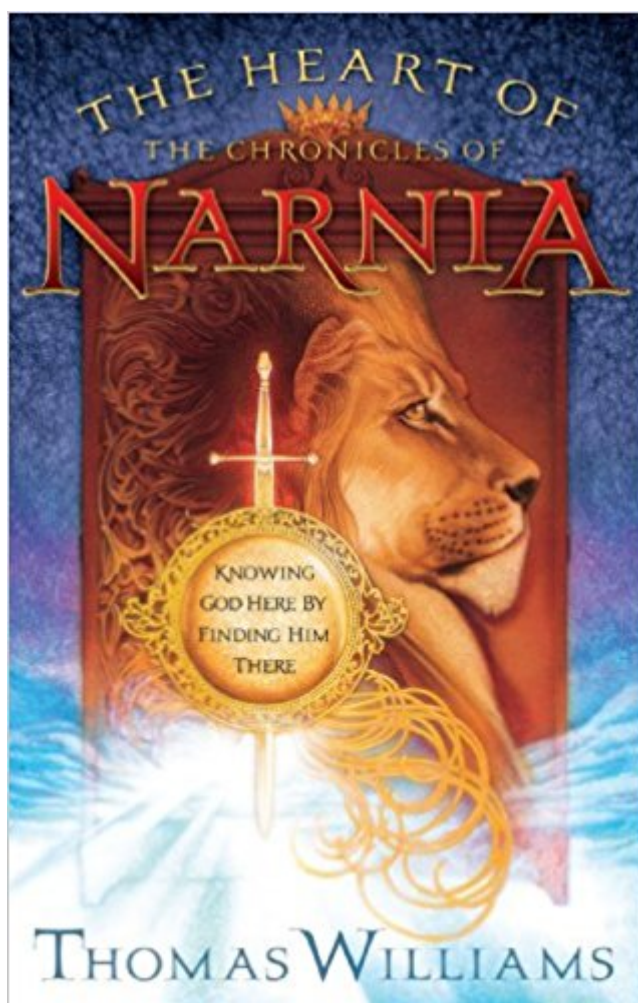


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The Heart Of The Chronicles Of Narnia: Knowing God Here By Finding Him There



Synopsis

In addition to being one of the best-loved books of all time, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* is sure to set box-office records when it releases in theatres Christmas 2005. Distributed by Disney, directed by Andrew Adamson (director of *Shrek*), with special effects by the WETA Workshop (*The Lord of the Rings*), and backed by a \$150 million dollar budget, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* will draw millions of eager viewers, Christian and non-Christian alike. After viewing the movie, Christians and Lewis fans will excitedly walk away with a renewed enthusiasm for this classic installment of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Using exciting biblical parallels, this companion book will lead readers into a deeper understanding of Christ and will help them discover how these tales by C. S. Lewis beautifully expose a dynamic, joyful, loving God who wants his creatures to experience deep joy and delight.

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Customer Reviews

Fans of C.S. Lewis will recognize that Williams (coauthor with Josh McDowell of *In Search of Certainty*) is attempting a strange feat—explaining the deeper meaning in the *Chronicles of Narnia* books. Lewis was known to regard such efforts as usually counterproductive since analysis lacks the true power of storytelling, as Williams himself admits in his preface. He consequently urges people to read the stories on their own before taking up his book. While some of his commentary is unnecessary or obvious (e.g., Aslan's sacrifice as a parallel to Christ's crucifixion), other insights are more subtle (e.g., the wisdom about following God's will contained in *The Silver Chair*). For those less familiar with Lewis's other writings and life story, Williams provides some

helpful explanatory quotations and background information. Exploring themes like prayer in the Chronicles, he gives both relevant biblical texts and theological discussion. His chapter on "Aslan's romps" contains some interesting observations about the discomfort many Christians feel with the very idea of pleasure. For readers familiar with the Chronicles, the chief joy of this work will be its recollection of some of the most stirring moments from the stories themselves. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Thomas Williams has written 14 books, both fiction and nonfiction, including three with Josh McDowell. He has ghostwritten another dozen books for several popular authors. Formerly the executive art director for Word Publishing, Tom has designed or illustrated more than 2,000 book covers and now serves as a creative consultant to several publishers. He and his wife, Faye, have three married daughters and eight grandchildren. They live in Granbury, Texas near Fort Worth.

I am in a book club and we are reading all of C.S. Lewis's Chronicles of Narnia, and answering questions to understand the book better. This book "The Heart of the Chronicles of Narnia: Knowing God Here by Finding Him There" is so good, that we all agreed to read this 2nd book and do the questions inside as well. It is extra work, but well worth the investment. The concepts in the 2nd book are thought-provoking and life-changing.

Mr. Williams has an excellent way of taking CS Lewis' ideas and bringing them to an adult reader--finding what Lewis meant for us to get!

I enjoyed this book. Not as sophisticated as Ward, but this book is for a different audience and purpose than his books were. I thought the concepts presented were relevant, and I thought Williams made some very insightful observations. This is on my "recommend" list to any Narnia reader.

This is a great book delving into the deeper truths of God that are nestled into the pages of The Chronicles of Narnia. This author is very in-depth in his explanations of topics such as providence, prayer, creation, life after death, being created for pleasure, temptation, church, and faith...just to name a few. But he does it in a clear and easily understandable way that makes for an easy and enjoyable read. I believe one of my favorite parts was the Chapter "Romping With The Lion". We are created for pleasure, for joy, for happiness. God made us to enjoy life and take pleasure in all things

good! This chapter resonated with me and made me want to be a better "celebrator" and be able to express my joy, rather than just being stoic and pious. Williams says the Chronicles are to be read for enjoyment, but this book really made me want to reread them while looking for the truths he brings out. This book gave me a thirst for more of Narnia! You can tell the author has a love of all things Lewis and knows what he is talking about! I have been recommending this book to everyone!

Wow this book will tug at your heart strings and make you remember that longing for something you can't quite describe. It reminds you of the longing you had when you read the Chronicles of Narnia. Words cannot do this book justice. All I can say is to read this book and you will understand what I am trying to describe.

With the upcoming movie release of the Walden Media/Walt Disney production of "Prince Caspian" I began searching for a book which would teach both literary analysis and apologetics to my junior-senior high students. After looking at several books I selected Thomas Williams's "The Heart of the Chronicles of Narnia." The book is divided into three themes: The Story of Narnia, Living Like a Narnian and The End and the Beginning, with an introduction, afterward and discussion questions. Williams explores the Chronicles of Narnia utilizing three principles: 1. Letting C.S. Lewis explain the stories himself, using references from his other writings that illuminate the meaning of the Narnian passages and confirm his thought on given concepts. 2. Confirming the many Narnian principles with biblical references. 3. Drawing on resources from other authors. This is an excellent resource for those who want to "dig deeper" into the Chronicles of Narnia to discover the biblical meaning within the context of Lewis' celebrated stories.

I read the work of Thomas Williams with a highlighter in hand. His skill with words and deep understanding of spiritual truths combine to provide the reader with an in-depth, thought provoking, and satisfying reading experience. In "The Heart of Narnia", he shares his passion for the world of "Narnia" in a way that makes us all want to reread the entire Chronicles through "new eyes." This is a must-read for all!

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and plan to use it and a copy of the movie on DVD for gift baskets this Christmas. Offers some insight on attributes of God that we are rarely exposed to. It has deepened my attraction to the Chronicles of Narnia and to C. S. Lewis. The book is intelligent without being difficult to read. Highly recommend!

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