

Made-in-SA 'Sampson' movie not to be missed – Movie Review

By Andrea D Combs, [Africa Christian Action](#)



"...for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines." Samson 13:5

It's a story many of us grew up hearing. It's the story of a man with unusually long hair, set apart, chosen by God, and given the gift of extraordinary strength. He was a Nazirite who had to live by a different set of rules: never to drink any wine, touch a dead body, or shave his head. We all know him by the name of Samson, and his story has just been brought to the screen unlike ever before.

Pure Flix (producer of *God's Not Dead*) has just released the movie *Samson*, which gives us a unique glimpse into one of the

most legendary narratives of the Bible, found in Judges 13-16. The film is filled with exciting drama and plenty of action sequences.

The story begins with the Hebrews under the tyrannical rule of the Philistines. Samson is the champion, divinely chosen by God to deliver the people of Israel from their oppressors. Armed with herculean strength, Samson is keenly aware of his calling, and yet he is reluctant to accept the life God has for him. His brother, Caleb, continually encourages and reminds him of his purpose in an attempt to keep him focused on his life's mission. His physical proclivities do land him in trouble time and time again with the Philistines, however.

King Balek and his psychopathic son, Rallah, demand inflated tributes from the Hebrews, diminishing their personal provisions nearly to the point of starvation. Anyone who attempts to fight back is promptly put in his, or her, place.

Samson meets and falls for a Philistine woman named Taren. Determined to make her his wife, Samson decides to go against his parents' emphatic wishes to marry a Hebrew woman. Persuaded by his implicit mistress, Delilah, Rallah chooses to give Samson his blessing to marry Taren so that he may have control over his Hebrew nemesis. During the wedding feast, Samson and Rallah enter into a duel of riddles, which ultimately stirs Rallah to threaten Samson's new bride. Samson is led to kill 30 Philistines in an effort to protect his wife, but Rallah reacts by killing Taren and thus breaks Samson's heart.

The hostility between Samson and his Philistine foe only escalates from there. Rallah murders Samson's father, Monoah, just before attempting to behead Samson. Filled with rage, the resilient Hebrew breaks free and kills 1 000 Philistine soldiers with the jawbone of a donkey as his weapon. The story only gets more intense when Delilah later seduces Samson to reveal the secret to his otherworldly strength.

We all know how the real life story ends, but the movie's interpretation is pretty incredible and unlike any you would have seen before.

After having the privilege of previewing this impressive film, one cannot help but go back to Judges 13-16 to reread the story of Samson. As one might have come to expect in the portrayal of a biblical epic, creative liberties were taken in the writing of this story.

Most notably, the Samson depicted in this film is far more likeable than the one depicted in the Bible. The Samson in the Bible appears generally unrepentant and arrogant, spending much of his life ignoring God's clear call and, instead, chooses to live recklessly. He would visit brothels, shamelessly spending the night with women he didn't know. One of the only prayers recorded in the story of Samson involves him asking God to give him strength that he might have vengeance for a wrong done to himself – not to God.

The man in this film, by contrast, has moments of sincere humility where he goes to God in prayer, pleading Him for strength that he may give God the glory. He is tricked into going into a brothel but is incensed when he realises the nature of the inn he's been led to. He doesn't spend the night with prostitutes. He is also ultimately repentant and realises that he's only ever seen things through his own eyes, rather than through God's. It seems the film made their version of Samson into more of the hero we wish he could have been. This may be justified by how Samson is included in the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11:32-34.

On the note of character development, Delilah is not represented as the conniving, heartless woman we read in the book of Judges. Instead, she's seen as a woman of character and conviction. You find yourself almost liking her and believing she truly loves and cares for Samson.

A key protagonist in this film is Prince Rallah, the Philistine Commander. While his character is fictitious, he serves a very important role in personifying the oppression of the Philistines over the Hebrew people.

The Bible makes it clear that Samson's mother was barren and unable to have children, which made the prophecy and birth of Samson an absolute miracle. It seems a bit of a stretch to include a brother in the story, and yet Caleb does serve as a moral compass for Samson throughout the film. As there are very few details surrounding the story of Samson, one cannot blame the writers for wanting to fill in the gaps.

