

## 3 steps forward, 2 steps back

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**Agree with God move forward, dismiss Gods truth, take a step back.**

**FAITH moves you forward...**

1. Vision of what's possible (Revelation) promise
2. Progress through change (transformation) to make new
3. Hope of what lies ahead, excited about better things

**SIN sets you back... (commission or omission)** to do wrong or not to do right.

1. Failure, misinformation, mistakes, humanity, discouragement
2. Fear, inferiority, loss, hurt, disappointment

Confess, repent, get free!

Lessons – perseverance, seeing the big picture, gaining wisdom, joy of waiting and patience

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Salvation starts you on the right path. Matt 7:14 Jesus, 2000 years ago. or

Led Zeplin 1971 - **stairway to heaven**,

Yes, there are two paths you can go by, but in the long run

There's still time to change the road you're on

Lennon **Imagine** 1971

imagine a world of peace, without materialism, without borders separating nations and without religion

You could be moving forward but headed in the wrong direction -

These attributes only keep you moving-

Prov 29:18 – where there is no **vision**, people perish / Habakuk 2:2 – write down the vision

Gen 12 - The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing

Num 27:12 - Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go up this mountain in the Abarim Range and see the land I have given the Israelites.

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1 Timothy 4:15 Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your **progress**.

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, ...as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed

2 thess 1:3 - your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater

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Jer 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you **hope** and a future."

1 Peter 1:3 -given to us a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away

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Don't focus on backward steps

Speak truth (it gives life)

Solution focused

Learn from everything

Remind yourself of the victories

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## **THE BIBLICAL NARRATIVE... Who gets to tell your story and what version of Gods story will you tell?**

**King David** was 1. a worshiper, 2. A warrior, 3. A servant protector

Also - - - 1. An adulterer, 2. A murderer - 3 steps forward, 2 steps back

1951 Gregory Peck and Susan Hayward, or 1997 Leonard Nimoy and Nathaniel Parker

In 1985 Richard Gere a Buddhist, played King David. the studio was attracted to the story because of its parallels to Star Wars with David as Luke Skywalker and Samuel as Obi-Wan Kenobi. It Grossed 6 million on a \$20 mill budget. Rotten Tomatoes gave the film a 'rotten' 8% rating. Richard Gere's performance in the film earned him a Golden Raspberry Award nomination for Worst Actor,

**Noah** – 1. Only righteous man left 2. Dedicated his life and family to rebuild the human race. 3. Stayed loyal to God in a corrupt culture

Also – 1. Got drunk and naked after the ark landed 2. Lived 350 years after the flood and the Bible doesn't credit anything else about his legacy

Jon Voight starred as Noah on the 1999 miniseries "Noah's Ark."

**Abraham** – 1. Obeyed God, 2. Trusted God with Isaac, 3. Fathered a great Nation

1. Slept with another woman, 2. Lied twice for self preservation

Played by George C Scott 1966, Martin Landau 2000, 1993 Richard Harris,

**Moses** - 1. Led Israelites out of slavery, 2. Brought the 10 com from the mtn, 3. Brought nation to promised land

1. Murdered a man, 2. Disobeyed God in his anger with the rod of God at Meribah

1977 George Burns played in "Oh God" where God appears as a kindly old man to Jerry Landers, an assistant supermarket manager. Grossed 51 mill

2003 Bruce Almighty, jim carey gross \$484 mill

2007 Evan Almighty with Steve correll grossed 175 million

**Who gets to narrate your life story? And JESUS' ?**

**Diogo Morgado Portuguese actor 2014 "son of God"**

**2017 the Chosen - Jonathan Roumie plays Jesusmartin landau**

Ewan McGregor starred as Jesus in 2015's "Last Days in the Desert."

Jim Caviezel starred as Jesus in Mel Gibson's 2004 film "The Passion of the Christ,"

Jeremy Sisto had the title role on CBS's 2000 made-for-TV movie "Jesus."

Willem Dafoe portrayed Jesus in the 1998 film "The Last Temptation of Christ," for which director Martin Scorsese earned an Oscar nomination.

"The Princess Bride" prince humperdink actor Chris Sarandon portrayed Jesus on CBS's 1980 made-for-TV movie "The Day Christ Died."

