

Letter 21

Theme: Pride and Peevishness

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Conquest

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Creation

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“The sense of ownership in general is always to be encouraged. The humans are always putting up claims to ownership which sound equally funny in Heaven and in Hell and we must keep them doing so.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. Screwtape encourages Wormwood to leverage his patient’s peevishness—that is, getting easily irritated by unimportant and insignificant things ¶1. What’s devilish about being irritated by interruptions and intrusions on “our” time ¶2?
2. How do you respond when events and people intrude on your own plans?
3. This letter lists things that humans are possessive of and believe they have ownership over such as “my time,” “my body,” and “my God.” What does Screwtape think of this? From a Christian perspective, what’s wrong with a personal sense of ownership?
4. How would your attitude toward life be different if you cultivated a sense of time and possessions that would be more pleasing to God than to the devils?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Psalm 24:1–2

Ask the Lord to help you surrender everything to Him. All that you own, have, and claim—your time, possessions, relationships, and even your very life. In doing so, you'll gain everything.

2. Surrender all that you have and all your time to Jesus:

Reflect upon your attitudes toward what you own, have, or claim. In what ways do things control you or impact your ability to love others?

In what ways do you respond to the intrusion of others upon “your” time and life?

Take some time to list those things that you may have not surrendered to Jesus Christ and allow Him to take control of those things for you.

For one week, keep track of how you spend every hour of every day. Is there any margin in your life to be available to attend the needs of others, spend quality and quantity time with your spouse, children, family members, and friends? Are you spending time alone with the Lord? After evaluating your use of time, make changes according to the Lord's priorities for your life.



Letter

Theme: Love

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Lure of the opposite sex
2. Noise

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Pleasure
2. Love
3. Music and silence

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“Out at sea, out in His sea, there is pleasure, and more pleasure. He makes no secret of it; at His right hand are ‘pleasures for evermore.’” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. What doesn’t Screwtape like about the new love of Wormwood’s patient ¶2?
2. Why would Screwtape call God a hedonist (one who lives for pleasure) ¶3?
3. Screwtape clearly thinks that the holiness of the woman’s family has an infectious stink ¶4. How would you describe the woman’s family?
4. Why does Screwtape think the woman the patient is in love with would laugh at Screwtape ¶2?
5. While he is on a rant, Screwtape goes after both music and silence ¶5. How have music and silence been a means of pleasure and grace to you?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...a time to weep, and a time to laugh...a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.” Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4, 7

2. Enjoy good music, laughter, and the joys of life with thanksgiving to God:

Reflect upon the kind of music you listen to. Is it uplifting, joy-giving, edifying, and honoring to God? Set aside some time to listen to some good music either by yourself or with a group of friends or family.

Reflect upon your relationships with members of the opposite sex. Are your relationships with them healthy, enjoyable, and pleasurable? Find ways to enjoy the gift of “maleness and femaleness” that God has given to us in this world which can be experienced among friends, family, and in singleness and marriage.



Letter 23

Theme: Jesus

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Historical Jesus
2. Christianity as a means of social justice

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Great moralists
2. Resurrection and Redemption

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“The thing to do is to get a man at first to value social justice as a thing which the Enemy demands, and then work him on to the stage at which he values Christianity because it may produce social justice.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. The search for the historical Jesus that Screwtape refers to is an attempt to reinvent Jesus according to the intellectual fashion of each generation. What does Screwtape like about this ¶3?
2. What do you think is the current “fashionable” teaching about Jesus?
3. A second point of attack for corrupting the patient’s spiritual life is through politics. What does Screwtape think is a possible benefit of humans allowing “Christianity to flow over into their political life” ¶4? What does he say is a potential danger of mixing Christianity and politics?
4. Why would Screwtape be glad to have Christianity be viewed as a means for accomplishing a political agenda for the good of society ¶5?
5. How are the devils of our time active in a diabolical mixture of faith and politics?

6. The fact of the Resurrection and the doctrine of the Redemption were the heart of the early Christian message, according to Screwtape. What do you think is the heart of the currently popular Christian message?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“And he asked them, ‘Who do the crowds say that I am?’
And they answered, ‘John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen.’ Then he said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’

Ask Jesus to help you know Him more deeply for who He really is, the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of the Living God, our Savior and our Lord.

