

# *Discovering Aslan*

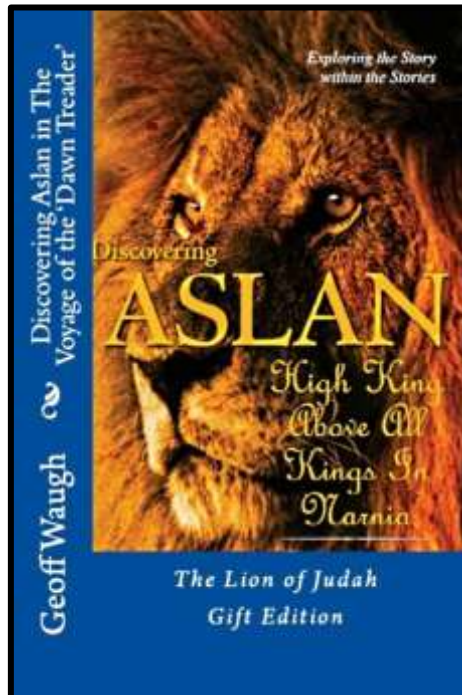
*in the Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'*

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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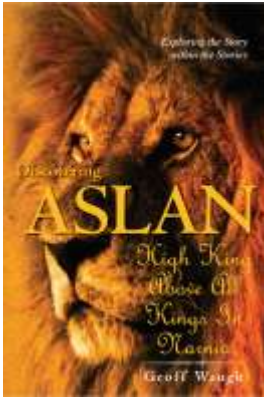
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## **Discovering ASLAN in The Voyage of the Dawn Treader**

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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. The Voyage of the *Dawn Treader*

*“By knowing me here for a little, you may know me better there”<sup>1</sup>*



*The Lion of Judah and the Lamb of God gives His Spirit<sup>2</sup>*

This story tells how Edmund and Lucy meet Caspian and other friends again in Narnia along with Eustace. Edmund and Lucy Pevensie<sup>3</sup> endure holidays with their bossy cousin Eustace Scrubb while Susan travels with their parents in America and Peter studies with old Professor Kirke.<sup>4</sup>

One earth year and three Narnian years after their last adventure in Narnia they sail the Great Eastern Ocean in the *Dawn Treader*. Their adventures take them east toward the dawn and Aslan's country.

C. S. Lewis described this story as depicting the spiritual life of Christian believers especially in the character of Reepicheep.<sup>5</sup> The valiant Mouse wants to find Aslan's country.

Originally Lewis thought this story completed the Narnia series and he includes a clear statement about why he wrote the stories at the end of the book: Aslan tells the children that they can know him in their own world by saying, "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."<sup>6</sup>

Edmund, Lucy and Eustace find themselves drawn into Narnia through a painting of a Narnian-style sailing ship hanging on the guest bedroom wall in Eustace's home. They find themselves struggling in the ocean near the ship and Caspian quickly dives into the sea to rescue them. Then on board they meet Lord Drinian the Captain, Rhince the Mate, and are reunited with their old friend, Reepicheep the chief Mouse, the most valiant of the talking beasts in Narnia.

The ship carries royal treasures including Lucy's diamond cordial bottle which she uses to heal Eustace from seasickness. Eustace remains ungrateful and obnoxious, even mistreating Reepicheep who quickly defends himself.

Caspian intends to learn the fate of the seven lords loyal to his father who were sent off by his usurping uncle Miraz and never seen again. At Caspian's coronation he vowed, with Aslan's approval, to search for them. Our decisions and plans are best when they are approved by the Lion of Judah.

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope (Jeremiah 29:11).*

They sail into uncharted eastern seas and discover many islands in their search for the missing nobles.<sup>7</sup>

## **The Lone Islands**

Caspian finds the first noble, Lord Bern, at the Lone Islands where Bern 'buys' him from slave traders who had captured the children and the Mouse. Lord Bern and Caspian free all the captured slaves and Caspian moves swiftly to make things right. He leaves Bern in charge of the Lone Islands. We too can be made clean and be set free from our slavery, as promised in these verses:

*Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin (John 8:34).*

*Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? ... But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life (Romans 6:16, 22).*

*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us (1 John 1:8-10).*

## **Dragon Island**

After surviving a storm at sea for close to two weeks on reduced rations they sight an island with high mountains. Once ashore they work hard to repair the ship and restock but Eustace slips away. He gets lost in a fog and finds a dragon's cave full of treasure in a strange valley. He stuffs diamonds

into his pockets and wears a gem studded golden bracelet high on his arm. Then he sleeps from exhaustion on the dragon's lair and so, "Sleeping on a dragon's hoard with greedy, dragonish thoughts in his heart, he had become a dragon himself."<sup>8</sup>

Eustace has become a monster: a dragon able to fly but he longs to be friends with the humans. Caspian leads a group which unsuccessfully searches for him that night. By morning Eustace, the dragon, flies to the beach and communicates to them all with nods and shakes of his head in response to their questions. Lucy's cordial reduces the swelling in his paw from the tight golden bracelet but Eustace still cries dragon tears in pain. Caspian recognizes a design on the bracelet indicating that it belonged to Lord Octesian, one of the lost nobles. Eustace has become remorseful and helpful. For about six days he flies around the deserted island finding and bringing food for the group and even uprooting a tall pine tree to replace the ship's broken mast. He sometimes carries some of them on his back to view the island.

Then early one morning Edmund finds him at the edge of the wood near their camp, a boy once more, chastened and apologetic. He tells Edmund how a great lion had told him (without using words) to follow him. Although there was no moonlight, the Lion walked in moonlight and Eustace followed him up a high mountain to a beautiful garden with a large, clear well shaped like a round bath with marble steps going into it.

The lion told Eustace to undress before getting into the pool so he tried to scrape off his dragon skin and did that three times. Yet it was not enough. So the lion offered to do it for him and Eustace agreed. It hurt but soon he was free and swimming and realized he was a boy again. Then the lion dressed him in new clothes.

Edmund realizes that the lion was Aslan and tells Eustace about him: "He is the great Lion, the son of the Emperor-over-Sea, who saved me and

saved Narnia. We've all seen him. Lucy sees him most often. And it may be Aslan's country we are sailing to."<sup>9</sup>

Eustace begins to be a different boy. He has relapses but the cure has begun. Caspian names the place Dragon Island and they assume that Lord Octesian met his death there. They fling his golden ring high in the air and it catches on a small rock projection where it remains.

This story reflects many vital aspects about Jesus, God's Son. Eustace, enticed by wealth in the dragon's lair, becomes a dragon. We can be enticed and trapped into wanting our defiled heart's desire, unable to free ourselves but needing to change, as in these passages:

Jesus said:

*'It is what comes out of a person that defiles. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person'* (Mark 7:20-23 NRSV).

Paul wrote:

*You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness* (Ephesians 4:22-23 NRSV).

Eustace could not find a way to escape his dragon body but longed to be free. Jesus knows our needs and true desires and is able to save us:



*For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost (Luke 19:10 NRSV).*

*For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us (Romans 5:6-8 NRSV).*

*O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7:24)*

Our own efforts cannot free us. Eustace tried three times to cut away his dragon skin but could only make small changes. He needed help even though that help cut more deeply.

*Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call” (Acts 2:37-39).*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:8-10).*

This story of Eustace washing in the pool gives us a beautiful reflection of our cleansing, baptism, and new life.

*Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish (Ephesians 5:25b-27).*

*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Romans 6:1-4).*

Jesus' disciple Peter described it this way, showing how Jesus moved in many worlds: in this world, with the 'spirits in prison', and in heaven.

*For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and*

*is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him (1 Peter 3:18-22 NRSV).*

Here is a summary of important truths reflected in this story of Aslan and Eustace.<sup>10</sup>

- \* We do not seek God, but He seeks us (Romans 3:10-11; Luke 19:10).
- \* We need a Saviour because we were helpless, unable to save ourselves (Romans 5:6-8).
- \* None of our efforts make any difference (Isaiah 64:6; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5).
- \* When we realized our condition – the depth of our sin – we were cut to the heart (Acts 2:37-38; Psalm 38:4).
- \* God removed all the layers of sin and filth and wickedness (Romans 6:6; 1 John 1:9).
- \* He cleansed us (Titus 3:5; Ephesians 5:25b-27).
- \* He baptized us (1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:10, 12).
- \* He clothed us with His righteousness (Isaiah 61:10).
- \* We have become new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- \* We are born again (John 3:3-6).

## **Burnt Island**

Sailing on, the explorers stop briefly at an unpeopled island which they call Burnt Island because of its burned ruins. There they find a small skin boat, or coracle, made of hide stretched over a wicker framework. Reepicheep keeps it because its size of four feet suited him well.

As they sail onward, a huge sea serpent attempts to loop around their ship but by working together they manage to push it off before it crushes the *Dawn Treader*. Many victories come when we work together.

*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2).*

## **Deathwater**

Reepicheep calls the next island they visit, Deathwater, because of its magic pool that turns anything in it into gold. They see the golden body of the third missing noble in the pool. For a while Caspian and Edmund argue about authority and ownership of the island as it has potential to turn anything into gold. They stop arguing when they all see the huge Lion pass by, bathed in sunlight even though the sun had set.

We may be tempted to seek wealth and possessions rather than to follow Jesus. If we pause and think about him and his word we change our tune and discover real harmony again.

*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal (Matthew 6:19-20).*

## **Land of the Duffers**

The next eastern island they explore looks like a great empty park. Lucy falls behind the others to fix her shoe and hears thumping sounds from invisible creatures planning to capture them. She tells the others and they

all face their invisible foes together. They discover that these invisible creatures want Lucy to help them by breaking the spell they had put on themselves to be invisible because they thought they looked ugly.

Lucy bravely reads the magic book of spells and discovers the loveliest story she had ever read. It was about a cup, a sword, a tree and a green hill.<sup>11</sup> You may remember a similar wonderful story – in fact, the greatest love story ever told: An innocent man dies a criminal's death to free the criminal. Here are some clues:

*Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me. Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. ..." (Luke 22:17-20)*

*When those around Him saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus answered and said, "Permit even this." And He touched his ear and healed him (Luke 22:49-51).*

*And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left (Luke 23:33).*

*Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”) (Galatians 3:13).*

*[Jesus] Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed (1 Peter 2:24).*

Lucy discovers she cannot turn the pages to go backwards in this magic book and she cannot remember all the details of the lovely story. Later Aslan promises her that he will be telling her that story for years and years.<sup>12</sup> Similarly, Jesus is still telling us his story.

As Lucy reads the magic book she is tempted by a spell that promises to make her astonishingly beautiful. Aslan’s face appears in the book warning her and protecting her from a big mistake. She reads on, avoids other tempting spells, and then breaks the spell on the invisible creatures. Aslan appears beside her, large and loving. He reminds Lucy he was there all the time.

Jesus promised to be with us always even though we don’t see him. Occasionally he appears to some people in visions.

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

Stephen’s vision:

*But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God (Acts 7:55).*

Saul's encounter:

*As he [Saul] journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads."*

*So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one (Acts 9:3-7).*

John's vision:

*Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, 'Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades (Revelation 1:12-18).*

Lucy follows Aslan as they go to meet Coriakin the Magician. He rules the Dufflepuds, a people with one leg and a large foot. Aslan informs them that he is going to leave them and he will visit the Dwarf Trumpkin, who is

in charge at the castle at Cair Paravel until Caspian returns. Aslan assures Lucy that they shall meet again soon. Responding to her question about what *soon* means he says, "I call all times soon."<sup>13</sup>

Jesus uses *soon* in similar ways. The Bible ends with his promise:

*'See, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book'* (Revelation 22:7 NRSV).

*'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end'* (Revelation 22:12-13 NRSV).

*The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.'*  
*Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!* (Revelation 22:21 NRSV).

As they feast together Lucy and the Magician discuss how Aslan suddenly appears and disappears. The Magician reminds her that Aslan is not a tame lion.<sup>14</sup>

The whole group feast together that night, celebrating with the Dufflepuds.

## **The Dark Island**

As they sail on beyond known seas they enter a dark area like entering into a dark tunnel. There they rescue someone calling out for help. He is Lord Rhoop, the next of the missing nobles, caught in a dream state, but now rescued. The crew feels the tug of their dreams but Caspian resists it.