If you're debating whether or not to see the new Samson movie, let me help you make your decision. This is a film you do not want to miss. *Samson* was produced locally with a cast that includes more than 30 South African actors. Despite a few faux beards, the cast played their roles brilliantly and made us believe they were exactly who they portrayed. You'll be transported back into biblical times and feel as if you're actually there. *Samson* offers a strong Christian worldview that clearly presents the God of Israel as the "Living God." One note of warning would be toward the violence in the movie. They definitely dial it back for the big screen, but caution is advised for younger members of the family.

Samson is in cinemas country-wide from today, June 8. For more information, visit – www.samsonmovie.co.za

Pastor Phiri's show 'The

Journey' finds new home on Moja Love channel



Pastor Enoch Phiri interviews Benjamin Dube during a past screening of 'The Journey'. (PHOTO: Youtube screenshot).

The Journey, a show in which televangelist and Restoration Ministries founder Pastor Enoch Phiri interviews South African celebrities about their walk with God and how they overcame obstacles while pursuing their goals, has found a new home on Moja Love TV.

The black-owned TV station – on DSTV channel 157 – which was launched on February 14 this year, focuses on the theme of love.

The show, which won a Crown Gospel award in the Best Tv Show category last year, informs and inspires ordinary South Africans that despite their current negative situation, they would make it if they remain true to themselves and to their creator, says Phiri's publicist in a media release.

On the show, Phiri speaks to actors, radio and TV personalities, sports personalities, academicians,

politicians, and other personalities who have made it to the top against all odds.

Phiri says:” Stories told by high-profile personalities inspire us as a community that if they overcame those obstacles they faced, we too can overcome them through Christ who strengthens us.”

The Journey screens on Mondays at 6.30 pm, on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm and on Thursdays at 5pm.

Inspirational ‘I Can Only Imagine’ movie launching in SA



No screenings in

Eastern Cape

South African moviegoers in many parts of the country will soon be able to see *I Can Only Imagine*, a critically-acclaimed film based on the true story behind the number-one-played radio single in Christian music.

The Erwin Brothers' film about the story behind Mercy Me lead singer Bart Millard's redemptive relationship with his troubled father – which was the inspiration behind the Christian rock band's hit song *I Can Only Imagine* – grossed a staggering R213-million at the US box office in its opening weekend, ranking third overall behind *Tomb Raider* and *Black Panther*.

The movie opens in South Africa on May 11 and there will be sneak previews at a number of Ster Kinekor cinemas around the country. But unfortunately for audiences in the Eastern Cape it appears that either Ster Kinekor or theatre management at individual cinemas decided not to preview or release the movie in Port Elizabeth, East London or anywhere else in the province.

Asked about the exclusion of the Eastern Cape, Celeste La Mantia of public relations company MS Publicity said as far as she knew individual movie houses selected movies they believed would do well with their target audiences. Later she also sent Gateway News the following somewhat puzzling response from distributors Ster Kinekor to the Eastern Cape question: "It is a Ster Kinekor decision. Ster Kinekor will only hosted the influencers screening on 12 April and then the screenings in conjunction with media partners on 9 May."

Perhaps it is time for Eastern Cape viewers – and viewers in any other excluded areas – who would like to see quality faith-based films to let their local cinemas know?

The idea for the *I Can Only Imagine* song was inspired by Millard's past and was written years after finally overcoming his abusive childhood. It immediately resonated with audiences of all ages, became an instant top-selling hit, won Songwriter Of The Year and Song Of The Year at the Dove Awards and was certified as a double platinum selling Christian song.

"We were making an independent record, and we needed one more song. And I was literally just trying to find a blank page [in my journal], and every page had the words 'I Can Only Imagine' written on it," shares Bart. "So it was kinda like, 'I get it.' I wrote the song on the bus one night. Even though it took about five or ten minutes to write, it had been in my heart for a really long time."

Watch the Song [here](#)

I Can Only Imagine (the movie) tells the story of a little boy in Texas who is emotionally and physically abused by his father (Dennis Quaid) and abandoned by his mother. The abuse starts after his father suffers a brain injury due to an accident at work and becomes a monster who is unable to control his anger and disappointment with life. By the grace of God, Bart (John Michael Finley) and his father manage to redeem their relationship during his teenage years and he gets to witness the power of faith and transformation first-hand.

