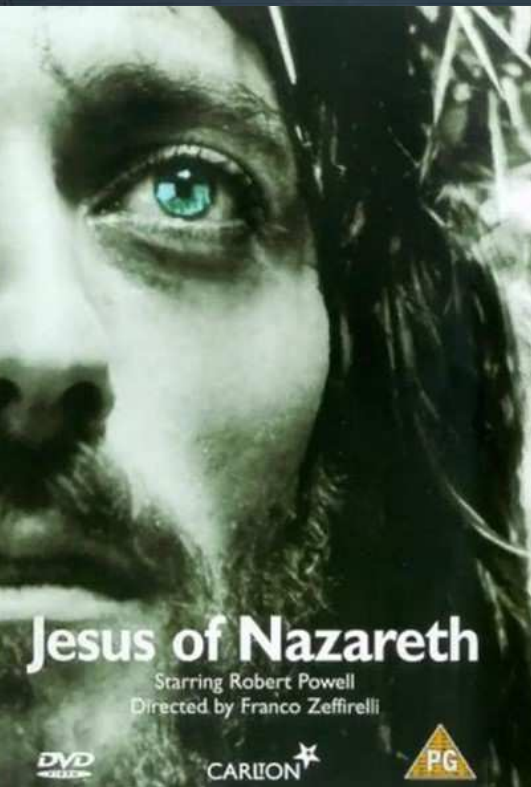


# Global Watch Weekly Report

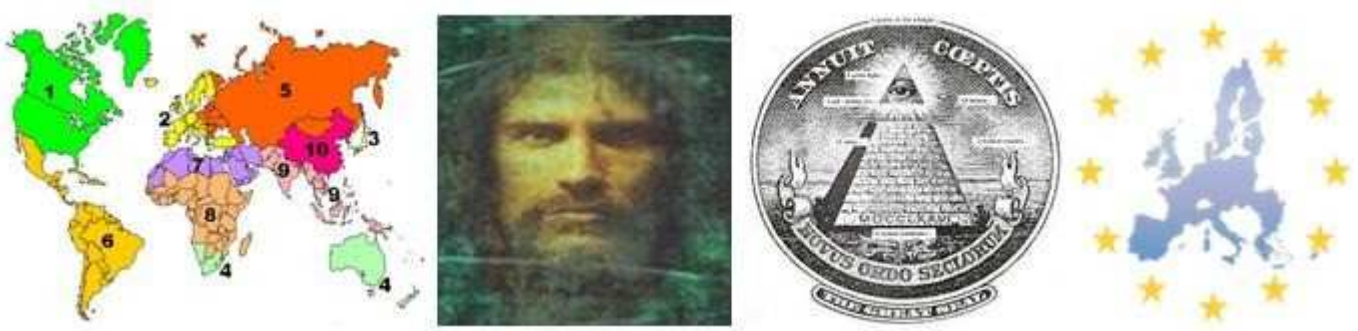
A Weekly Global Watch Media Publication ([www.globalreport2010.com](http://www.globalreport2010.com))

July 11th, 2014

## CHRISTIAN MOVIE RESURRECTION



# Global Watch Weekly Report



“The Number one weekly report which provides concrete evidence of a New World Order & One World Government agenda”

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# Global Watch Weekly Report

## Welcome to the Global Watch Weekly Report

In the 70's and 80's, movies with Christian themes were occasionally done by Hollywood studios, and the rest were produced by big organizations like the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Later, the Jesus Film Project jumped in, and eventually some independent producers. The mix has been diverse in terms of content, quality and controversy. From the Omen to the Last Temptation of Christ to Kings of Kings, to Moses and the 10 commandments to Tyler Perry's Christian themed movies.



Today, it appears every church in America is in the movie business. At the National Religious Broadcasters Convention – which focuses mostly on broadcast radio and TV – you can't miss the booths, brochures, and trailers for a rash of new but what seems to be for the most part, low budget Christian movies.

The truth is, although for decades the vast majority of Christian movies produced by Christian organizations have been amateurish there may be light at the end of the tunnel with the recent deluge of new Hollywood movies based on biblical themes and this is probably due to the scientific process of innovation.