Lucy quietly calls to Aslan for help in the darkness and then an Albatross appears in a bright beam of light (looking at first to Lucy like a



cross, then a plane, then a kite) and flies around them and leads them back into the light.<sup>15</sup> God is light and we are called from darkness into light, led by God's Spirit, as in these verses:

*When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life' (John 8:12 NIV).*

*For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord (Ephesians 5:8-10).*

*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy (1 Peter 2:9-10).*

Only Lucy knew that as the bird circled the mast it whispered to her in Aslan's voice, "Courage, dear heart."<sup>16</sup> Note that 'en-courage' means to put courage in someone. Jesus often said, "Do not be afraid"<sup>17</sup> and he encourages us to have courage, as here:

*I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world! (John 6:33 NRSV)*

## Ramandu's Island

As the adventurers sail on into ever brighter eastern light they reach a pleasant undulating land where they find the last three nobles in a deep sleep. A marvellous feast is magically spread out fresh each evening and removed the next morning. The sharp stone knife used by the White Witch to kill Aslan rests on this table, "a cruel-looking, ancient-looking thing."<sup>18</sup>

The explorers meet a tall, beautiful girl who explains that the stone knife is kept in honour while the world lasts.<sup>19</sup> We have a memorial like that on top of and within churches and some people wear the symbol on a chain around their necks.

As they consider the girl's invitation to eat the feast, and gaze on her honest face, they decide to eat, led by Reepicheep. It is a step of faith as they believe what she says. She reminds them, "You can only believe – or not."<sup>20</sup>

Jesus often challenged people to believe. The most famous verse in the Bible is about believing:

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16).*

The adventurers then meet the girl's radiant father Ramandu. He explains that the enchantment on the three sleeping nobles will be broken when someone sails to the end of the world and does not return. Reepicheep immediately declares he will do that. They are all refreshed as they feast together.

This reminds that feasting is significant in God's kingdom.<sup>21</sup> We are all invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb of God but only some accept

that invitation. All who believe in Jesus and trust him are his blessed guests. They are called saints, the church, and his eternal bride:

*And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'"*  
(Revelation 19:6-9).

Ramandu and his daughter join them at the feast, which they discover is delivered fresh every evening and cleared away every morning by flocks of birds. Ramandu explains that he is a star at rest and that Coriakin (on the Duffers' Land) had been a star also. Every morning a bird brings a fire-berry from the valleys of the sun to Ramandu and he is constantly renewed, growing younger.

Jesus' followers are constantly renewed and Ramandu's story reminds us of Isaiah as well:

*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said:  
"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
The whole earth is full of His glory!"*

*And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.*

*So I said:*

*“Woe is me, for I am undone!*

*Because I am a man of unclean lips,*

*And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips;*

*For my eyes have seen the King,*

*The LORD of hosts.”*

*Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup>And he touched my mouth with it, and said:*

*“Behold, this has touched your lips;*

*Your iniquity is taken away,*

*And your sin purged” (Isaiah 6:1-7).*

*Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began (Acts 3:19-21).*

*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).*

Ramandu and his daughter face east and raise their arms and sing. While the 'star at rest' and his daughter sing, all the adventurers see the most glorious dawn they have even known. Edmund says it was the most exciting moment of the whole voyage and they knew they had truly come to the beginning of the end of the world.<sup>22</sup>

Many passages in the Bible resound with similar glory, especially in the Psalms:

*My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;  
I will sing and give praise.  
Awake, my glory!  
Awake, lute and harp!  
I will awaken the dawn.  
I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples;  
I will sing to You among the nations.  
For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens,  
And Your truth unto the clouds.  
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;  
Let Your glory be above all the earth (Psalm 57:7-11).*

*Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
Praise Him in the heights!  
Praise Him, all His angels;  
Praise Him, all His hosts!  
Praise Him, sun and moon;  
Praise Him, all you stars of light!  
Praise Him, you heavens of heavens,  
And you waters above the heavens!*

*Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
For He commanded and they were created (Psalm 148:1-6).*

*Job tells us that:  
the morning stars sang together  
And all the sons of God shouted for joy (Job 38:7)<sup>23</sup>*

Ramandu's daughter smiles when Caspian says he hopes to speak with her again after he breaks the enchantment on the sleeping nobles. At the end of the story we learn that Caspian and his men return to Ramandu's island, the three lords wake and Caspian marries Ramandu's daughter who becomes a great Queen in Narnia and the mother and grandmother of great kings.<sup>24</sup>

Reepicheep is excited to be sailing on into the dawn and to Aslan's country. Like the heroes of faith in Scripture he was looking forward to finding another, better country:

*But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them (Hebrew 11:16).*

## **The Very End of the World**

Sailing on into ever brighter light and clearer water, the adventurers discover they can drink the sweet, fresh ocean water and not be hungry and they become stronger. Caspian wants to go on to the end of the world but Aslan, through the golden painting of him in the cabin, tells Caspian to return to Narnia and to bid farewell to Reepicheep and the three children.

Reepicheep sails in his coracle onto and over a huge wave on the eastern horizon. The wave appears as a wall of wonderful rainbow colours beyond which they glimpse a glorious land of lush forests, waterfalls and mountains.

The children walk through shallow lily-covered seas, they called the Silver Sea, onto a low lying island covered in grass. A brilliant white Lamb has fish roasting on a fire for them and says, "Come and have breakfast."<sup>25</sup>

Here are strong, clear references to Jesus. Chapter 5 in the Book of Revelation describes Jesus as both the Lamb who was slain and the Lion of Judah who has triumphed:

*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 ... 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 (Revelation 5:5-6, 8).*

John the Baptist announced that Jesus was the Lamb of God when Jesus came to be baptized by John:

*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove,*

*and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God"* (John 1:29-34).

When the Spirit of God descended like a dove onto Jesus, John realized that his cousin Jesus was indeed the sacrificial Lamb of God who would take away our sins and fill us with his Spirit, the Holy Spirit.

The Lamb at the end of the world near Aslan's country tells them that there is a way into his country from all the worlds. While he is speaking he transforms into Aslan, the great Lion. He tells them that they can know him in their own world:

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.<sup>26</sup>

Originally, C. S. Lewis thought this story was the last of the Narnia stories so he clearly indicates his purpose in telling these stories. He also explained this in a letter, responding to an enquiring child:

At the v[ery] *edge* of the Narnian world Aslan begins to appear more like Christ as He is known in *this*. Hence, the Lamb. Hence, the breakfast – like at the end of St. John's Gospel. Does he not say "You have been allowed to know me in *this* world (Narnia) so that you may know me better when you get back to your own"?<sup>27</sup>

There, in Aslan's words, C. S. Lewis gives his reasons for writing all these stories about Narnia and Aslan – "so that you may know me better".



After Jesus died, as the Lamb of God slain for us, he rose and appeared unexpectedly many times. Early one morning, after seven of Jesus' friends had unsuccessfully fished all night, Jesus guided them to a huge catch of 153 fish. Jesus had a fire going and prepared fish and bread for them for breakfast on the beach. Here is the story about breakfast with Jesus as told at the end of John's Gospel:<sup>28</sup>

*After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"*

*They answered Him, "No." And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.*

*Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, "Come and*

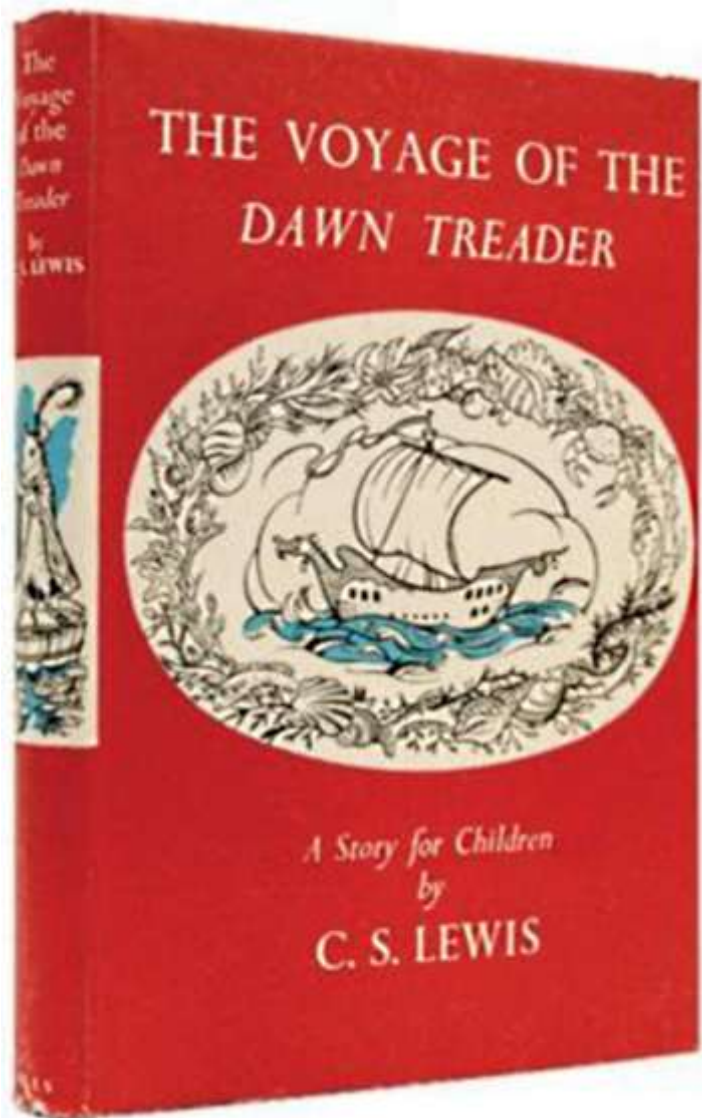
*eat breakfast.” Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, “Who are You?”—knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish.*

*This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead (John 21:1-14).*



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*First edition, 1952*

## 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.”<sup>29</sup>

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.



*Photo: 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 MacDonald, whom he regarded as his mentor for such writing.

'Myth became fact'<sup>30</sup> 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.”<sup>31</sup> 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.<sup>32</sup>

He usually read and memorized a chapter of the Bible every day<sup>33</sup> 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.





*Photo: 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."<sup>34</sup> 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?"<sup>35</sup>

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."<sup>36</sup>

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.<sup>37</sup>

*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."<sup>38</sup> 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."<sup>39</sup>

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."<sup>40</sup>

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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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.<sup>41</sup>

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.<sup>42</sup>

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.<sup>43</sup>

See **[www.biblegateway.com](http://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 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.<sup>44</sup> 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:<sup>45</sup>

- 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 Kirke<sup>46</sup> welcomes the four children<sup>47</sup> into his country home where Lucy, the youngest, discovers the world of Narnia through the Wardrobe,<sup>48</sup> 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 God<sup>49</sup>). Jacob had 12 sons who became the ancestors of the 12 tribes of Israel. Judah's descendants included the royal line of David which included 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.<sup>50</sup> 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.<sup>51</sup>

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.<sup>52</sup>

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.<sup>53</sup> 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.”<sup>54</sup>

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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."<sup>55</sup>

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.

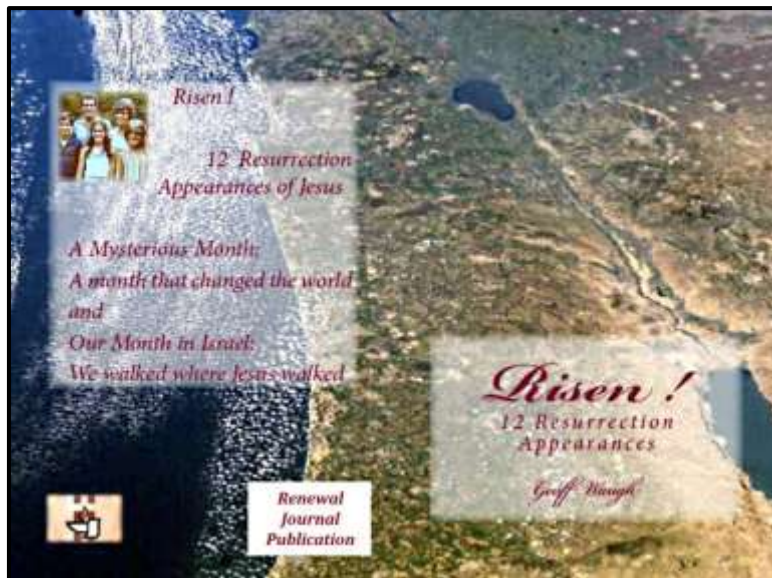
One of his last promises is 'Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age' (Matthew 28:20).

Here is a hymn about the **Lion of Judah**<sup>56</sup> 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](http://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.