Watch the movie trailer here:
http://www.imdb.com/title/tt6450186/videoplayer/vi3335632921?ref_=tt_ov_vi

Broadway actor, John Michael Finley's (*Les Misérables*, *Sweeney Todd*), makes his on-screen debut in the lead-role of Bart Millard in this emotional film. It was his booming voice that first drew filmmakers to cast him as this pivotal character. Interestingly, his background proved to connect him even more to the role.

"I was born in Arkansas and grew up in southern Missouri, so I had that Midwest mentality," says Finley. "Bart and I both had early life events that made us grow up real fast. And I connect with the way Bart uses humour to deflect other people," Finley said.

Acclaimed actor, Dennis Quaid (*The Right Stuff*, *Breaking Away*, *The Parent Trap*, *Far From Heaven*) plays Arthur, Bart's father, who saw his dreams dashed and strives to protect his son from similar disappointment, even if it means having no dreams at all. The film also boasts impressive performances by model and television star, Madeline Carroll, in the role of Millard's wife Shannon as well as Golden Globe Winner, Cloris Leachman (*A Brand New Life*, *Malcolm in the Middle*), as Memaw.

Sneak previews to the public are taking place on Sunday April

29 at the following Ster-Kinekor cinemas (bookings available on www.sterkinekor.com): Tygervalley, Cape Gate, Blueroute, Somerset Mall, Garden Route Mall, Gateway, Mall of Africa, Cradlestone, Matlosana Mall, Brooklyn Mall, Kolonnade, Irene Mall, Cresta, Mall at Carnival and Eastgate.

The film officially opens in South Africa on 11 May at the following cinemas:

Ster Kinekor:

Cape Region: Tygervalley, Cape Gate, Blueroute, Somerset Mall, Garden Route Mall

KZN Region: Gateway

Northern Region: Mall Of Africa, Cradlestone, Matlosana, Brooklyn Commercial, Kolonnade, Irene

Southern Region: Cresta, Mall Of Carnival, Eastgate

Nu Metro: Canal Walk, Cornubia, Hyde Park, Menlyn Park, Pavilion, Westgate, Woodlands

Independent Sites: Epic Mall@Reds, Epic Northridge, Maxi Cineplex, Midlands Cine, Movies@Emnotweni, Movies@Monte, NC Game City, Suncoast Cine

Christian film 'I Can Only Imagine' is smashing success

at the box office



Originally published in [The Christian Mail](#)

The recently-released Christian film *I Can Only Imagine* shocked critics this past weekend at the box office by bringing in \$17.1 million even though it was only shown at 1 629 locations.

The film is based on the true story of the life of Bart Millard, the frontman of Christian band MercyMe. The film tells the story of how Millard came to write the smash hit *I Can Only Imagine*, which topped both Christian and secular music charts.

The film had been expected to bring in between \$2 million and \$8 million, but completely surpassed these estimates. Interestingly, it also [finished just ahead of *A Wrinkle in Time*](#), a film that had been stripped of its Christian themes, as [ChristianHeadlines.com previously reported](#).

“We knew that it was going to do well but we never expected a

\$17 million opening,” said Howard Cohen of Roadside Attractions-Lionsgate which produced the film. “We’re planning to be on well over 2 000 screens next weekend.”

Churches and Christian groups have also worked to promote the film and raise awareness of it. The members of MercyMe have also been promoting it on social media.

[Variety.com reports](#) that the film only costs \$7 million to make, which makes its box office success even more remarkable.

The film stars J Michael Finley as Millard and Dennis Quaid as Millard’s father. *I can only imagine* opens in South African movie theatres in May.

TBN launches new African Christian channel



Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) has launched TBN Mzansi, a new African Christian channel that is available on Africa’s latest and second largest satellite service called Kwešé TV on channel 810.

Available from March 1, the new channel will reach countries across Africa “with authentic, quality and inspirational African Christian programming,” says TBN in a press release.

The new channel is under the stewardship of TBN in Africa and forms part of TBN’s global expansion strategy whose previous most recent addition was the Hillsong channel.

Since the re-launch of TBN in Africa in March 2016, TBN has been looking at expanding into different regions of Africa.

“Now that phase one of TBN in Africa’s 10-year strategy is complete, phase two is the roll out of TBN Mzansi, a channel we are really excited about,” says Mr Lucky Mbiko, Managing Director of TBN in Africa.

For more information about how to connect to the Kwesé TV service, go to

www.kwese.com or go to www.tbnmzansi.org for TBN Mzansi channel and content information.

