

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Christian Entertainment or Indoctrination in Evil?

Dr. Larry Spargimino

On December 9, *The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe*, the much-anticipated film adaptation of C. S. Lewis's classic from *The Chronicles of Narnia*, was released. Walden Media is co-funding the film with Disney. Michael Flaherty, president of Walden Media, says he first fell in love with the Narnia stories as a boy, when his older brother read the seven books to him.

More than thirty faith-based and educational organizations were present at a preview of the new movie. According to a report in *World*,

The marketing of this film will be the most comprehensive program for faith and family groups that Disney has ever undertaken. . . . As with *The Passion*, that will entail meetings with church and education leaders, public events at churches and schools, advance screenings, corollary educational materials, outreach to youth groups and colleges, and a strong emphasis on internet resources.

Lots of money is going into the production. According to a *World-NetDaily* report, Christian billionaire Philip Anschutz of Walden Media is supplying much of the funds for the \$100 million production and is working hard to do "something significant in American Christianity."

The seven-book *Chronicles of Narnia* relates the adventures of four siblings in England at the time of WW II who enter the make-believe world of Narnia through a magical wardrobe. Once in Narnia, the children discover talking animals, dwarfs and giants who have been frozen under the spell of the very evil White Witch. They cooperate with Aslan, the lion, in order to overcome evil. Many Lewis supporters claim that Aslan is a Christ figure, a deliverer, who sets the captives free.

USA Today featured an article entitled "The wonderful world of 'Narnia.'" The article presented the picture of a witch driving a team of polar bears with the caption: "She who holds the reins: Tilda Swinton as the White Witch, who has cast a frozen spell over Narnia, hastens her team of polar bears." Swinton is a Scottish actress "known for her androgynous looks and offbeat screen roles." "Androgynous" means "possessing male and female characteristics."

Who was C. S. Lewis and when did he live? Clive Staples Lewis was born in Belfast, Ireland (now Northern Ireland) on November 29, 1898. He passed on November 22, 1963. From his youth Lewis had a love for Nordic mythology. His academic familiarity with Medieval romance and his profession of faith in Christ all combine "to bring us a remarkable story of wonder, magic and fantasy" (*radiotheatre.org*).

Lewis taught at Magdalen College, Oxford, for almost thirty years,

and was also a Professor of Medieval and Renaissance Literature at the University of Cambridge. He was close friends with J. R. R. Tolkien, who was a Roman Catholic. Tolkien, author of *Lord of the Rings*, was a scholar of the English language, specializing in Old and Middle English. In *Lord of the Rings* the world is populated by elves, dwarves, trolls, and hobbits.

C. S. Lewis was a prolific writer. He was known as "The Apostle to the Skeptics," because he originally approached religious belief as a skeptic, but claims to have been converted by the evidence for Christianity. He sought to present a reasonable case for the defense of Christianity. He wrote *Mere Christianity*, *The Problem of Pain*, and also *Miracles*.

His classic *The Screwtape Letters*, a short novel, consists of letters of advice from an elderly demon to his nephew. In the letters, Screwtape, the elder demon, instructs his nephew, Wormwood, on the best ways to tempt a particular human to secure his damnation.

One of C. S. Lewis's best-known works is his *Chronicles of Narnia*. According to the online encyclopedia, *wikipedia.org*,

Narnia is a fantasy world created by the Anglo-Irish author C. S. Lewis as a location for his *Chronicles of Narnia*, a series of seven fantasy novels for children. In Narnia, animals can talk, mythical beasts abound, and magic is common. . . . The name "Narnia" refers to not only the Narnian world, but especially to the land of Narnia within it, which its creator, Aslan the great lion, filled with talking animals and mythical creatures.

Wikipedia.org lists the mythological creatures found in Narnia: "Boggles, Centaurs, Cruels, Dragons, Dryads, Efreets, Fauns, Ghouls, Gnomes, Hags, Hamadryads, Horrors, Incubi. . . ."

Incubi is plural for incubus. What is an incubus? Going back to *wikipedia.org* we read: "Incubus (demon). . . . In Western medieval legend, an incubus (plural *incubi*; from Latin *incubare*, 'to lie upon') is a demon in male form supposed to lie upon sleepers, especially on women in order to have sexual intercourse with them. A female version was called a succubus. . . ."