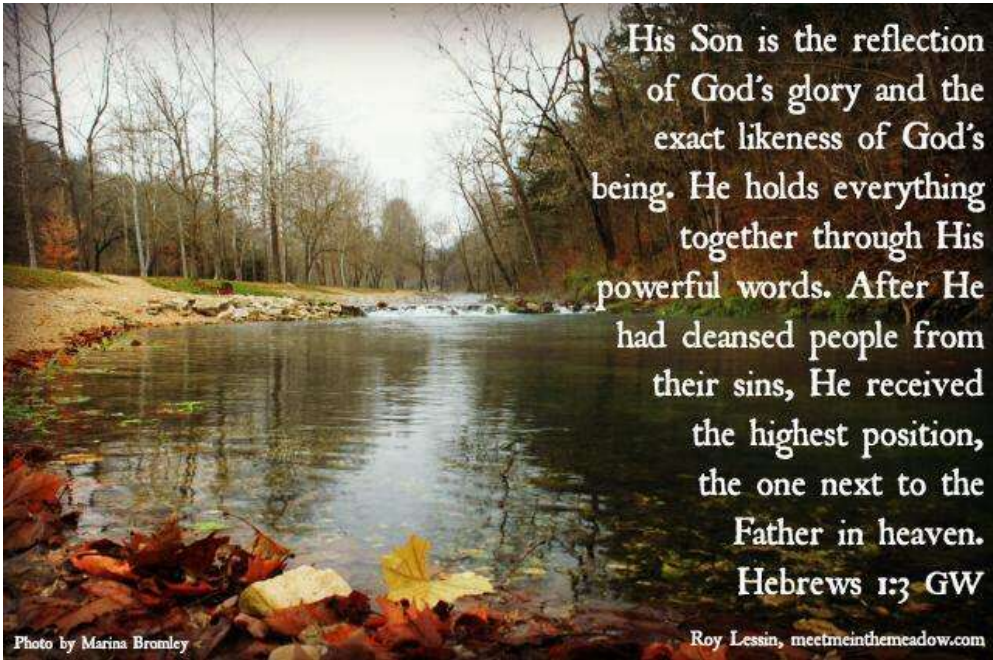
*“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” ...*

*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.

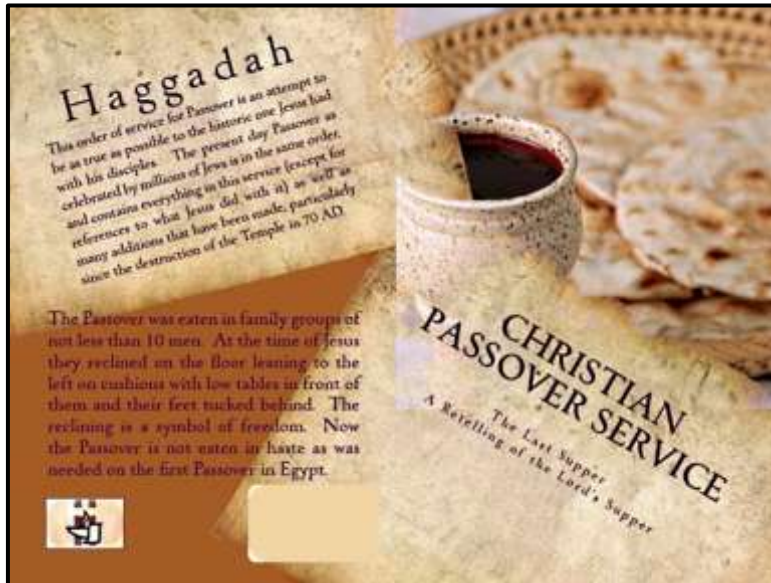
Jesus has all authority in this world and in other worlds. Multitudes love and serve him now and forever. We can talk to him now and always. Why not do that right now?

*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](http://www.renewaljournal.com)**

## ***About the Author***

Rev Dr Geoff Waugh is the founding editor of the *Renewal Journal* ([www.renewaljournal.com](http://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, until now. 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 of the planned 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](http://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](http://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

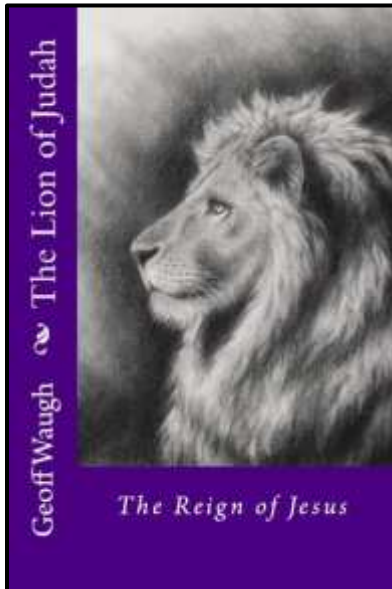
## **1. *The Titles of Jesus***

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

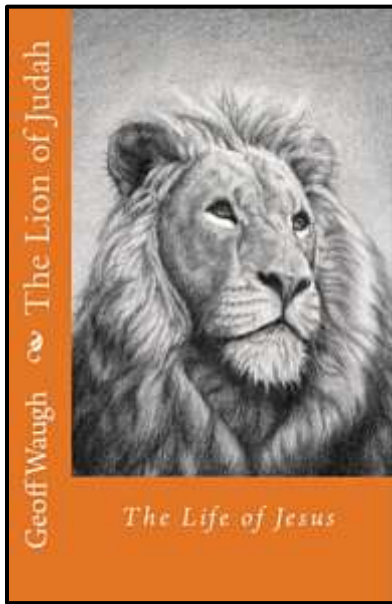
    Psalms

    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

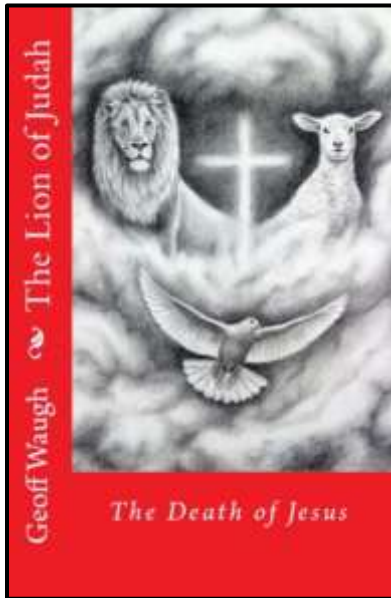
Teaching

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

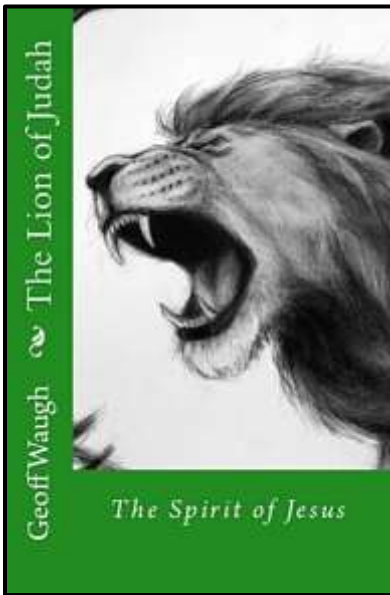
Jesus proclaimed his Resurrection and Reign

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

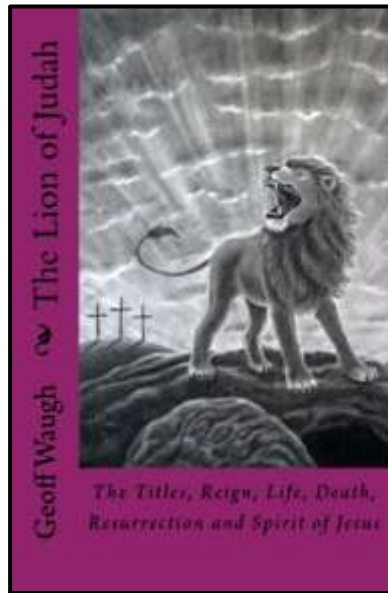
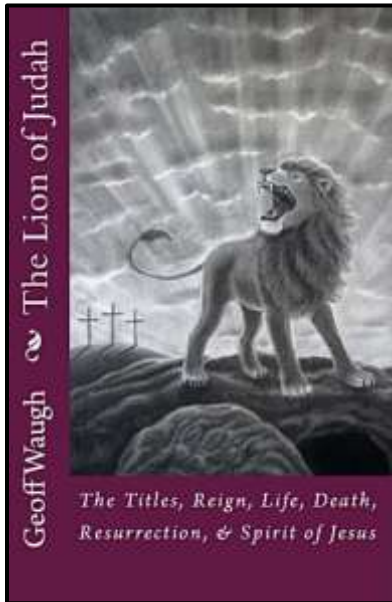
The Spirit of the Lord in the Old Testament

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

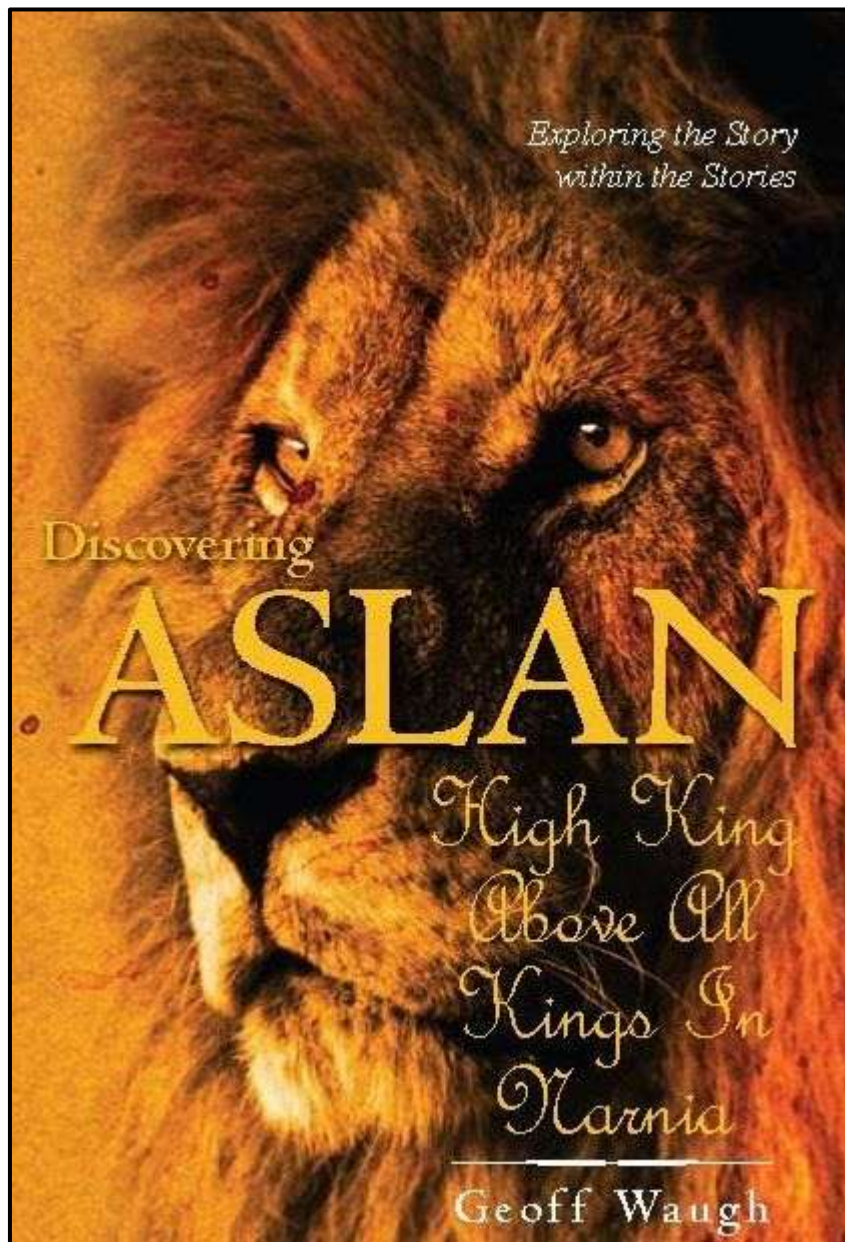
The Reign of Jesus

The Life of Jesus

The Death of Jesus

The Resurrection of Jesus

The Spirit of Jesus

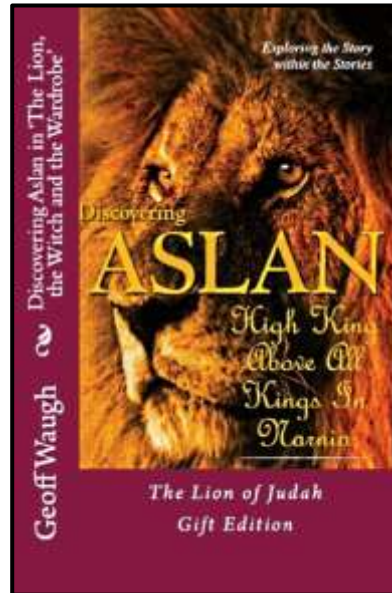
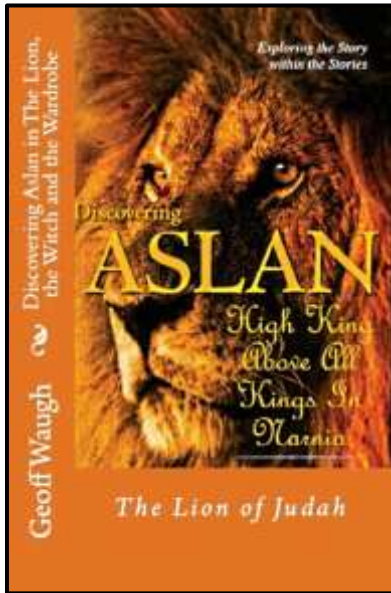


