

“[The Bereans] . . . searched the scriptures daily,

[to see] whether those things were so.” —Acts 17:11

“The Chosen” Fiction

T. A. McMahon

AT A CONFERENCE not too long ago, I was asked to give a review of *The Chosen* TV Series. I did so, but before I began my critique, I informed the audience that I hadn’t watched even one frame of the series, and my guess was that that revelation would make more than a few people upset with my criticisms. The immediate response by those enamored with the series about the life of Christ was to scorn everything I said, saying, “He’s like those who criticize books, even the Bible, without having read them!” I can relate to that. I’ve had many discussions with some who tell me what the Bible says without having read it themselves, so I can see why my initial review and its approach would put some people off.

Since my first critique I have viewed a couple of the programs, parts of which I’ll address. However, I want to explain why I believe watching the series is not necessary for rejecting it. In doing so, my explanations will appeal to Scripture and reason in light of Isaiah’s words, “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD” (Isaiah 1:18).

Why isn’t it necessary to watch *The Chosen* in order to criticize it, and how would that be any different than critiquing a novel without having read it? First of all, a novel is defined generally as “a fictitious prose narrative of book length, typically representing character and action with some degree of realism.” In other words, it’s a made-up story. Yet it must be read in order to be evaluated.

Not so with *The Chosen*. It professes to be true to the Bible’s teachings, as well as a faithful representation of the Bible’s stories and characters. The Bible, however, declares itself to be inerrant and infallible in all that it teaches, as well as God’s authority in all that it commands. It’s God’s Word. If it condemns any attempt to visually represent the content and characters of the Bible (which it does) then one has no need to watch *The Chosen* because it claims to visually represent it—in direct disobedience to the Scriptures.

All biblical movies are *visual translations and interpretations* of the words and narrative presented in the Bible. If a Christian was aware that the Bible condemns visual translations and interpretations of the Scriptures, there would be no need to evaluate a movie or video series based upon the Bible before rejecting them. But does the Bible denounce any such attempts to translate/interpret it through a visual medium?

It does. And it does so in many indisputable ways. But before I point out the scriptures related to the Bible’s denunciation of such productions, I need to present some of the components that are involved in the production of making a movie that must be

considered when determining whether or not “biblical movies” can be truly biblical. These are things I know and have experienced while studying filmmaking in graduate school and having worked for 20th Century Fox studios for a number of years. I then moved on to a career as a screenwriter in Hollywood before being saved and spending four decades in Christian ministry with Dave Hunt.

This is how the process works. A movie begins with a screenplay. It’s either an original story or a screen adaptation from someone else’s work (such as the Bible). The screenplay or movie script, in addition to presenting the storyline or plot, the characters, and the dialogue, consists of visual descriptions of what is taking place in the movie story. For example, if a scene calls for a vehicle, a description is needed for the art director or prop man to find the right kind of car for a particular scene or purpose. If the script calls for the car to be crashed, that needs to be described in detail if the crash is going to be unique and significant to the storyline. This is just one example of the creative input that is necessary for the filmmaking process.

Although the screenwriter is the *initial* composer of the movie script, changes to the script always take place during filming. Such changes are usually made by the movie’s director. Reasons for the changes from the original script are seemingly endless: actors’ egos, budget cuts, weather problems, location problems, the executive producer’s ego, the cameraman’s “inspirational idea” for filming a scene, union problems, stunt failures, the director’s ego, etc. The author of the motion picture, for the most part, is the screenwriter, even though contributions of interpretation also come from the director, the actors, and a host of others creatively involved in the filming process.

All of that and much more are involved in every attempt to translate the Bible itself into a theatrical motion picture for the silver screen and/or television. The question therefore, for every Bible-believing Christian, is this: Can the Bible be presented through the filmmaking process and stay true to what God’s Word says *about His Word*?

Well, what does it say? Proverbs 30:5-6: “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. *Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar*” (italics added). God’s words are *His* words, written down by men, His prophets (2 Peter 1:20-21). “Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, *graven by art and man’s device*” (Acts 17:29, emphasis added).

“I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy,

EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE:
HE IS A SHIELD UNTO THEM
THAT PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM.
***ADD THOU NOT UNTO HIS WORDS,
LEST HE REPROVE THEE, AND
THOU BE FOUND A LIAR.***

—Proverbs 30:5-6
(EMPHASIS ADDED)

God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book” (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Bible is God’s revelation to all humanity, and *His alone*. “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ” (Galatians 1:11-12).