There's a natural evolution when it comes to innovation. The first prototypes of a product, media project, or any creative endeavor are rarely perfect, and usually fatally flawed. But part of the development process is working through the bad stuff in order to get to what actually works. The airplane, the mobile phone, the personal computer – nearly all products we love and value went through a maddeningly convoluted process on it's way to what we experience today. Which brings us to the deluge of recent "Christian" movies – which for the most part are very high quality in production although some may still cause controversy due to how consistent they are with key biblical truths.

In this edition of the Global Watch Weekly we take a look at this phenomena of high profile Christian based movies being seized upon by Hollywood in this new trend.

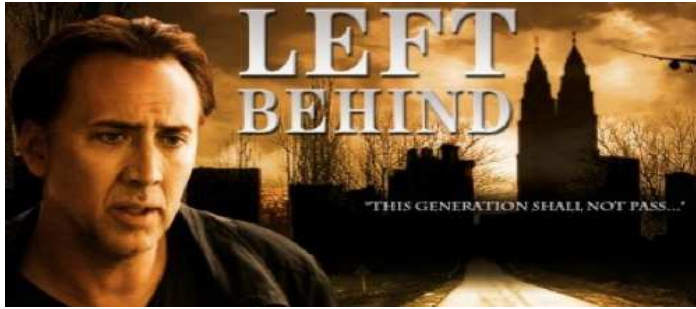
Enjoy.

Rema Marketing Team

# CHRISTIAN MOVIE RESURRECTION

## LEFT BEHIND THE MOVIE: 2014

*Left Behind* is a Movie based on the New York Times bestselling “Left Behind” book series, co-authored by Jerry B. Jenkins and Tim LaHaye published in 32 different languages, with more than 65 million copies sold and one of the best-selling fiction series of all time.



Due to be released in October 2014 by Stoney Lake Entertainment the movie stars Academy Award winner Nicolas Cage as well as Chad Michael Murray, Cassi Thomson, Nicky Whelan, Lea Thompson and Jordin Sparks. The movie is directed by veteran filmmaker, Vic Armstrong widely renowned for directing action sequences such as *War of the Worlds* and *Thor*.

LEFT BEHIND follows Rayford Steele (Nicolas Cage) who is piloting a commercial airliner just hours after the Rapture when millions of people around the globe simply vanish. Thirty thousand feet over the Atlantic, Rayford is faced with a damaged plane, terrified passengers, and a desperate desire to get back to his family. On the ground, his daughter, Chloe Steele (Cassi Thomson) is among those left behind, forced to navigate a world of madness as she searches for her lost mother and brother. Shot mostly in and around Baton Rouge, LA., *Left Behind* was produced by Paul Lalonde and Michael Walker and co-written by Paul Lalonde and John Patus.

“We’re seeing a number of big, biblical movies on the calendar this year, particularly *Son of God*, *Noah*, and *Exodus*. What makes LEFT BEHIND different is that it is a contemporary story that could actually happen at any moment,”

says Paul Lalonde, film producer and CEO of Stoney Lake Entertainment.

“It’s also a historical account in a sense, because it’s based on a true story, it just hasn’t happened yet. So it’s very important to us that the core story not be changed. We had offers from three of the major studios in Hollywood to

distribute this movie, but none would allow final control of the story to be left in our hands. My greatest hope for this movie is that people will be entertained and thrilled by it, but also that they’ll go home and have conversations with their family, and ask ‘do you think this could happen, or couldn’t happen?’ and it’ll inspire discussion and closeness,”

says leading actor Nicolas Cage.

