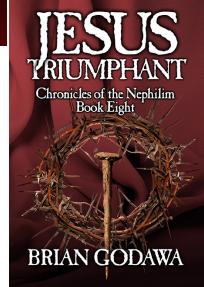
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# THEOLOGICAL ACTION ADVENTURE JESUS

LOS ANGELES, CA (EPP) - Brian Godawa, the award-winning screenwriter of *To End All Wars*, is writing a saga of Biblical fantasy novels called *Chronicles of the Nephilim*. All of the books so far have reached Top Ten category bestseller status on Amazon. The eighth book in the saga is now available in paperback and on Kindle: *Jesus Triumphant*.



#### A Theological Novel of Christ's Victory Over the Powers

The story of Christ like you've never heard it before. Told through the eyes of the two thieves on the cross and the spiritual warfare hidden from mortal men.

It starts with the temptation in the desert by Satan and ends with Christ's descent into Hades, his resurrection and his ascension. In between, we see Jesus' ministry in the context of the Biblical motif of Christ taking back the inheritance of the nations from the rebellious Sons of God. The demons that rose up in that day were not random but were the spirits of the dead Nephilim, and part of a comprehensive battle strategy between Christ and the Powers. When it comes to spiritual warfare, Jesus was no pacifist.

In this series, *Chronicles of the Nephilim*, author Godawa has depicted for the first time the comprehensive storyline in the Bible about the Watchers, the Nephilim giants and the Cosmic War of the Seed like no one has ever done before.

Now, everything comes to a climax in the arrival of *Jesus Triumphant*. This book explains why they misunderstood the deliverer to be a worldly warrior king instead of the suffering Servant he was. He was a warrior, but it was a war they could not see with mortal eyes. In *Jesus Triumphant*, we now see it.

#### **Talking Points for Jesus Triumphant:**

- Brings to a climax the long War of the Seed storyline through the entire Chronicles of the Nephilim.
- Shows the spiritual warfare hidden from mortal eyes that attended Christ's victory over the principalities and powers. The gods of the nations fight back and are bound into Tartarus.
- Tells the story of Christ's descent into Hades to free the captives and proclaim triumph to the bound angels from Noah's Day (1 Peter 3:18-20).
- A Biblical epic that uses the fantasy genre to express theological truth. Just like Lewis and Tolkien did.
- Maintains respect for the Biblical text, while filling in gaps with Biblical imagination.
- An appendix that provides the interesting Biblical and ancient Near Eastern research behind the imagination in the novel.

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**Online Press Materials for Jesus Triumphant:** 

http://www.godawa.com/chronicles\_of\_the\_nephilim/press\_kit\_index.html

AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT AMAZON.COM

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To schedule an interview with Brian Godawa, Or to receive a complimentary review copies of Jesus Triumphant, please contact:

Brian@EmbeddedPictures.com (310) 948-0224

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### **Novel Summary**

Demas and Gestas are Jewish brothers whose parents were killed in an uprising against Rome in Judea. Demas has lost his wife, and with her, all reason to live. He risks his life as a "bestiarius," a fighter of man-eating animals in the arena. Gestas is an actor in the theatre, playing heroes like Hercules and wooing ladies of the aristocratic elite. When Gestas is spurned by an offer of marriage to a Herodian princess, he too becomes bereft of hope in a world set against their ethnic and economic heritage.

When the brothers visit a secret meeting to listen to a Zealot revolutionary named Barabbas, they are attacked by Roman soldiers and are unwittingly pulled into the cause in order to save their own lives.

Their first task from their new leader Barabbas is to track down his missing companion, Simon the Zealot, who was investigating an itinerant rabbi, called "the Nazarene," causing trouble in Galilee. If this rabbi is an ally of the Zealots, they will unite their groups in common cause. If he is an enemy of the revolution, then they will kill him and Simon.

But can they accomplish their goal before a ruthless Centurian, Longinus, charged by Pontius Pilate, can hunt them down and capture them? And how can they kill Simon when he makes a lot of sense in his explanations of Messianic hope in the Nazarene?

What none of the humans know is that the Watcher gods of the nations have discovered that this Nazarene is the Messiah, the Promised Seed of Eve who will crush the Serpent and his Seed. Satan unleashes the spirits of the dead Nephilim, and leads his minions against this rabbi who would be king.

Everyone expects a military Davidic king to lead the revolt against Rome, but no one is prepared for the spiritual battle that the Messiah must achieve by going into the bowels of Hell to accomplish his victory over the spiritual powers that have enslaved man.

The War of the Seed is about to climax in this eighth of nine volumes of *Chronicles of the Nephilim*.

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### **Author Bio**

Brian Godawa has been a professional filmmaker, writer, and visual artist for many years. His creative versatility was born of a passion for both intellect *and* imagination, both left-brain *and* right-brain. The result: Brian is an artisan of word, image, and story that engages heart, mind, and soul. Just think, "Renaissance Man."