‘Black Panther’ star gave up all for Christ – then landed biggest role of career



Letitia Wright (PHOTO: Screenshot via [Faithwire](#)).

Originally published in [Faithwire](#)

Black Panther is nothing short of a phenomenon. The latest installment in the wildly successful “Marvel” movie series, it has become the second-highest grossing four-day opening in movie history, raking in \$242 million (R2.9-billion) . The film has been praised by critics and received a 97% rating on review [site](#) Rotten Tomatoes.

“A film that fulfills the most rote demands of superhero spectacle, yet does so with style and subtexts that feel bracingly, joyfully groundbreaking,” wrote Ann Hornaday at the Washington Post.

But even more remarkable than box-office records and glowing reviews is the story behind actress Letitia Wright, who plays T’Challa’s little sister, Shuri. Wright, who appeared on British talk show *This Morning*, talked about how she almost missed out on the role after hitting a crisis in her life, dumping acting and going on a search for God.

“I needed to take a break from acting because I really idolised it. So I came off from it and I went on a journey to discover my relationship with God, and I became a Christian,” Wright said in the interview aired on February 9.

“It really just gave me so much love and light within myself. I felt secure, like I didn’t need validation from anyone else, or from getting a part. My happiness wasn’t dependent on that, it was dependent on my relationship with God.”

At the very depths of her depression, the British actress ended up coming to Christ after attending a London actors’ Bible study. So convinced that she had to put God first, she even turned down an acting role that would have set her alongside Nicole Kidman and Elle Fanning.

“I remember God was like, to me, ‘Give up the job,’” the actress told *Vanity Fair*. “I can give you more than that; I just need you right now. Give up the job.”

Then, after laying down her own ambition and looking to the Lord, she was offered this gigantic role in *Black Panther*.

Letitia also explained how many of those in the entertainment are coming to know Jesus, and that the Christian community in Hollywood is an extremely supportive one.

“There’s a reason there are so many Christians in the limelight. A lot of young people who are in the creative industry are finding an avenue toward God now,” she said. “We’re all in the same path, we’re all in the same thing. But we all support each other, and love each other, and keep each other grounded, and keep each other positive.”

Now an international sensation and with a glittering career ahead of her, Wright just wants to be used as a vessel for the Lord. “Where I go, where He takes me, that’s where I need to spread the love of God,” she said in an earlier interview. “Because people’s souls are dying. My soul was dying, and He saved me. So I can’t keep this to myself ... I fell in love with Jesus and I’m still in love. Amen.”

Movie wise – February 16 2018



Pieter Pohl, founder of Innovation Films and marketing manager of CMD Entertainment Africa, sheds some light on the latest movies.

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SUNDAY BLOCKBUSTER

(Sun February 18 '18: MNET 101 20:30)

THE FATE OF THE FURIOUS

MOVIE TRAILER: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxhEZG0k9_w13VL

Summary:

The Fate of the Furious, the eighth instalment in the famous franchise, has Dominic, the street racer turned government spy, betraying his team, including his wife Letty, because a hacker villain has leverage over him and needs his help stealing weapons of mass destruction. *The Fate of the Furious* ramps up the action and humour, and has a strong Christian, moral worldview with many overt, positive Christian elements, but also has lots of foul language, images of women in short shorts in one scene, and plenty of intense action violence, so strong caution is advised.



MOVIEGUIDE REVIEW – “A Funnier, Even More Action-Packed, Emotional Entry with Lots of Heart”

The Fate of the Furious is the eighth instalment in “*The Fast and the Furious*” franchise, and like the previous movies, delivers exactly what fans of the franchise expect, lots of fast cars and ridiculous action. Like some of the recent sequels, however, there are some overt positive references to Christianity among the heroes.

Fate starts off after the events of *Furious 7*” where the filmmakers gave Brian O’Conner a proper farewell after actor Paul Walker’s tragic death. Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel) is enjoying a long-delayed honeymoon in Havana, Cuba with his wife, Letty. However, their honeymoon’s cut short when a mysterious blonde woman known as Cipher (Charlize Theron) confronts Dom. After showing Dom what kind of leverage, she has on him, she convinces him to work with her.

