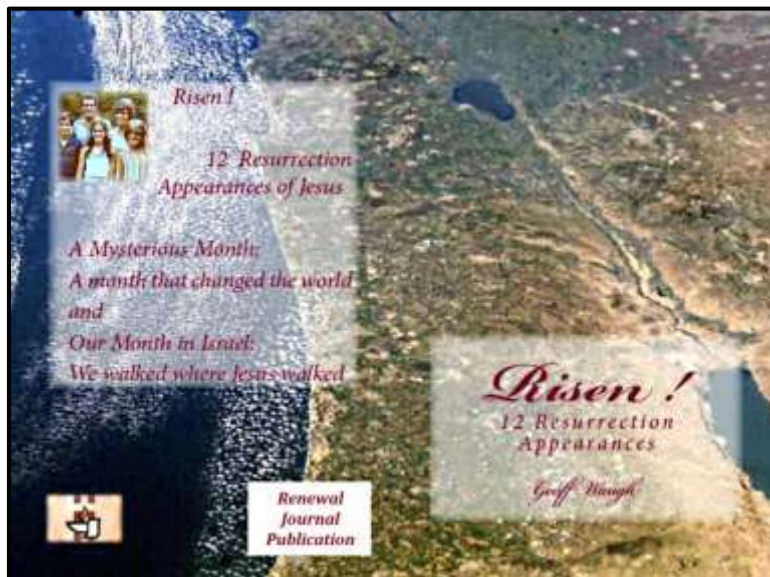
One of his last promises is 'Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age' (Matthew 28:20).

Here is a hymn about the **Lion of Judah**⁵⁸ that we sang when I was a boy.

'Twas Jesus, my Saviour, who died on the tree,
To open a fountain for sinners like me;
His blood is that fountain which pardon bestows,
And cleanses the foulest wherever it flows.

Refrain:

**For the lion of Judah shall break every chain,
And give us the vict'ry, again and again.**



Risen !

12 Resurrection Appearances of Jesus.

***Jesus appeared unexpectedly and unpredictably
after his death and resurrection.***

***He gave instructions to his followers
including to 500 together at one time.***

***He invited them to touch him
and ate with them as well as
cooking breakfast for them on the beach.***

See the Blog on www.renewaljournal.com

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Epilogue

The Prologue in this book describes both Aslan and Jesus. This Epilogue expands on the Prologue.

Jesus is the High King above all kings – the King of kings and Lord of lords who shall reign for ever and ever.

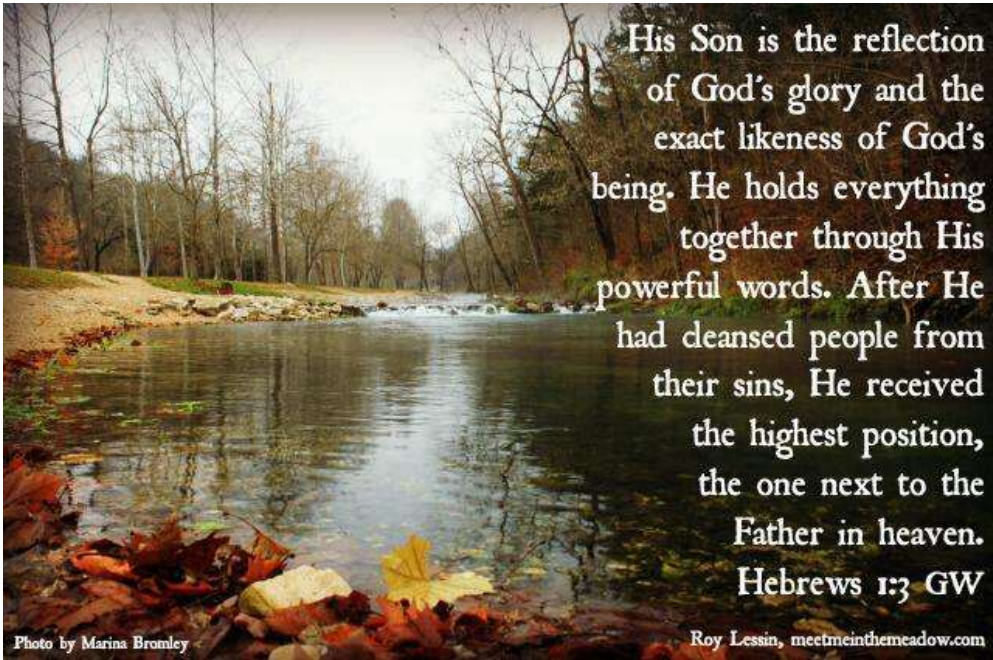
“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” ...

And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS (Revelation 19:16; 11:15).

He is the Son of God who is the Eternal One, the Great Emperor beyond the sea, beyond the world, for “The Lord reigns; Let the earth rejoice; Let the multitude of isles be glad” (Psalm 97:1). Jesus spoke and sang before the creation of the world and brought the world into being.

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high (Hebrews 1:1-3).



His Son is the reflection of God's glory and the exact likeness of God's being. He holds everything together through His powerful words. After He had cleansed people from their sins, He received the highest position, the one next to the Father in heaven.
Hebrews 1:3 GW

Photo by Marina Bromley

Roy Lessin, meetmeinthemeadow.com

Jesus commands legions of creatures and people in many worlds. Some creatures loyal to him may seem strange to us, and many of them fly. They worship him and serve him wholeheartedly.

*So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. **Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed** to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."*

And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying:

*“You are worthy to take the scroll,
And to open its seals;
For You were slain,
And have redeemed us to God by Your blood
Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
And have made us kings and priests to our God;
And we shall reign on the earth.”*

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice:

*“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
To receive power and riches and wisdom,
And strength and honour and glory and blessing!”*

And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

*“Blessing and honour and glory and power
Be to Him who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever!”*

Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever (Revelation 5:4-14).

Jesus' word is always true. You can depend on him totally. He never lies.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me (John 14:6).

Jesus appears unexpectedly and makes things right. He gave his life to conquer evil and ransom the guilty rebel. He rose again by dawn and appeared first to loving, caring young women.

Jesus has enemies in this world and in other worlds but he defeated them and they are doomed. They tremble at the sound of his name.

All who trust in him are forgiven and set free. He breathes life into hearts of stone. His breath gives life.

So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:21-22).

Jesus reveals himself to those who choose to follow and obey him, and the more they know him the more they love him. The more you know him the bigger he becomes to you. He loves with unending love.

Jesus chose Peter to lead under his authority and to reign with his royal family. They failed him at times, as we all do, but Jesus always sets things right when anyone asks for his help, trusts him and follows him.

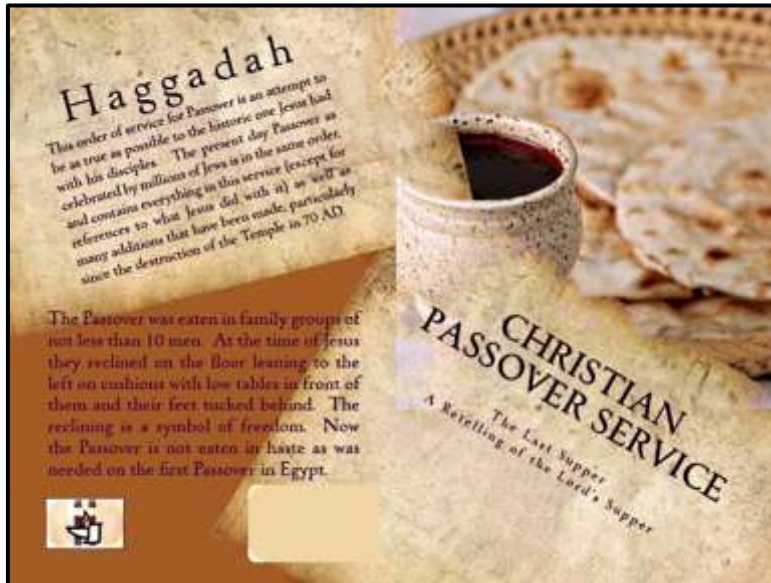
Jesus has all authority in this world and in other worlds. Multitudes love and serve him now and forever. We can talk to him now and always. Why not do that right now?

*Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. **And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age**' (Matthew 28:18-20).*

Jesus is the subject of this book and many other books. He calls us to respond to him, to believe in him, to love him and to live for him.

Jesus is the Lion of Judah who has triumphed, prevailed and conquered.

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Christian Passover Service

The Last Supper

A Retelling of the Lord's Supper

This order of service for Passover is an attempt to be as true as possible to the historic one Jesus had with his disciples.

See the Blog on www.renewaljournal.com

About Geoff Waugh

Rev Dr Geoff Waugh is the founding editor of the *Renewal Journal* (www.renewaljournal.com) and author of books on renewal and revival including the *Lion of Judah* series of six books also compiled into one volume.

Geoff studied Missiology (mission) at Fuller Theological Seminary and taught ministry and mission subjects in Papua New Guinea and in the South Pacific as well as at Alcorn College, Trinity Theological College and the School of Ministries in Christian Heritage College in Brisbane, Australia.

He was invited to lead renewal and revival mission teams on every continent to serve and encourage pastors and leaders in many countries including the South Pacific islands, China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar/ Burma, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Ghana, Europe and the Americas.

Now retired, Geoff lives in community with some of his three adult children and eight grandchildren. He met his gifted and compassionate wife Meg on mission in Papua New Guinea where their first child was born. There they lived in a cool, comfortable bush home with bamboo walls and thick grass roof at the Bible School they established to train village pastors and teachers.

Geoff and Meg appreciated C. S. Lewis' insightful literature and enjoyed introducing the family to his powerful stories.

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Endorsements

For many children and adults alike, the stories written by C.S. Lewis, and featuring the magical land of Narnia and its incredible inhabitants, are something which have been a part of growing up for generations.

*Now, the stories told in the books are shown in a new light in an exciting new book, **Discovering Aslan, High King Above all Kings in Narnia.***

Inside this unique and inspirational book you will find a devotional commentary which describes the background to the stories and the way in which the Lion of Judah is reflected in them, through Aslan.

Through references to many Bible passages, a light is shone upon the hidden story which has been concealed within the Narnia tales. The references directly correlate to passages within the Bible and are striking in their similarity.