What then of a “biblical” movie? As with other theatrical endeavors, such a production comes about primarily through the screenwriter’s interpretation of what has been written in Scripture. Add to that the movie-making necessities and changes, things such as a storyline and dialogue related to the plot that are obviously *lacking* in the Bible and therefore must be supplemented by the screenwriter in order to create a theatrical production.

Character descriptions are limited, at best, and must be added in order for a casting director to select the actors. Along that line, how does one cast the sinless God/Man, Jesus Christ? The perfect attributes and righteous characteristics of the Son of God could never be displayed by an actor on the screen. When such an idea is incorporated into the script, the end result is a *counterfeit Christ* at best. In fact, such an attempt fits the very definition of blasphemy as one strives to apply human characteristics to Jesus that *undermine* His divine character.

I hope you’re getting the picture here (pun intended) that *any* effort to translate the Bible into a visual medium must result in a veritable distortion of God’s Word, which is why such attempts are condemned.

For anyone who doesn’t understand what I mean by calling such efforts “distortion” resulting from man’s input, it begs this question: “What do you really believe about the Bible?”

Do you understand it to be God’s direct communication to mankind? Do you realize that the Bible is totally *of* Him and *from* Him? Do you *get* the fact that without His divine revelation about Himself and His created beings, finite and fallen humanity is left with only opinions, guesses, speculations, and the like about Jesus Christ and the gospel of salvation?

Those so-called contributions by humans have led to the multitude of man-fashioned religions that purport to give insights regarding God.

Do you believe that God’s Word is “given by inspiration of God” (i.e., God-breathed—2 Timothy 3:15-17)? Do you believe the Apostle Paul’s Holy Spirit-inspired exhortation to the Thessalonians: “...when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe” (1 Thessalonians 2:13)? What do you think about Luke 4:4: “It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by *every word of God*” (emphasis added)?

The Apostle Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, did not mince words: “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or *an angel* from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If *any man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, *let him be accursed*” (Galatians 1:6-9, emphasis added).

Every believer in Jesus Christ must come to a true *biblical* belief in His Word. If what a person is taught about Jesus is not true

to the Person revealed in the Scriptures, that character is “another Jesus,” a “false Christ,” no matter how endearing and engaging the actor may be (2 Corinthians 11:4; Matthew 24:24). The same is true regarding all the actors representing biblical characters.

Movies are perhaps the most seductive of all media the world over. I learned as a screenwriter that manipulating an audience’s emotions was the key to a box-office success: make them laugh, make them weep, frighten them, make them cheer, arouse their passions, their lusts. In other words, control their emotions. That power of persuasion through the film medium seduces believers who normally would recognize that they are being snared by a fictional screen character. The comment most often given by those who enjoy the TV series is “I really like a lot of the human qualities displayed by *The Chosen*’s Jesus. It’s so easy to relate to him.” Others have said similar things about their favorite “disciples.”

Remember, what is presented in the Bible is wholly of the Holy Spirit. It is exactly what God wants us to know and believe. That’s what sets believers apart from the so-called spiritual insights of humanity: “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17). Anything that “adds” to that truth, no matter how emotionally and “spiritually” moving, is condemned as having corrupted God’s truth.

I’ve been told that my writing about and speaking out against “biblical” movies (*Showtime for the Sheep*; and “The Bible According to Hollywood”) has come at a time in which the movie industry is finally “supporting Christianity,” and therefore I am “speaking out against the cause of Christ.”

Although that may seem to be a reasonable objection to many, it’s actually a rationalization that dismisses what inevitably takes place in the movie-making process of translating the Bible visually. It also demonstrates an ignorance of the culture of Hollywood, which is no friend of biblical Christianity. Tinsel Town’s only motivation is *box-office*—in other words (in the King James version), “filthy lucre.” And as we know from Scripture, “The love of money is the root of all evil” (1 Timothy 6:10).

Even so, *The Chosen* series is condemned by the Bible *first and foremost* because it *adds* man’s ideas (his beliefs, concepts, viewpoints, conceptions, images, perceptions, his religions, and especially his feelings, etc.) to what God alone has communicated. It makes no difference how far afield the additions are—even the smallest contribution would not be of God, but of man.