2. Set aside time to evaluate the influence of “religious scholars”:

What is their influence on your understanding of Jesus as opposed to what Jesus has to say about Himself? Reflect upon the amount of time you spend promoting political causes (even good ones) as opposed to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with others.

What people have influenced your understanding, knowledge, and view of Jesus?? Take some time to read the Gospels and see what Jesus said about Himself. Ask God to give you a true picture of who Jesus is so that you can think rightly and worship rightly.



Letter 24

Theme: Godly Influence

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Convention
2. Spiritual pride
3. Spiritual confusion
4. The inner ring

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Spiritual influence of others

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“The idea of belonging to an inner ring, of being in a secret, is very sweet to him. Play on that nerve.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. Evidently there is something about faith that is contagious; the patient’s girlfriend has “caught” it from her family and friends ¶1. How can Wormwood use this spiritual contagion principle to twist his patient’s faith ¶¶2–3?
2. What does Screwtape say is the “strongest and most beautiful of the vices ¶2?”
3. Essential elements of twisting the patient’s faith are pride and confusion. How can Wormwood use them ¶¶3–5?
4. How is it that peer pressure can be both a positive and a negative for spiritual growth ¶5?
5. How has the influence of others been a positive force in your spiritual development?
6. How might the influence of others be a negative force for your spiritual growth?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom.” Proverbs 11:2

Ask God to develop the character trait of humility in your life and to conquer pride in your life.

2. Thank those who have been used by God to contribute toward your spiritual growth:

Make a list of the people God has used in your life who have encouraged you in your relationship with Jesus Christ and helped you grow in your faith. Then take a moment to thank God for each one.

Over the next week or so, write one letter daily to each of these people who are still living and thank them for the role they have had in pointing you to Jesus. Stamp and mail the letters.



Letter 25

Theme: Pleasure and the Same Old Thing

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Christianity and...
2. Novelty and Fashion

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Rhythm and platitudes

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“The horror of the Same Old Thing is one of the most valuable passions we have produced in the human heart—an endless source of heresies in religion, folly in counsel, infidelity in marriage, and inconstancy in friendship.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. Screwtape does not like “mere” Christianity; he prefers to water down faith with fashionable issues and concerns ¶1. What sort of fashionable issues are presently being added to Christianity?
2. How do Novelty and Fashion, devilish smoke, and mirrors, affect us ¶¶2–5?
3. What impact do Novelty and Fashion have on where you live, the cars you buy, and the clothes you wear?
4. What does Screwtape mean by the “Same Old Thing” ¶1? How is this different from what Screwtape defines as “Rhythm” ¶2?
5. The greatest triumph of the “horror of the Same Old Thing” is in the realm of ideas. What’s wrong with asking if an idea is relevant rather than asking if it is prudent or true ¶6?

6. Now that you have read Screwtape’s strategy, what would you say to a person who dismissed Christianity as being “old fashioned”?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4:8–9

Ask God to help you think about the above traits mentioned in Paul’s letter to the Philippians, so that you will live in such a way as to bring glory to God and not be deceived by the lure of the culture.

2. Reflect upon the difference between the question of relevance versus the question of truth:

In what ways do you see that the desire to be relevant is impacting the church today? Your own spiritual life? How does being fashionable or “cool” impact the way you live out your Christian faith?

Is it possible to pursue God’s truth and still be relevant? If so, how can you live that out in a God-honoring fashion?

Pray and ask God to show you ways the culture may be influencing you in negative ways. Ask God for the ability to ground your life on His truth and the fruit of the Spirit.



Letter 26

Theme: Unselfishness

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Twisting love
2. Twisting eros

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Charity or true love

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“When once a sort of official, legal, or nominal Unselfishness has been established as a rule—a rule for the keeping of which their emotional resources have died away and their spiritual resources have not yet grown—the most delightful results follow.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. Screwtape wants Wormwood to sow seeds of confusion that will bear fruit, not immediately but in ten years’ time ¶1. What do you think about his statement that the word “Love” is ambiguous ¶1?
2. Why does Screwtape celebrate the devilish substitution of “Unselfishness” for “Charity” (love) ¶2?
3. How does mistaking sexual excitement for charity, and thinking that this excitement will last, affect us ¶3?
4. Describe how the devil’s twist of unselfishness can sour a relationship ¶4.
5. In what ways can you discern this devilish concept of unselfishness in your own thoughts and behavior?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:3–4

Ask God to help you count others as more significant than yourself and to look to the interests of others so that you can live a life without selfishness.