***Discovering Aslan, High King Above all Kings in Narnia** is a rare look inside two of the world's most popular stories – Narnia and the Bible. The messages are as clear today as they were when first written, so take a journey of enlightenment and new understanding and get your copy of this amazing book today. Russ Burg (USA)*

** You can read the Narnia tales as just good stories, but CS Lewis wanted people to see more. This book will help you see the many links with Jesus, the Lion of Judah. Use this to enhance your wonder and love of Christ. Dr John Olley (Former Principal, Vose Seminary, Perth, Australia)*

** This is a remarkable work and something quite unique that I've not come across before (and believe me I've seen most ideas). There is a huge appetite for devotional type books and I'm sure that this one will appeal to many people. Russ Burg (USA)*

** Whether you are familiar with Narnia teachings, or this is new to you, Geoff Waugh faithfully puts together the many layers of meaning in the significance of the Lion Aslan as portrayed in each of the books of the series. This is a great companion when you read, and is a stand-alone teaching on the depths of meaning that C.S. Lewis weaves into Aslan's character. Definitely worth your time. Steve Loopstra (USA)*

** Great study that gives a deeper understanding of Christianity. Would make a great home group Bible study. Lyn Haack (Manilla, Australia)*

** I like it. I especially like the simplicity of expression. These days, with surface thoughts the order of the day, to be guided to look for depth of thought is an invaluable prompt to search for satisfying meaning. Lilian Fleming (Sydney, Australia)*

** Geoff Waugh explores fascinating layers of meaning in C. S. Lewis's children's classic. Aslan, the triumphant lion, is revealed as a reflection of Jesus. The book includes devotional meditations using Bible references.*
(Amazon Customer)

** As a child I fell in love with the classic children's book 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis. It is good that it seems just as popular today. Yet many people miss the deeper references Lewis constantly alludes to in the plot of this book. This is where the book by Geoff Waugh proves to be an invaluable companion. He shows how at nearly every step the hidden story Lewis was alluding to takes shape. If you are not familiar with the Christian background details you will be endlessly fascinated.* Philip Waugh (Springwood, Australia)

** I have never read any of Narnia and am not a good reader but I read this book and have determined to read the Narnia series.* Stan Beattie (Rockhampton, Australia)

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Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series

The Lion of Judah Series

The Lion of Judah series of books, including the series on *Discovering ASLAN*, are available in a Basic Edition, Gift Edition (colour) and eBook.

1 *The Titles of Jesus*

2 *The Reign of Jesus*

3 *The Life of Jesus*

4 *The Death of Jesus*

5 *The Resurrection of Jesus*

6 *The Spirit of Jesus*

7 *The Lion of Judah: The Titles, Reign, Life, Death, Resurrection and Spirit of Jesus*

8 *Discovering Aslan in The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

9 *Discovering Aslan in Prince Caspian*

10 *Discovering Aslan in The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'*

11 *Discovering Aslan in The Silver Chair*

12 *Discovering Aslan in The Horse and His Boy*

13 *Discovering Aslan in The Magician's Nephew*

14 *Discovering Aslan in The Last Battle*

15 *Discovering Aslan: High King above all Kings in Narnia*

This book contains the Prologue, Introduction, one Chapter, Conclusion and Epilogue to the book *Discovering Aslan: High King Above All Kings in Narnia*, a devotional commentary on *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

Check the publication information for details about completed books.

See www.renewaljournal.com for publication information.

Blog:

<https://renewaljournal.wordpress.com/2015/04/16/discovering-aslan-high-king-above-all-kings-in-narnia/>

Cover Artwork by Rebecca Brogan: The Lion of Judah series

<http://jtbarts.com/gallery/the-lion-of-judah-series/>

The Lion of Judah books are a series of six books by Geoff Waugh available individually and also compiled into one book titled *The Lion of Judah*.

See the Blogs for these books on www.renewaljournal.com .

These books are available on Amazon and Kindle as well as with free postage worldwide on The Book Depository. They are printed in a Basic Edition as well as a Gift Edition in colour. Each book is also available on Kindle as an eBook for your PC, tablet or smartphone.

The book *The Lion of Judah* is six books compiled into one volume.

Geoff Waugh ∞ The Lion of Judah



*The Titles, Reign, Life, Death,
Resurrection, & Spirit of Jesus*

The Lion of Judah



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

1. The Titles of Jesus

Lion of Judah
Jesus/Joshua
Son of Man
Son of God
Son / Father's Son
Son of David
Lord
Lord Jesus
Lord Jesus Christ
Messiah / Christ
Master
The Word
Word of God
King of Kings and Lord of Lords
King
King of the Jews
King of Israel
Saviour
Saviour of the World

Lamb of God
The Lamb
Rabbi / Teacher
Leader / Prince
Righteous One
Holy One
True One
Faithful and True
The Amen
The Branch
Root of David
Servant
Cornerstone
The Name
The Almighty
Immanuel / Emmanuel
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

I am

The Bread of life, living bread
The Light of the world
The Door/Gate
The Good shepherd
The Resurrection, the life
The way, the truth, the life
The True vine
The Alpha and the Omega
The first and the last
The beginning and the end
The root and the descendant of David
The bright morning star



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

2. The Reign of Jesus

The Lion of Judah in Scripture

Jesus declared that he fulfilled Scripture

Matthew declared that Jesus fulfilled Scripture

Mark declared that Jesus fulfilled Scripture

Luke declared that Jesus fulfilled Scripture

John declared that Jesus fulfilled Scripture

The church declared that Jesus fulfilled Scripture

Old Testament Prophecies fulfilled in Jesus

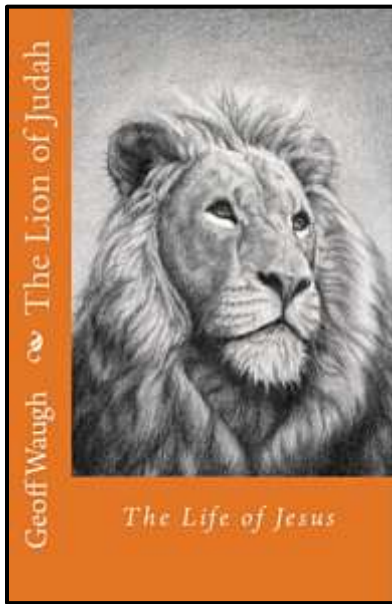
 Psalms

 Prophets

 Isaiah's 'Servant Songs'

 Other Prophets

Prophecies Jesus Fulfilled



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

3. The Life of Jesus

The Life of Jesus

The Birth and Boyhood of Jesus

The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry

Jesus' Ministry – Overview

Jesus' Ministry – Characteristics

Prayer

Crowds and Healing

Teaching

Parables

Disciples

Opposition

Map and Chronology



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

4. The Death of Jesus

The Old Testament foretold Jesus' death

Jesus foretold his death

Holy Week

The Resurrection and Ascension

Reflections on Jesus' Death and Resurrection

New Testament

Other Sources

Story – The Tree



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

5. The Resurrection of Jesus

The Kingdom of God

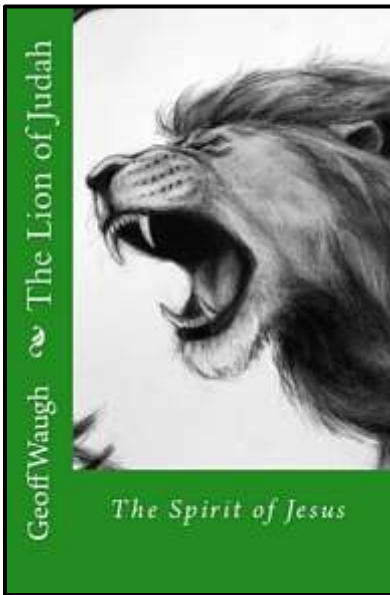
The Old Testament proclaims God's Kingdom

Jesus proclaimed his Resurrection and Reign

The Resurrection is God's Vindication of Jesus' Reign

The New Testament proclaims Jesus' Reign

The Resurrection and Ascension



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

6. The Spirit of Jesus

God has given us the Spirit of His Son

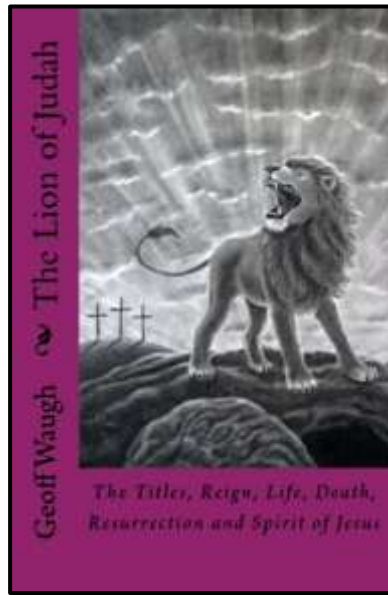
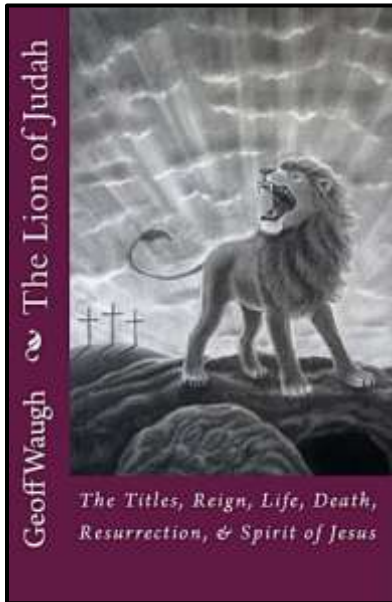
The Spirit of the Lord in the Old Testament