For those who are still not seeing the problem with this, let’s consider a program that makes the highly publicized claim that it’s helping people get to know Jesus better and to recognize similarities with the “Jesus of different faiths.” What if the Jesus we are being introduced to is not the biblical Jesus, but rather a spirit that was produced in heaven? Suppose he was the spirit brother of Lucifer, and his earthly birth was not by a virgin but came about through sexual intercourse with Mary by his father god who resides on a planet near a star called Kolob? What if this “Jesus” worked toward becoming a god by taking Mary, her sister Martha, and Mary Magdalene as wives, and thereby producing children necessary for him to become a god? And the godhood that this Jesus achieved enabled him to become the god of this world, taking his place among the multitude of gods ruling over numerous other worlds?

Hopefully you’re thinking, “That’s not the Jesus I know from God’s Word!” However, it is the “Jesus” that the executive producer of *The Chosen*, Derral Eves, believes in, as do most of the

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—1 Thessalonians 2:13
(EMPHASIS ADDED)

other series' producers such as Ricky Ray Butler and Jeffrey and Neil Harmon. Neil Harmon, as co-founder with his brother Jeffrey of VidAngel (now ironically titled *Angel Studios*—see Galatians 1:8), the Utah-based distributor of *The Chosen*, declared that he and his brother Jeffrey are “faithful members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We love Jesus and we love our faith in Christ.”

If that were the Jesus that *The Chosen* series is introducing us to, would that be a concern? As some may have surmised, the Jesus described above is not the biblical Jesus but rather the Jesus of Mormonism, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and *the faith* to which many of the series producers belong. But is that the Jesus of *The Chosen*? Thus far in the series the fundamental doctrines of Mormonism have not been plainly presented. Could they be? Yes—but perhaps not yet.

Yes, because *The Chosen*'s audience has been conditioned to accept whatever the screenwriter, director, and other creative personnel contribute, with no apparent concern for biblical accuracy. The program that launched the series, for example, was the background story of Mary Magdalene that included the death of her father when she was young, her being raped by a Roman soldier, and the failure of Nicodemus as he attempted to exorcise demons from her. Those details came not from Scripture but from the imagination of those who contributed to the script. Yet for the greater number of viewers, few of whom have read the Bible, the images they watched were received as though they are actually in the Bible.

I've been told biblical movies are great motivators for people to check the Bible out. Really? What happens when they can't find the movie scenes such as the gritty backstory of Mary Magdalene? Furthermore, most people would rather watch a highly dramatized Bible story with little concern that it's fiction than read the actual words of Scripture. “Based on a true story” is good enough, even though the “based” part is a movie fabrication.

I have interviewed numerous believers who viewed so-called biblical movies, and although most of these Christians knew the Bible pretty well, I was dismayed to find that they actually believed that many of the unbiblical scenes in those productions were found in the Bible! Difficulty in distinguishing between what one may have read in the Bible and what one saw on screen in an alleged biblical movie is one of the damaging effects of presenting biblical content visually. That notwithstanding, why would a believer in God's Word fill his or her head with things that are made to appear biblical by a film company—but are not?

My “perhaps not yet” comment has to do with Mormonism's continual attempt to promote itself as basically Christian in its theology. For years the organization has strived to be accepted as just another Christian denomination. The only way that can happen is if the LDS Church initially conceals its fundamental beliefs and packs its promotional productions with all sorts of unbiblical scenes and characters. The more that such corruptions are accepted, the wider the door opens for any-and-all beliefs to be introduced, including the bizarre doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It also helps to have a professing evangelical writer/director (Dallas Jenkins) working on *The Chosen*. His promotional interview with a Mormon apologist is a classic example of obfuscatory ecumenism, meaning he does his best to muddy the waters between foundational biblical Christianity (which he claims to believe) and the cultic teachings of Joseph Smith and Brigham Young. His ecumenism is made clear

in his own words: “I said that many LDS folks and I love the same Jesus. I still believe that. It's gotten me in a lot of trouble but I still believe that.”

When Jesus was asked by His disciples about the days just prior to His return, He said, “Take heed that no man deceive you” (Matthew 24:4). That's a penetrating description of the days in which we are living, a time in which “sound doctrine” has all but vanished throughout Christendom (2 Timothy 4:3). Sound doctrine is the full and absolute counsel of what God has communicated in His Word. Anything added to that by man in his attempt to visually portray God's word is a counterfeit—a fictitious deception.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this article, there is no need to watch any episodes of *The Chosen* in order to decide whether or not they are supported by God's Word. All a Bible-believing Christian has to hear is that the television series attempts to represent the stories and characters found in the Scriptures; that inevitably results in adding all kinds of content to the Bible, the action of which is clearly condemned.