“I believe it does justice to the novel and will renew interest in the entire series,”

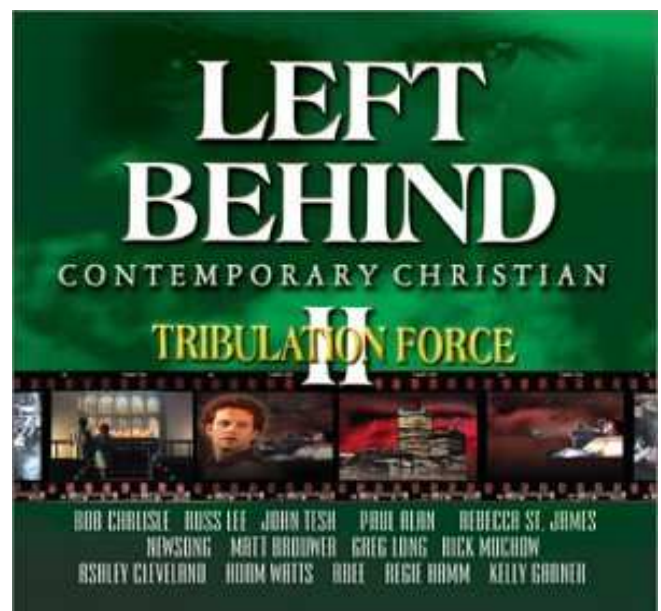
author Jerry Jenkins said.

“It is the best movie I have ever seen on the rapture,”

added Tim LaHaye.

## THE ORIGINAL INSPIRATION

The movie is inspired by the *Left Behind* a series of 16 best-selling novels by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins, dealing with Christian dispensationalist End Times: pretribulation, premillennial, Christian eschatological viewpoint of the end of the world. The primary conflict of the series is the members of the Tribulation Force against the Global Community and its leader Nicolae Carpathia—the Antichrist. *Left Behind* is also the title of the first book in the series. The series was first published 1995–2007 by Tyndale House, a firm with a history of interest in dispensationalism.



# CHRISTIAN MOVIE RESURRECTION

The series was adapted into three action thriller films. The original series of films are *Left Behind: The Movie* (2000), *Left Behind II: Tribulation Force* (2002), and *Left Behind: World at War* (2005). The series also inspired the PC game *Left Behind: Eternal Forces* (2006) and its several sequels.

## THE BIG RAPTURE DEBATE

The concept of a rapture is a divisive one and is a belief based on Jesus Christ coming back to take millions of Christians from the earth in an event which will happen faster than an eye blink. Naturally millions of people leaving all at once would have an overwhelming impact in tearing away the fabric of society through a global pandemic and the disasters that would result from such an event.

For instance imagine people who are driving cars suddenly disappearing and their vehicles spiralling out of control on the highway.

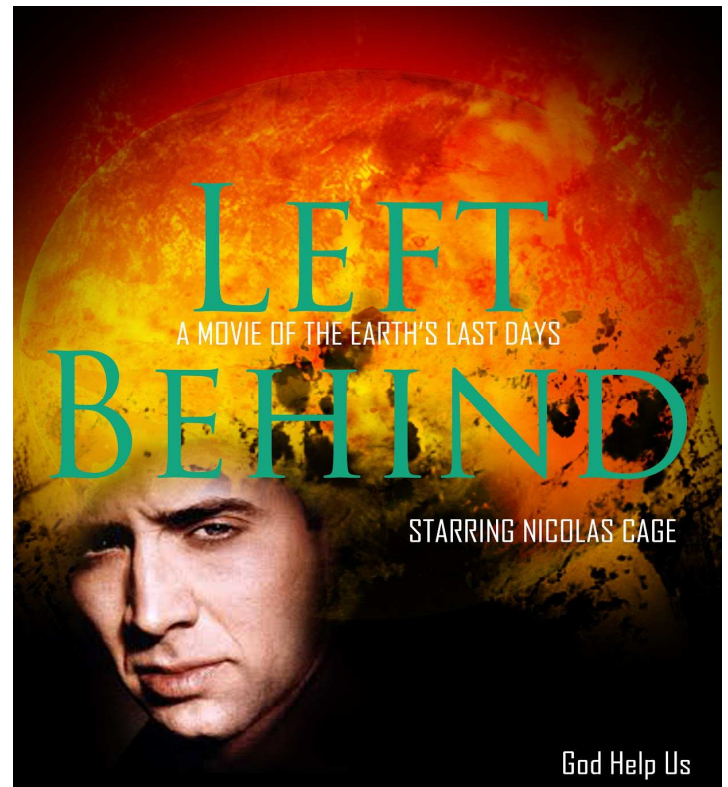
This will result in a period of time known as the Tribulation period in which the Antichrist will be revealed and the full force of the one world government will be in full force. The Christians will then return with Christ back to earth at the end of the Tribulation to fight the battle of Armageddon and reign with Christ in the establishment of his Millennial reign on the earth.

