

CLASSICALU

C.S. Lewis and Christian Apologetics with Dr. David Schenk

Lecture 11: Transposition, Part 2

Outline:

Transposition essay by C.S. Lewis

- For those of us who have had the experience of being in love, we know it is real. For those who has never had the experience descriptions of it can sound suspicious. It is like trying to explain color to someone who is completely color blind.
- C.S. Lewis's example: At the bodily level, we have a sensation that is unequivocally unpleasant. In Pepis's case, along with that sensation comes an aesthetic joy (like what was discussed from The Weight of Glory).
 - Most of you know the experience of being in love.
 - o In one case this feeling is a sign of desire, in the other case it is a sign of simple "I want to run away" terror.
 - Looked at from the domain of the emotions, these two feelings are polar opposites.
 - Looked at in terms of the raw physical symptoms, they are the same thing.
 - We do have a higher system and a lower system in the mundane life.
- Lewis thinks that because of all of this, miracles make complete sense, and they are completely rationally plausible.
- Lewis's point is that only someone who knows both languages (English/computer programming) will see, someone who does not know both languages will be blind to the phenomenon.
- The one who does know the higher dimension and does know that kind of experience, they will be able to tell right away whether one is genuine and on is bogus (Pentecost and speaking in tongues).
- The only space the person has who is not familiar with the domain for coming to suspect that it might be possible is someone who has experience with the domain who they trust tells them about it.
- Once you see that the phenomenon of transposition is real, and you see that the phenomenon of moving from the spiritual into the mundane domain does the same thing all over again. Then stuff like real miracles doesn't become a thing that you defend the logical possibilities of, it becomes a thing that makes absolute sense. It is more sane, rational, and plausible than when transposition doesn't occur.