For those who nevertheless are enamored with *The Chosen* yet claim they know and love the Scriptures, *The Chosen* television series begins with background information about Mary Magdalene nowhere found in the Bible, as noted, but is produced out of the imagination of all the creative movie people, from the screenwriters to the director, and on down the production line. What then of *additions* to the final episode of season two

(although examples are found throughout the entire series)? We're shown that the disciples are in charge of producing the speaking events of Jesus (e.g., crowd control, distributing flyers for his events, setting up a stage complete with curtains for his presentation of the Sermon on the Mount). Do the Scriptures tell us that the wardrobe of Jesus for his stage appearance was decided upon by four women? Did Jesus, along with his mother, pine for his stepfather Joseph before his preaching on the Mount...or anywhere else in Scripture? Was Matthew, as seen throughout the series, the continual script advisor regarding the content of the sermons

and teachings of Jesus? Did Jesus anxiously have to rehearse his preaching before delivering his teachings to the crowd? All those things are found in *The Chosen*. They are not only missing from God's Word, their inclusion amounts to blasphemy—that is, a blatant mischaracterization of God manifested in the flesh.

Those who are drawn to the Jesus of *The Chosen* have been seduced into believing in a character who is not the perfect God/Man presented in God's Word, but rather a man-made counterfeit Christ whose ministry *had to be enabled* through the input of his disciples. That's not the Jesus Christ of God's inerrant, infallible, and all-sufficient God-breathed Word.

Those who claim to believe the Scriptures but are drawn to *The Chosen* need to heed the Bible's far-reaching warning: “For there shall arise *false Christs*, and *false prophets*, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before” (Matthew 24:24-25).

(For further insights into the problems with visually translating the Bible, we recommend *Showtime for the Sheep* and “The Bible According to Hollywood.” For materials related to the cult of Mormonism we recommend *The God Makers* [see page 6] and “Mormon Fiction” [see TBC, August 2003]. More importantly, we highly recommend reading Psalm 119:1-176.)

BUT THOUGH WE, OR AN ANGEL
FROM HEAVEN, PREACH ANY
OTHER GOSPEL UNTO YOU THAN
THAT WHICH WE HAVE PREACHED
UNTO YOU, LET HIM BE ACCURSED.

—Galatians 1:8
(EMPHASIS ADDED)

TBC

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Submit your own questions to: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708

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QUESTION: From what I've seen, the beliefs of many religious people are little more than sanctified superstitions. Many don't want to face any evidence that might prove otherwise. To me, it seems like a "faith" that isn't based on truth can't be defended and shouldn't be relied upon. Isn't that a dangerous position to take?

RESPONSE: One of the most important decisions one can make in this life is to find out for certain whether or not there is a God. Religions all over the world have their own scriptures and teachings. How can one know for sure that God is real and that He cares? We can go straight to the Bible itself to find answers. For one thing, the Bible declares itself to be the only inspired Word of the one true God who created us. It also states that all of the claims of the world's religions and their scriptures are false and actually in the service of Satan, who also is real, and who the Bible calls "the god of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4) and thus the author of its religions. So, if we can prove that the Bible is true, we have saved ourselves a lifetime of vain searching through false systems.

In fact, we can prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that every word in the Bible is true. There have been many books written on this subject that offer this proof in detail. As an example, the Bible has several unique features not found in the scriptures of the world religions that make it possible to substantiate its claims. Christianity is not a philosophy, a mystical experience, nor an esoteric practice. Neither are the major doctrines of Christianity a matter of mere dogma and belief. They are intricately tied into established history unlike the religions of the world, which are based to a large extent upon legends. Christianity alone is based upon undeniable and historical facts. Its doctrines can thus be evaluated on the basis of evidence.

In addition, many of the major events that are written of in the Bible, and also the teachings therein, were prophesied centuries and even thousands of years beforehand in *understandable language*. The fulfillment of these prophesied events is part of recorded world history. The Bible stands upon a four-fold foundation on which every part can be examined and verified, including:

- 1) Prophecy, which foretells events and doctrines in advance;
- 2) Fulfillment of those prophecies in detail;
- 3) Secular history testifying to the fulfillment of prophecies and events; and
- 4) Factual data corroborated by archaeology and science.

None of this is the case with the teachings or scriptures of any of the world's religions.

These differences set the Bible apart as absolutely unique. In fact, Christianity, which is based upon the Bible, cannot even be counted among the religions of the world. Christianity does not seek accommodation, much less ecumenical partnership with world religions; it seeks their overthrow as hopelessly false

and destructive to mankind. That may come as a shock to some readers, but it is the clear teaching of the Bible. Christ himself denounced as "thieves and robbers" all who sought to get to heaven except through Him. Such bold claims cannot be lightly dismissed. They deserve to be carefully evaluated.

