

The Narnia Code



Michael Ward | Tyndale House Publishers

It's difficult, if not impossible, to approach Michael Ward's *The Narnia Code: C. S. Lewis and the Secret of the Seven Heavens* without a giant's share of skepticism. Why would Lewis keep such a major underpinning of his most popular books secret? And yet, hard as it is to believe, Ward's answer to this question, and his explanation of his theory, has been joyfully convincing for scholars and fans alike.

After describing how he came to his discovery, Ward examines how each of the "Narnia" books, while clearly retaining their biblical connections, are thematically linked to one of the seven planets—or "heavens"—of medieval cosmology. Intimately familiar with Lewis' work, Ward explains that Lewis, a literary classics scholar, admired the medieval "heavens" as portraits of the wonder of God's creation.

Aslan's faithful need not fear: The "code" does not diminish the centrality of Aslan, nor his role as a Christ figure. Ward's discovery does no harm to the biblical connections present in the series; on the contrary, it makes them clearer.

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