The Spirit of the Lord in Jesus

The Spirit of the Lord in Us

Testimonies

Summary



Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

7. The Lion of Judah

The Title of Jesus

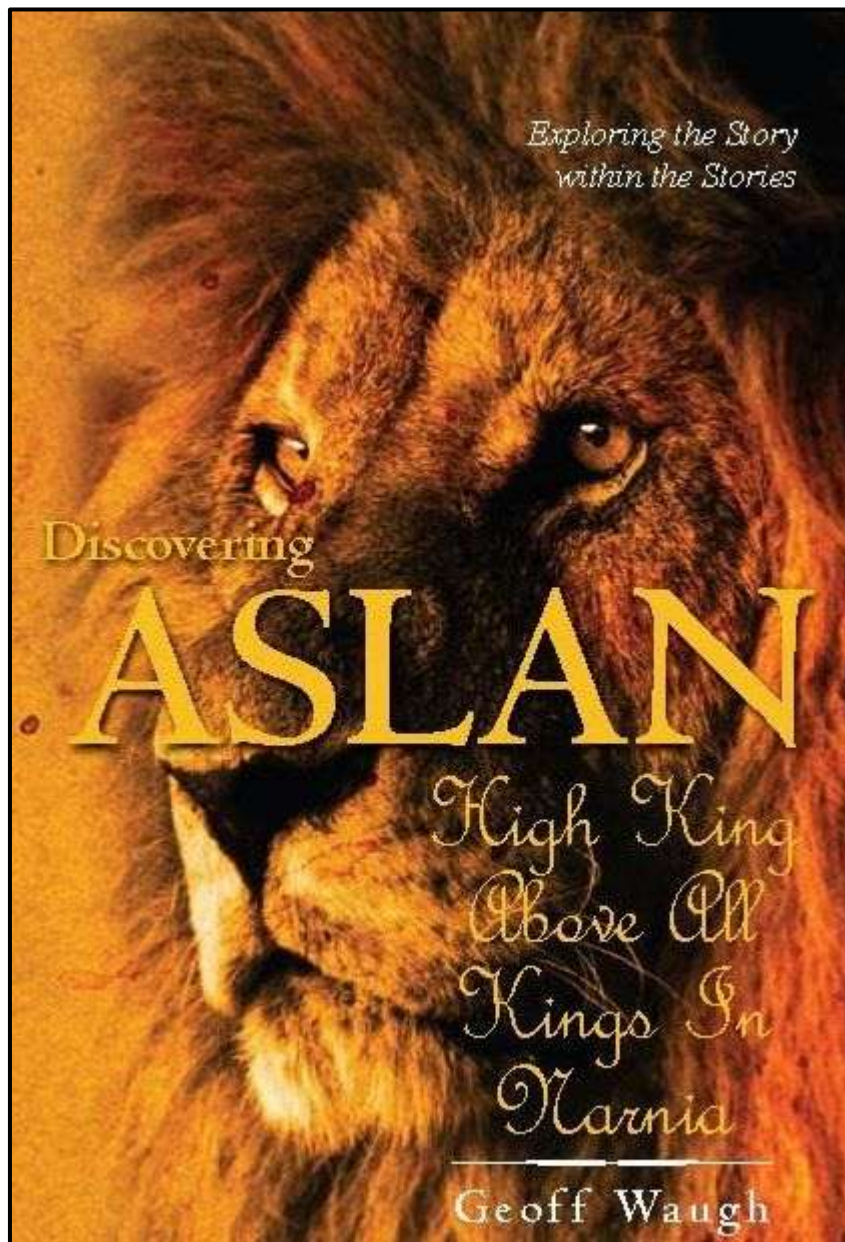
The Reign of Jesus

The Life of Jesus

The Death of Jesus

The Resurrection of Jesus

The Spirit of Jesus

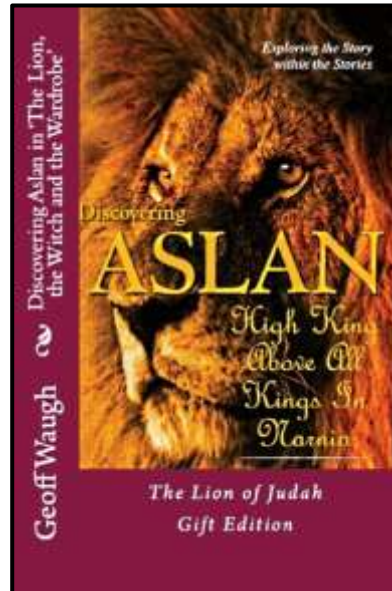
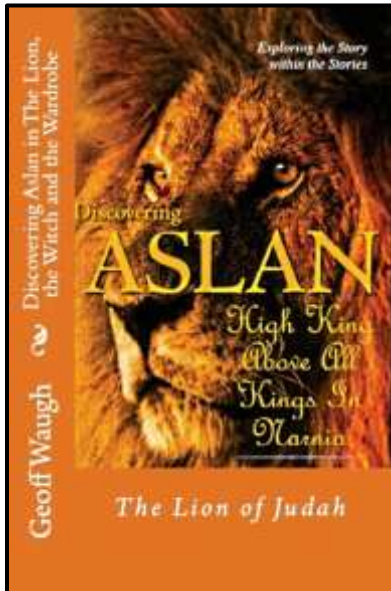


***Discovering ASLAN:
High King Above All Kings in Narnia***

Now in Basic, Gift (colour), & 2nd (new format) editions

See details for this series on

www.renewaljournal.com



8. Discovering ASLAN in 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'

Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. The Author and the Books

C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia
Reflections on Reflections
The Lion of Judah

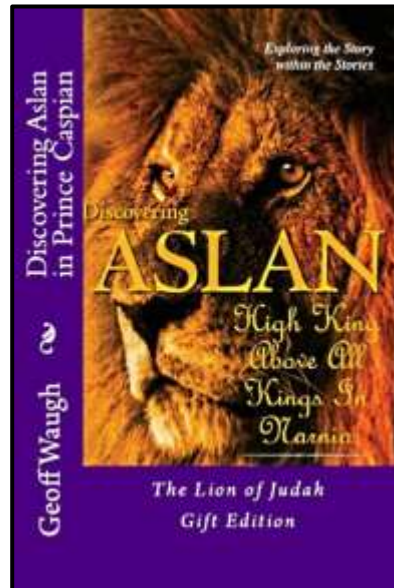
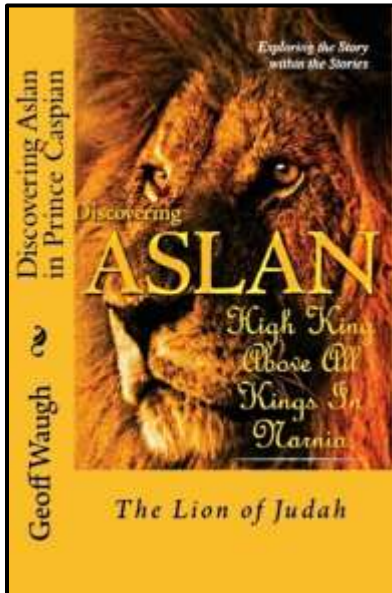
2. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

"Aslan is on the move"

Conclusion

Epilogue

Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series



9. *Discovering ASLAN in 'Prince Caspian'*

Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. Prince Caspian

"Every year you grow you will find me bigger"

2. The Author and the Books

C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia

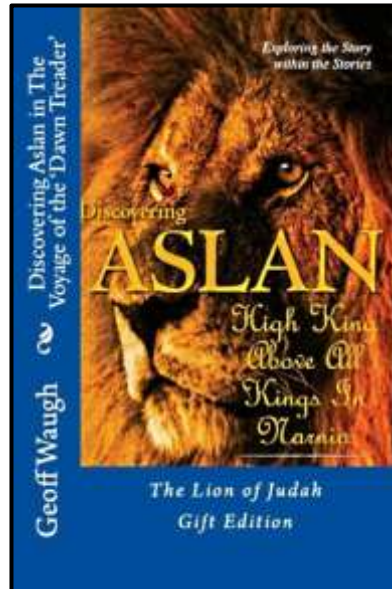
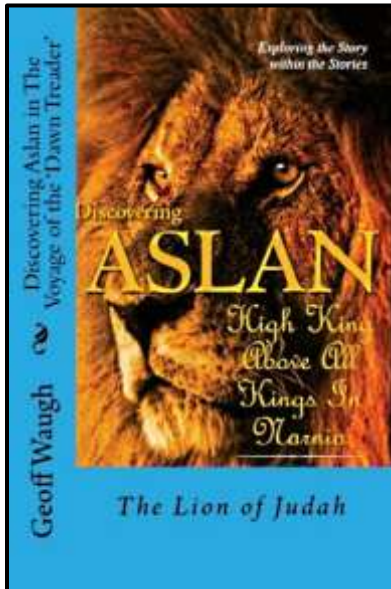
Reflections on Reflections

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10. Discovering ASLAN in The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader' Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

"By knowing me here for a little, you may know me better there"

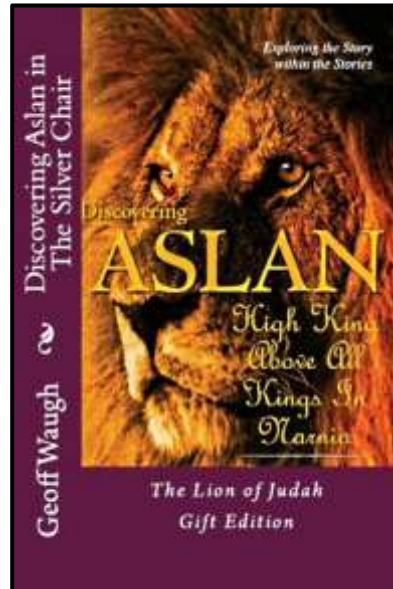
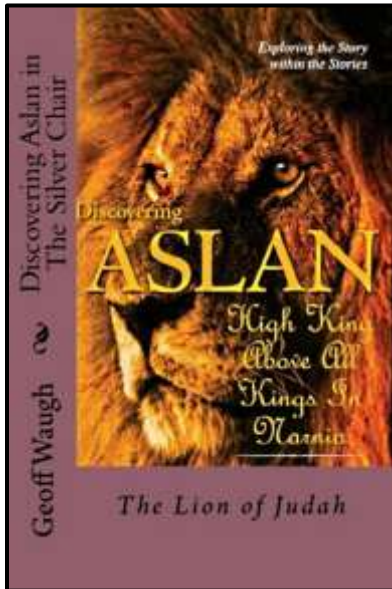
2. The Author and the Books

*C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia
Reflections on Reflections
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11. Discovering ASLAN in ‘The Silver Chair’

Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. The Silver Chair

“Aslan’s instructions always work: there are no exceptions”

2. The Author and the Books

C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia

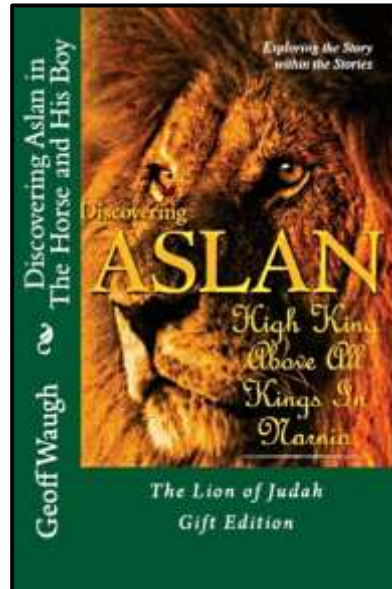
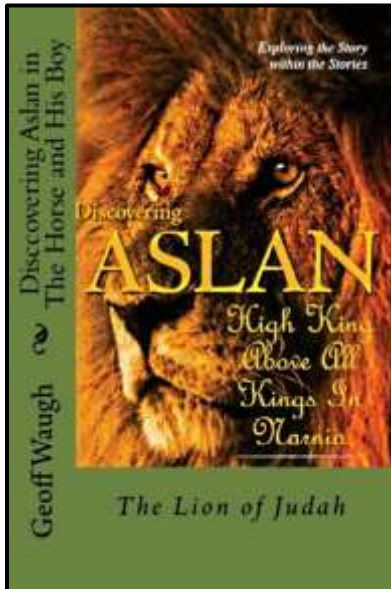
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12. Discovering ASLAN in “The Horse and His Boy” Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. The Horse and His Boy

“High King above all kings in Narnia”

2. The Author and the Books

C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia

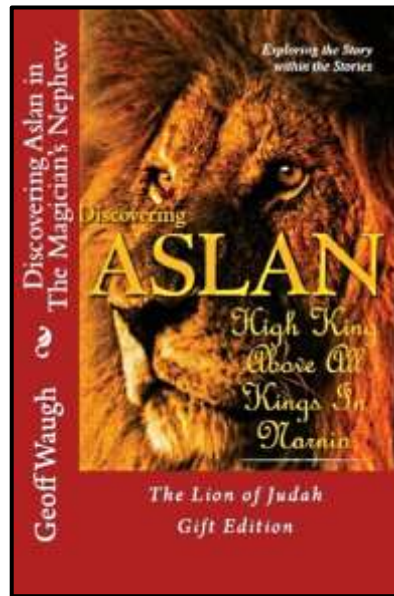
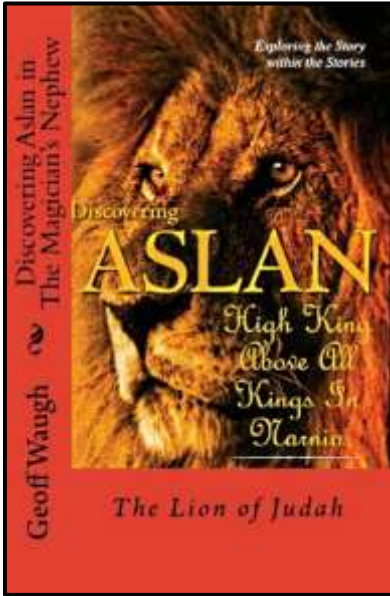
Reflections on Reflections