***Discovering ASLAN:  
High King Above All Kings in Narnia***

Now in Basic, Gift (colour), & 2<sup>nd</sup> (new format) editions

See details for this series on

[www.renewaljournal.com](http://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*

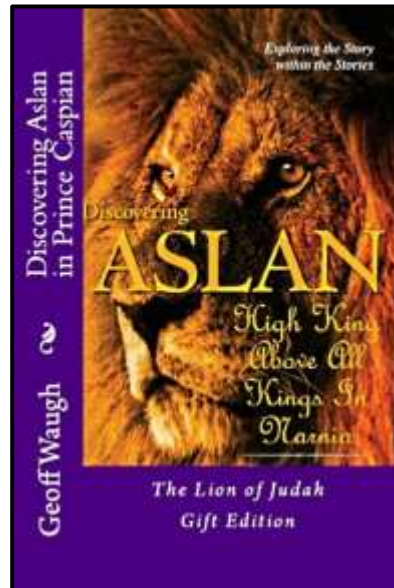
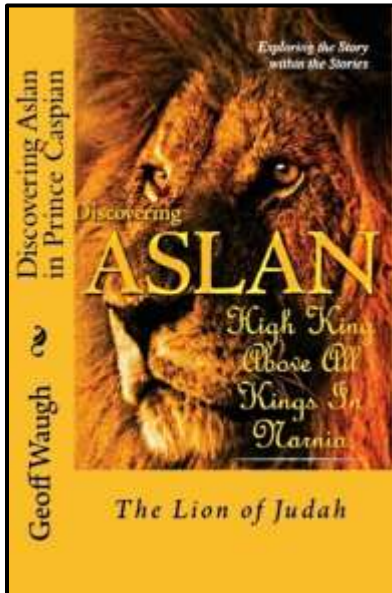
#### **2. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**

*"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*

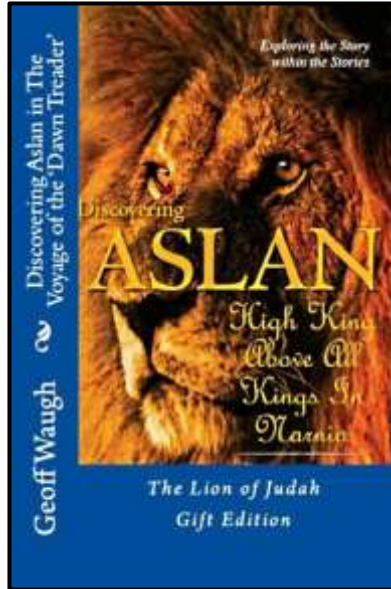
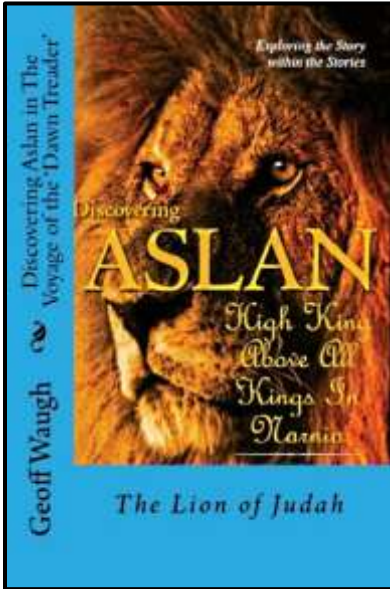
*Reflections on Reflections*

*The Lion of Judah*

### Conclusion

### Epilogue

### Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series



## ***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*

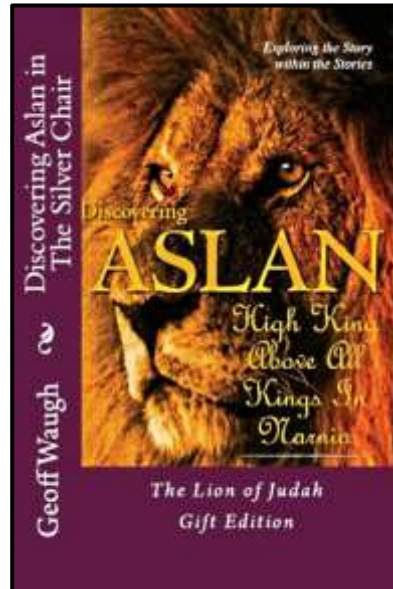
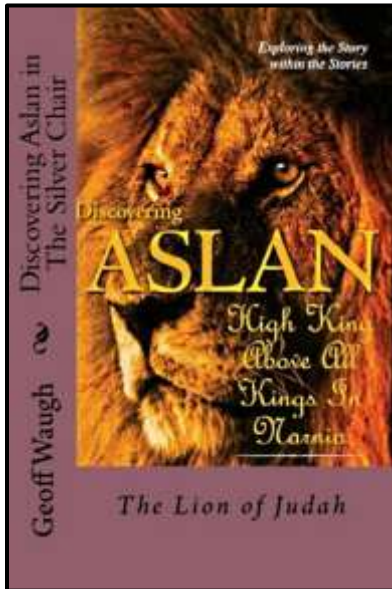
*Reflections on Reflections*

*The Lion of Judah*

### **Conclusion**

### **Epilogue**

### **Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series**



## **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*

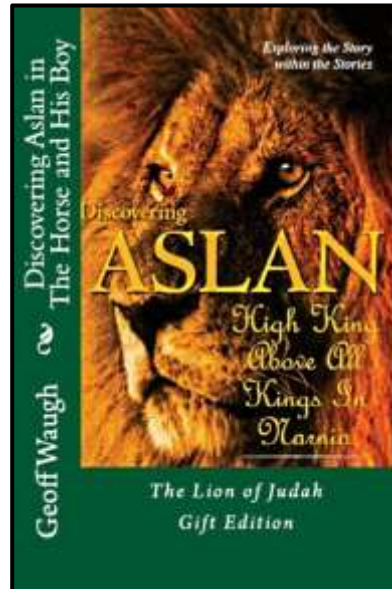
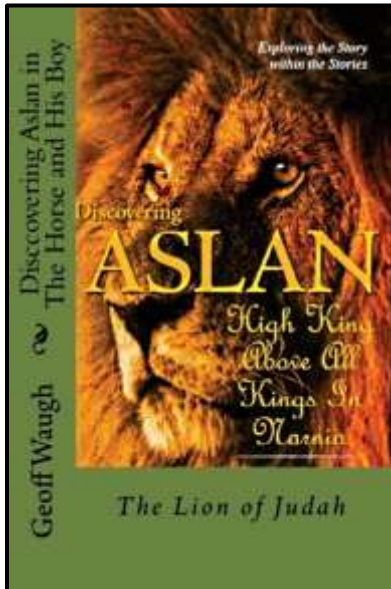
*Reflections on Reflections*

*The Lion of Judah*

### **Conclusion**

### **Epilogue**

### **Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series**



## **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*

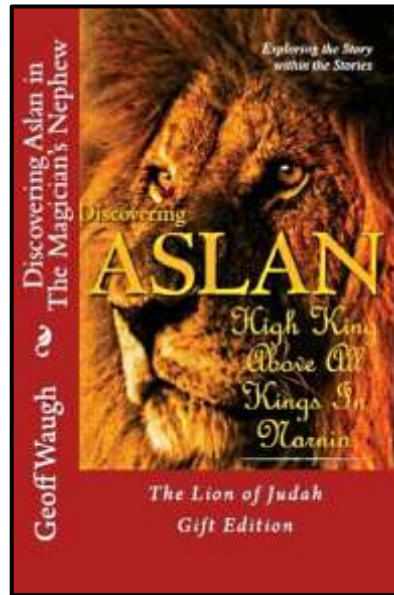
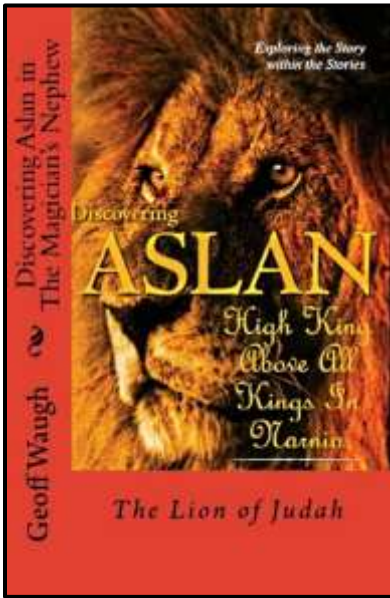
*The Lion of Judah*

### **Conclusion**

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### **Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series**





### **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*

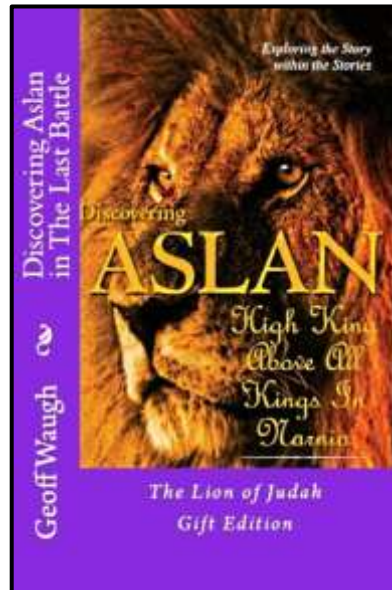
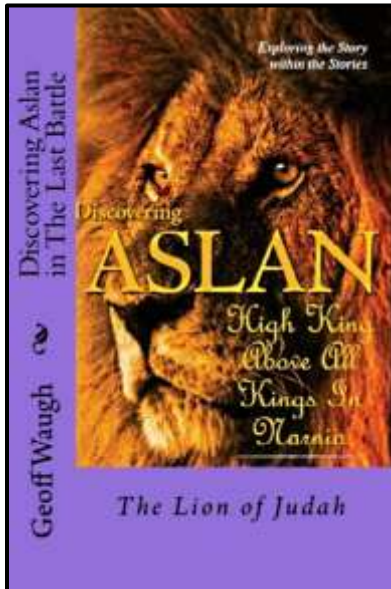
*Reflections on Reflections*

*The Lion of Judah*

#### **Conclusion**

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#### **Appendix: The Lion of Judah Series**



## **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*

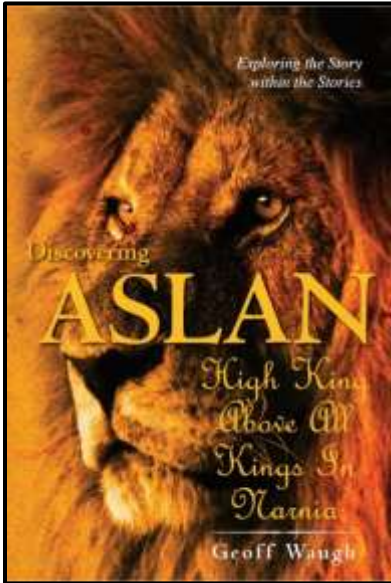
*Reflections on Reflections*

*The Lion of Judah*

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

*Exploring the Story within the Stories*

**Prologue**

**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**

*"Further up and further in"*

### **Conclusion**

Now in Basic, Gift (colour), & 2<sup>nd</sup> (new format) editions

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- 13: Ministry
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This extra Appendix is not in the Paperback books

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**[Renewal: I make all things new](#)**, and

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*Your Spiritual Gifts*

*Fruit & Gifts of the Spirit*

*Keeping Faith Alive Today*

*The Leader's Goldmine*

*Word and Spirit* by Alison Sherrington

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*Revival History*

*Holy Spirit Movements through History*

*Renewal Theology 1*

*Renewal Theology 2*

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*Jesus on Dying Regrets*

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*Holy Week, Christian Passover & Resurrection* comprising:

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*Christian Passover Service*, and

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*Risen: Short Version*

*Risen: Long version & our month in Israel*

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[The Lion of Judah series](#)

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[The Reign of Jesus](#)

[The Life of Jesus](#)

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[Discovering Aslan in The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe](#)

[Discovering Aslan in Prince Caspian](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Silver Chair](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Horse and his Boy](#)

[Discovering Aslan in the Magician's Nephew](#)

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[\*Journey into Mission\*](#) – Geoff's mission trips

[\*Journey into Ministry and Mission\*](#)