Do Christians need this kind of "Christian" allegory? What did Christians read, and how did they raise their children, before Lewis and Tolkien?

Angela Dobson has a web article entitled "Aslan, Jesus and C. S. Lewis (*geocities.com*). The subtitle is: "Clive Staples Lewis's use of Christianity in the *Chronicles of Narnia*." On page 2 we read that Aslan, the creator of Narnia, is really Jesus and that "Lewis expresses the connection between Aslan and Jesus with clarity."

The children see a lamb, who turns into Aslan before their eyes. The author believes that Lewis is conveying the message that Jesus is the Lamb of God. But why does Lewis express this truth through mythological characters?

The author writes:

C. S. Lewis wanted his readers to understand a little more of God without the discouragement of Sunday School preaching. He wanted them to share the same love and desire that he had for Christ, the

deep connection with God. He felt it more important than the rules of the church.

We wonder if the blurring of reality and fantasy is really the way to go. Second Timothy 3:16–17 states: “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” Is something missing in Scripture and does Narnia fit in somewhere?

Codex: Health Freedoms at Risk

Jerry Guiltner

A global organization known as “Codex Alimentarius” does not want you to be able to rely on natural vitamins and minerals to supplement your diet. Natural, of course, indicates they come from what God has made, not what man has concocted and God-made is better than man-made.

The editor of *Crusador* magazine, Greg Ciola, interviewed John Hammell of International Advocates for Health Freedom (IAHF). In the 2005 issue, page 12, Mr. Hammell says, “The trend we’re seeing here is a clear effort to incorporate the European Food Supplements Directive into Codex. The EU, through their draconian Food Supplements Directive, is attempting to ban the food forms of vitamins and minerals and only allow synthetic forms. . . .”

In other words, the natural vitamins and minerals taken by multiplied millions of Americans on a daily basis may not be available in the future. What God has made must be forsaken, leaving available only man-made vitamins and minerals. But, the Lord told Peter, “What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common” (Acts 10:15).

What Is Codex?

Codex is global in its inception and scope. According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, “The Codex Alimentarius Commission, or Codex, was created in 1963 by two U.N. organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The Commission claims that its main purpose is to protect the health of consumers and to ensure fair practices in international trade in food through the development of food standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other recommendations.”

—cfsan.fda.gov

Codex Alimentarius comes from Latin and means “food code.”

On the surface what the FDA says sounds good. But, freedoms given up to adhere to Codex standards may not bode well for the American consumer who takes natural food supplements or vitamins and minerals.

What Codex Is Doing

Let us look at only a few of the directives that have come out of this

organization over the years. Newmediaexplorer.org posted an article on October 19, 2004:

. . . The EU Directive classifies vitamins and minerals in Europe as “medical drugs” rather than dietary supplements, which means that they’re subject to government regulation in terms of dosage and availability. It gets worse: There are many nutrients known to be vital to optimal health that are not on the government’s RDA nutrient list including chromium picolinate, lysine, and selenium. Under the directive, these types of supplements are banned from over-the-counter sale. Put simply, it will be illegal to buy them without a prescription. The supplements that will be available will be restricted to multi-vitamins containing no more than 100 percent of the established RDA amounts, which are usually useless, trivial quantities—and they’ll be far more expensive than what we have now.

Here are examples of what has been done in some of the 160 countries that participate in the Codex system:

Kava kava, a rather innocuous anti-stress herbal remedy in use for several decades in Canada without incident, was . . . prohibited (November, 1996) from sale by the HPB (Health Protection Branch). DHEA, a very popular health food store supplement extracted from wild yam was also the target of HPB supplement police (November 13, 1996). Several months previous to this, melatonin was the HPB victim. All this has gone on despite zero deaths or even any serious adverse reactions taking place as a result of Kava kava, DHEA, or melatonin.

—Sumeria.net/health/hpb-codex.html

On page 16 of *Crusador* magazine, Nancy Lee Bentley says,

“ . . . starting this year in phases, Codex will go on to reduce forms, dosages of supplements, prohibit the use of any natural substance to prevent, treat or cure disease . . . legalize GMO’s . . . raise allowable pesticides, toxin and drug levels in foods devastatingly high . . . man-