

Discussion Guide – 11/12/25 (Epilogue)

- I. **Passage:** “Toeing the party line, self-importance, and above all mere routine.”
 - a. **Verse:** “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Romans 12:2
 - b. **Comment:** Lewis warns of the spiritual deadness that comes from blind conformity. Scripture calls believers to resist worldly patterns and seek transformation through God’s truth.
- II. **Passage:** “Here were vermin so muddled in mind, so passively responsive to environment.”
 - a. **Verse:** “A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.” James 1:8
 - b. **Verse:** “That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine.” Ephesians 4:14
 - c. **Comment:** This reflects humanity’s danger in moral and intellectual laziness, easily swayed by culture instead of anchored in truth.
- III. **Passage:** “Here at last is a real and deliberate, though not fully articulate, rejection of what the Enemy calls Grace.”
 - a. **Verse:** “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.” Ephesians 2:8–9
 - b. **Verse:** “Looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God . . .” Hebrews 12:15
 - c. **Comment:** Hell rejoices when people reject grace, even unconsciously. Grace is God’s greatest gift and rejecting it invites spiritual ruin.
- IV. **Passage:** “The great (and toothsome) sinners are made out of the very same material as the great Saints.”
 - a. **Verse:** “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:23–24
 - b. **Verse:** “But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise . . .” 1 Corinthians 1:27
 - c. **Comment:** Lewis reminds us that saints and sinners share the same human nature—the difference lies in surrender to grace.
 - i. Similar to The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector found in Luke 18:9-14

- V. Passage:** “Democracy is the word with which you must lead them by the nose.”
- a. **Verse:** “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil.” Isaiah 5:20
 - b. **Verse:** “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit.” Colossians 2:8
 - c. **Comment:** Lewis critiques how noble ideas can be twisted for prideful control, echoing Scripture’s warning about false wisdom.
- VI. Passage:** “The feeling I mean is of course that which prompts a man to say ‘I’m as good as you.’”
- a. **Verse:** “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” Proverbs 16:18
 - b. **Verse:** “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.” Philippians 2:3
 - c. **Comment:** Pride masquerading as equality corrupts humility and breeds resentment. True equality flows from humility before God.
- VII. Passage:** “Now this useful phenomenon . . . under the name of Envy it has been known . . . for thousands of years.”
- a. **Verse:** “Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.” Galatians 5:26
 - b. **Verse:** “For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.” James 3:16
 - c. **Comment:** Lewis exposes envy as a timeless tool of destruction, one that poisons both personal joy and community harmony.
- VIII. Passage:** “Allow no pre-eminence among your subjects . . . All equals. All slaves.”
- a. **Verse:** “But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.” 1 Corinthians 12:18–20
 - b. **Verse:** “Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them . . .” Romans 12:6
 - c. **Comment:** Hell’s parody of equality erases individuality, while Scripture celebrates unity within diversity.
- IX. Passage:** “The delusion that the fate of nations is in itself more important than that of individual souls.”

- a. **Verse:** “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?” Matthew 16:26
 - b. **Verse:** “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son . . .” John 3:16
 - c. **Comment:** Lewis reaffirms that God values individual souls above worldly systems or political outcomes.
- X. Passage:** “The wickedness of other religions was the really live doctrine in the religion of each.”
- a. **Verse:** “God, be merciful to me a sinner.” Luke 18:11–14
 - b. **Verse:** “Not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly . . .” Romans 12:3
 - c. **Comment:** Lewis condemns self-righteous faith that judges others rather than embodying humility and love.
- XI. Passage:** “All said and done, my friends, it will be an ill day for us if what most humans mean by ‘religion’ ever vanishes from the Earth . . . The fine flower of unholiness can grow only in the close neighbourhood of the Holy.”
- a. **Verse:** “Having a form of godliness but denying its power.” 2 Timothy 3:5
 - b. **Verse:** “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven . . .” Matthew 7:21
 - c. **Comment:** Lewis closes with a warning that evil thrives most effectively near holiness when faith becomes outward form without inner surrender.