



C. S. Lewis



Rudolf Bultmann was an influential scholar of the Bible in a movement known as “higher criticism,” which attempted to understand the Bible from an objective standpoint. His particular discipline of criticism, called form criticism, sought to unravel the narratives of the gospels by discovering the original oral tradition hidden behind the redacted text. Lewis argues against this modern scholarship, giving his reasons why these scholars are wrong in their assumptions. Ironically, 21st-century scholars have vindicated Lewis’s objections,

Assignment 22

Compare, Persuade, Debate

- *pictures*. The pictures are of C. S. Lewis as a student at Oxford University and Rudolf Bultmann¹, the German scholar who spearheaded “form criticism.”
- *literature*. Read C. S. Lewis’s “Modern Theology and Biblical Criticism” and write a basic outline of his argument against modern critics of the Bible, including such points as the modern scholar’s inability to read or understand basic, literal texts, their lack of formal background in literature and literary criticism (of which C. Lewis *was* an expert), etc.
- *speech night*. Read about your particular essay format and examples of it posted online. If you have not yet chosen a topic, make sure that you have one by next week and write down ideas to share with the class. The essay will be due the first week in March.

LONG-TERM ASSIGNMENT

- *speech night essay*. Your Speech Night essay will be due the second week in March.
- *debate night*. I am scheduling Friday, March 14 for our get-together at my home for watching a formal debate. We will be having a dinner at 6:00 and start the debate at 6:45. After the debate we will be having dessert..

¹ Picture by Dbleicher (Diskussion) - Self-photographed, CC BY-SA 3.0 de, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32522787>.