2. Reflect upon how you might intentionally put others first and share the love of Jesus with them in an unselfish fashion:

Examine your heart and ask the Lord to show you ways that you are selfish and are not putting others before yourself. Then make a list of ways that you can begin looking out for the interests of others in your daily life. Begin with those closest to you, asking God for wisdom. As you act upon the ways God gives you to love and serve others, one hopes you’ll begin to see your thoughts and attitudes become more naturally service oriented as you walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.



Letter 27

Theme: Prayer and Time

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. False spirituality
2. Historical point of view

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Prayer and distraction

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“But since your patient has contracted the terrible habit of obedience, he will probably continue such ‘crude’ prayers whatever you do. But you can worry him with the haunting suspicion that the practice is absurd and can have no objective result.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. What good advice for handling distractions in prayer can you apply from evaluating Screwtape’s statement to Wormwood regarding prayer ¶1?
2. What specific and practical ways to pray can we discern from evaluating Screwtape’s advice to Wormwood ¶2?
3. What confusion and doubts about prayer does Wormwood’s patient have that Wormwood will accentuate ¶¶3–4?
4. How do humans perceive Time and how does Screwtape tell us that God sees Time ¶4? How does this impact our prayers?
5. What is the “Historical Point of View,” and how does Screwtape say it influences human decision making ¶5?
6. What doubts and concerns may hinder your prayers?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always pray and not lose heart.” Luke 18:1

Ask God to help you be persistent and faithful in prayer no matter how you are feeling. In this way, you will be obeying Jesus’s command to always pray and putting yourself in a place to receive God’s grace.

2. Develop a habit of prayer:

And when distracted, bring the distraction to the Lord in prayer so that God can use it for His purposes and your benefit. Take some time to examine your prayer life. Do you view prayer as an obligation rather than an opportunity to commune with Jesus? Do you feel guilty when distracted during prayer or Bible reading? If so, are you able to take the distraction to Jesus?

Set aside some time this week to write out a prayer and see if by writing your prayers you are better able to commune with the Lord. Or try going on a prayer walk, praying as you walk around your neighborhood, hike a mountain trail, or walk through a park. Allow the Lord to speak to you in a variety of contexts, by intentionally asking Him to help you listen for His still, small voice in your office, neighborhood, church, and home.

Make prayer both a disciplined habit and a joyful opportunity in your daily life as you grow in your relationship with the Creator of the universe.



Letter 28

Theme: The Corruption of Aging

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Middle age
2. Attrition and attachment
3. Idealization of youth
4. “Experience is the mother of illusion”

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Detachment

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“Prosperity knits a man to the World. He feels that he is ‘finding his place in it,’ while really it is finding its place in him.” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. Why does Screwtape prefer to see that Wormwood’s patient lives through the War to middle age and beyond ¶1?
2. In light of Screwtape’s advice to Wormwood, consider: how has aging affected your spiritual passion and development?
3. Why would devils want us to believe that this world can be turned into heaven ¶2?
4. What does Screwtape say makes up “real worldliness” ¶2?
5. From both the divine and diabolical perspectives, what is the value of a long life ¶3?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.” Matthew 6:19–20

Ask God to show you (1) how you might lay up treasures in heaven and (2) ways to avoid laying up treasures on earth that might corrupt you and others.

2. Thank God daily for your life as you age yet set your mind on heavenly goals and value:

Set aside some time to reflect upon your attitudes and thoughts toward aging. Do you focus on the “glory days of youth,” regret the past, complain about the aches and pains of older age, or are you living fully in the present in the joy of the Lord, looking forward to your reward in heaven?

What might you change in the way you talk about your age or stage in life that would help others (listeners) rejoice in the day which the Lord has given to them?

What treasures on this earth are you allowing to weigh you down? How can you become more detached from the things of earth and be more focused on the upward call of Christ Jesus in your life?



