

Only In Full Surrender

*“I am a product of long corridors, empty sunlit rooms, upstairs indoor silences, attics explored in solitude...Also, of endless books...”*¹

Like in *Miracles*, Lewis reminded radio listeners about the dangers of stubborn self-subsistence. An individual trying stubbornly to retain a relationship with God based on his own terms would be failing to confront just how flawed and incapable he really was, thus turning confession into a farce.

Only in full surrender could one truly let God in, and that meant giving up control and one’s own parameters of what God was and wasn’t. Some weekly episodes addressed the virtues, behaviors, and applied moralities of Christianity, including a highly controversial chapter on marriage for which he is often criticized. (Lewis was, at the time of these radio talks, yet unmarried; not only was he personally unqualified to write about the subject, he also offers argument justifying the subservience of wife to husband—a volatile and divisive subject, then and now.)

Listeners were encouraged not only to submit themselves fully over to God, but to practice, daily, the applications of faith: “...God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion.

God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing.” And there was no getting around those rules of individual governance which the faith provided; those rules were there for a reason, Lewis insists.

(C. S. Lewis: A Life Inspired by Christopher Gordon, Wyatt North Publishing, Kindle, 2014, Page 86 of 129; Paragraph Structure Modified)

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