

## CHAPTER THREE

### CONCLUSION

Having studied Lewis' The Last Battle, I would like to draw the conclusion from what I have discussed. The Chronicles of Narnia is a series that have more meaning than the surface meaning, and most of them are related to the Bible. One of the series of the novel I have analysed, The Last Battle, represents the concept of the final judgement in the book of Revelation and reveals the message of salvation.

I have analysed the character Aslan that symbolises divine authority and divine love, because Aslan is the majestic holder of the highest power over Narnia that shows the quality of perfect love. The second character I have analysed is Shift, symbolises false authority, because Shift steals authority by deceiving Narnians and persuading Puzzle's pretending to be Aslan. The third character I have analysed is the donkey Puzzle that symbolises stupidity of man, because Puzzle is used by Shift to be his partner in crime without knowing that what he was doing is wrong. I also relate the meaning of the name Puzzle to his being stupid. And the last character I have analysed is Tirian that symbolises faith because Tirian is sure of what he does not see.

After analysing the symbolisms by the characters, I find that the novel indeed represents the concept of the final judgement that is found in the book of Revelation. But having analysed further and relating the symbolism more widely to the whole bible, I find that the novel contains the message of salvation. The background of Christian knowledge is needed to understand the meaning of the novel better. Thus, the effect of reading the novel will be different to different readers. I divide the readers of *The Last Battle* into two general groups, the readers who have the background of Christian knowledge and the readers who have not.

The readers who do not have the background of Christian knowledge, will not be able to relate the story in the novel to the bible. Thus, they will be able only to enjoy the story itself, which of course is good enough because the story itself is enjoyable to read, even by young readers. Without the background of Christian knowledge, the reader will find *The Last Battle* as a story that is full of fantasy and adventure.

On the other hand, the readers who have the background of Christian knowledge, I believe, will know that the novel has more meaning than the surface meaning. Through the analysis i have made, the readers will be able to relate the characters or the events in *The Last Battle* to the Bible and will gain more enjoyment and understanding from the novel. Having the background of Christian knowledge is advantageous in reading *The last Battle* in order to understand the real message of the novel better and deeply.

Having read the biography of C.S Lewis, I believe that Lewis purposely wrote the novel containing Christian message. Lewis was raised as a Christian by his parents. Though he became an atheist, he re-converted to Christian at the age

of 30. It is said that "... his conversion had a profound effect on his work." ("C.S Lewis"). Lewis is clearly affected by his being Christian in writing his novel. Lewis has achieved his purpose to tell the readers about the concept of salvation in Christianity, because most of the characters and events in the novel are related to the Bible.

Having read The Last Battle, I have gained new understanding. Sometimes reading the events in the bible can be confusing because the time sequence is not in order. The Bible also often uses figurative language thus can not be understood directly. I find that The Last Battle has described the concept of the last battle and the final judgement in the bible clearly.

Having analysed the symbolisms by the characters, I am also reminded of the salvation I have in Christ. I am reminded that once I was a prisoner of sin, deceived and weak. But God, through Jesus, offers His salvation that "... whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). Reading The Last Battle also has encouraged me to stand stronger in faith because it reminds me of what the Bible says that "... in the later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons." (1 Timothy 4:1).