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13. Discovering ASLAN in 'The Magician's Nephew' Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. The Magician's Nephew

"I give you yourselves ... and I give you myself"

2. The Author and the Books

C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia

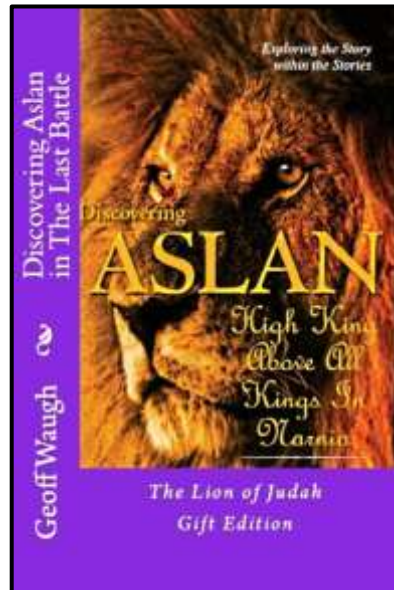
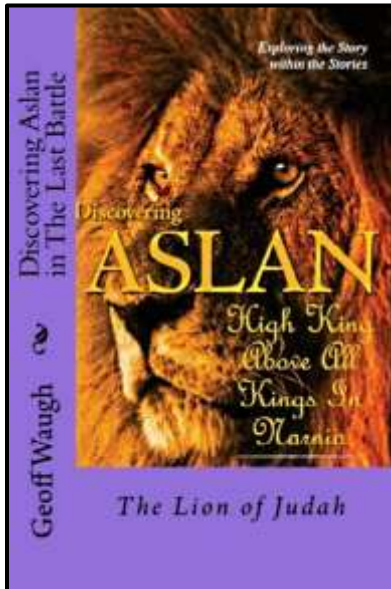
Reflections on Reflections

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14. Discovering ASLAN in 'The Last Battle'

Basic Edition without colour and Gift Edition in colour

Prologue

1. The Last battle

"Further up and further in"

2. The Author and the Books

C. S. Lewis and The Chronicles of Narnia

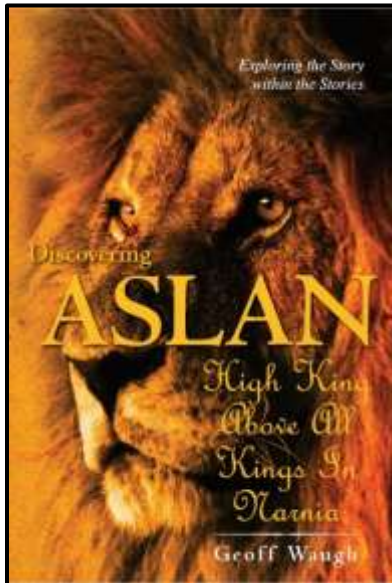
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Discovering Aslan

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Introduction

1. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

"Aslan is on the move"

2. Prince Caspian

"Every year you grow you will find me bigger"

3. The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'

"By knowing me here for a little, you may know me better there"

4. The Silver Chair

"Aslan's instructions always work: there are no exceptions"

5. The Horse and His Boy

"High King above all kings in Narnia"

6. The Magician's Nephew

"I give you yourselves ... and I give you myself"

