

Safe or Good

C. S. Lewis C.S. (Clive Staples Lewis, 1898–1963) was a British author, literary scholar, and Christian apologist best known for writing [The Chronicles of Narnia](#).

He abandoned his childhood faith when his mother died but after serving in WW1 he and his colleagues would have great discussions on faith. At some point around 1930 he reluctantly realized that he did believe and that everyone needs a savior, with Christ being the only option. He wasn't really ready to let go of his atheism at first. But God kept tugging at him. In his series The Chronicles of Narnia, there is a line about the lion. When the character Susan asks if the great lion Aslan is safe to meet, Mr. Beaver answers: *"Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you."* If you have not seen these movies, you need to watch them. There is one point where Aslan, the Lion and King, sacrifices himself. He dies. I cried. He was beautiful and you knew He was good. But like Christ, He rose again. I think it is a "deep" thought that Jesus too is not safe but He is good. Jesus was not always meek and mild. He had righteous anger in the Temple with the money changers. There are many places in the Bible that God showed wrath or at very least, wiped out a whole village for being heathens. Lewis wrote many other books. His faith was always in play. This series is really good, read it, watch, give it to children & preteens. It depicts the struggle between good and evil in a less scary way for kids. The fact is, there is constantly a battle going on. We can't see it, but God has his angels protecting us from the enemy's attacks. I believe it is an underlaying fact in our lives as Christians. Sometimes, life goes along all peaceful. Then suddenly things really start to fall apart. Sometimes it's just life. Other times, it is an attack. I do not like to give the enemy any attention or too much credit, but he is a fact of life. Something to be aware of so that you can use the full armor of God to fight it. God has always and will always be stronger. God created him as an angel. The "created" will not be stronger than the "creator". These attacks could come in the form of temptation. Jesus was tempted and he responded.

First Temptation (Turning stones to bread): When Satan told a hungry Jesus to make bread from stones, Jesus answered, *"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God"* (Deuteronomy 8:3).

Second Temptation (Throwing himself from the temple): When Satan asked Jesus to jump off the temple and prove God would protect him, Jesus replied, *"Do not put the Lord your God to the test"* (Deuteronomy 6:16).

Third Temptation (Worshiping Satan for worldly kingdoms): When Satan offered all the kingdoms of the world in exchange for worship, Jesus commanded, *"Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!"* (Deuteronomy 6:13).

Later, Peter tried to talk Jesus into fleeing and not being put the crucifixion. Jesus' response was "Get behind me, Satan". If you are feeling tempted, feeling attacked, use the holy name of Jesus to say, get behind me, Satan. Satan flees at the name of Jesus.

Lord, thank you for loving us. For protecting us and always being there when we need you. Help us to spend more time with you, in prayer and worship. Remind us when we are under attack that you are the one we run to. AMEN

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