You would have thought this was a popular idea amongst Christians but the truth is that this is one of the most divisive subjects within Christianity. There are certain elements within mainstream Christianity which are significantly hostile to the idea of a rapture believing it is a man made dogma which seeks to give Christians an opt out from the persecutions and tribulations that would accompany the reign of the Antichrist.

Anti rapture supporters believe that the rapture as a concept was invented by John Darby in 1830 AD whereas rapture supporters believe that the Bible makes a distinction between the rapture (the coming of Christ for Christians) and the second coming (the coming of Christ to establish his physical kingdom on earth).

## NICHOLAS CAGE: A MAN SEARCHING

The involvement of Nicholas Cage in apocalyptic type movies seems to be something of a trend. Is he trying to send out a message to all of the unbelievers in the world, or is he just trying to make the mass majority contemplate the possibility that God does in fact exist? Or could Cage be choosing to participate in certain films primarily for entertainment value? One aspect is for sure, as it is made evident in the new *Left Behind* movie trailer, Nicholas Cage ponders religion once again in this 2000 rapture remake.



Director Vic Armstrong wanted to re-create the film with more action, special effects, and more details about the rapture and how it touched the lives of the believers. Responses to the remake have been both positive and negative with comments ranging from attacks on Cage's acting abilities and movie choices, to excitement and joy from Jesus followers who cannot wait to see the film.

Cage has starred in many movies that have a similar faith-driven theme, making many of his fans wonder what his true motives are for choosing these roles. For example, Cage co-starred in *City of Angels* with Meg Ryan and portrayed an angel who falls in love and asks

# CHRISTIAN MOVIE RESURRECTION

God to make him mortal so that he could understand what it feels like to love and be loved as a human.

In *Knowing*, Nicholas Cage portrays an M.I.T. professor who links a mysterious list of numbers from a time capsule to past and future disasters from around the globe. The numbers eventually point out the end of the world, and Cage sacrifices himself so that his son and his son's female friend can help God restart the human race after the old one is destroyed.



Cage also plays Johnny Blaze in Marvel Comic's *Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance*, and is called upon to stop the devil who is trying to take human form. The *Left Behind* trailer foreshadows similar apocalyptic calamities as in *Knowing*, and Nicholas Cage ponders religion once again in this pre-tribulation rapture remake.

There has even been speculation that Cage is a Roman Catholic, but he has not confirmed or denied his religious beliefs.

Nicholas Cage's faith was even questioned by his fans after the release of the *Left Behind* 2014 trailer during a question and answer session which involved the film's producer and writer Paul Lalonde on Facebook. One fan in particular mentioned that Cage should not have been cast in the movie because he "was not a believer." Lalonde replied by saying that there are many Christian actors who choose to maintain their personal faith private and that declaring who is a believer and who is not is between them and God.

Although *Left Behind* seems to be aimed at Christians or individuals who yearn to learn more about faith and the possibility that God exists, the movie also has promise as an enticing action movie for those who crave excitement as well as a deeper meaning. Although the *Left Behind* trailer does portray Nicholas Cage pondering religion once again in the rapture remake, it leaves believers, non-believers and movie critics wondering about the true message the film is trying to get across.

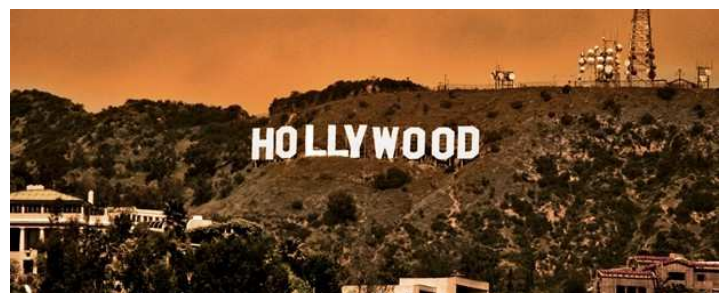
## 2014 THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

The Bible narrative has always been one great story. It reads like a mix of action thriller, period drama, romance novel, and the more apocalyptic parts, like pure fantasy. The gripping narrative sections of the text are part of the reason why the Bible is the bestselling book of all time.