7. The Last Battle

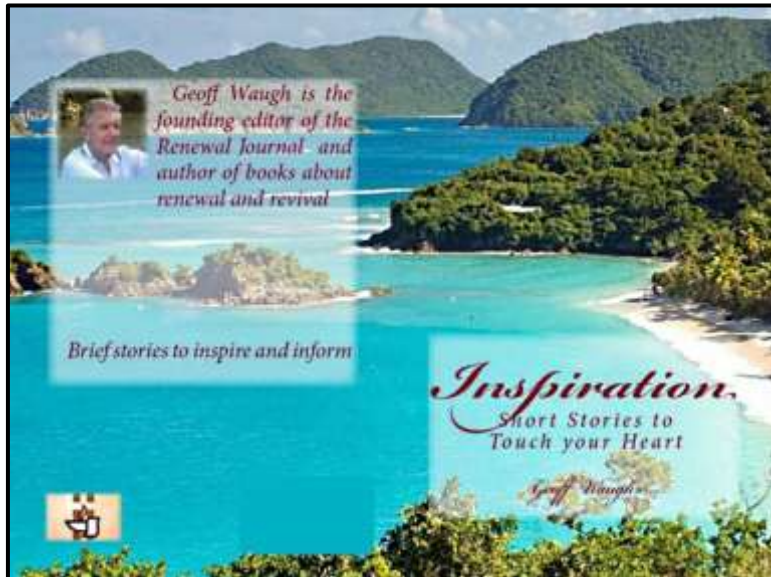
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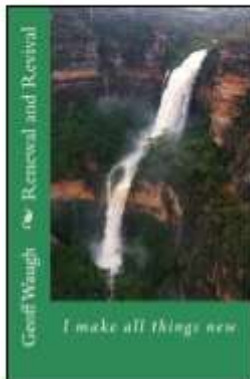
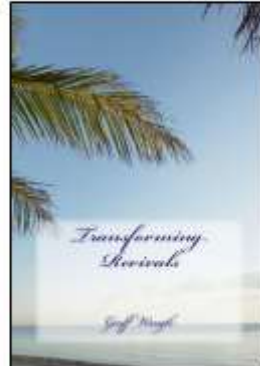
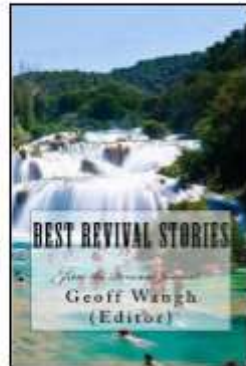
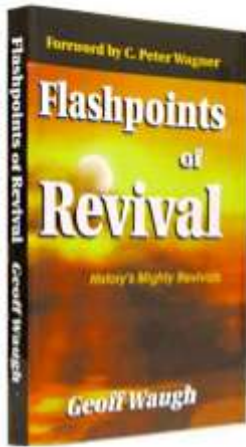
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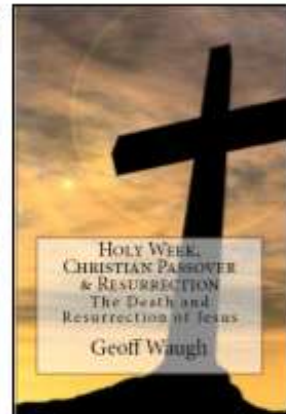
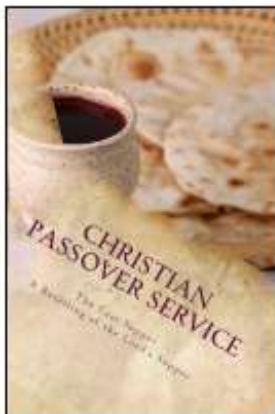
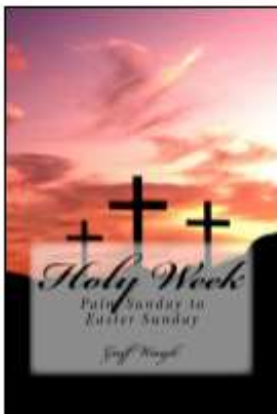
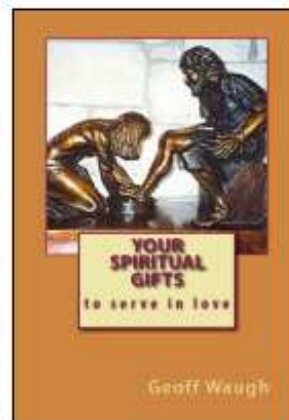
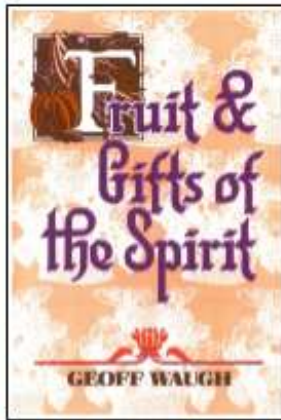
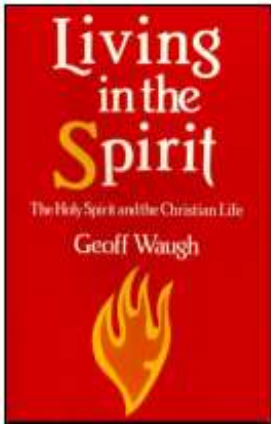
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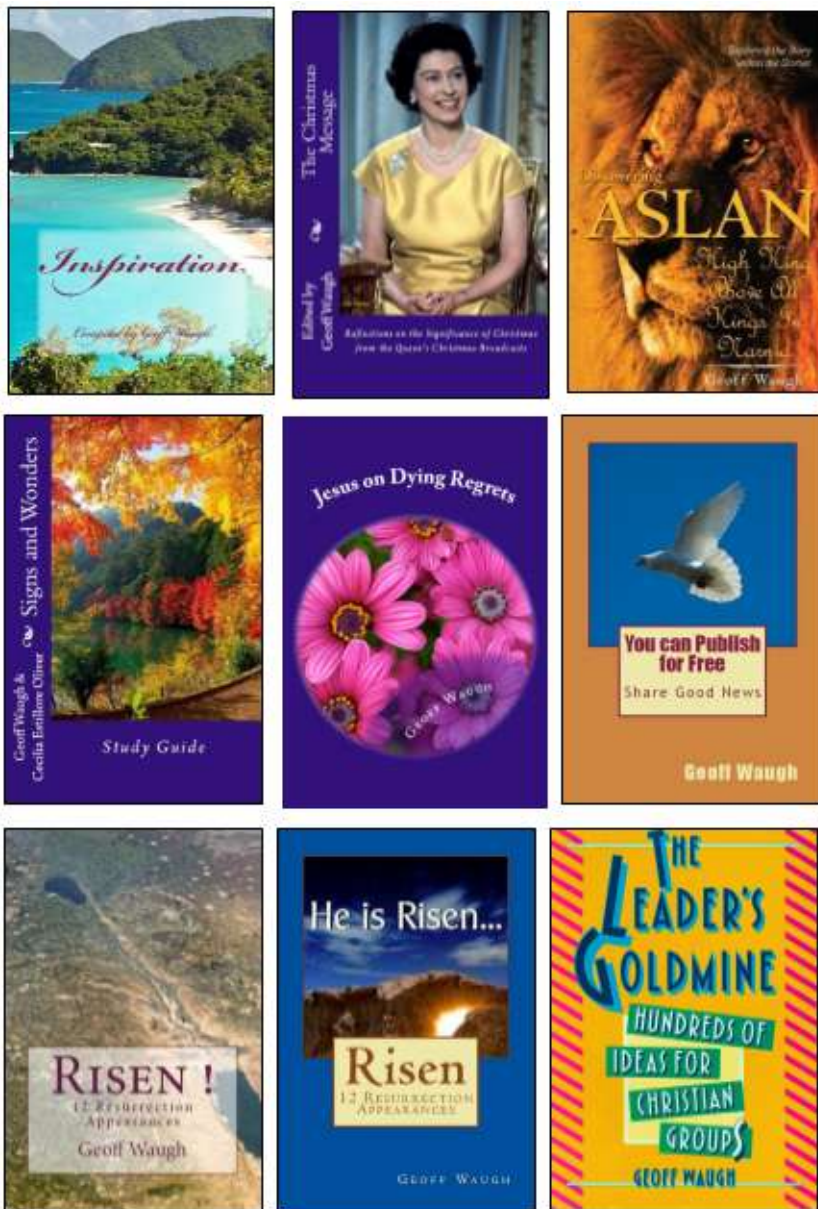
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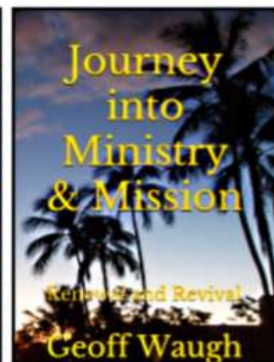
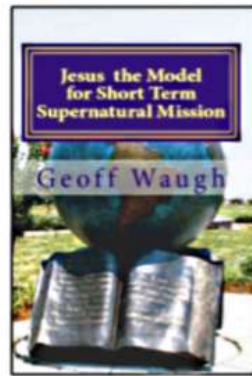
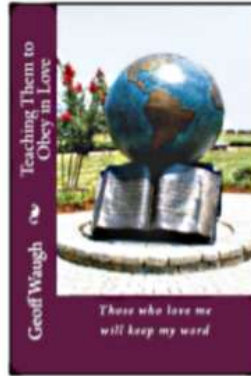
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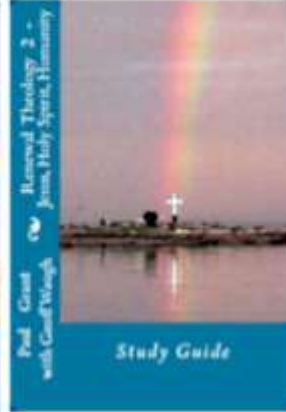
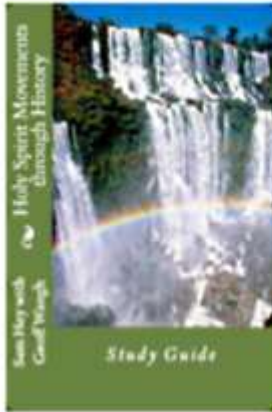
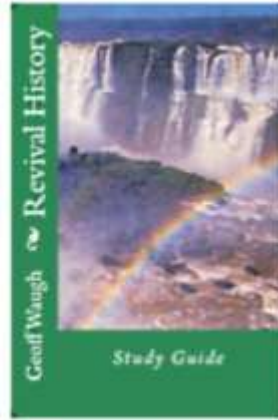
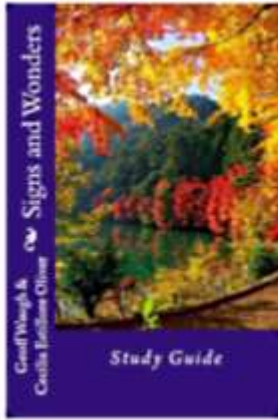
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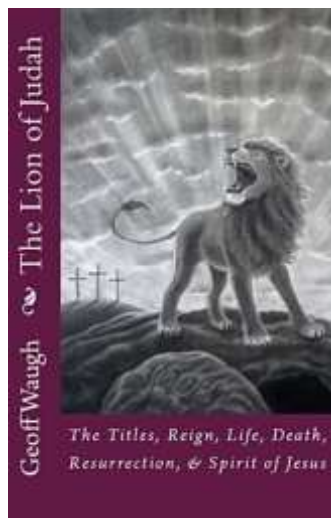
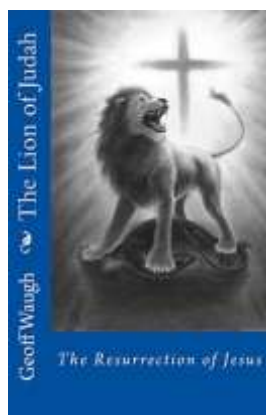
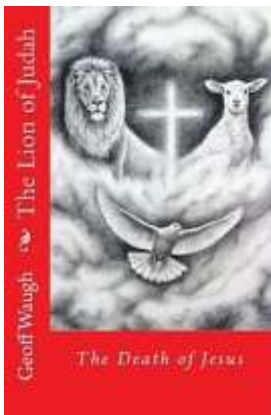
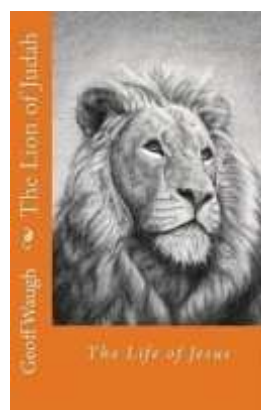
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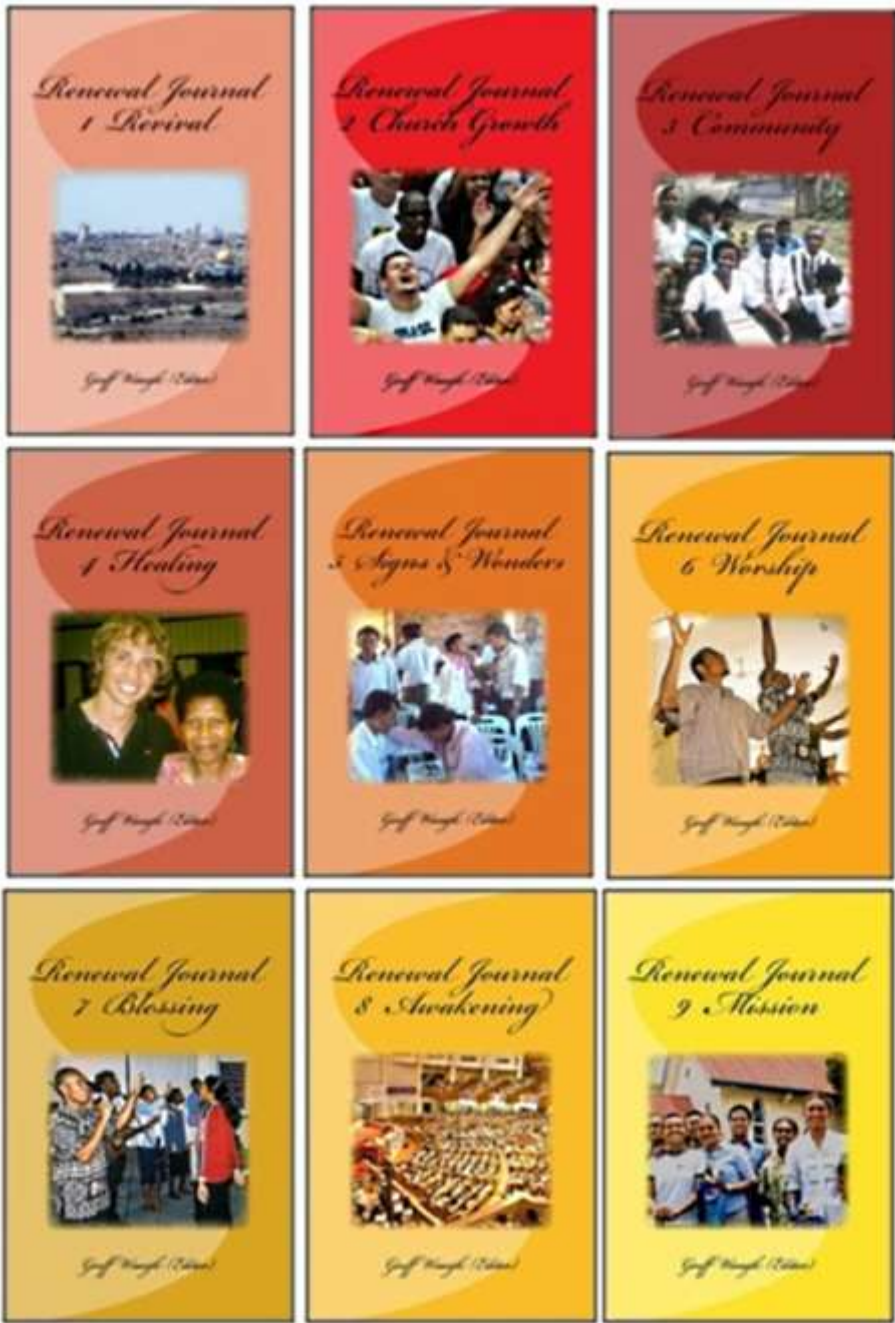
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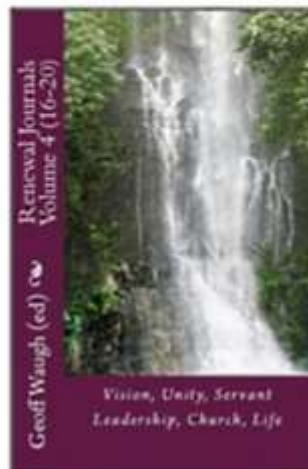
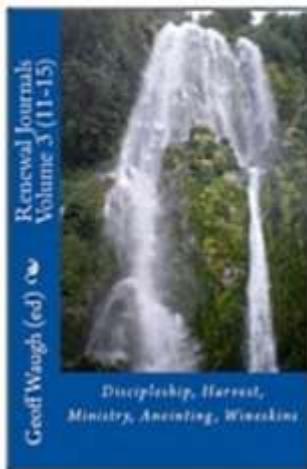
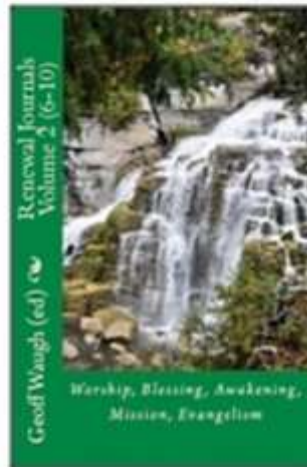
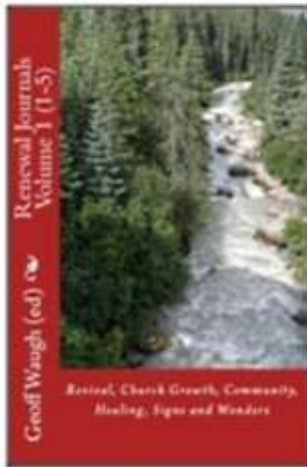
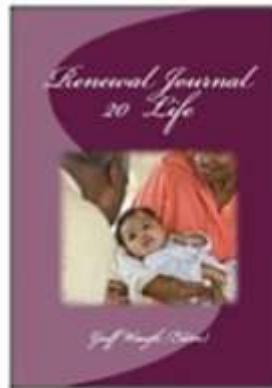
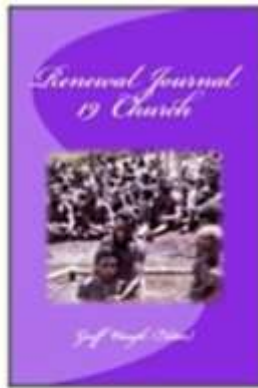
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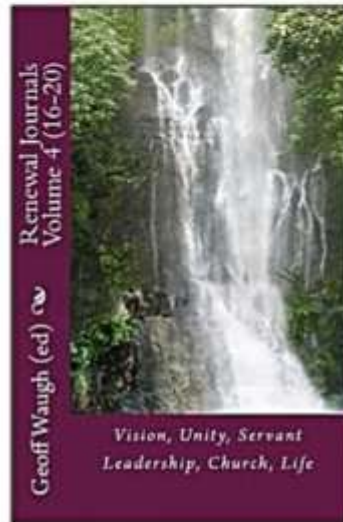
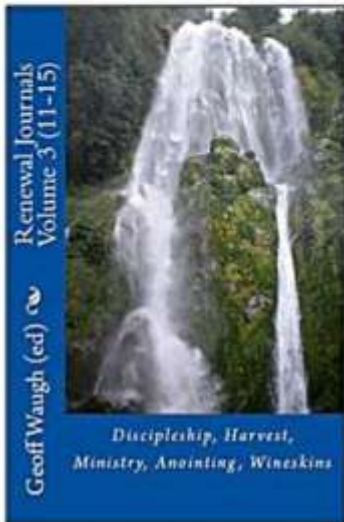
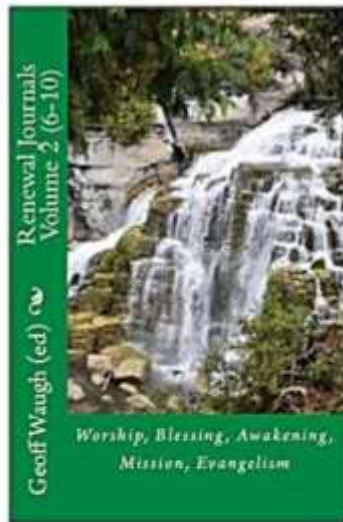
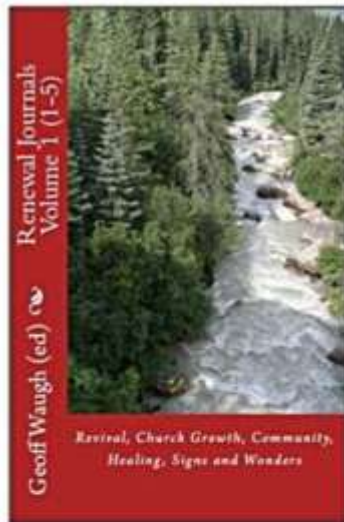
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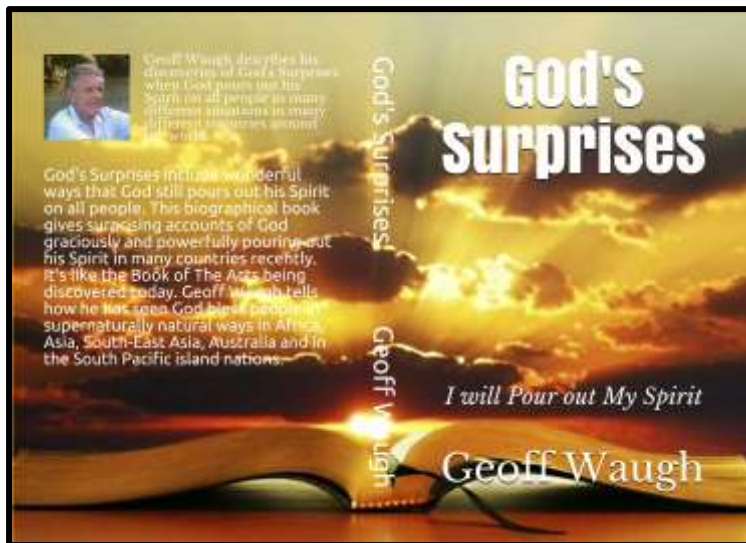
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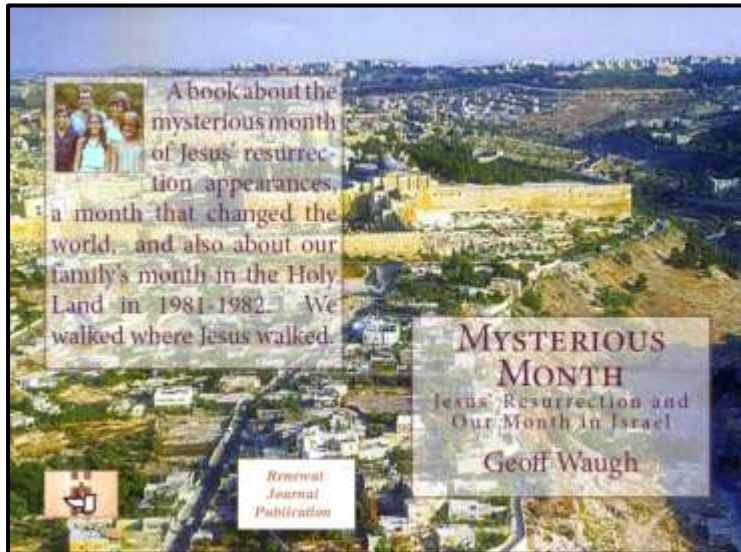
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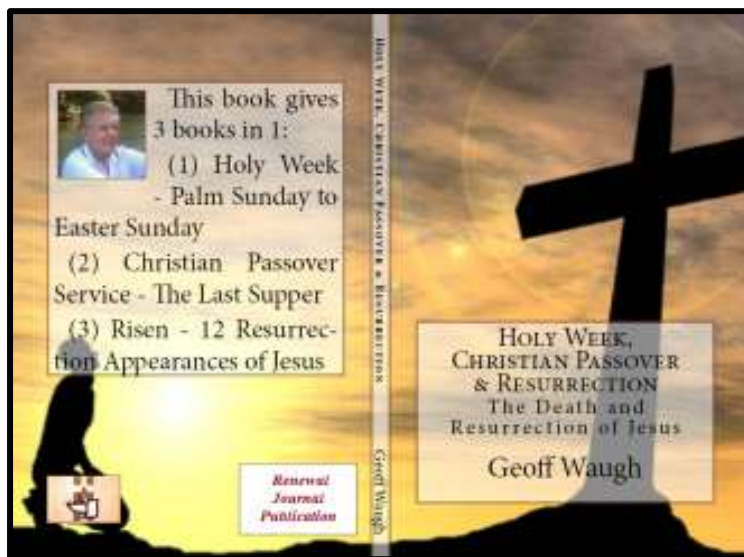
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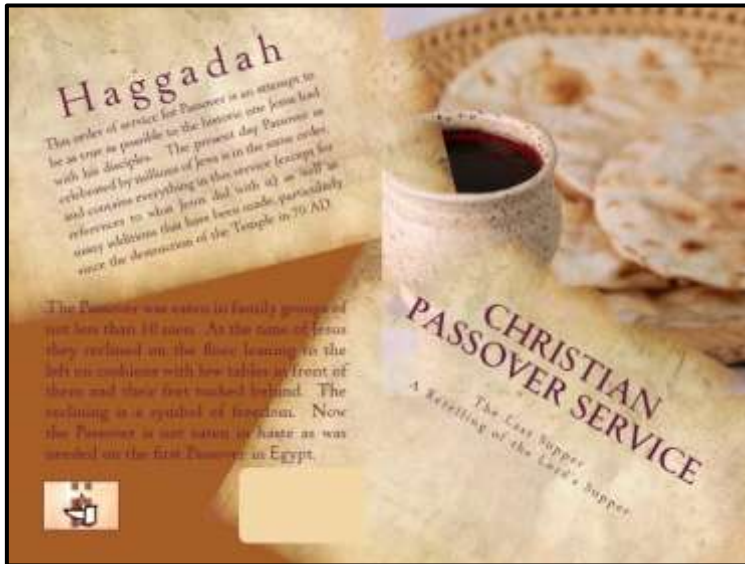
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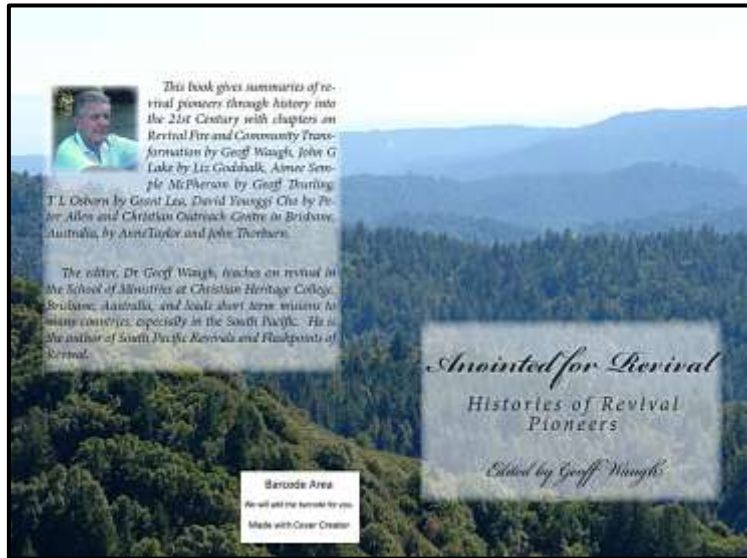


