C.S. LEWIS ON POSTMODERNISM

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I. Various Views of Faith and Reason

R - F = M (Modernism)
F - R = F (Fideism)
F + R = C (Classical)
-R-F = P (Postmodernism)

II. What is Postmodernism?

1. Deconstructionism

2. Lyotard - Incredulity towards Metanarratives

3. Cultural

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-modern</th>
<th>Modern</th>
<th>Postmodern</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Realist</td>
<td>Optimism</td>
<td>Pessimistic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priest/Pastor</td>
<td>Scientist</td>
<td>Rock-Star</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revealed Truth</td>
<td>Truth Discovered</td>
<td>Truth Experienced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Reason</td>
<td>Feeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past</td>
<td>Future</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>God</td>
<td>Mind</td>
<td>Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tradition</td>
<td>Baby Boom</td>
<td>Gen X</td>
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4. Philosophical
   
a) Reality in the mind of the beholder
   
b) No Freedom - shaped by culture
   
c) Cannot judge another culture
   
d) Nothing proven - No objectivity

5. Roets
   
a) Marx - Social analysis
   
b) Nietzsche - No facts; only interpretations
   
c) Wittgenstein - Talk about talk

6. Advocates
   
a) Michel Foucault - History is fiction - knowledge as power
   
b) Jacques Derrida - Anti-logocentrism
   
c) Richard Rorty - New pragmatism
7. Tree - Postmodernism - cements the hole

III. C.S. Lewis Agrees

1. Limits to knowledge

2. Truth to Perspectivalism

3. Perspective and History

4. Problem with Periods

5. Both God and reality are iconoclastic

6. Chronological Snobbery? - corrects cultural blind spots
IV. Lewis as Critic

1. Self-refuting

2. Sawing off the branch

3. Suspicion - both ways

4. Lack of ethical base

5. Exaggeration

V. What would Lewis do?

1. Keep reasoning

2. Tell stories

VI. Further Sources

- Carson, D.A. *The Gagging of God*
- Erickson, Millard. *Postmodernizing the Faith*.
- Grenz, Stanley. *Postmodernism Primer*.