

Transformers

Transforming Movies

Monday, August 15, 2005



INITIAL MOVIE REACTIONS

- Did you like the film or not? Why?
- Movie Background:

MOVIE DISCUSSION

- 1) Thinking about the concept of parents creating “designer babies” leads to the topic of being created in the image of God. Discuss the following passages that mention the image of God:
 - Genesis 1:26,27
 - 2 Corinthians 4:1-7
- 2) “Designer babies” focus on outward appearances. The Bible does not discuss the physical form of God or the outer appearance of Christ. Rather, the Bible focuses on God’s character. What terms describe God’s character? See Exodus 34:6,7, or other verses you can think of.
- 3) Vincent had to imitate Jerome in order to become like him. What did Vincent have to do to imitate Jerome?
- 4) As Christians, who are we to imitate, and in what ways?
 - Ephesians 5:1,2
 - Hebrews 13:7
 - 3 John :11
- 5) It was not easy for Vincent to become Jerome. In what ways was it difficult or painful for Vincent to imitate Jerome?
- 6) In what ways is it difficult or painful for Christians to imitate Christ?

1 Thes. 1:6—You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.
- 7) Vincent used Jerome as a “borrowed ladder” to become someone he was not. Read Colossians 1:21,22 to compare this idea to Christ’s sacrifice for us. What are some significant differences between Vincent’s borrowed ladder and our borrowed ladder?

- 8) This movie discusses the much debated topic of genetic research. What are your views on topics such as:
- Artificial insemination
 - Artificial insemination by donor
 - In vitro fertilization
 - Surrogate mothers
 - Designer babies
 - Frozen embryos
 - Cloning
- 9) Is there an ethical difference between genetic enhancement (obtaining desirable genes) and genetic treatment (fixing genetic diseases)?
- 10) Compare and contrast genetic engineering with the tower of Babel in Genesis 11:1-9.
- 11) The movie starts by quoting Ecclesiastes 7:13. Read Eccl. 7:13,14. Solomon points out something crooked that he sees in life: Righteous perishing, while wicked live long in their wickedness. What crooked things did you see in the movie?
- 11) What crooked things do you see in your daily life?
- 10) Why do you think verse 13 was included in the movie? What can you learn from these verses?
- 11) Vincent's determination to succeed and fly to Saturn's moon Titan sees him change his identity, relinquish his family and his past, and suffer extraordinary pain to achieve his dream. But Niccol's question is whether it is all worth it. Do you think Vincent's actions were worth it?

OTHER COMMENTS?

- 1) What other parallels to Christianity did you observe in the movie?
- 2) Where there any parts of the movie that went against Christianity or what a Christian would believe?

THOUGHT-PROVOKING QUOTES:

Dónal O'Mathúna states it this way, "It is not that humans are the images of God because they have certain rational or spiritual capacities. It is because humans are images of God that spiritual and rational activity is part of what it means to be human. Similarly, it is because humans are the images of God that each one can have a relationship with him. By implication, any human who does not have a relationship with God remains an image of God, with all the value and responsibility that goes with that privilege."

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