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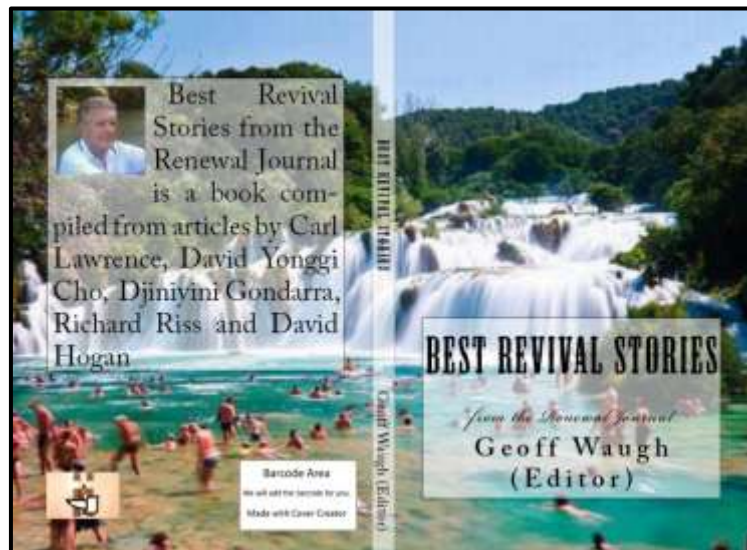
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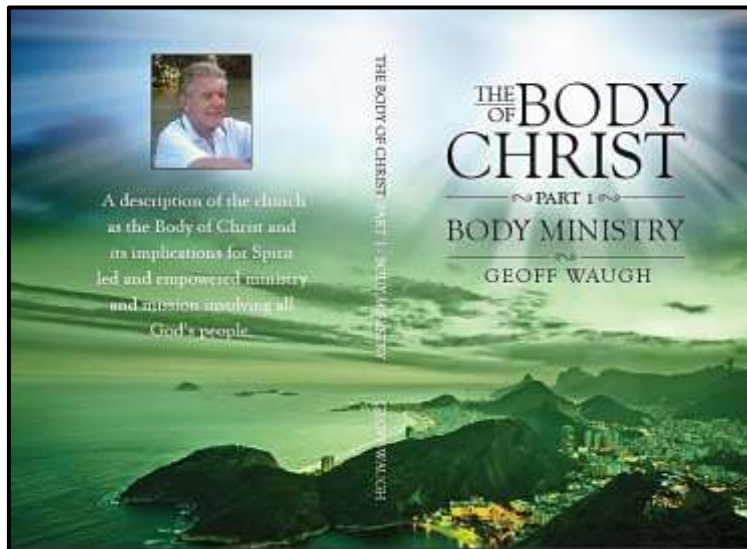
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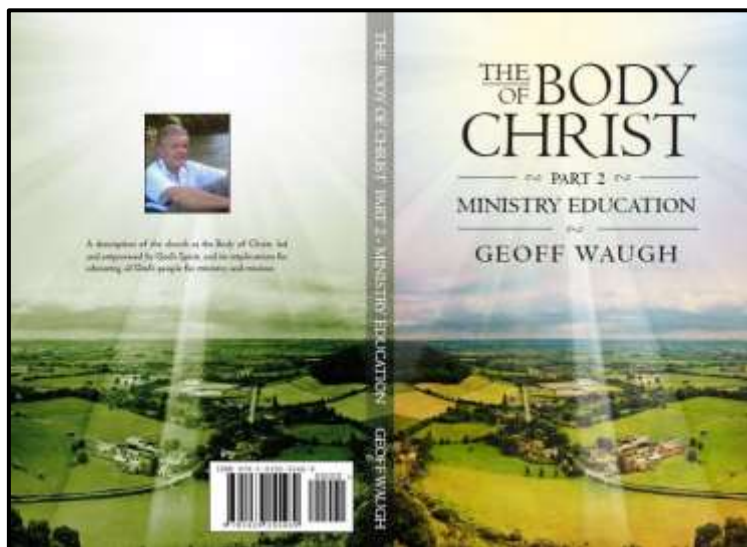
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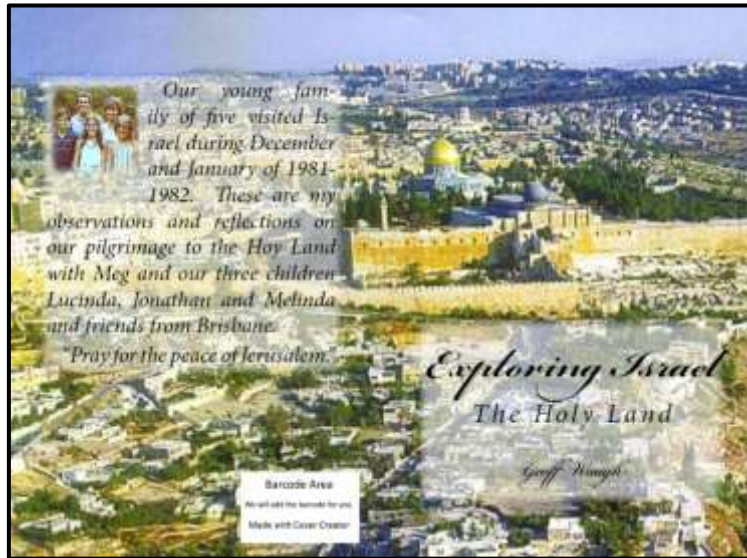
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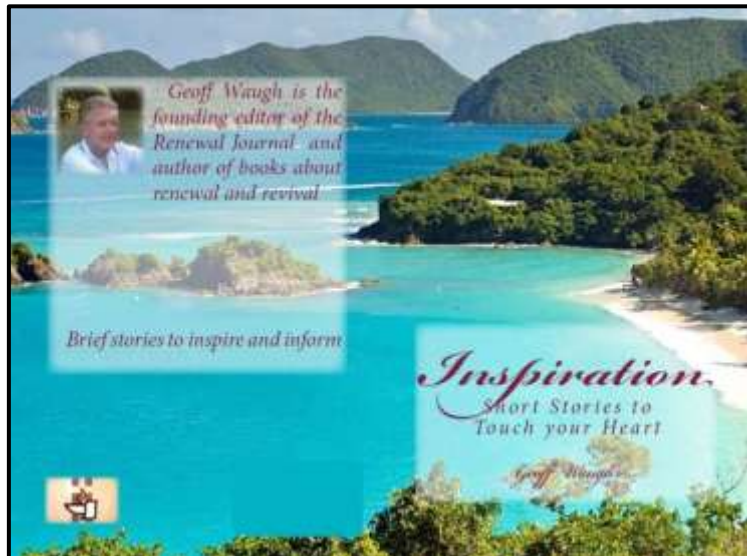
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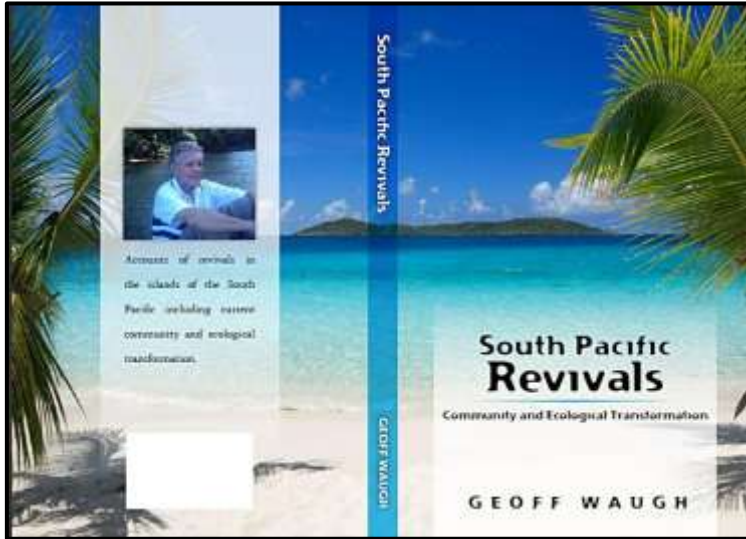
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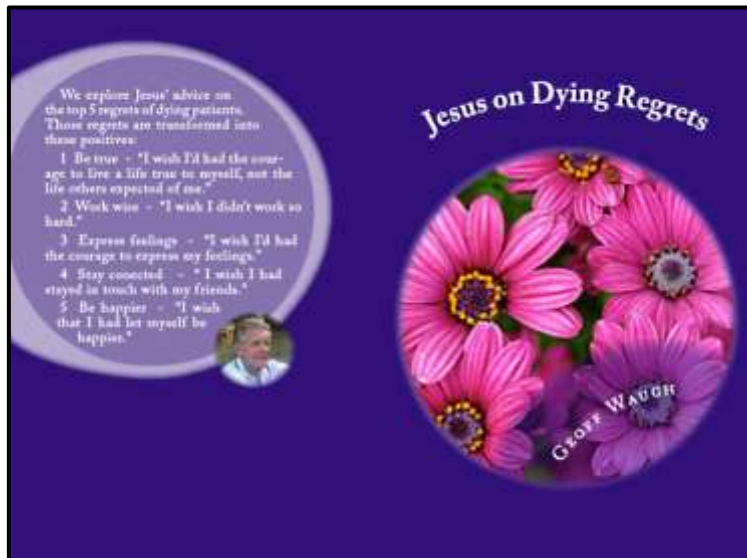
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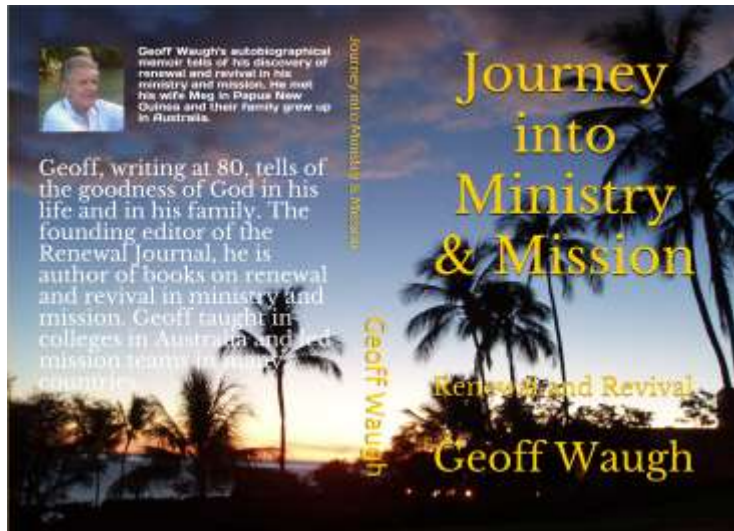
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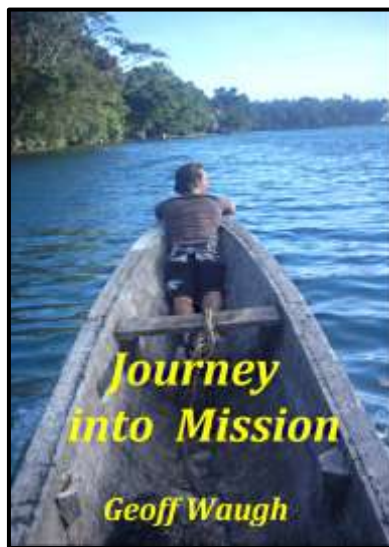