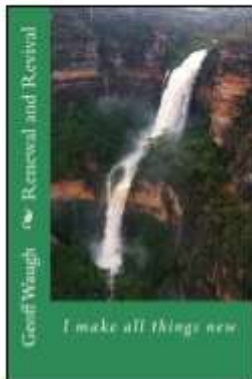
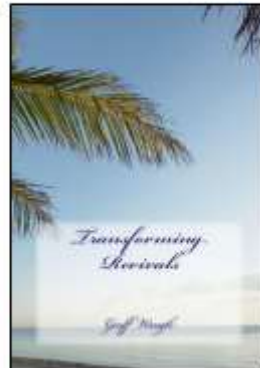
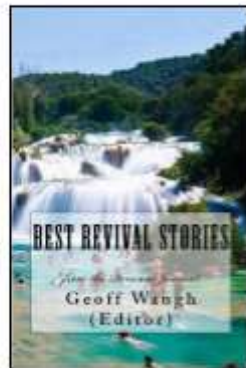
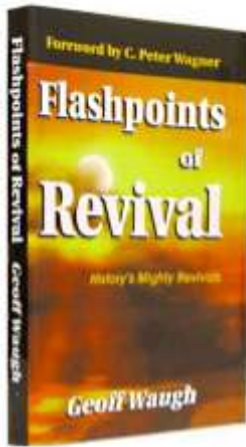
[\*King of the Granny Flat\* by Dante Waugh](#)

[\*Exploring Israel\*](#) – Geoff's family's trip

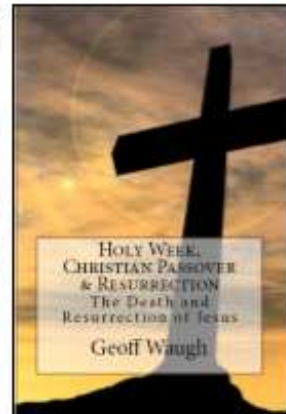
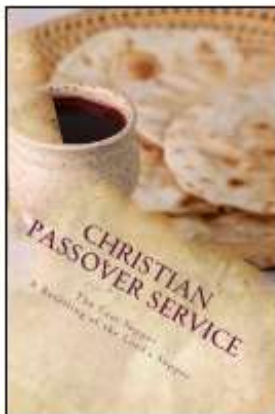
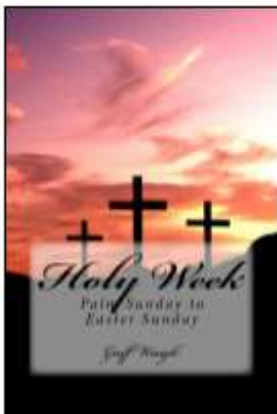
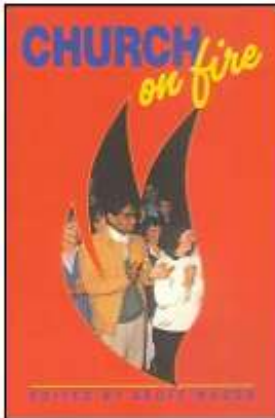
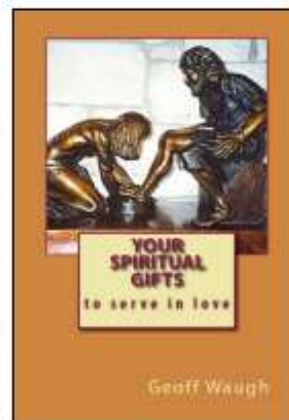
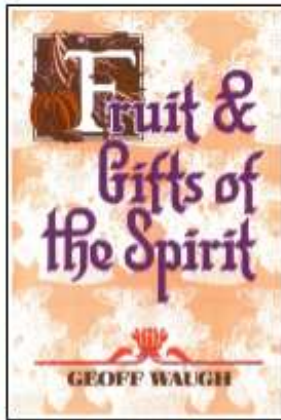
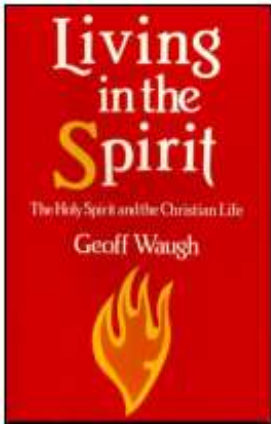
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[\*Travelling with Geoff\* by Don Hill](#)

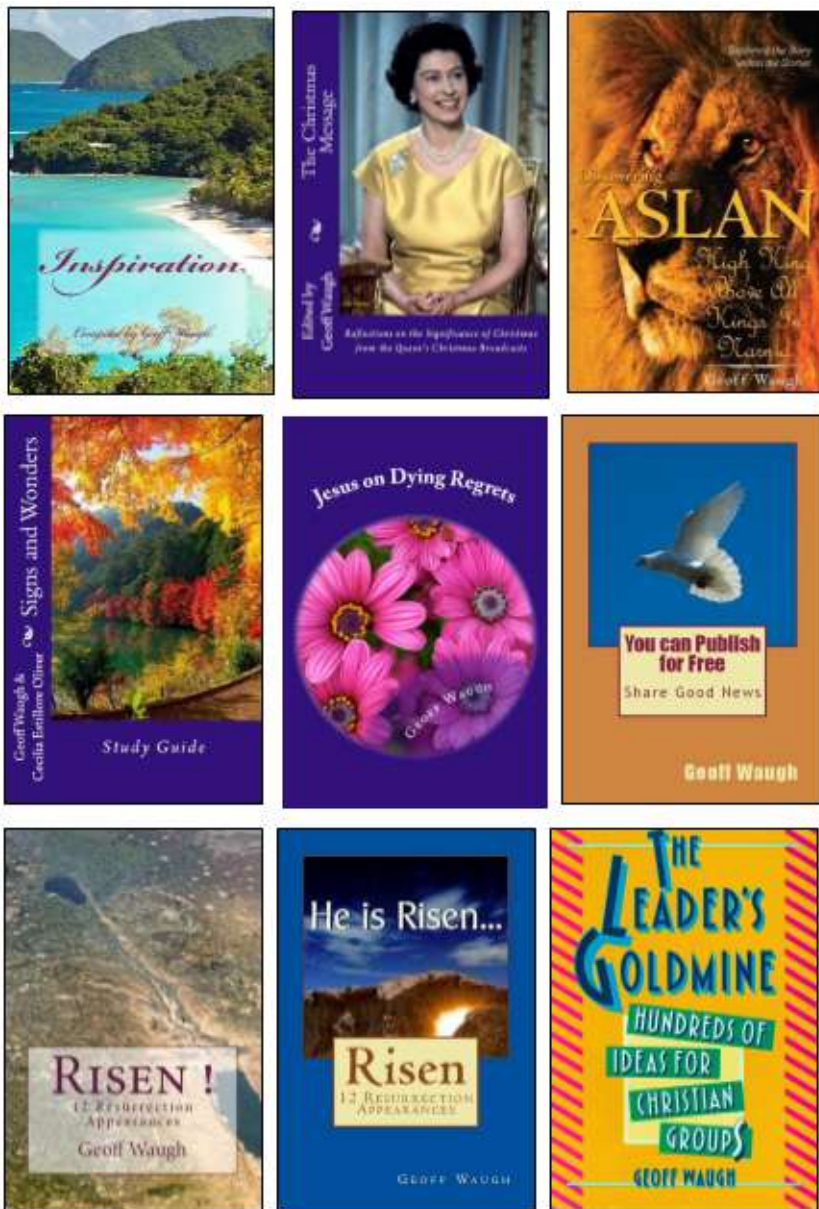
[\*By All Means\* by Elaine Olley](#)



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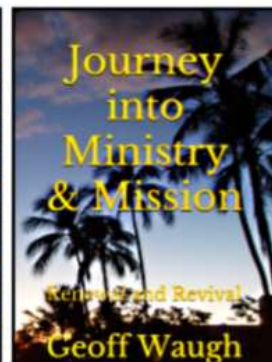
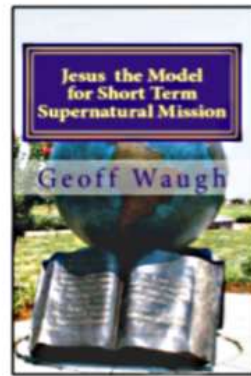
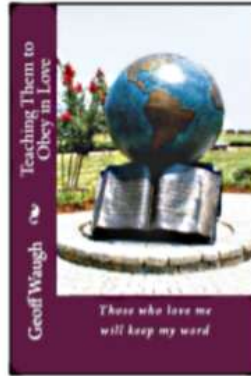
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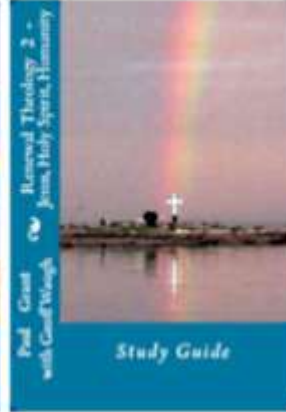
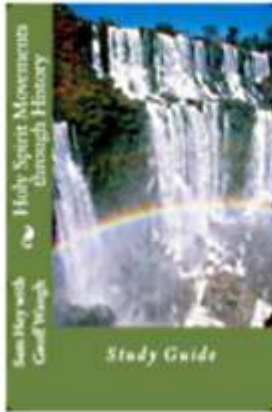
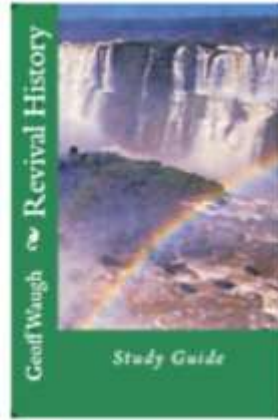
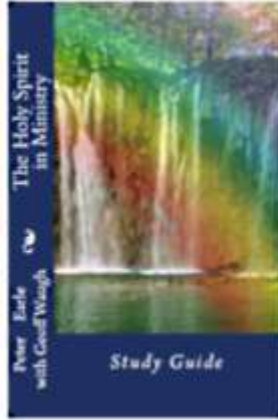
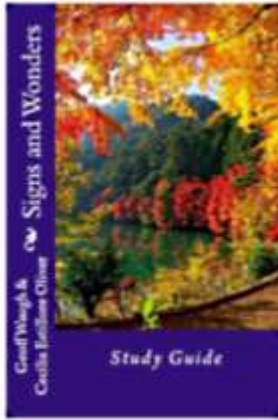


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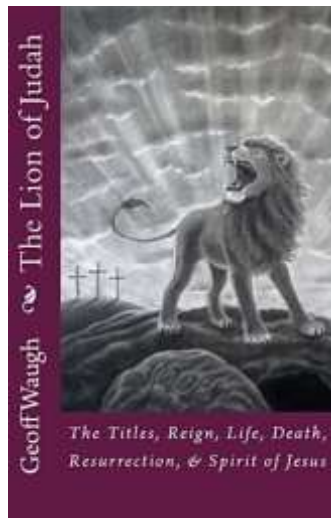
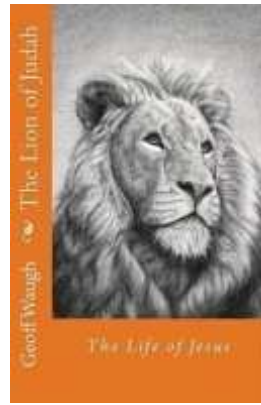


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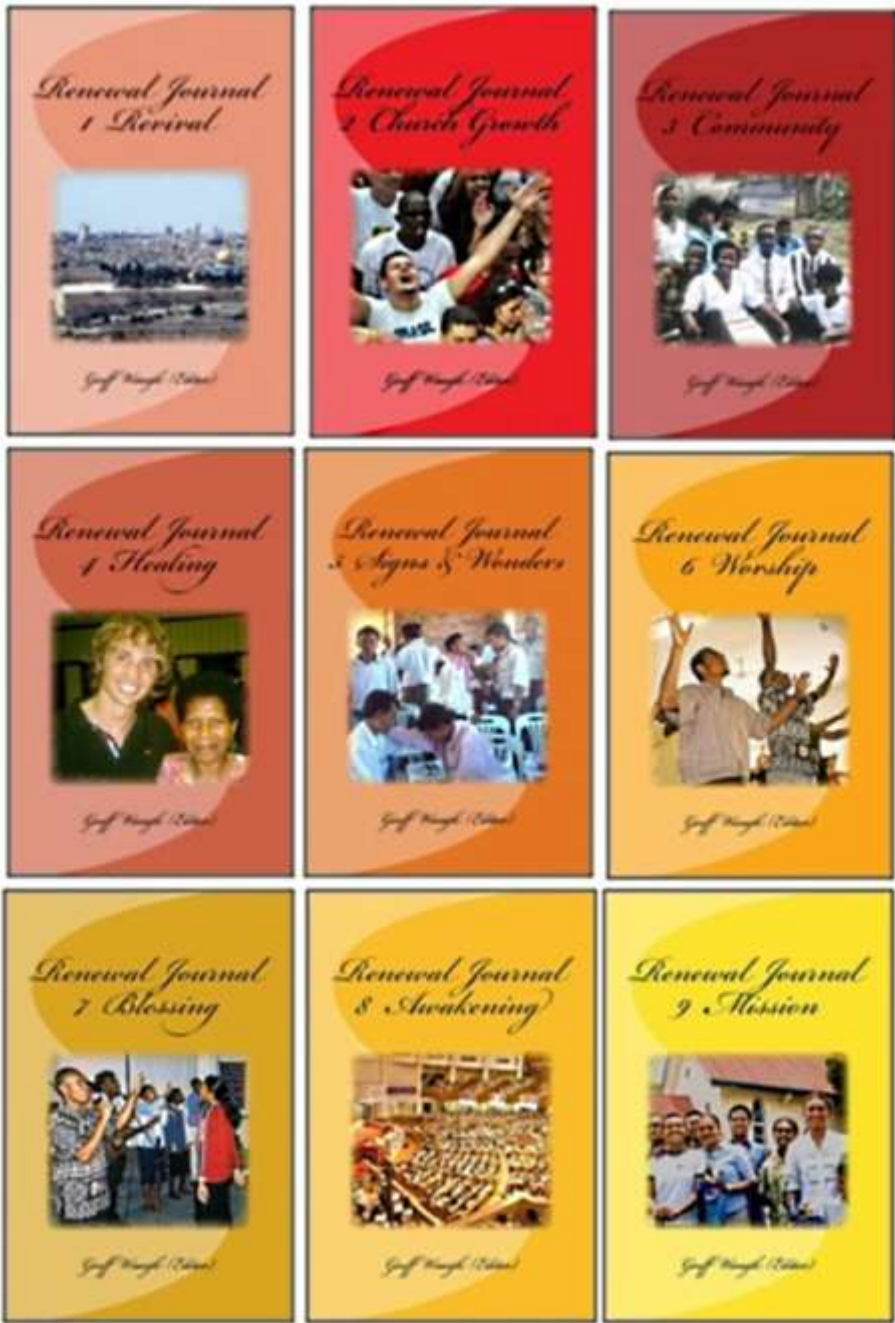




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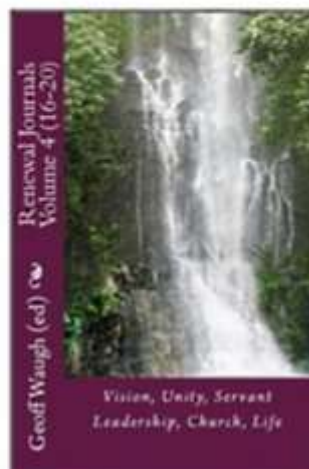
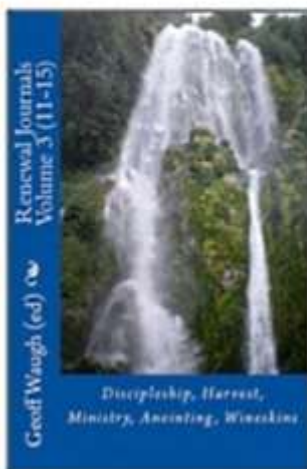
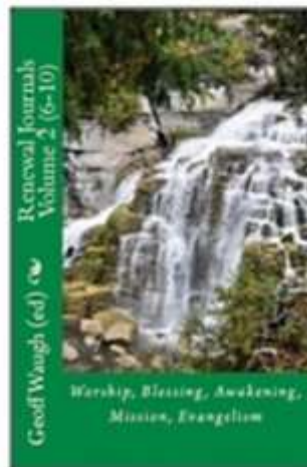
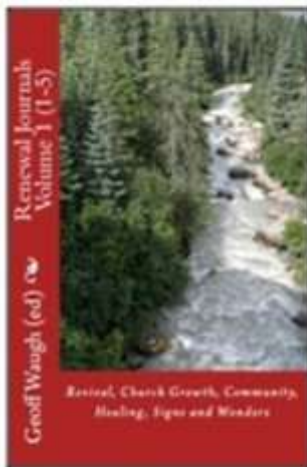
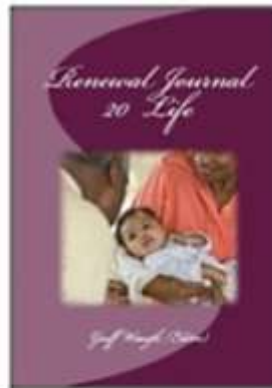
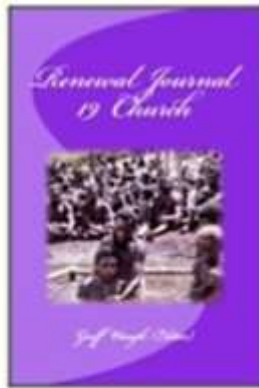
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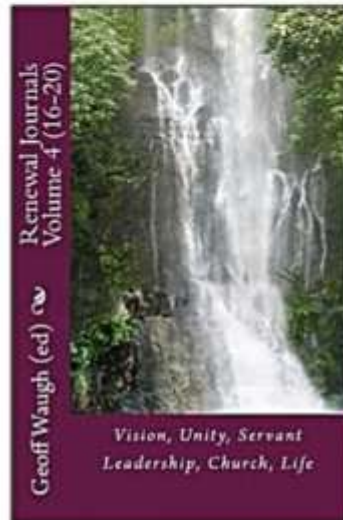
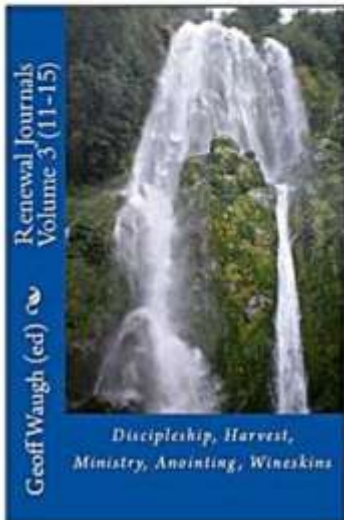
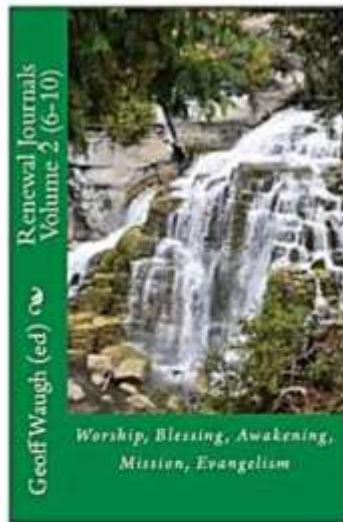
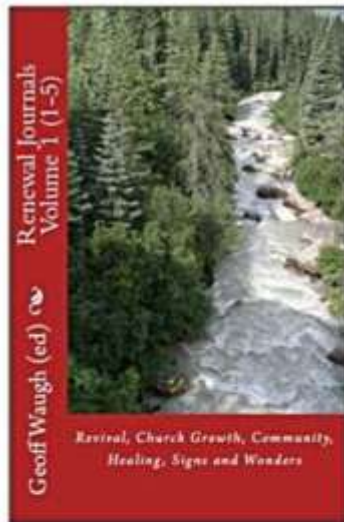
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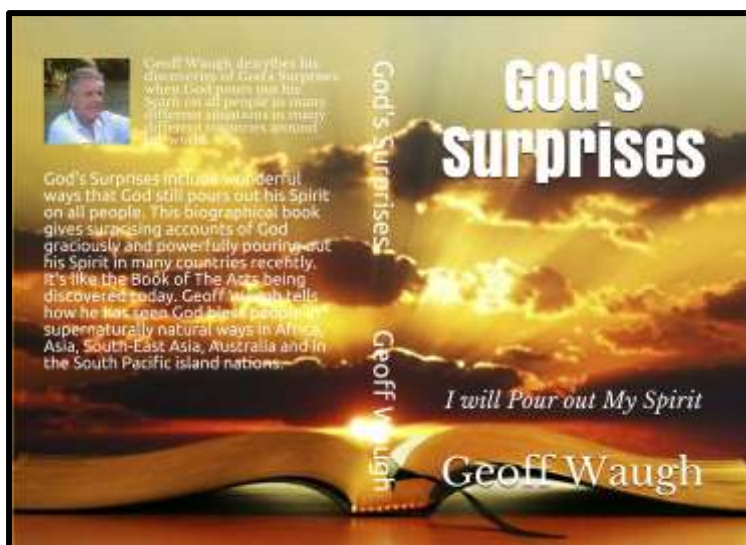
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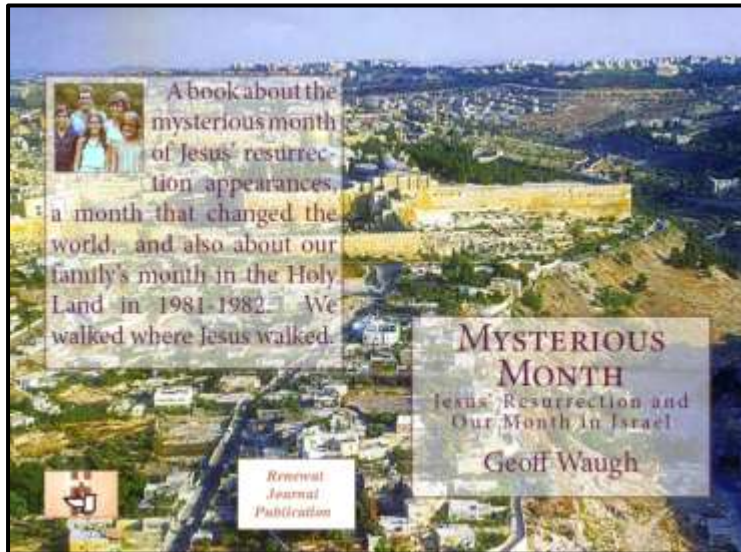
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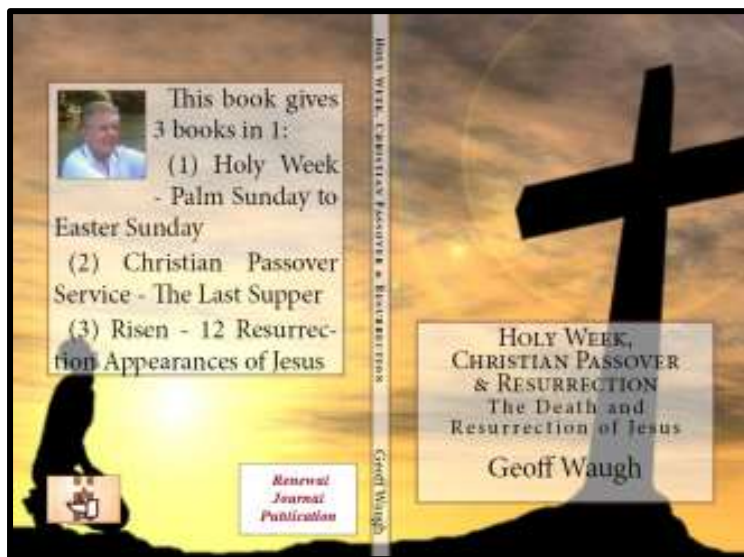
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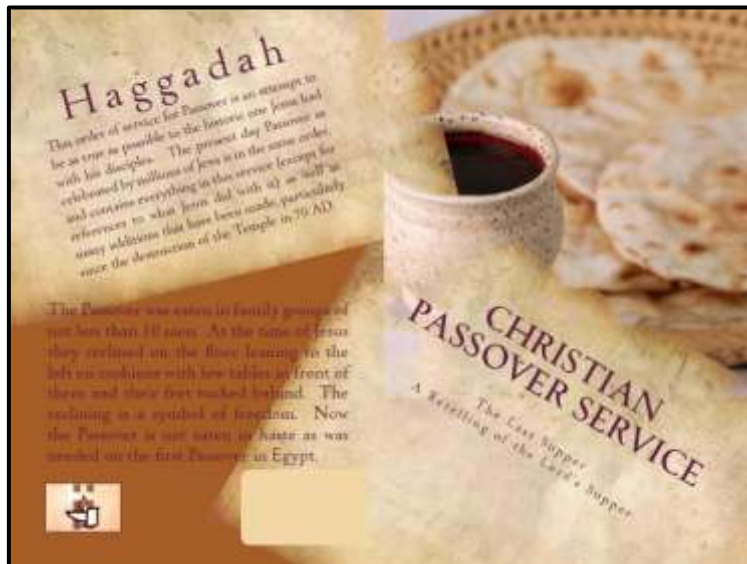


[\*Mysterious Month\*](#)



