

30 March 2014

"Noah The Movie - A Failure" John 6:37

Today we are taking a break from our studies in Matthew to examine Noah The Movie, and show why it is a failure.

First I have to make clear which Noah movie I am talking about, as two Noah movies came out this week. One that you can watch free at noahthemovie.com is called Noah and The Last Days. That movie is great and I would recommend it, not only to watch, but also to hand out to people since if you buy at least ten of them you can get them for two dollars a piece. It is on the Living Waters web site.

But another, much more popular movie call "Noah The Movie" is worthy of some comment. I saw it on Friday and after careful consideration, have come to the conclusion that it was a failure.

The director Darren Aronofsky, the main star Russell Crowe and all the rest of the team that produced it, showed that they could have produced a great film if they had wanted to.

They are all talented people, created in the image of God, and of high caliber in their craft. But it seemed that their motive was bad, and caused them to produce a failure.

My text for this message is...

John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

And I hope it will be clear why this is my text, in a moment.

Starting at the beginning, the screen opened with. "In the beginning there was nothing". The enemy always tries to get his attack in as early as possible.

The Bible starts with **In the beginning God**, but to let us know early that this would be an attack, it started with, "In the beginning there was nothing".

Now anything in the first eleven chapters of Genesis is a good place to launch an attack, since many churches and Christian institutions don't even believe in those chapters any more.

They are not likely to defend a portion of the Bible that they have already abandoned and feel embarrassed about.

But let's compare the Hollywood fantasy with the actual Biblical account.

Noah the person.

Noah in the Bible is one of the most righteous men that ever lived. ;His parents thought he would be the Messiah!

Genesis 5:28-29 Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and had a son. And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord has cursed."

They expected Noah to roll back the curse, which is what Christ came to do as we studied last week.

Genesis 6:5-10 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6 And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, **and He was grieved in His heart.**
7 So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

9 This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Noah was one of the few in all the Bible that is spoken of that way. Later in Ezekiel Noah is among two other greats.

Ezekiel 14:13-14 "Son of man, if a country sins against me by being unfaithful and I stretch out my hand against it to cut off its food supply and send famine upon it and kill its people and their animals, 14 even if these three men—**Noah, Daniel and Job**—were in it, they could save only themselves by their righteousness, declares the Sovereign Lord.

So Noah is put into a class with Daniel and Job. Some of the most righteous men in all of scripture.

Further in the book of Hebrews it says.

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Noah was saved by grace through faith, and nevertheless just as in our lives, there was much work to be done. *pause*

But the Noah in this movie was a madman, a monster, a man who almost hacked his granddaughters to pieces with a knife.

He was made to look so bad, that in some Muslim countries, the movie has been outlawed for presenting so badly one that even they consider to be a Prophet.

So this is one reason why **the movie is a failure**. The film wages a war against truth. You can see that the producers hate God and despise his word, and want others to feel the same.

Methuselah the person.

Methuselah is the oldest man in the Bible, and yes he was the grandfather of Noah.

Genesis 5:25-27 When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. 26 After he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. 27 Altogether, Methuselah lived a total of 969 years, and then he died.

Methuselah did die right about the time of the flood, all that was well and good. In the movie he wanted to eat some fresh berries, and there was nothing wrong with that.

All movies that portray Biblical truth have certain artistic license and can add things. That was not a problem. *pause*

But the Methuselah of the movie was a sorcerer. He gave Noah drugs so he could get further visions from God. This may be normal for the primitive tribes of the Amazon jungle, but the Bible is always against sorcery and witchcraft.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, 11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. 12 For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you.

Here again the movie waged its war against truth.

The person of Ham.

The way Ham, one of Noah's sons was portrayed was one of the most demonic attacks in all of the plot. Ham asked his father if he would have a wife. Of course in the Biblical account all three sons and wives.

Noah told him that God would provide. It was like a divine promise. As the rain approached, it seemed that this promise would not be fulfilled, so Ham escapes and finds a girl who it seemed would be his. But running back to the ark, her foot is caught in a trap and rather than helping her out, Noah lets her die.

After this, Ham "the victim", hates his father.

This seemed to be designed to get the audience to hate Noah, to justify Ham as a victim, and indirectly to hate God.

God seemed to make promises that were quickly forgotten.

This also is part of the failure of the movie. It seemed to try to get you to hate God. But many people already hate God and do not need any more help.

True believers know the true God and are not going to be impacted by this cheap trick.

John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

Christ knows who he is saving, and all these will come to the Him in love and faith, and no amount of demonic cinema is going to change that.

The innocence of the animals.

Rather than saving man and animals, the movie makes Noah out to save just the animals, calling them the innocent ones.

¿But are animals always innocent? ¿Have you never heard of a pit bull attacking a child?

Did you know that in the Bible an animal can get the death penalty.

Exodus 21:28-29 "If an ox gores a man or a woman to death, then the ox shall surely be stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be acquitted. 29 But if the ox tended to thrust with its horn in times past, and it has been made known to his owner, and he has not kept it confined, so that it has killed a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned and its owner also shall be put to death.

So much for the innocence of the animals.

The heroes of the story.

¿Who were the true heroes of the story? !The demons!
Fallen angels who appeared as stone creatures helped build the ark and protected it from invaders.

Now it is not surprising that in a movies that despises God and hates His word, the demons, the fallen angels would be the good guys, and God would be presented as evil or indifferent.

The death of all people.

The real hatred of God was seen in the way that Noah was convinced that God wanted all people dead. Noah was seen saying that all people were alike and therefore all should die and only the animals should survive.

This is an old lie of Satan. There is not just one group in the world but two.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the
 woman, And between your seed and her Seed;
 He shall bruise your head,
 And you shall bruise His heel."

There are two groups in the world, not one. This also comes out in proverbs.

Proverbs 29:27 An unjust man is an abomination to the
 righteous, And he who is upright in the way is
 an abomination to the wicked.

The lie in this movie is much like all the cults who teach that all men are children of God, against the clear teaching of scripture.

John 1:12-13 But as many as received Him, to them He gave
 the right to become children of God, to those
 who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not
 of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of
 the will of man, but of God.

1 John 3:10 In this the children of God and the children
 of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not
 practice righteousness is not of God, nor is
 he who does not love his brother.

Two groups in the world, not one. The false Noah wanted all dead for another reason. Those on the ark were the ancestors of Jesus Christ. And in the devils mind, anything is good that blocks the birth of Christ.

This part got real ugly in the argument between Noah and his wife in the movie. Noah almost murdered his granddaughters thinking that God wanted all men to die, which is Biblically absurd.

His wife argued with him about justice and Noah was portrayed as a violent mad-man. But the demonic attack is really much more subtle.

We have to remember that there were only eight people on the ark in reality, and none of them were children. Noah's ark is the true story in which all the children of the world were destroyed.

Think about it, this is the great Children's story in which all the children were wiped out. By making Noah look like a monster, they were really trying to make God look like a monster, to be hated and despised.

A monster in their minds that killed all the children, and called it justice. The movie was really much more demonic than it appeared.

Things left out of he movie.

The real solution to the violence.

God destroyed the ancient world because of the violence.

Genesis 6:13 And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with **violence** through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

In chapter nine of Genesis, after the flood, God gives his solution to the murderous violence, knowing that it would come back in time.

Genesis 9:3-7 Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. 4 But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man.

6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man. And as for you, be fruitful and multiply. Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it."

The solution to the murderers is the death penalty. God always wanted life protected and in His wisdom, he gave us the means to achieve this.

----- Doctrine -----

There was one other thing left out of the movie, and that was the sacrifice that Noah made to God.

Genesis 8:20-22 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21 And the Lord smelled a soothing aroma. Then the Lord said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.

22 "While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Winter and summer,
And day and night
Shall not cease."

Even though man is sinful, he gets to live because of the sacrifice, and the sacrifice is pointing forward to Christ.

Noah was saved by his faith in Christ, even if Christ was only presented in types and shadows.

----- Application -----

The entire story is a story of Christ. The ark is a picture of Christ. In Christ, you are safely transported from the old sinful world to a new world, as a new creature.

All who were saved had to come through the door of the ark that God later closed. Christ is also presented as a door.

John 10:7-9 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **I am the door** of the sheep. 8 All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 **I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.**

In the Noah the **Movie**, in the **failure**, many people wanted to get on the ark but they had to be fought off.

But that is not the way salvation is. There was plenty of room on the ark for more people, but the people in the real story of Noah, as in our time, did not want to come in. They did not want to be saved.

They surly mocked Noah and made fun of him. They loved their sin, they did not want a life of holiness.

God does not push people away from salvation. That was another demonic lie of the movie.

John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

God will receive all that come to him in faith and repentance.

One last application.

Genesis 8:6-9 So it came to pass, at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made. Then he sent out a raven, which kept going to and fro until the waters had dried up from the earth. He also sent out from himself a dove, to see if the waters had receded from the face of the ground. But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself.

The raven, which is like a large crow, loved the dead things floating on the waters and he never came back. In the movie, of course, he came back, another failure.

But the dove was clean and could not find a clean place to land. Many people leave their Christian families and churches and never come back. The filth, the death of the world is their delight.

Others stay with their churches because they are clean, and can not stand the filth of this world. I must ask, which are you? Are you like the dove, or are you like the raven.

If you want to be saved in Christ, transported to the new world as a new creature, surviving after the judgment, then we would like to pray for you in a moment.

Let us pray