QUESTION: I know that we should "rejoice in the Lord always," but with things in the world the way they are now—the chaos, killings, anger, and dishonesty—how do we find honest ways to do that?

RESPONSE: You are being truthful about your feelings, but let's look at the scripture again. It doesn't say, "Rejoice in the Lord always... unless you are unable to do so because of an unhappy childhood, a bout of depression, or adverse circumstances." Nor does it say "Be anxious for nothing... unless you have a nervous disposition." It does not say, "Forgive... unless you are unable to do so because of abuse." Nor are we to be excused from the command, "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts" because we have been diagnosed as "susceptible to stress." Neither are we excused from the command to love just because we find certain people unlovable.

Unfortunately, the simple obedience to God's Word that sound doctrine compels has been undermined by "psychological counseling" that nourishes unbelief and rebellion. Therapy then offers to *justify* our disobedience, to *comfort* us in our rebellion, and to provide the peace and joy that only God can give to those who trust and obey Him.

The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Galatians 5:22-23). These are clearly declared to be the fruit not of therapy but of the Holy Spirit working in our lives. How does this take place? Does God somehow "zap" us and we are instantly transformed? No, but as God's truth so grips our hearts, we are fully persuaded to be ruled by His Word, to obey Him, and to trust Him to fulfill in us what He promised. This obviously is not to deny the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit powerfully in our hearts and through us in others, in ways that are beyond human comprehension. Instead, it is merely to say that the Bible clearly declares that God works in our lives through our obedience to His Word. As Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31,32).

QUOTABLE.....

I am not a proponent of brash methods of evangelism and yelling at sinners that they are doomed to hell, but I do believe we have the personal responsibility to tell them of their eternal destination if they lack a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I fear, however, that many today define Christlikeness as that of never offending anyone. Friends, Jesus is the only way. He is the only truth, and there is no eternal life through any religion or person but Him. That is what He said, so that is what we should say too. But let's also recognize the fact that if we say what He said, we may experience what He experienced. That, too, is part of Christlikeness.

—BARRY STAGNER

LETTERS

To connect with TBC, write: PO Box 7019 • Bend, OR 97708
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Dear TBC,

Words cannot express my appreciation of this good word on this subject [counseling]. It was point-on with so many of the falsifications within so-called Christian Therapy. Either God's Word is true or it is not, and as a Christian you are either "hot for God" or "cold." Period. "Let every man be a liar, but God be true."

I've struggled for over a dozen months with this issue over what to do with depression. In my large library, of course, I have a few self-help books and recall what they teach. With that said, in most cases they refer to this one fact: you must do the work to get better, and only you can do it. So, Christ has done the work, and I must appropriate (take exclusive possession of) His work—the cross—daily. *The Calvary Road* by Roy Hession, which I read Monday, has encouraged me more as of late than other books, with the exception of the Word of God. "Transform Your Mind with the Word of God." Thanks for what you do. I've been a subscriber since the '80s. God bless always! LB (email)

Dear Friends,

Again, I want to thank you for the latest issue of The Berean Call. I liked the reprint of Dave Hunt's message from 2008 related to the things we are seeing today. I am glad he mentioned names

and different "bibles" that we should not use. I especially enjoyed the letters from other members of this ministry. I believe we will be seeing things happen as never before during this year...so keep us prepared by exposing the frauds, but help us all give Christ all of our work and prayers. SR (AR)

Dear TBC,

Just finished reading your last Newsletter regarding Christian Activism. After finishing, I read 2 Corinthians chapter 10. I have the Henry Morris Study Bible. His commentary on verse 5 reads as follows: "Thus, we are not to use such carnal weapons as bullets—or even ballots—in our battle for the human mind, but the mighty spiritual weapons in the 'Whole Armor of God!'" Thanks, Brother Tom! LT (email)

Greetings to Berean Call Members,

I want to appreciate the efforts you have put into the service of this ministry. Thank you for your work. I am using this opportunity also to console you and the family of [your board member] Bill in particular. It is really comforting to us (Christians) to see our relatives and loved ones go to be with the Lord at the end of their life journey. May the Lord of comfort give you the peace for this period in Jesus's name. Amen. KO (Africa)

TBC NOTES

The Value of Suffering ATGW

In 2010 I wrote a TBC article titled "The Value of Suffering." It's not exactly a subject that thrills our flesh, but it is a very important teaching for our spirit. Recently, as I was reading through the Psalms, I found two verses that I wasn't aware of when I penned the article eleven years ago. They underscore the value of suffering *according to God's Word* (ATGW).