Soon after, former DSS agent Luke Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) informs Dom of a new mission for the team in Germany, so Dom

gears up. On the mission, which involves Letty, Roman (Tyrese Gibson), Tej (Ludacris), and Ramsey, the new computer hacker on their team, Dom betrays the team like he's told to do by Cipher. He steals the EMP weapon the team was trying to secure for the government.

With Dom now gone rogue, Frank Petty (Kurt Russell), the leader of a covert operations team that worked with Dom and his friends in the past, puts together his bandwagon of individuals to stop Dom and Cipher from pulling off whatever dastardly plan Cipher has in store. On Frank's team is Dom's former crew, Luke Hobbs, and their previous nemesis, Deckard Shaw (Jason Statham), who was broken out of prison to help them.

Letty believes Dom still cares about her, and the team, because Dom would never break the "family first" code by which he lives. However, as they face off with Dom on the streets of New York City, it becomes unclear if he'll ever be able to break free from whatever grip Cipher has on him. The plot thickens as Cipher, with Dom's help, is able to steal nuclear launch codes. Will the team be able to stop this unstoppable female villain and save Dom?

The Fate of the Furious won't convince anyone that the plot is somehow fresh and new, nor does it try to do that. It's a fairly straightforward story of betrayal, conflict and jeopardy, with ginormous action sequences and emotionally uplifting storylines that mostly work because moviegoers are eight movies into the franchise and have actually grown to care about the characters. Somehow, *The Fate of the Furious* has topped stunts from previous movies in the franchise, with sequences that take car carnage to whole new levels, including a race on a frozen bay against a Russian submarine. Perhaps the weakest point of the plot is the female villain, Cipher, who lacks compelling motivation for her evil plot, although she's a pretty bad-lady moviegoers will love to hate. Perhaps because the movie misses the pleasant charm of

Paul Walker, FATE smartly takes itself a little less seriously by including much more humour. The result is a fun, always entertaining, time at the movies.

Staying true to the theme of the franchise, the movie extols the importance of family and fighting for one another, even when it seems like they're fighting against you. While Dom betrays his team and wife, it's revealed that he does so for good reasons, though some viewers probably will question why he couldn't have brought his family in on the secret in the first place.

Best of all, the movie once again includes a significant amount of positive, overt and implied Christian content. Dom frequently wears a cross necklace, which serves as a major plot element in the movie, and symbolically and literally saves his family. Also, in the middle of another action sequence, when the team asks what they should do, Roman says, "Now we pray." Most touching and impactful is at the end in the final shot when the group gathers together around a meal and prays together.

Sadly, *The Fate of the Furious* isn't without its blemishes. The movie has too much foul language, including several strong profanities, many uses of the "s" word and one "f" word. Also, in the opening scene in Cuba, there are gratuitous shots of scantily clad women in skimpy bikinis and short shorts, and the camera ogles women from behind a couple times. This content, along with some strong action violence, warrants strong caution for moviegoers, especially media-wise families.

– www.movieguide.org

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SUNDAY BLOCKBUSTER

(Sun 11 February '18: MNET 101 20:30)

THE MUMMY

MOVIE TRAILER: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxhEZG0k9_w
13VL

Summary:

The Mummy stars Tom Cruise in a new version of the horror classic, who plays a rogue American reconnaissance officer in Iraq who accidentally unleashes an evil, mummified Egyptian princess with immense occult power. *The Mummy* is fun and coherent for its first two acts but falls apart in the third and contains some extreme violence, gruesome special effects, sexual content, and occult elements that infect the hero at the end.



MOVIEGUIDE REVIEW – “Messy Mummy”

The Mummy is an action-adventure movie with strong fantasy and horror elements that is a reboot of the classic 1932 horror film *The Mummy* starring Boris Karloff and the 1999 hit adventure starring Brendan Fraser. It follows the adventures of a rogue US soldier named Nick Morton as he accidentally revives and releases an evil, mummified Egyptian princess named Ahmanet, then tries to stop her from bringing Set, the Egyptian god of Death, into the world.

While *The Mummy* has some exciting moments and star Tom Cruise brings humour and vulnerability to Nick in a refreshing change of pace from his usually unstoppable heroes, its plot is unfocused and falls apart in the final half-hour. Even worse, it features overly gruesome effects throughout, in addition to highly pagan and occult elements and repeated depictions of its nude villainess committing or attempting violence in sexualised situations. Ultimately, the hero accepts the use of occult means to solve plot problems toward the end.

The story kicks off in England in 1127 AD, as a Crusader knight is buried with a giant red diamond in his tomb while other knights chant in Latin in a foreboding ceremony. It then

jumps to the present day, where the tombs of the knight and his peers have been discovered and a mysterious man named Henry (Russell Crowe) takes over the excavation site with his minions. As Henry stands in awe of the tombs, his pretentious voiceover and a rather intense flashback informs viewers that the site is tied to an evil ancient Egyptian woman named Ahmanet (Sofia Boutella). She was the daughter of a pharaoh, destined to inherit the throne until the pharaoh fathers a son, who would take her place in line.

Ahmanet clings to her power by killing her father, his wife and male child. She also tries to live forever by ritually killing a lover with the supernaturally powered Dagger of Set, the Egyptian god of Death. However, she is captured before achieving her goal, mummified alive and trapped in a pit more than 1 000 miles outside of Egypt, with the intention of keeping her there forever.

Back in present-day Iraq, two US reconnaissance officers, Nick Morton (Tom Cruise) and his sarcastic sidekick, Chris Vail (Jake Johnson), have gone rogue by looting and selling the ancient treasures of the villages they're supposed to protect from Muslim insurgents. Nick finds way more than he imagined when, while searching for the Dagger of Set, the ground opens to reveal Ahmanet's pit. Once inside, Nick's reckless actions unwittingly bring her sarcophagus to the surface.

This discovery results in a confrontation with beautiful archaeologist Jenny Halsey (Annabelle Wallis), who's angry because Nick stole her map to the pit after a one-night stand. Nick's military supervisor orders the sarcophagus flown on a cargo plane to the US for examination. This unleashes a string of disasters including a sandstorm and a massive swarm of crows that destroy the plane's engines and windshield.

Nick saves Jenny from certain death by offering her the only parachute on the plane as it careens to the ground. He then awakens mysteriously unscathed and in a body bag in a hospital

morgue. However, Chris is now a wisecracking zombie. Also, Nick is troubled by visions that make Jenny realise Ahmanet is alive and trying to make him her accomplice in bringing Set to life and making herself immortal. Ahmanet is also on a rampage to find the diamond that was buried with the Crusader, because it's the key to giving the dagger its full evil powers.

Somehow, Director Alex Kurtzmann manages to make *The Mummy* seem fun and coherent for its first two-thirds. However, when Nick and Ahmanet each wind up at Henry's bizarre compound, it goes off the deep end with a string of violent and annoying confrontations that destroy what little logic remains. The movie ends with a ridiculous voiceover conversation between Henry and Jenny that tries to establish further globetrotting adventures for Nick. Regrettably, the idea is such a jumble that it may never occur, despite Universal Studio's desire to raid its vault of monster characters to create a new franchise.

It's a nice change of pace to see Tom Cruise play a character who's not unstoppably superhuman like his *Mission: Impossible* agent, Ethan Hunt. However, this *The Mummy* is too convoluted in places, too gruesome in others, never quite scary enough, and sadly falls completely to pieces in its utterly bizarre and confusing final half hour.

The Mummy features grisly effects throughout and a pagan/occult storyline centered on false gods and evil incantations. Also, the hero eventually uses occult means to solve plot problems and is infected partly by evil. Finally, there are some strong sexual elements in two scenes where the evil princess tries to use the Egyptian god of Death's dagger in an occult ritual. Those two scenes include partial explicit female nudity.

The Mummy fails to be media-wise entertainment. It's definitely too excessive. – www.movieguide.org