[\*Holy Week, Christian Passover & Resurrection\*](#)



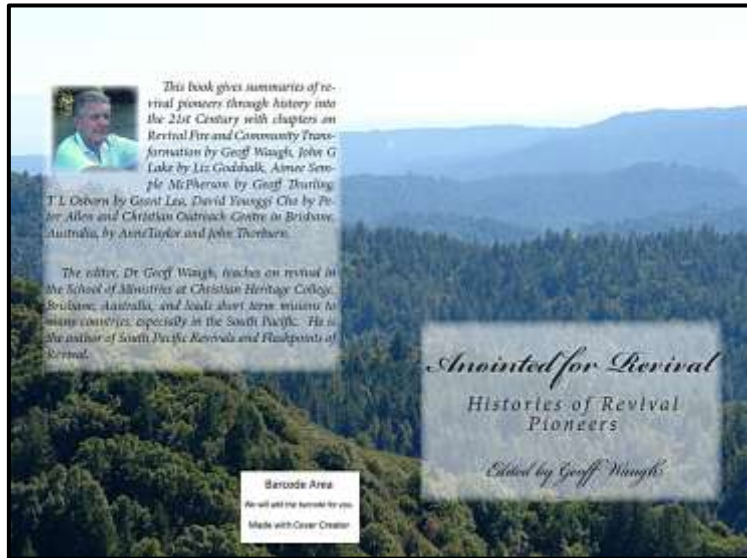


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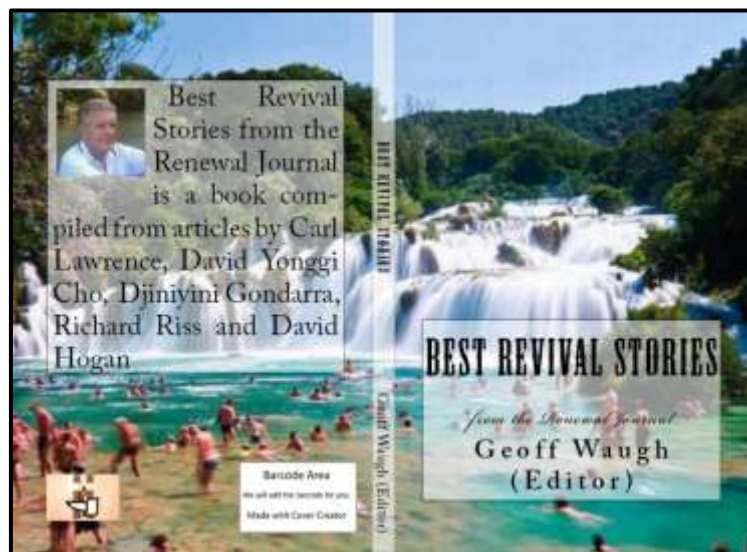
*A Retelling of the Lord's Supper*



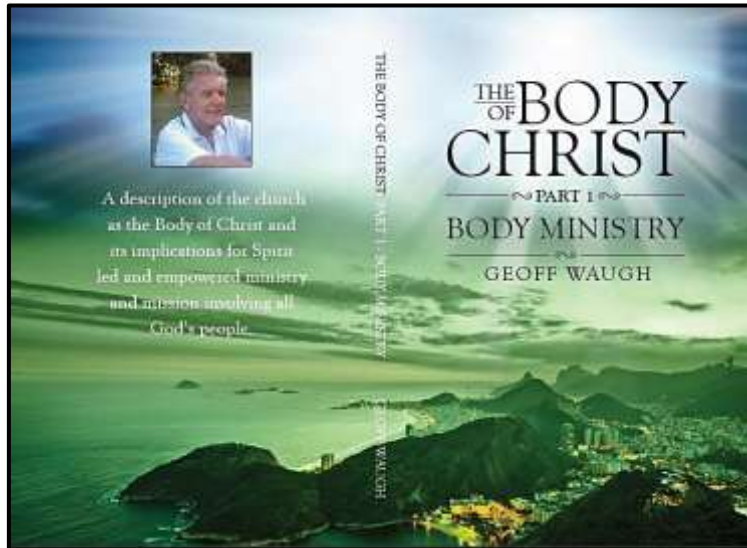
[The Christmas Message](#)



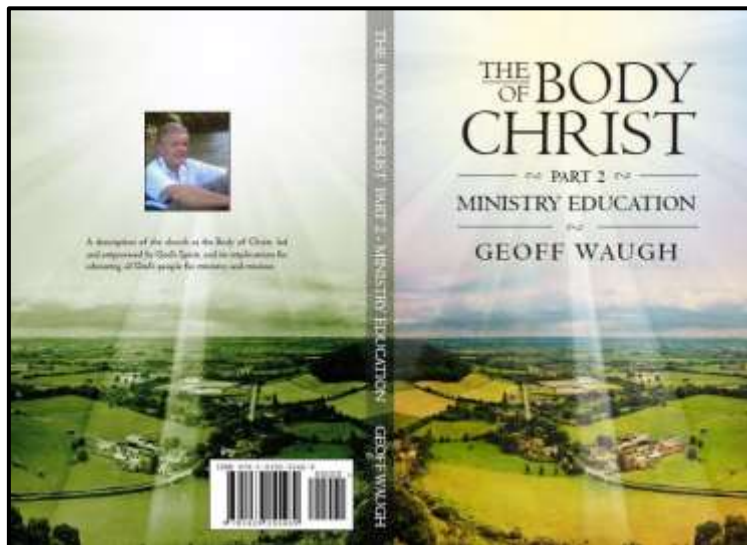
[Anointed for Revival](#)



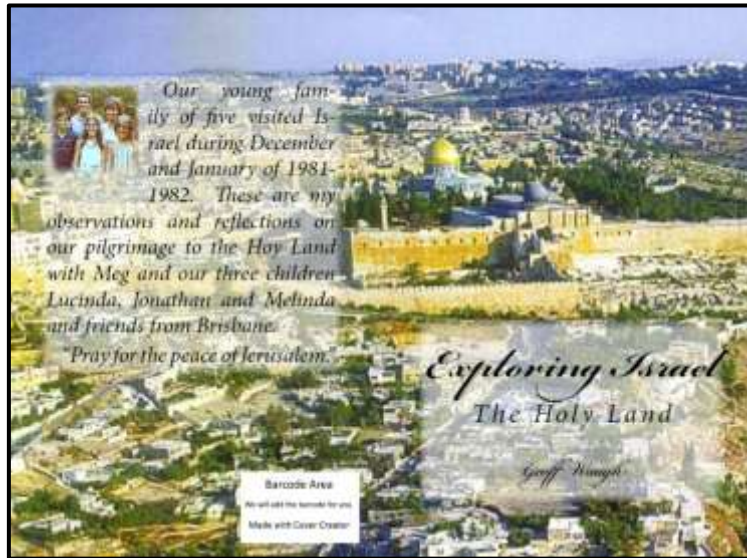
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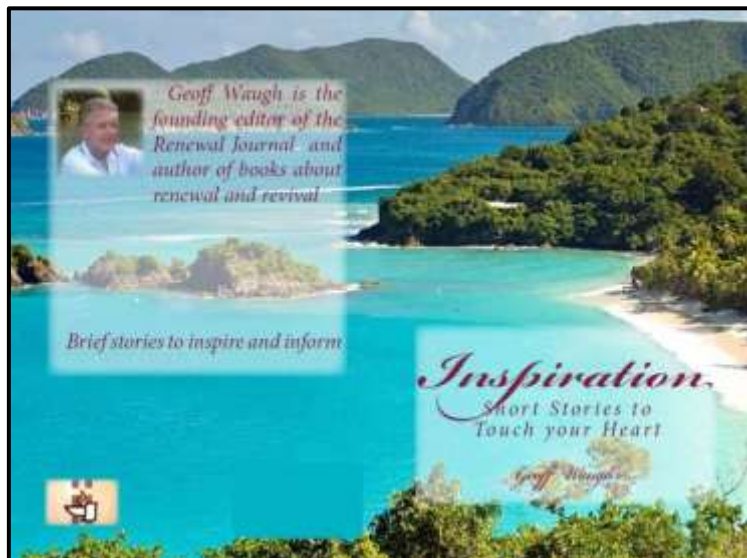
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[Exploring Israel \(black & white\)](#)



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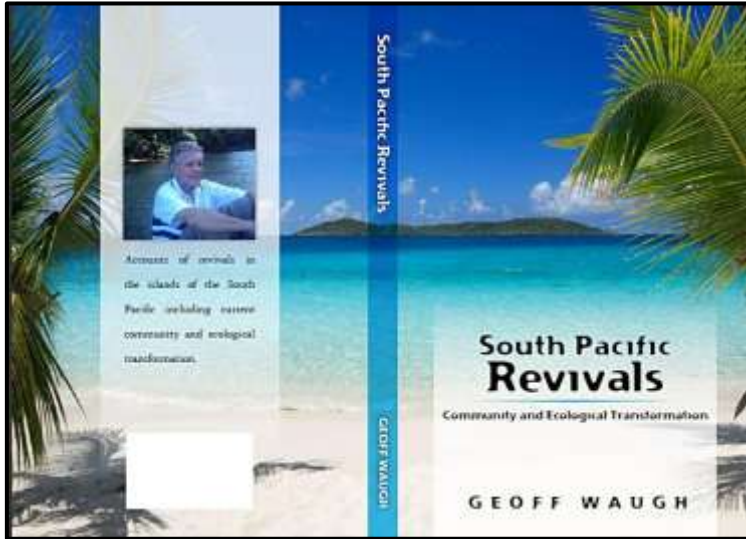
**Inspiration**



[\*\*Renewal: I make all things new\*\*](#)



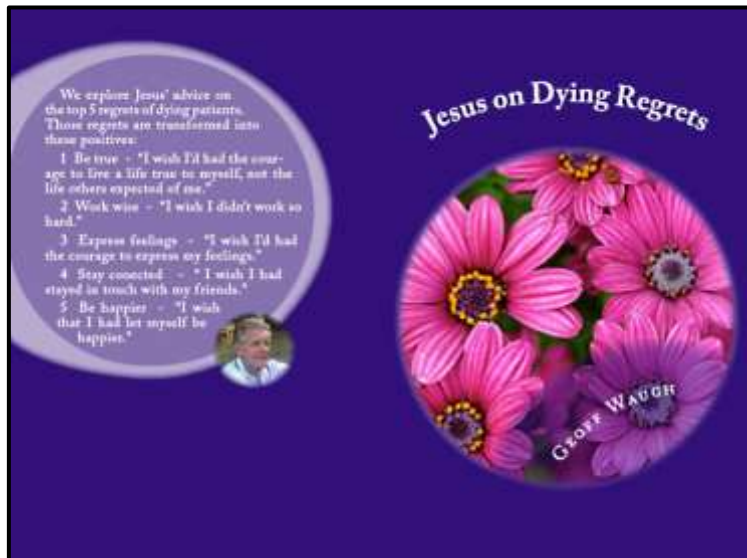
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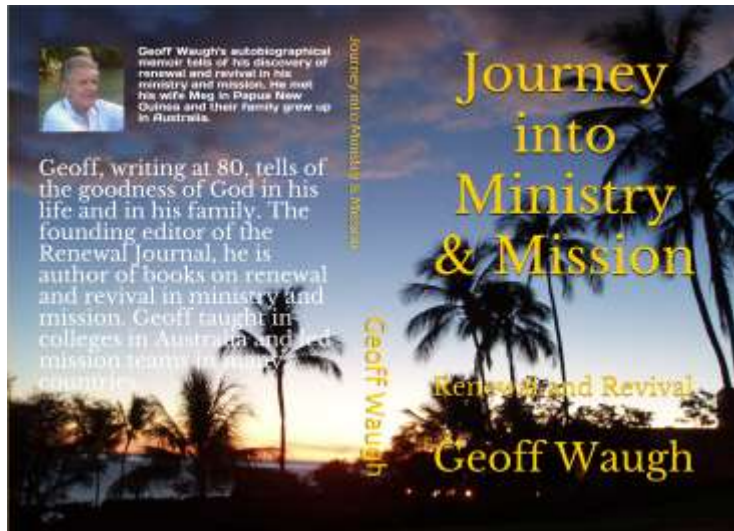


[Jesus on Dying Regrets](#)



[Looking to Jesus: Journey into Renewal & Revival](#)