"It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes." "I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me." (Psalm 119:71, 75)

What is the lesson here given from the Holy Spirit? God allows affliction to take place in the life of believers in order to draw us closer to Him. Job's life is a prime example (Job 42:5-6). So, the question is, "How are we dealing with what Jesus has allowed to take place in our lives?" Is it causing us to learn more about Him and His Word and His ways? When Jesus chooses to correct us because of our sins (which He paid for in full), do we recognize His "faithfulness" in doing so? If we don't see that our affliction is related to His faithfulness and His love for us, and an opportunity to learn "Thy statutes" and "Thy judgments," we miss the "good" that is featured in the value of suffering.

T. A. McMAHON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE BEREAN CALL

Founder: Dave Hunt
Executive Director: T. A. McMahon

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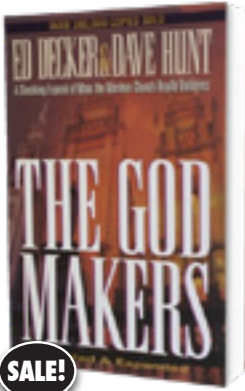
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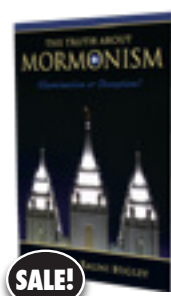
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Decker/Hunt—Mormons claim to follow the same God and the same Jesus as Christians. They also state that their gospel comes from the Bible. But are they telling the truth? *The God Makers*, one of the most powerful books to penetrate the veil of secrecy surrounding the rituals and doctrines of the Mormon Church, reveals the inner workings and beliefs of Mormonism. Through personal interviews and well-documented evidence, you'll discover the true nature of

the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its hidden world-wide agenda. Harvest House Publishers, 292 pp.

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The Truth about Mormonism – Illumination or Deception?

Higley—TBC is privileged to offer this revised and expanded edition of Dennis and Rauni Higley's concise but revealing investigation of their former faith, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Dennis was a sixth-generation Mormon who became an Elder's Quorum president while still in his early twenties. About a decade later, he was ordained a High Priest and called to serve on the Stake High Council. Rauni worked as a translator and language coordinator for the LDS Church for over 14 years. Together they launched an intensive private study on the "facts" of Mormonism, with guidance from God and His Word. This ultimately led Dennis and Rauni out of the darkness and into the light. *The Berean Call*, 78 pp.

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DNA vs. The Book of Mormon

Living Hope Ministries—

The Book of Mormon teaches that Israelites immigrated to and fully populated the American continents, where they became the principal ancestors of modern-day Native Americans. This video presents the evidence from DNA researchers, including Mormon scientists, that refutes this teaching. English/Spanish option. 1 DVD, 49 min.

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The Facts on the Mormon Church

Ankerberg/Weldon/Burroughs—Mormons say they are Christians, and

it often seems that their teachings are similar to Christianity. Do Mormons and Christians mean the same thing by the same words? Does Mormonism present the Jesus of the Bible? This excellent volume will guide you beyond surface similarities and answer these and other important questions. Harvest House Publishers, 88 pp.

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Mormon Claims Answered

Cowan—Mormonism has claimed that all other churches are universally apostate, but such claims against historic Christianity are flawed. This concise resource shows that LDS claims are actually flawed regarding their origin, God, the Bible and LDS Scripture, revelation, salvation, authority and the church among many other topics. Utah Christian Publications, 120 pp.

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ENTERTAINMENT AND CHRISTIANITY TAKING A BIBLICAL APPROACH



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Showtime for the Sheep?

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McMahon—A collection of feature articles written by T. A. McMahon on the subject of Hollywood and "biblical" movies—read by T. A. and TBC staff members. 2 CDs, 80 min.

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McMahon—In the last couple of years we've seen the release of an onslaught of "biblical" movies and TV-show productions—including *Noah*; *Exodus: Gods and Kings*; and *A.D.: The Bible Continues*. This message challenges believers young and old to think carefully about biblical entertainment and exhorts viewers to return to the Bible. 1 DVD, 60 min.

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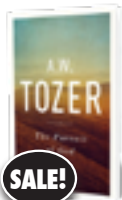
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