He is the screenwriter for the award-winning feature film, *To End All Wars*, starring Kiefer Sutherland, and *Alleged*, starring Brian Dennehy as Clarence Darrow along with Fred Thompson as William Jennings Bryan. Previously Brian adapted to film the best-selling supernatural thriller novel *The Visitation* by author Frank Peretti for Ralph Winter (*X-Men, Planet of the Apes*), and wrote and directed several documentaries, including *Wall of Separation* for PBS.

Brian's scripts have won multiple awards, and his articles on movies and philosophy have been published around the world. He has traveled around the United States teaching on movies, worldviews, and culture to colleges, churches, and community groups.

His popular book, *Hollywood Worldviews: Watching Films with Wisdom and Discernment* has been released in a revised edition from InterVarsity Press and is used as a textbook in schools around the country. His book *Word Pictures: Knowing God Through Story and Imagination* (IVP) addresses the power of image and story in the pages of the Bible to transform the Christian life.

His main website is www.godawa.com.

Check out the trailer and other goodies for *Enoch Primordial* and *Chronicles of the Nephilim* at: www.ChroniclesOfTheNephilim.com

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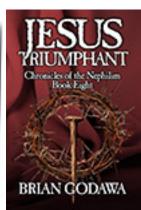
### **Author Photos**

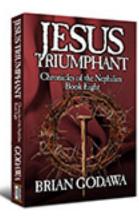
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### **Published Books, Articles, Awards**

### PUBLISHED BOOKS

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7: The Medieval World, Veritas Press, published chapter,
f Dramatic Arts."
ures, Intervarsity Press, published book.
Worldviews, Intervarsity Press, published book, revised edition.
s for a New Generation, Harvest House, Ed. Sean McDowell,
chapter "Storytelling and Persuasion."
Worldviews, Intervarsity Press, published book.
ian Imagination, Shaw, Ed. Leland Ryken, published chapter,
on in the Movies."

### **PUBLISHED ARTICLES**

2011 *BioLogos Foundation*, BioLogos.org. Contributing writer.

1995-2011 *CRI Journal*, Charlotte, NC, Contributing writer.

*Scr(i)pt* magazine, Los Angeles, IL, published articles.

Sacerdos magazine, Rome, Italy, published articles.

samizdat.com, French online magazine, published articles.

Reformation in Poland, Poland, published article.

SCP Journal, Berkeley, CA, published articles.

Cornerstone magazine, Chicago, IL, published articles.

Center for Cultural Leadership, LaGrange, CA, published articles.

razormouth.com, online magazine, published articles.

Rutherford Institute Magazine, Charlottesville, VA, published article.

#### PRODUCED FILMS

2014 School's Out: Academic Freedom vs. Political Correctness – (Documentary) Screenplay & Direction, in post-production.

Boulevard Pictures, Culver City, CA

2011 Alleged – (Feature) - Screenplay. Two Shoes Productions, MI

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2009 Lines That Divide: The Great Stem Cell Debate – (Documentary)
Screenplay & Direction.
Boulevard Pictures, Culver City, CA

2008 *Change Your Life* (Feature) - Screenplay. Transcendental Media, Long Beach, CA

Choices You Can Live With (Promo video) – Screenplay & Direction. Westside Pregnancy Clinic, Los Angeles, CA

2007 Wall of Separation – (Documentary PBS) – Screenplay & Direction. Boulevard Pictures, Culver City, CA

Cruel Logic (Narrative Short) – Screenplay and Direction.

2008 Emerging Cinematographer Award – International Cinematographers Guild

Secret Believers (Promo video with narrative) – Screenplay.

Open Doors, Secret Believers.org

*The Conspiracy Show* (Comedy Short) – Screenplay and Direction. Highway Video Productions

2006 Our First Liberty (TV special) – Screenplay. Alliance Defense Fund, Phoenix, AZ.

2005 *The Visitation* (Feature) – Screenplay. Namesake Entertainment, PeeWee Valley, KY.

2002 *To End All Wars* (Feature) – Screenplay. Argyll Film Partners, Culver City, CA.

#### FILM AWARDS

#### Alleged

2011 – Best Narrative Feature, Audience Choice Award, FreedomFest Film Festival.
Best Michigan Film Award, Flint Film Festival
Best Narrative Feature, Made-in Michigan Film Festival

### Wall of Separation

2007 – Nominated, Silver Gavel Award, American Bar Association.

### Cruel Logic (Short)

2008 – Emerging Cinematographer Award – International Cinematographers Guild 2005 – Official Selection: Dusk Till Dawn Fest, Golden Star Shorts Film Fest, Great Lakes Indie Film Fest, Shriekfest, Bluegrass Indie Film Fest.