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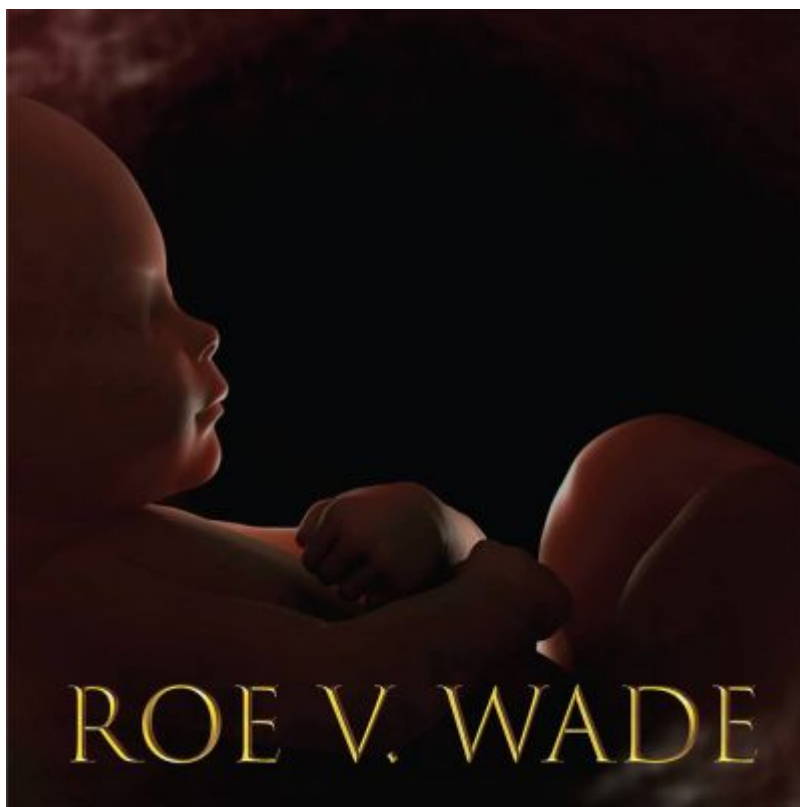
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Star-studded Roe vs Wade film will lift lid on US abortion law history



Originally published in

[Life Site](#)

Fox News contributor and *Clueless* actress Stacey Dash has joined the cast for *Roe v Wade the Movie*.

The cast includes *Born on the Fourth of July* and *The Usual Suspects* actor Stephen Baldwin, who is also an executive producer, and Academy Award winner Jon Voight (*Midnight Cowboy*, *Deliverance*, *Coming Home*, *Mission Impossible*, *The*

Rainmaker). Filmmaker Nick Loeb (*The Smokers*) is one of the executive producers as well.

The story reveals “the most corrupt court case in history,” the film’s website states. Scriptwriters aim to tell “the real untold story of how people lied; how the media lied; and how the courts were manipulated to pass a law that has since killed over 60 million Americans.”

A powerful film about Roe v Wade

Dr Alveda King, who works with Priests for Life, is [promoting](#) the project. “Roe v Wade is a powerful film regarding a time in America’s history that must be accurately portrayed,” she told LifeSiteNews.

“My Uncle, Rev Martin Luther King, Jr, once said, ‘Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.’ Abortion is a civil injustice, rending the very fabric of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. ... I am pleased to join Nick and the all-star cast in making this message available to those who need it most: the American people.”

Characters in the film include Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger, Norma McCorvey (“Jane Roe”), abortionist Dr Bernard Nathanson, feminist Betty Friedan, and pro-life physician Mildred Jefferson, who will be played by Dash.

Priests for Life president Father Frank Pavone had a “very good meeting” with Loeb about the project and took the time to share his enthusiasm with LifeSiteNews.

“*Roe v Wade the Movie* is very true to life, showing the real story behind the legalisation of abortion,” Pavone said. “I knew Norma McCorvey and Dr Bernard Nathanson and others involved personally. I saw first-hand what they experienced and suffered to ultimately tell the truth, so the film has a very personal meaning for me and all of us at Priests for Life.

“It’s important that the American public see the deceptive machinations and out-and-out lies that the Supreme Court’s Roe decision is based on,” he continued. “The riveting, real-life drama will be a revelation to those who’ve only heard pro-abortion rhetoric.

“But the movie also serves another vital purpose for the entire pro-life movement: We need to educate our own. We have to make sure our younger pro-life leaders know the history and the grounding of our movement. The next generation needs to see the shoulders they are standing on. So the film fills two major needs.”

Building a culture of life

Father Pavone added that Priests for Life is “building bridges” and spreading the word, including to the Vatican, about the impact the movie has in helping build a culture of life.

Dubbed “the most important pro-life movie in history,” *Roe v Wade the Movie* has the theme of redemption throughout, with both Nathanson and McCorvey realising their error and experiencing transformation in Christ.

The film is also a powerful apologetics tool for the sanctity of innocent human life. “Some who have been pro-choice have read my screenplay and have changed their minds on” abortion, Loeb said, “especially when they read the part about Dr Bernard Nathanson. Some who had always thought what was in the womb was just a glob of cells now understand that this is a human life.”