Letter 29

Theme: Twisted Virtues

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Hatred
2. Cowardice

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Virtue and the value of morality

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“He sees as well as you do that courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point, which means, at the testing point of highest reality.”
– Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. How do you think that the devils twist virtue to their advantage ¶2?
2. Screwtape says that hatred is best combined with fear ¶4. How do the two work together? What does hatred have to do with shame?
3. What problems do the devils have in using cowardice to trip us up ¶¶4-5, 7?
4. As Screwtape is aware, God has chosen to create a world of dangers in which moral choices truly matter ¶6. Why would God do that?
5. What truly matters to devils about the human experience of sin ¶8??

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.” 2 Timothy 1:7

Ask God to fill you with His love, power, and self-control, especially when you begin to become fearful. God’s perfect love casts out fear and enables us to live fully and courageously for the well-being of others and to serve God.

2. Replace your fears with the love and power of God in prayer and active faith:

Set aside some time to ask God to reveal to you your fears and hatreds. Write them down and then ask God to help you overcome your fears and hatreds through His loving power which casts out all fear.

You might want to share this with a trusted friend and have them pray with you, asking the Lord to help you in overcoming your fears and hatreds and empower you both for His service so that you can more effectively love God and your neighbors.



Letter **30**

Theme: Confusing What Is False and Real

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. Fatigue and weakness

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Absolute Truth
2. Faith

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“But there is a sort of attack on the emotions which can still be tried. It turns on making him feel, when first he sees human remains plastered on a wall, that this is ‘what the world is really like’ and that all his religion has been a fantasy.”
– Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. The devils are interested in actions and results, not feelings
¶1. How might this insight affect the way you think about your own growth in virtue?
2. From a demonic perspective, what are the “benefits of fatigue”? How do demons twist it against us ¶¶2–3?
3. Wormwood learns about ways to use “reality” to raise doubts about his patient’s faith. In what two contrasting ways have the devils twisted our thoughts of reality to their advantage ¶4?
4. How does the devilish twisting of our understanding of reality hinder our growth in faith and the development of virtue?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back.” Proverbs 29:11

Ask the Lord to help you not to let your feelings or emotions overtake your understanding of reality as God sees it so that your faith may remain strong even in the midst of adverse circumstances.

2. Ground yourself in truth:

Ground yourself through the habit of meditating on Scripture so you won't be tossed back and forth by the circumstances of life. Begin the habit of biblical meditation so that the Word of God will be planted in your heart and mind. You can do this by simply choosing a verse or two of Scripture, writing the passage of Scripture down on sticky notes or index cards and putting them in places where you'll be able to read them throughout the day. Repeat the verses in your head and chew on the words, asking the Holy Spirit to speak to you through His inspired Word.

Chew on a passage for a week, a month, or however long you'd like. Then choose another passage of Scripture to meditate upon. As you develop this habit, these passages of Scripture will become more real to you as you face the challenges of life. They will be a source of reality and truth that can help sustain your soul.



Letter 31

Theme: Deliverance

DIABOLICAL STRATEGIES EXPOSED:

1. No diabolical strategy available in heaven

DIVINE STRATEGIES REVEALED:

1. Life beyond death

KEY QUOTES TO LOOK FOR:

“By Hell, it is misery enough to see them in their mortal days taking off dirtied and uncomfortable clothes and splashing in hot water and giving little grunts of pleasure—stretching their eased limbs. What, then, of this final stripping, this complete cleansing?” – Screwtape

QUESTIONS:

1. Wormwood’s patient completely escaped demonic harassment by dying. What is the first thing the patient sees on the other side of death ¶2?
2. How does evaluating what Screwtape says help us to grasp what death really means and why death is even beneficial ¶3?
3. According to Screwtape, what sort of insights do people have as they experience the process of dying ¶3?
4. What do you think Screwtape means when he laments that the patient will see “Them” and “Him” ¶¶4–5?
5. How does the sight of Christ on the other side of death affect Wormwood’s patient ¶5?

DIVINE STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE:

1. Pray and Meditate upon Scripture:

“For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.” 1 Corinthians 13:12

Ask God to help you live fully in the present, yet long expectantly for heaven where we will see Jesus face to face.

2. Live fully in the present yet look forward expectantly to heaven by developing God’s perspective on your future:

In the world we are told that people can be too heavenly minded to be any earthly good. Yet in fact, that is false. As C.S. Lewis stated in his book *Mere Christianity*,

“If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did the most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next... Aim at heaven and you get earth ‘thrown in’; aim at earth and you get neither.”

