

## DETAILS



### **C. S. Lewis in America** *Readings and Reception, 1935-1947*

November 14, 2023 | \$20, 176 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0700-6

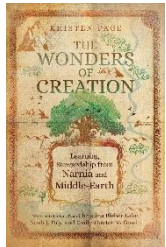
How has the work of C. S. Lewis transformed the American religious landscape? With fresh research and analysis, this volume by noted historian Mark A. Noll considers the surprising reception of Lewis among Roman Catholic, mainline Protestant, and evangelical readers to see how early readings of the Oxford don shaped his later influence.

## The Hansen Lectureship Series

The Hansen Lectureship Series features reflections related to the imaginative work and lasting influence of seven British authors, including C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, George MacDonald, and Dorothy L. Sayers. The books in the series are based on the Ken and Jean Hansen Lectureship, an annual lecture series hosted at the Marion E. Wade Center at Wheaton College, named in honor of former Wheaton College trustee Ken Hansen and his wife, Jean, and endowed in their memory by Walter and Darlene Hansen. Each book includes three lectures by a Wheaton College faculty member on one or more of the Wade Center authors, with responses by fellow faculty members.

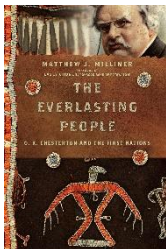
Founded in 1965, the Marion E. Wade Center houses a major research collection of writings and related materials by and about seven British authors: Owen Barfield, G. K. Chesterton, C. S. Lewis, George MacDonald, Dorothy L. Sayers, J. R. R. Tolkien, and Charles Williams. The Wade Center collects, preserves, and makes these resources available to researchers and visitors through its reading room, museum displays, educational programming, and publications. All of these endeavors are a tribute to the importance of the literary, historical, and Christian heritage of these writers.

Titles in the Hansen Lectureship Series include:



***The Wonders of Creation: Learning Stewardship from Narnia and Middle-Earth*** by Kristen Page  
November 29, 2022 | \$22, 144 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0435-7

In this insightful exploration of Narnia and Middle-earth, Biologist Kristen Page discovers what we these beloved fictional landscapes might teach us about our real-life landscapes and how to become better stewards of God's good creation.



***The Everlasting People: G. K. Chesterton and the First Nations*** by Matthew J. Milliner  
December 14, 2021 | \$20, 184 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0032-8

How might the life and work of Christian writer G. K. Chesterton shed light on our understanding of North American Indigenous art and history? In these discerning reflections, art historian Matthew Milliner appeals to Chesterton's life and work in order to understand and appreciate both Indigenous art and the complex, often tragic history of First Nations peoples.

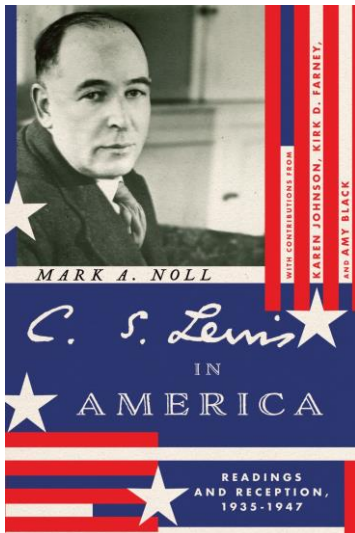


Karin DeHaven, academic publicist  
kdehaven@ivpress.com or ivpress.com/media



ivpress.com/media

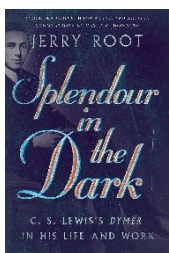
## DETAILS



### **C. S. Lewis in America** *Readings and Reception, 1935-1947*

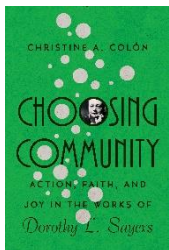
November 14, 2023 | \$20, 176 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0700-6

How has the work of C. S. Lewis transformed the American religious landscape? With fresh research and analysis, this volume by noted historian Mark A. Noll considers the surprising reception of Lewis among Roman Catholic, mainline Protestant, and evangelical readers to see how early readings of the Oxford don shaped his later influence.