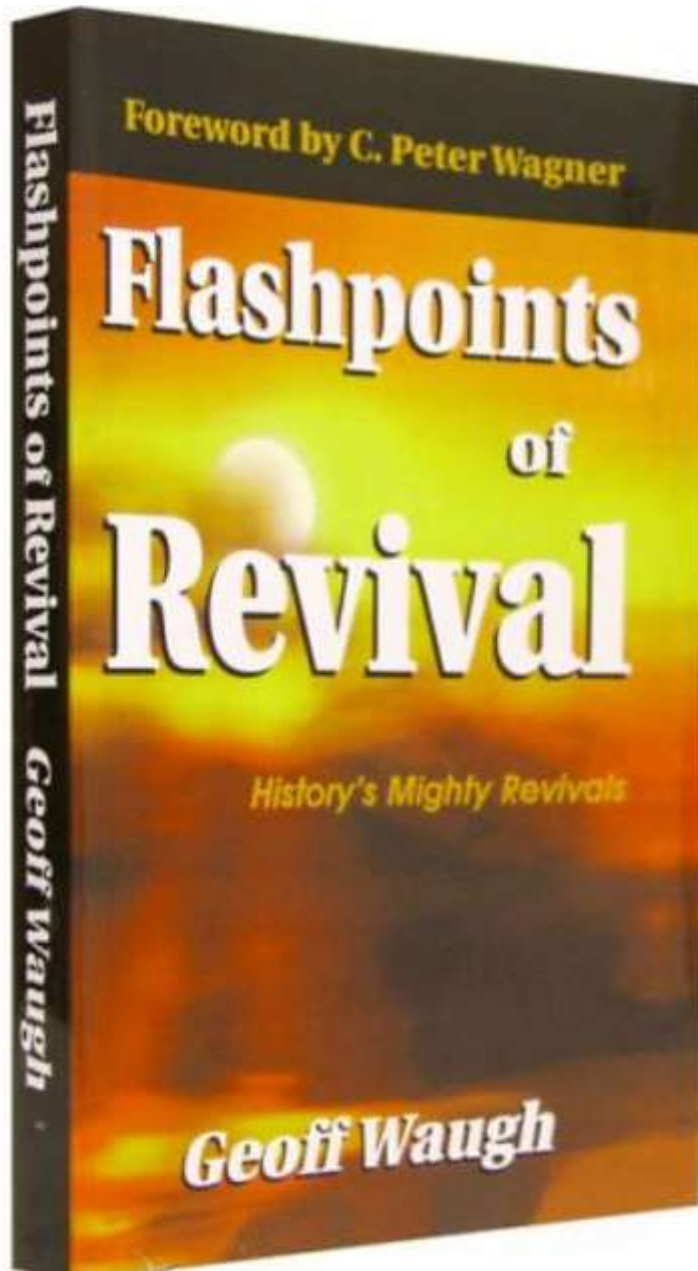
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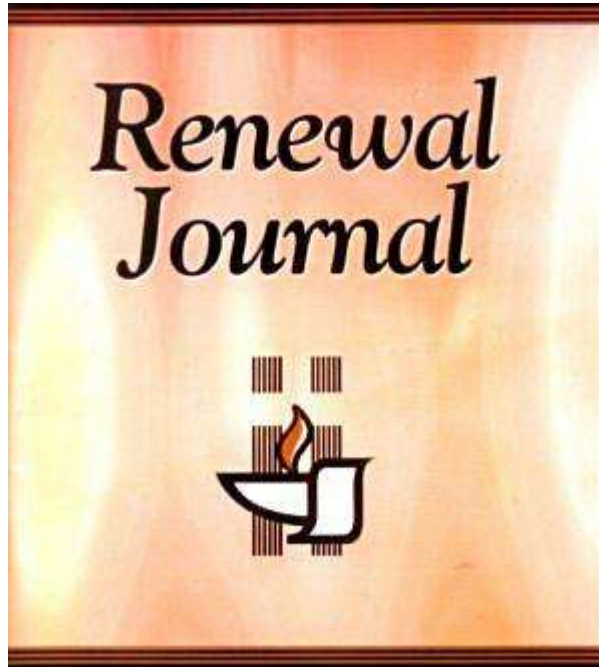
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*Flashpoints of Revival*

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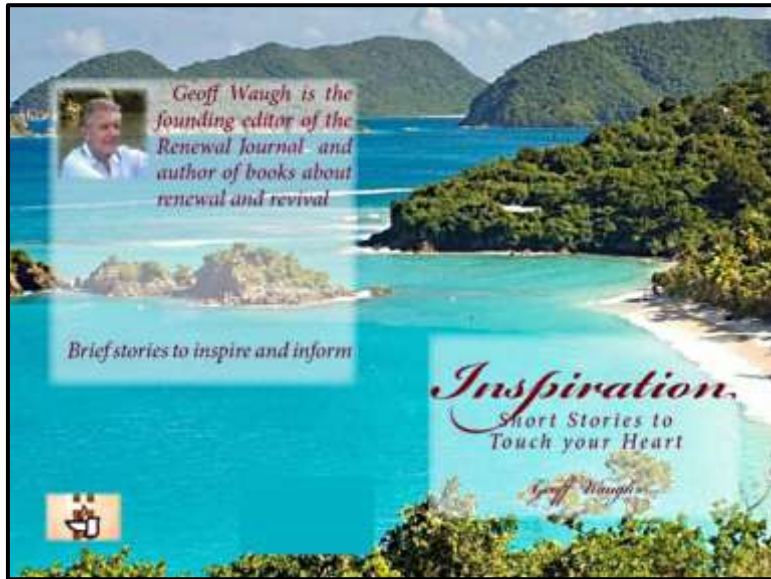
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**Some of these inspiring stories are true or based on facts, and some are fables or parables.**

**Parables and fables, as well as true stories, can be powerful ways to tell a story or to inspire and challenge us.**

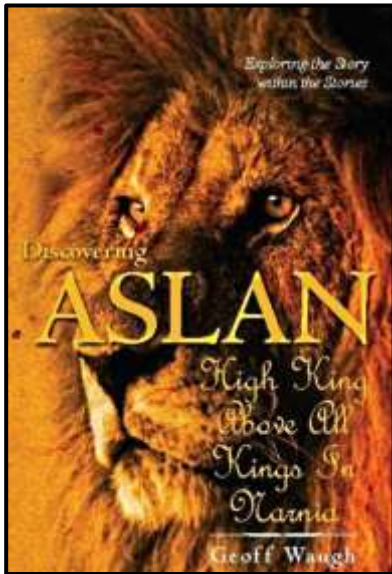
**So here you have many inspiring stories, even though some are fables or parables.**

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- 11 Red Marbles\_
- 12 Surprise Hidden in Plain Sight
- 13 Choices\_
- 14 Prayer PUSH
- 15 Cracked-pots
- 16 A Girls' Prayer
- 17 A Boy's Insights
- 18 Shirley and Marcy
- 19 One Liners
- 20 I Choose
- 21 The Gold and Ivory Tablecloth
- 22 Behold the Man
- 23 Family Worship
- 24 Eternity



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

*Exploring the Story within the Stories*

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*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*

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*Further up and further in*

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# Endnotes

These Endnotes refer to **The Voyage of the *Dawn Treader*** by C. S. Lewis (first published in 1952) as Lewis, 1952, Chapter ... because the many publications have different page numbers.

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## 1. The Voyage of the *Dawn Treader*

<sup>1</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 16.

<sup>2</sup> From **The Lion of Judah** series of drawings by Rebecca Brogan:

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

<sup>3</sup> This story introduces the children's Pevensie surname in the original order of publication.

<sup>4</sup> This story names the old professor as Professor Kirke. He is the boy Digory Kirke in ***The Magician's Nephew***, and the Professor in ***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe***.

<sup>5</sup> "Bluspels and Flalansferes: A Semantic Nightmare," in ***Selected Literary Essays***, Walter Hooper, ed. London: Cambridge University Press, 1969, p. 426.

<sup>6</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 16.

<sup>7</sup> These chapters in the story tell their adventures on the islands:

At sea – chapters 1-2

The Lone Islands – chapters 3-4

Dragon Island – chapters 5-7

Burnt Island – chapter 8

Deathwater – chapter 8

Land of the Duffers – chapters 9-11

The Dark Island – chapter 12

Ramandu's Island – chapters 13-14

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The End of the World – chapters 15-16

<sup>8</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 6.

<sup>9</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 7.

<sup>10</sup> Adapted from Christin Ditchfield, 2003, *A Family Guide to Narnia: Biblical Truths in C. S. Lewis's The Chronicles of Narnia*. Crossway Books, Wheaton, page 128.

<sup>11</sup> The green hill is a reminder of the hymn by Cecil Francis Alexander, 1848:

“There is a green hill far away,

Without a city wall,

Where the dear Lord was crucified,

Who died to save us all.”

<sup>12</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 10. Note the link here to the end of this story in Chapter 16, where Aslan tells them that in their world he has another name and the reason they were brought to Narnia was so that they may know him better in their own world.

<sup>13</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 11.

<sup>14</sup> Aslan is not a tame lion. This is repeated a many times in *The Chronicles of Narnia* especially in the final book, *The Last Battle*.

<sup>15</sup> The word albatross is sometimes used metaphorically in an allusion to Coleridge's poem *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* (1798). The poem has an albatross following a ship. Being followed by an albatross was generally considered a sign of good luck. An albatross has the widest wing span of any bird. Some people see a reminder here of the Holy Spirit depicted as a dove in Scripture.

<sup>16</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 12.

<sup>17</sup> See Matthew 14:27; 17:7; 28:5, 10; Mark 5:36; 6:50; Luke 5:10; 8:50; 12:4; John 6:20; Acts 18:9; 27:24.

<sup>18</sup> See *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Chapter 14.

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<sup>19</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 13.

<sup>20</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 13.

<sup>21</sup> References to feasts: water to wine, John 2:1-12; feeding over 5000 and 4000, Mt 14:13-21, 15:29-39, 16:8-10; welcoming sinners, Mt 9:10-13; sinful woman, Luke 7:36-50; Zacchaeus, Luke 19:1-10; Last Supper, Mt 26:17-35; prodigal son, Luke 15:11-32; wedding banquet, Mt 22:1-14; ten bridesmaid virgins, Mt 25:1-13; the marriage supper of the Lamb, Revelation 19:9.

<sup>22</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 14.

<sup>23</sup> This is before and during the world's creation so the "sons of God" refer here to angels.

<sup>24</sup> Lewis' book *The Silver Chair* tells about Caspian, his Queen and their son Rilian. Ramandu appears with his daughter, her husband Caspian and their son Rilian in *The Last Battle* at the Great Reunion.

<sup>25</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 16.

<sup>26</sup> Lewis, 1952, Chapter 16.

<sup>27</sup> C. S. Lewis, *Letters to Children*, 1995, edited by Lyle W. Dorsett and Marjorie Lamp Mead, p. 93.

<sup>28</sup> See *The Lion of Judah: the Resurrection of Jesus* by Geoff Waugh for details of 12 unexpected and surprising resurrections appearances by Jesus.

## **2. The Author and his books**

<sup>29</sup> 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.

<sup>30</sup> Lewis, C S, "Myth Became Fact," in *God in the Dock*, ed. Walter Hooper, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1967.

<sup>31</sup> Lewis, C S, *Surprised By Joy*, 1955, Ch. 14, 'Checkmate'.

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<sup>32</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

<sup>33</sup> Douglas Gresham, Preface, *The C.S. Lewis Bible*. HarperCollins. Kindle Edition. 2012.

<sup>34</sup> 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."

<sup>35</sup> *Letters to Children*, p. 92.

<sup>36</sup> "It all began with a picture," in *On Stories*, p. 53.

<sup>37</sup> Matthew 13:34; John 17:25-28.

<sup>38</sup> *Letters to Children*, p. 29.

<sup>39</sup> *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, Ch. 16.

<sup>40</sup> *Letters to Children*, p. 32.

<sup>41</sup> *Letters to Children*, p. 111.

<sup>42</sup> "Bluspels and Flalansferes: A Semantic Nightmare," in ***Selected Literary Essays***, Walter Hooper, ed. London: Cambridge University Press, 1969, p. 426.

<sup>43</sup> Wikipedia: Chapters and verses of the Bible.

<sup>44</sup> Matthew 2:1-2.

<sup>45</sup> Michael Ward, ***The Narnia Code***, 2010, Paternoster, pages 131-132.

<sup>46</sup> 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).

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<sup>47</sup> Their Pevensie surname is introduced in this book, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (Chapter 1).

<sup>48</sup> 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*.

<sup>49</sup> Genesis 32:28; 35:10.

<sup>50</sup> *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.

<sup>51</sup> 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](http://www.renewaljournal.com).

<sup>52</sup> Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 23-24; John 19-20; Revelation 5.

<sup>53</sup> Revelation 5:5; 19:16; 11:15.

<sup>54</sup> *The Horse and his Boy*, Ch. 11, the last paragraphs.

<sup>55</sup> *Letters to Children*, pp. 52-53.

<sup>56</sup> Hymn by Henry Wilson, 1874,  
<http://www.hymnary.org/hymn/CEHW1894/42>.

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