Make it a habit daily to ask God to help you have the perspective of Paul who wrote,

“To live is Christ, to die is gain” Philippians 1:21

Knowing that people have the opportunity to make a choice for heaven or hell during their earthly life, ask the Lord to give you the chance to share the gospel with one nonbeliever this year so that they too can experience the joy of knowing that heaven awaits them. This is definitely a prayer that fits within God’s will as Jesus expressed in Matthew 28:18–20.



Appendix:
**Overview Chart of Themes,
Diabolical Strategies and Divine
Strategies Based on the Letters
within *The Screwtape Letters***

APPENDIX

CSLI STUDY GUIDE • *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

THEME OF THE LETTER	DIABOLICAL STRATEGY	DIVINE STRATEGY
1. Pre-conversion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jargon 2. Appetites 	Science and reason
2. Church	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unconverted habits 2. The straw-man church 3. Straw-man Christians 4. Innate hypocrisy 	Disappointment
3. Family	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introspection 2. Vacuous prayers 3. Irritating habits 4. Annoying communication 5. Religious irritation 	Process and stages
4. Prayer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Devotional mood 2. Spiritual feelings 3. Childish images 	Intentional discipline of prayer
5. War	Long-term medical care	Responding to desperation
6. War continued	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worry for the future 2. Self-conscious/unself-conscious 3. Imaginary virtues 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Present 2. Active virtues
7. Devils, patriots, and pacifists	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spiritual ignorance 2. Christianity as means for a cause 	Intervention
8. Dry and desert experiences	Opposing God's intentions	The law of undulation
9. Life phases	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Troughs and down times 2. Twisted pleasure 3. Phases 	Pleasure
10. Cliques	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Snobbery 2. Peer pressure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inclusion 2. Integrity

APPENDIX

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THEME OF THE LETTER	DIABOLICAL STRATEGY	DIVINE STRATEGY
11. Humor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Humor as consolation and excuse 2. Humor as flippancy 	Joy and fun
12. Sloth	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Small sins 2. Spiritual drift 	Intruding on our spiritual slumber
13. Pain and pleasure	Eradication of strong personal taste.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good books, country roads, real pain and pleasure 2. Godly detachment
14. Humility	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-consciousness 2. Distortion about the true nature of humility 	Humility Self-forgetfulness
15. Time and eternity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suppressing both eternal and the present 2. Worry about the future 	Present and eternity.
16. Church hopping	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diluted Christianity 2. Opinionated pastors 3. Party and cliques 	Diversity and discernment
17. Gluttony	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delicacy 2. Male and female gluttony 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fasting 2. Proper enjoyment of food
18. Sex	Romantic love	Abstinence or monogamy
19. Love	Twisted love	Love
20. Sex, love, and marriage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Twisted sexual desires 2. Terrestrial/infernal Venus 	Direct action
21. Pride and peevishness	Conquest	Creation

APPENDIX

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THEME OF THE LETTER	DIABOLICAL STRATEGY	DIVINE STRATEGY
22. Love	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lure of the opposite sex 2. Noise 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pleasure 2. Love 3. Music and silence
23. Jesus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historical Jesus 2. Christianity as a means of social justice. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Great moralists 2. Resurrection and Redemption
24. Godly influence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convention 2. Spiritual pride 3. Spiritual confusion 4. The inner ring 	Spiritual influence of others
25. Pleasure and the same old thing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christianity and ... 2. Novelty and Fashion 	Rhythm and “platitudes”
26. Unselfishness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Twisting love 2. Twisting eros 	Charity and true love
27. Prayer and time	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. False spirituality 2. Historical point of view 	Prayer and distraction
28. The corruption of aging	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Middle age 2. Attrition and attachment 3. Idealization of youth 4. “Experience is the mother of illusion” 	Detachment
29. Twisted virtues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hatred 2. Cowardice 	Virtue and the value of morality
30. Confusing what is false and real	Fatigue and weakness	Truth and faith
31. Deliverance	None available to devil in heaven	Life beyond death



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“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.”

—C.S. Lewis

From Preface to *The Screwtape Letters*