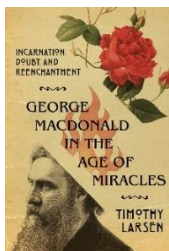
### **Splendour in the Dark: C. S. Lewis's Dymer in His Life and Work** by Jerry Root November 3, 2020 | \$20, 256 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5375-5

Several years before he converted to Christianity, C. S. Lewis published a narrative poem, *Dymer*, which not only sheds light on the development of his literary skills but also offers a glimpse of his intellectual and spiritual growth. Including the complete annotated text of Lewis's poem, this volume helps us understand both Lewis's change of mind and our own journeys of faith.



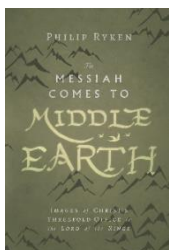
### **Choosing Community: Action, Faith, and Joy in the Works of Dorothy L. Sayers** by Christine A. Colón October 15, 2019 | \$16, 152 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5374-8

Few writers in the twentieth century were as creative and productive as Dorothy L. Sayers, the English playwright, novelist, and poet. In this volume in the Hansen Lectureship Series, Christine Colón explores the role of community in Sayers's works. In particular, she considers how Sayers offers a vision of communities called to action, faith, and joy, and she reflects on how we also are called to live in community together.



### **George MacDonald in the Age of Miracles: Incarnation, Doubt, and Reenchantment** by Timothy Larsen November 20, 2018 | \$18, 150 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5373-1

Timothy Larsen considers the legacy of George MacDonald, the Victorian Scottish author and minister who is best known for his pioneering fantasy literature. Larsen explores how MacDonald sought to counteract skepticism, unbelief, naturalism, and materialism and to herald instead the reality of the miraculous, the supernatural, the wondrous, and the realm of the spirit.



### **The Messiah Comes to Middle-Earth: Images of Christ's Threefold Office in The Lord of the Rings** by Philip Ryken November 14, 2017 | \$20, 150 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5372-4

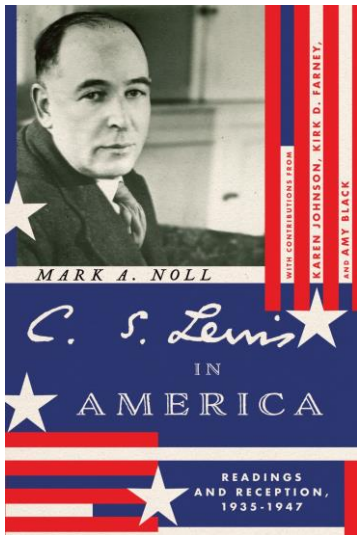
Can *The Lord of the Rings* help us understand the Christian faith more deeply? Wheaton College president Philip Ryken mines the riches of Tolkien's theological imagination. In the characters of Gandalf, Frodo, and Aragorn, Ryken hears echoes of the one who is the true prophet, priest, and king, considering what that threefold office means for the calling of all Christians.



Karin DeHaven, academic publicist  
kdehaven@ivpress.com or ivpress.com/media



ivpress.com/media



## ENDORSEMENTS



### **C. S. Lewis in America** *Readings and Reception, 1935–1947*

November 14, 2023 | \$20, 176 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0700-6

**Mark A. Noll** is emeritus professor of history at Wheaton College and the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of many books, including *America's Book*, *Jesus Christ and the Life of the Mind*, *Clouds of Witnesses: Christian Voices from Africa and Asia*, *The New Shape of World Christianity*, *The Rise of Evangelicalism: The Age of Edwards, Whitefield and the Wesleys*, *The Civil War as a Theological Crisis*, *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*, and *The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind*.

## Fresh Research on C. S. Lewis by Mark A. Noll

"This is a deeply informed, fascinating account of the varying fortunes of C. S. Lewis's writings in America. Initial misunderstanding and mistrust give way to respect, and then to reverence, and ultimately to something not far from idolatry. Noll tells the tale vividly, and the responses from Johnson, Farney, and Black point out some vital implications of this history for Christians today. A welcome addition both to Lewis scholarship and contemporary Christian self-reflection."