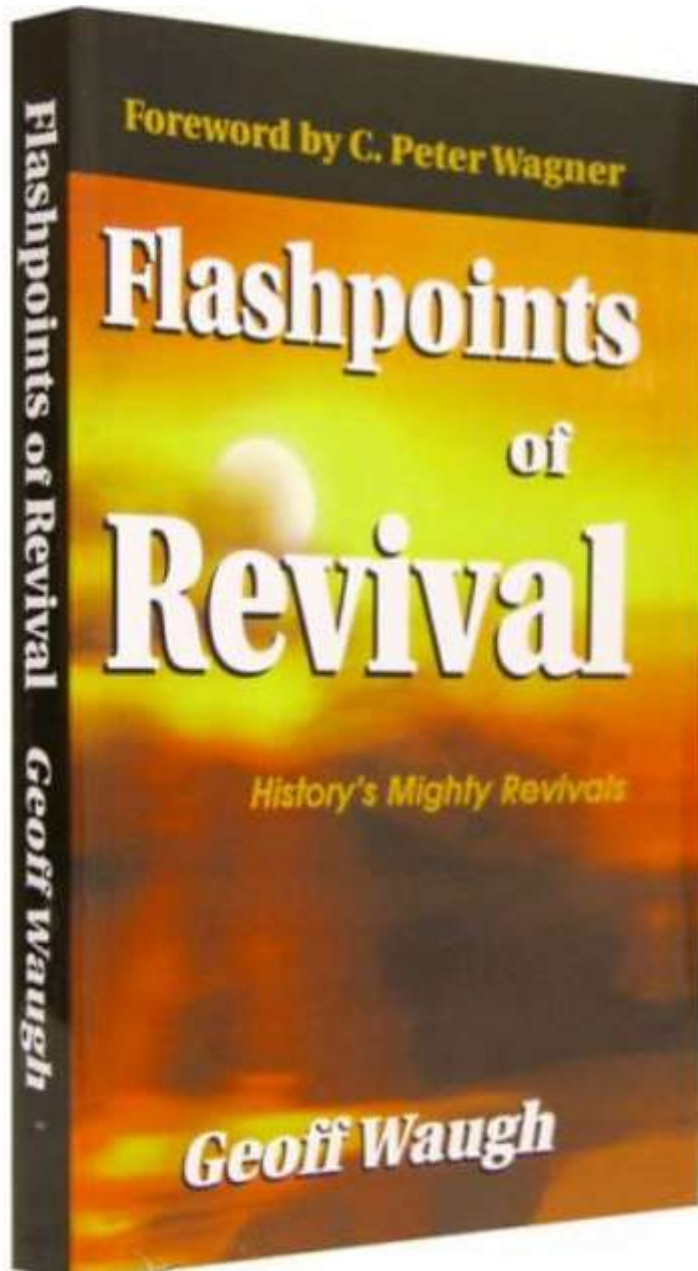
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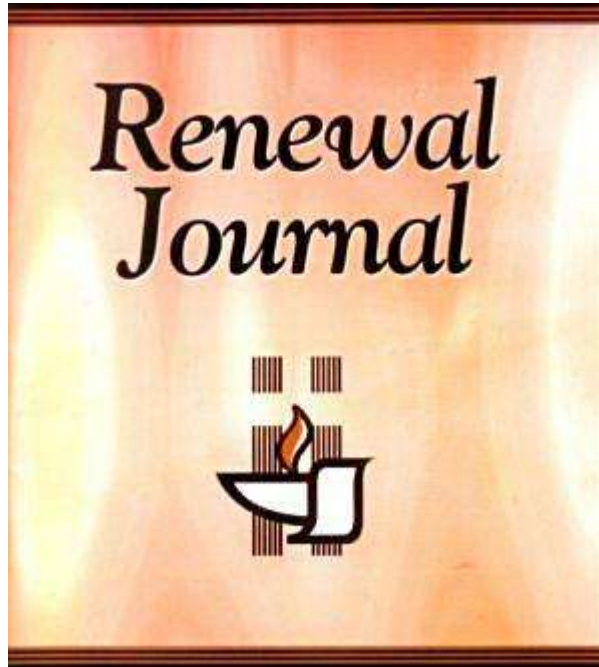
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Endnotes