#### To End All Wars

2003 - Showcase selection, Cinema for Peace, Cannes Film Festival

2002 – Grand Prize Best Picture Crystal Heart Award, *Heartland Film Festival*Commander in Chief Medal of Service, Honor & Pride, *Veterans of Foreign Wars*Picture of the Year, *Santa Barbara Film Festival*Played in 13 Film Festivals, being given either opening or closing position.

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### **An Interview with Brian Godawa**

### **Q: What is Jesus Triumphant About?**

**A:** Jesus Triumphant is the story of Christ as seen through the eyes of the two thieves on the cross before that fateful day of their death and after — in Hades. Rather than just another novel trying to retell the story from the Gospels, this one takes the reader through the political and revolutionary landscape of first century occupied Judea outside of Jesus and his small band of followers, and ultimately crosses paths with them in the process.

Most Jews were expecting Messiah to arrive and deliver them from the oppression of Rome. But everyone had different ideas of what that Davidic king would be like. One of the mysteries of history was why so many misunderstood him as conquering king instead of suffering servant. The Bible says that even the diabolical principalities and powers of heaven missed it.

This book now explains why by showing the spiritual warfare that Christ was in fact engaging in to accomplish redemption. He was a conquering king! They just didn't see into the heavenlies. The reader is now treated to a depiction of that spiritual war as Jesus travels with his archangels shadowing him, to Gentile cities like Tyre and Caesarea Philippi, homes of the pagan gods, as well as the infamous cosmic mountain headquarters of evil, Mount Hermon and the Gates of Hades. Jesus wasn't traveling around for "Be Nice to Gentiles Month," he was assaulting strongholds of spiritual evil.

The novel also depicts Christ's journey into the underworld of Hades, referenced obliquely by the Apostle Peter (1 Peter 3:18-20). Following the geography of Hades drawn from the ancient book of 1 Enoch, Jesus frees captives and proclaims triumph to the bound angels from Noah's day. But that is not all. Through his triumphal procession, he achieves redemption for his people and inherits the nations from the gods that he judges.

The theology of Christus Victor comes alive in this tale of spiritual war and the Messiah Seed of Eve at war with the Seed of the Serpent.

### Q: What is unique about Jesus Triumphant?

**A:** What makes *Jesus Triumphant* so unique is that it shows the spiritual warfare that was going on in the ministry of Christ. It makes the theology of Christ's victory over the spiritual principalities and powers come to life with fresh spiritual vision. It explains the meaning of all the demonic activity that occurred at that time in its bigger historical and cosmic context.

The novel has an unprecedented detailed depiction of Caesarea Philippi and the "Gates of Hades" as a spiritual stronghold of evil at the foot of Mount Hermon. Unlike any novel about Christ, this story reveals the spiritual and theological background to why that location was so critical to Christ's mission. It was a turning point of his victory over the powers.

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Lastly, *Jesus Triumphant* it also is unique in telling the story of Christ's descent into Hades and what he accomplished through that journey. This is not borrowed from Greek myths or even Dante or Milton. Rather, this novel draws from the Bible and the ancient Jewish source, 1 Enoch, to capture the geography and environment of Hades, a uniquely Jewish vision.

### Q: Do these novels tamper with Scripture?

**A:** In *Jesus Triumphant*, I have done what I have done in the previous Chronicles; I have taken some supernatural elements such as the Watchers as territorial powers over nations as speculative references to demonic reality behind pagan gods such as Molech, Asherah and Ba'alzebub. I am writing theological novels that show the true spiritual reality behind the outer world.

But also, most main characters in my stories are based on Biblical references. The Bible reveals only the slenderest of information about characters like the thieves on the cross, Barabbas, the Centurion at the cross, and Mary Magdalene. My novel fills in their details in a way that stays consistent with what we do know, while expanding our understanding of the ancient context in which the story took place.

Everything I write in the novels is based on research, including the actual evil that Canaanites were engaged in. The stories are told between the lines of the sacred text, but never against it. Everything fits with the Biblical stories and facts that we do know and doesn't contradict them. My goal is to make the Biblical stories come alive in a fresh new way that reveals spiritual truths that Christians may have missed, just as I had missed before I discovered this storyline in the Bible. If anything they will make people want to learn more about the Biblical stories because they are so fascinating.

### Q: What is next for the Chronicles of the Nephilim?

**A:** Jesus Triumphant is not the last in the series. The last novel will be Jerusalem Judgment. Jesus foretold the destruction of the holy city and its Temple in many of his parables. But it didn't happen in his lifetime, which made some think he was wrong. But that's only because he had said he would come back within 40 years to bring destruction upon those who rejected him. Jerusalem Judgment draws extensively from ancient historian Josephus to tell that exciting tale of action war and romance.

Check out the trailers and other goodies for *Joshua Valiant & Caleb Vigilant* and *Chronicles of the Nephilim* at:

www.ChroniclesOfTheNephilim.com