—**Alan Jacobs**, distinguished professor of humanities at the Honors College, Baylor University

"An invaluable assessment of Lewis's reception in the United States, offering important insights into both Lewis's significance and the distinctives of the American religious mind."

—**Alister McGrath**, Oxford University

"Every time I start to think there is nothing more to say about Lewis, a new book comes out proving me wrong. Mark Noll's *C. S. Lewis in America* helpfully maps the progress of the Oxford don toward the dominant position he now enjoys as evangelicalism's favorite Brit. Noll and his respondents helpfully evaluate and nuance Lewis's reception here. A valuable contribution to Lewis studies."

—**Phil Tallon**, associate professor of theology at Houston Christian University

"Interesting and informative. Mark Noll sheds light on the various ways American readers received Lewis's early works and, in so doing, illuminates the state of Christianity throughout the United States more generally during the period under examination. A fascinating snapshot and a cleverly oblique approach to the study of church history."

—**Michael Ward**, University of Oxford, author of *After Humanity: A Guide to C.S. Lewis's *The Abolition of Man**

"Mark Noll offers the definitive account of Lewis's reception in mid-twentieth-century America. He skillfully uses that story as a window on the overall state of Christianity in America during an era."

—**George Marsden**, professor emeritus at the University of Notre Dame and author of *C. S. Lewis's Mere Christianity: A Biography*

"From elite, secular newspapers to denominational magazines, C. S. Lewis's writings commending the Christian faith had an enthusiastic reception in America. In this prophetic and timely book, preeminent historian Mark A. Noll has uncovered the secret of Lewis's success: he was deeply learned, theologically focused, and unusually creative. Noll himself brilliantly models how to embody these traits today."

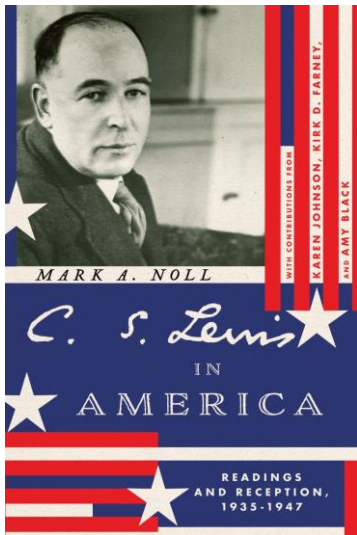
—**Timothy Larsen**, McManis Professor of Christian Thought at Wheaton College and author of *George MacDonald in the Age of Miracles*



Karin DeHaven, academic publicist  
kdehaven@ivpress.com or ivpress.com/media



ivpress.com/media



## ENDORSEMENTS



### **C. S. Lewis in America** *Readings and Reception, 1935–1947*

November 14, 2023 | \$20, 176 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0700-6

**Mark A. Noll** is emeritus professor of history at Wheaton College and the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of many books, including *America's Book*, *Jesus Christ and the Life of the Mind*, *Clouds of Witnesses: Christian Voices from Africa and Asia*, *The New Shape of World Christianity*, *The Rise of Evangelicalism: The Age of Edwards, Whitefield and the Wesleys*, *The Civil War as a Theological Crisis*, *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*, and *The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind*.

"Mark Noll's *C. S. Lewis in America* gives evidence to the principle that the academic enterprise consists in seeing patterns and exceptions. Without generalizing, no body of knowledge can be passed on to others. And without accounting for exceptions, no generalization is honest. Noll has mastered the art of abstraction. With faithful respect for the particulars, he writes as Georges Seurat painted—he applies each researched point, after point, to the canvas of his manuscript. What emerges is a masterpiece, unambiguous. The picture is clear. Noll convinces. All who read this book will understand, with good reason, the American fascination with C. S. Lewis."

—**Jerry Root**, author of *Splendour in the Dark: C. S. Lewis's Dymor in His Life and Work* and professor emeritus at Wheaton College

"One hundred years on, it's almost impossible for us to imagine a C. S. Lewis who was merely an Oxford professor. Mark Noll's story gives us a Lewis before he was famous."

—**Jason M. Baxter**, Notre Dame, author of *The Medieval Mind of C. S. Lewis*



Karin DeHaven, academic publicist  
kdehaven@ivpress.com or ivpress.com/media



ivpress.com/media