But in 2014 we are discovering that the Good Book is as captivating on the modern day silver screen as it is in print.

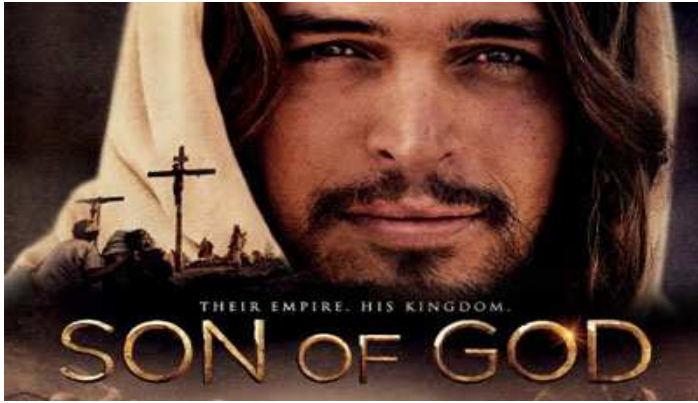


The scrappy Christian film industry has been budding for the last several years, proving that people of faith are hungry for content that speaks to the soul. But what many religious films possess in terms of spiritual content, they often lack in star power and budgets. This year, however, big studios such as Sony and Lionsgate are entering the fray by releasing films of, well,



# CHRISTIAN MOVIE RESURRECTION

*“Son of God” | 20th Century Fox (February 2014)*



Reality TV pioneer Mark Burnett and his wife, actress Roma Downey, shocked the world last year when their History Channel series “The Bible” set cable TV records. Now, the Christian power couple has taken footage from that series and partnered with 20th Century Fox to create “Son of God,” a film about Jesus’ life that will doubtlessly attract churchgoing Americans. As the first film on this list to release, it may be helpful box office barometer for the others.

*“Noah” | Regency Enterprises (November 2014)*



A flood of publicity has already been created around the “Noah” film and its impressive \$130 million budget. The cast includes Russell Crowe, as the sailor himself, as well as Anthony Hopkins, Jennifer Connelly, and Emma Watson. Darren Aronofsky of “Black Swan” fame directed the movie. If the trailer is any indication, it should be visually stunning while taking massive artistic liberties in creating details not found in the biblical narrative.

*“Exodus” | 20th Century Fox (December 2014)*

Twentieth Century Fox has kept a tight lid on Ridley Scott’s “Exodus.” All we know is that the film is an adaptation of the biblical story of the ancient Israelite people’s liberation from Egypt.

Christian Bale will star as Moses, and Sigourney Weaver will co-star. Critics won’t be able to help themselves from comparing the film to the 1956 movie “The Ten Commandments” starring Charlton Heston. The question will be whether this film can duplicate the classic’s box office success.

*“Mary, Mother of Christ” | Lionsgate Films (December 2014)*



The long awaited prequel to “The Passion of The Christ” is scheduled to arrive before Christmas after a long set of delays. The cast includes the late Peter O’Toole, Sir Ben Kinglsey, Julia Ormond, and 16-year-old Israeli newcomer Odeya Rush as the holy mother herself. The hefty cast combined with a serious budget from Lionsgate and the backing of several Christian notables (including mega-church pastor Joel Osteen who gets an executive producer credit) give this movie serious box office potential.

The uptick in biblical movies is a testament to the ongoing power of those ancient narratives to capture the hearts and minds of the masses. And it also reminds us that Hollywood is driven by money more than by agendas.

The Bible’s stories are an enduring draw, so Hollywood is doing what it has always done best—turning a buck by giving audiences what they want. In this way, the film industry is a mirror reflecting what society desires: sex, violence, and great stories with a touch of God in the mix.

However the hope is that the touch of God in the mix is the seed needed for more people to be exposed to the Christian message and story even though some of the movie such as Noah have attracted criticism for the way it has deviated from the traditional biblical message.