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Val Kilmer was the voice of both Moses and God in the 1998 animated film "The Prince of Egypt."

Christian Slater was the voice of Moses in the 2007 animated film "The Ten Commandments."

Moses played by Ben Kingsley 1995, Charlton Heston 1956,

Exodus: Gods and Kings movie review Christianity Today –

2014 \$200 million budget only making \$68 million profit due to lack of Christian support.

Ridley Scott's (an atheist) version of the Exodus story focuses on the tenuous relationship/rivalry between Moses (Christian Bale) and Ramses (Joel Edgerton).

Raised as brothers and princes of Egypt in the palace of Pharaoh senior (John Turturro), the two spend most of the movie opposing each other in a (quite literally) cutthroat manner.

The relationship reminded me a bit of the dynamic between Christian filmgoers and “secular” Hollywood films, like Exodus, which attempt to adapt the Bible. The Christian filmgoers are a bit like Ramses: hardhearted, skeptical and maybe a bit jealous, looking for every reason to punish the secular outsider who has the nerve to tell a story that isn’t theirs. I’m not saying Ridley Scott is Moses, mind you; just that Christian audiences can sometimes act like Ramses: stubborn, grumpy, vengeful, closed-minded and unwilling to listen to someone they’ve already decided is an enemy.

For Christian audiences, one approach to Exodus: Gods and Kings would be to distrust and dismiss it at the outset, looking only for what it gets wrong, embellishes, excludes, or underemphasizes. This approach would call foul on all sorts of things: Moses a general in Egypt, wielding a sword but not a staff; Moses being chatty but Aaron having almost no lines; Moses killing lots of people and fighting in the Egyptian army; no “staff-to-snake” scene; no repeated utterances of “let my people go”; no “baby Moses in the Nile” scene; and every other deviation the film takes from the narrative in Exodus 1-14. God was played by a 12 year old boy who negotiated with Moses as to who would do what? And why? No supernatural element was really a part of the plagues or deliverance.

Christian Bale was quoted as saying Moses was a schizophrenic terrorist.

He said Moses was one of the most barbaric individuals he ever read about.

Very troubled and tumultuous as though he had mercury poisoning!

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Noah played by Russel Crowe also in 2014 was a man suffering visions of an apocalyptic deluge who was given the task of saving all the innocent animals. He was MORE environmentalist than religious. The rock creatures were fallen angels who distrusted humans but helped Noah and his family. They were later returned to heaven after being hunted by Cains descendants. **at the end, Russel Crowe's**

**Noah goes into a state where he says that he warns of the dangers of religious fundamentalism and what such people are capable of doing.**

Russell Crowe explained his characterization of Noah as not necessarily having to be nice: "The funny thing with people being, they consider Noah to be a benevolent figure, you know? Because he looked after the animals. Are you kidding me? This is a dude who stood by and let the entire population of the planet perish." He tried to kill 2 twin baby girls while on the ark????? But then changed his mind.

Prior to this movie being released in any country, it was banned in Bahrain, Qatar, and United Arab Emirates, as the local government said it would contradict the teachings of Islam. This movie has also been banned in Egypt for similar reasons, as it violates Islamic law, and could "provoke the feelings of believers."

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The prodigal got up from the mud

Luke 15 - 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father.

A righteous man falls 7 times

Peter denied Christ, but then led 3,000 to Christ

Paul called out his obstacles and overcame (shipwrecked, beaten , snakebit...)

2 Cor 11: 23 been put in prison more often, been whipped times without number, and faced death again and again. 24 Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea. 26 I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and

from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not.[a] 27 I have worked hard and long, enduring many sleepless nights. I have been hungry and thirsty and have often gone without food. I have shivered in the cold, without enough clothing to keep me warm.

### **YOUR life summary so far...**

1. Is it just an intellectual observation of random events that you made the best of it all?
2. Is it a narrative of Gods grace, provision and plan that you got to participate in?
3. When you read the Bible, are you the center? OR Is God telling His story and calling us desperately to be a part of His Story?

**Our world, (Hollywood and educators) have less than a Biblical worldview. Find people who know the Bible, seek truth, & Honor God and let them influence you.**

**Will you be known for agreeing with God / moving forward?**

**Or dismissing Gods truth going backwards?**