References to *Prince Caspian* by C. S. Lewis (first published in 1951) are given here as Lewis, 1951, with the chapter (because page numbers vary with publications).

1. Prince Caspian

¹ Lewis, 1951, *Prince Caspian*, Chapter 10.

² **Lion of Judah Artwork** copyright by Rebecca Brogan from her series *The Lion of Judah*, used with permission.

<http://itbarts.com/gallery/the-lion-of-judah-series/>

³ Similarly, earth time differs from eternity as when Moses and Elijah talked with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration more than a thousand years after they had lived here. See Luke 9:28-36.

⁴ See *Discovering ASLAN in The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis* for a devotional commentary on the story of the children's first time in Narnia.

⁵ You can see an interesting reflection here with the Roman centurion Cornelius who believed in God and God answered his prayers and sent Peter to tell him about Jesus. See Acts chapter 10.

⁶ "Bluspels and Flalansferes: A Semantic Nightmare," in *Selected Literary Essays*, Walter Hooper, ed. London: Cambridge University Press, 1969, p. 426.

⁷ See reference to the return of Christmas, which celebrates the arrival of the Son of God into our world, and the children's gifts in Chapter 1 of this book.

⁸ Stars and planets were significant to biblical and medieval people. An example is the wise men from the east following the star to Bethlehem because it announced the birth of a great new king.

⁹ Jeremiah 1:4-8.

¹⁰ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 5.

¹¹ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 6.

¹² Aslan's How reminds us of how there was "a green hill far away, outside a city wall, where our dear Lord was crucified who died to save us all." The tunnels and caves in Aslan's How can remind us of how the persecuted early Christians made underground catacombs in which to hide and pray and worship. The catacombs had Christian symbols and scenes from the life of Christ on the walls.

¹³ Jairus, Luke 8:51-56; Transfiguration, Matthew 17:1-9; Luke 9:28-36; Gethsemane, Matthew 26:36-38.

¹⁴ This reminds us of how the disciples doubted Mary Magdalene when she told them she had seen Jesus, and "when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe" (Mark 16:11).

¹⁵ Lewis, 1951, chapter 10.

¹⁶ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 10.

¹⁷ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 10.

¹⁸ Lewis, 1951, chapter 10.

¹⁹ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 10.

²⁰ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 11.

²¹ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 11.

²² Lewis, 1951, Chapter 12.

²³ See Ephesians 4:11-13.

²⁴ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 13.

²⁵ Paul begins his letters acknowledging that his authority is in Jesus, usually writing, “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God” and more specifically in Galatians 1:1 (NRSV), “Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead ...”

²⁶ **Balaam’s donkey**, Numbers 22:21-35.

Jesus’ birth, Matthew 1:20-21; 2:13-14, 19-21; Luke 1:8-20 (Gabriel), 26-38 (Gabriel); 2:8-15, 21.

Temptations, Matthew 4:11; Mark 1:13.

Jesus’ teaching, Matthew 13: 41, 49; 16:27; 18:10; 22:30, 24:31, 36; 25:31; 26:53; Mark 8:38; 12:25; 13:27, 32; Luke 9:26; 12:8-9; 15:10; 16:22; 20:36; John 1:51.

Gethsemane, Luke 22:43.

Resurrection, Matthew 28:1-5; Mark 16:5-7; Luke 24:33; John 20:12.

Apostles, Acts 5:19-20; **Peter**, 12:7-11. **Cornelius**, Acts 10:3-22; 11:13. **Paul**, Acts 27:23. **Hospitable Christians**, Hebrews 13:2.

It’s interesting that no angel in Scripture has wings! They may appear as strong, eternally young men (see Mark 16:5). I suppose we can still enjoy pictures of angels with wings as symbolic of their ability to move swiftly between worlds. See Judith’s MacNutt’s book, *Angels are for Real*. She gives examples of angels appearing in the three ways common in Scripture: as bright shining beings, and in handsome and strong human form, and as unseen beings but sometimes felt physically (eg warmth, healings, or touch).

²⁷ God parted the waters of the Red Sea and the Jordan River for his people as Moses and Joshua obeyed him, and Jesus’ disciples were amazed that even the wind and the water obeyed him (Exodus 14:15-30; Joshua 3:7-17; Matthew 8:27; Mark 4:41; Luke 8:25).

²⁸ For example, Matthew 4:23; 8:16; 9:35; 12:15; Mark 6:56; Luke 4:40; 6:19; John 2:1-11; Acts 1:8.

²⁹ Lewis, 1951, Chapter 15.

³⁰ Jesus said that the kingdom of God is like a great feast and all are invited (Matthew 22:1-14; Luke 14:15-23). Revelation tells about the marriage supper of the Lamb when the Lamb of God is united with his bride the people of God (Revelation 19:6-9).

2. The Author and his books

³¹ Lewis, C S, "It all began with a picture," in *On Stories and Other Essays on Literature*, ed. Walter Hooper, New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1982, p. 53.

³² Lewis, C S, "Myth Became Fact," in *God in the Dock*, ed. Walter Hooper, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1967.

³³ Lewis, C S, *Surprised By Joy*, 1955, Ch. 14, 'Checkmate'.

³⁴ Chad Walsh, *Apostle to the Skeptics*, New York: Macmillan, 1949, and in an article in *Atlantic Monthly*, September 1946. A nationwide survey in *Christianity Today*, 2000, named C. S. Lewis the most influential Christian writer of the 20th Century.

³⁵ Douglas Gresham, Preface, *The C.S. Lewis Bible*. HarperCollins. Kindle Edition. 2012.

³⁶ Lewis, C S, 1985, *Letters to Children*, L W Dorsett and M L Mead, eds., Simon & Schuster, 1995, p. 68. Laurence believed the stories should be read chronologically according to Narnian time but his mother felt they should be read in their published order because she assumed the sequence was intentional. Lewis wrote in that letter, "I think I agree with your order for reading the books more than with your mother's."

³⁷ *Letters to Children*, p. 92.

³⁸ "It all began with a picture," in *On Stories*, p. 53.

³⁹ Matthew 13:34; John 17:25-28.

⁴⁰ *Letters to Children*, p. 29.

⁴¹ *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, Ch. 16.

⁴² *Letters to Children*, p. 32.

⁴³ *Letters to Children*, p. 111.

⁴⁴ "Bluspels and Flalansferes: A Semantic Nightmare," in *Selected Literary Essays*, Walter Hooper, ed. London: Cambridge University Press, 1969, p. 426.

⁴⁵ Wikipedia: Chapters and verses of the Bible.

⁴⁶ Matthew 2:1-2.

⁴⁷ Michael Ward, *The Narnia Code*, 2010, Paternoster, pages 131-132.

⁴⁸ Professor Kirke's name appears first in *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (Chapter 1) and also as a Professor at the end of *The Magician's Nephew* (Chapter 15).

⁴⁹ Their Pevensie surname is introduced in *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (Chapter 1).

⁵⁰ The Wardrobe was made from a tree grown from the core of the apple Digory Kirke brought back from Narnia, told at the end of *The Magician's Nephew*.

⁵¹ Genesis 32:28; 35:10.

⁵² *Iesous* (Yeshua in Greek) is translated Joshua in the New Testament in these verses:

Luke 3:29 – the son of Joshua (Jose in the KJV)

Acts 7:45 – After receiving the tabernacle, our ancestors under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them.

Hebrews 4:8 – For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day.

⁵³ Matthew's Gospel quotes many Old Testament references fulfilled in Jesus, such as Matthew 1:22-23 on Isaiah 7:14; Mt 2:5-6 on Micah 5:2; Mt 3:17-18 on Jeremiah 31:15; Mt 3:3 on Isaiah 40:3; Mt 4:13-16 on Isaiah 9:1-2; Mt 10:35-36 on Micah 7:6; Mt 11:10 on Malachi 3:1; Mt 12:17-21 on Isaiah 42:1-4; and Mt 13:14-15 on Isaiah 6:9-10. See more fulfilled prophecies in my book *The Lion of Judah: The Reign of Jesus*, 2014, Renewal Journal Publications. See links on www.renewaljournal.com.

⁵⁴ Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 23-24; John 19-20; Revelation 5.

⁵⁵ Revelation 5:5; 19:16; 11:15.

⁵⁶ *The Horse and his Boy*, Ch. 11, the last paragraphs.

⁵⁷ *Letters to Children*, pp. 52-53.

⁵⁸ Hymn by Henry Wilson, 1874,

<http://www.hymnary.org/hymn/CEHW1894/42>.

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