The project, which is being crowd-funded, hit a snag when [Facebook](#) blocked [access](#) to its funding site. “We need your support now more than ever. Facebook has banned us from inviting friends to ‘Like’ our page and from ‘Sharing’ our PAID ads,” the film’s creators pleaded.

Nevertheless, the project is moving forward. “One thousand

movie screens have already been committed,” Loeb said. “We have a distributor on board.”

“No one has ever made this movie, told this side of the story,” Loeb said. “We need the pro-life community to get together and address the country.”

MOVIEWISE – February 2 2018



Pieter Pohl, founder of Innovation Films and marketing manager of CMD Entertainment Africa, sheds some light on the latest movies.

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SUNDAY BLOCKBUSTER

(Sunday February 4 2018: MNET 101 20:05)

TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT

Movie trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AntcyqJ6brc>

13VL

Summary:

In *Transformers: The Last Knight*, the Autobots and the humans are at war because Optimus Prime is nowhere to be found. Though overlong, with some unnecessary scenes, *Transformers: The Last Knight* is still fairly entertaining, with a strong Christian, moral worldview, but it's marred by an excessive amount of gratuitous foul language and some references to magic.



Movieguide Review – “Saving Robots and Damsels in Distress”

Evidence of the end times are upon the world, and Optimus Prime is nowhere to be found, in *Transformers: The Last Knight*. *Transformers: The Last Knight* is an entertaining movie throughout with some strong Christian, moral elements, but it's marred a lot by frequent foul language, plus some magical story elements, so extreme caution is advised.

Optimus Prime is no longer on earth helping to guide the Transformers or Autobots. His absence has led to a war between mankind and the sentient Autobots. Meanwhile, Cade Yeager spends his time trying to save the Autobots from the government group named TRF that's trying to bring them down. Because of this, he's considered a felon and can't even talk with his beloved daughter. Cade has hired Jimmy to take care of the Autobots hiding at a junkyard.

One day as Cade is fighting against the TRF, he finds a young girl named Izabella, who's also trying to save the Autobots. Izabella believes the Autobots are like family and helped her

in a time of need. She's learned how to fix and repair them, but still Cade doesn't want her around. Of course, Izabella follows Cade to the junkyard, where she shows him her abilities of fixing the Autobots.

However, the Decepticons, an evil group of Autobots, find the good Autobots in the junkyard and a fight ensues. During the fight, Cade is saved by an Autobot he doesn't know. This Autobot, named Cogman, tells Cade he's is needed by Sir Edmund Burton to help save the world.

Cade goes with Cogman and meets Sir Edmund, who has also brought in a beautiful woman named Vivian Wembley who works at a museum explaining old Earth myths and legends. It turns out Vivian is directly related to the wizard Merlin, and Merlin held the power to a staff that a Transformer gave him during the Middle Ages. This staff creates Transformers but has the power to destroy mankind. The only human that can use the power of the staff is Merlin's descendant, Vivian. Also, Sir Edmund reveals that Cade is the only living Knight worthy to protect the Transformers and mankind. Sir Edmund has summoned Vivian and Cade to come and help, because he sees signs of the end times, including the possibility that an evil Transformer is trying to get the staff.

Cade and Vivian must now put themselves in harm's way to save mankind.

Transformers: The Last Knight is an entertaining popcorn movie. This Transformers definitely follows the Michael Bay pattern of movies, with lots of action, fighting and fun. The issues with the movie include a convoluted plot line that could have been condensed with better writing and editing. *The Last Knight* clearly didn't need 150 minutes to tell this story, which includes some unnecessary scenes and plot holes. That said, though the average critic probably won't like this movie, the average moviegoer probably will enjoy the ride, just like they have with the other Transformers movies,

despite their imperfections.

Better yet, *The Last Knight* has a strong Christian, moral worldview about sacrifice and family. The hero is always willing to make sacrifices for the Autobots and his family, even if it puts him in jeopardising, death-defying positions. The movie also contains two scenes set in churches with images of Jesus and the Virgin Mary. Moreover, a character even says at one point, "Let God sort it out."

Sadly, though, *Transformers: The Last Knight* has an awful lot of gratuitous foul language and some mentions of magic, plus a lot of intense action. So, MOVIEGUIDE advises extreme caution.

– www.movieguide.org

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