

Transformers Transforming Movies

Thursday, August 8, 2005



INITIAL MOVIE REACTIONS

- Did you like the film or not? Why?
- This movie differs from ones we studied previously, in that it deals specifically with religious themes and topics. Do think the movie presents a secular view of Christianity, or a Christian view of Christianity? In what ways?

FALSE TEACHINGS

- 1) An Apostle can be defined as one sent with a mission.
- 2) In light of that definition, do you think Sonny was an apostle?
- 3) Paul also called himself an apostle and had defend the authority of his title. The Bible provides some characteristics of a true apostle:
 - Saw spiritual fruit (1 Corinthians 9:1)
 - Called by the will of GOD (1 Corinthians 1:1)
 - Have the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:6-16)
 - Teach the Word of GOD, not their own philosophies (2 Peter 1:20-21)
 - Perform miracles (2 Corinthians 12:11-12)
- 4) The Bible warns us of false teachers. False teachers can be categorized as
 1. people deceiving themselves by their self-seeking personal interpretations of the truth (Matt 7:20-27) or
 2. people knowingly telling lies (2 Corinthians 11:12-15).The Book of Jude gives specific warnings about false teachers. Read Jude 3,4, 20-25. How are we to persevere in the truth when surrounded by false teachers?

INWARDLY: be in the Word, pray, know right from wrong

OUTWARDLY: help those new in the faith, those who don't believe, and those who follow false beliefs

UPWARDS: trust that the Lord can and will keep you from falling

HYPOCRITES

- 1) Many people criticize Christians for being hypocrites. Martin Luther once stated "The inner man is a saint, the outer man is a sinner." Do you think Sonny was a hypocrite, or was he merely an example of the fact that humans are both "sinner and saint"?

2) Compare and contrast Sonny's character with that of King David in the Old Testament.

3) How should we respond to people who call Christians hypocrites?

PRAYER

1) Read Matthew 6:5-8. What did you think of the scene where Sonny is praying and arguing with God?

2) If someone asked you "How's your life going?" and then asked "How's your prayer life going?", would your answer be the same to both questions?

CHURCH

1) Sonny's church in LA grew quickly. What do you think attracted people to his church?

2) What do you think people look for in a church these days?

3) The movie doesn't say what happened to the church after Sonny left. Do you think the church kept growing?

WHAT OTHER SCENES IN THE MOVIE STOOD OUT TO YOU?

THOUGHT-PROVOKING QUOTES:

"Be a sinner and sin strongly, but more strongly have faith and rejoice in Christ." - Martin Luther

"Pray, and let God worry." - Martin Luther

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22: "Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil."