

Christmas at the Movies part 4

“Bringing a little of Heaven to Earth”

Bringing a little of heaven to earth for Christmas!

The temple in the Old Testament is the focal point of everything because it was this signpost that God has established a foothold on the planet, a place where God dwells, where heaven invades earth!

Habakkuk 2:20

*Israel would think about heaven and earth not as two completely separate spheres, but that they actually overlap and interlock, and for Israel, that looked like this. There's heaven, the place where God dwells, and there's the earth, and the temple is where heaven and earth meet. **God decided in this one tiny little place, people could get a glimpse of what it would be like for heaven to invade earth so that they could keep hope alive.** New Testament scholar N. T. Wright*

John 1:14

Luke 2:22-24

Heaven was invading Earth to keep hope alive!

Israel was waiting for the day when God's occupy-the-earth plan would begin to expand beyond the temple. “A little of Heaven was invading Earth, to keep hope alive!”

Luke 2:25

He was keeping hope alive, looking for when heaven would invade earth!

What was Simeon doing with his life in the meantime? He was waiting.

Psalms 27:14

Psalms 40:1

Romans 8:25

What kind of person am I becoming while I wait?

Luke 2:26-32

Luke 2:37-38

Luke 2:48-50

"I tell you that one greater than the temple is here." Matthew 12:6

Jesus is talking and acting as if the whole idea of the temple was to point to him.

He is claiming that **in his life**, in his teachings, in his little community, in his actions, finally, heaven was invading earth, keeping the hope alive!

What happens when heaven invades earth?

Heaven is invading earth, and anybody who wants to get in on it...can!

Heaven was invading earth, and the temple was a picture of that, but only a picture, and now actually it was coming true with Jesus! Hope is Alive!

This invasion of earth by heaven doesn't stop with Jesus.

Where/what/who is the temple today?

1 Corinthians 3:16

2 Corinthians 6:16

God wants heaven to invade earth through you. God wants his will to be done on earth as it is in heaven through you as he gives you the power of his Spirit with you!

We are His Temple! We are now called to bring a little heaven to earth!

Where, how and you bring a little of heaven to earth this day, this week to keep hope alive?!

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