

RESPONSE TO KEN HAM'S FACEBOOK POST OF NOAH

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Ken Ham (Answers in Genesis) posted a response on facebook after watching *Noah*. His reaction may have caused some Christians to second-guess whether or not they should view the movie.

I will offer a review of his facebook post by responding directly to his original content, as if I were able to have a dialogue. The way I'll do this is to post his original content and then offer my response, or ask my question, **in bold** (for clarity sake). I hope this is helpful for those who may be struggling whether or not to watch *Noah*.

This is not a response to his team's official (misleading and inaccurate) review.

This is a response to Ken Ham's facebook post that was sent to me earlier today.

SPOILER ALERT! If you've already read Ham's facebook post, then you're aware of the spoilers. If you haven't read it, then don't read any further than this point.

KEN HAM'S FACEBOOK POST <http://tnchristiannews.wordpress.com/2014/03/27/ken-ham-calls-noah-movie-paganistic-and-evil/>

Friends, I just arrived home after seeing the Hollywood (Paramount) movie NOAH tonight. It is MUCH much worse than I thought it would be. Much worse.

Why go into a movie *expecting* it to be bad?

The Director of the movie, Darren Aronofsky has been quoted in the media as saying NOAH is 'the least biblical biblical film ever made', I agree wholeheartedly with him.

Okay. What was unbiblical about this film?

I am disgusted. I am going to come right out and say it—it is disgusting and evil—paganism!

Disgusted? Paganism? What was pagan about the film?

Do you really want your family to see a pagan movie the has Noah as some psychopath who says if his daughter-in-law's baby is a girl, he will kill it as soon as it's born.

If by "family" you mean young children, I would never consider the story of Noah to be "family-friendly".

And then when two girls are born, bloodstained Noah (the man the Bible calls righteous Noah—Genesis 7:1), brings a knife down to one of the baby's heads to kill it and at the last minute doesn't do it—and then a bit later says he failed because he didn't kill the babies. How can we recommend this movie and then speak against abortion!

Ken, you're making this a little too simple. For one thing, how do you process the command God gave Joshua when they took the city of Jericho? Joshua 6.21 *They [God's people] completely destroyed everything in the city with the sword - every man and woman, both young and old, and every ox, sheep, and donkey.* I'm sure some newborn babies were part of that destruction. The point was that Joshua was instructed to set apart everything (Joshua 6.17). So would you call Joshua a psychopath? Joshua not only threatened, he did "rid the world of people" from Jericho.

The point of this scene with Noah was that he thought God wanted to destroy all humanity. So why not these new granddaughters? The Scripture never speaks of this event occurring, but I can see how the director/writer thought this pattern of thinking would be consistent with other Old Testament narratives and hearing from God (if that's what they were trying to do).

Psychopathic Noah sees humans as a blight on the planet and wants to rid the world of people.

I feel dirty—as if I have to somehow wash the evil off me.

Well, Ken, the truth is, you do have evil that needs to be washed off. The Scripture teaches humanity *is* dirty. *There is no one righteous, no not one.* The evil needs to be washed off and Christians who have been made alive by Christ know this - that's why we sing songs like "O the blood of Jesus it washes white as snow." His blood and Spirit wash the evil off those who believe. The Biblical truth is you - a descendant of Adam - were at one time regarded by God "a blight on the planet" - we find our answer in Genesis 6.6-7 *the LORD regretted that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. Then the LORD said, "I will wipe off the face of the earth: man, whom I created..."* - However, God kept His covenant promise, ultimately through His Messiah: Romans 5.19 *For just as through one man's disobedience [Adam] the many were made sinners, so also through the one man's obedience [Christ Jesus] the many will be made righteous.* Noah reminds us of the God who is faithful to keep His covenant for His glory and our good.

As for Noah being a "psychopath" intent on killing his granddaughters: perhaps you didn't allow yourself to follow the story closely because you

went into the movie expecting it to be bad. That attitude may have caused you to “miss the forest for the trees”, as they say.

Neither one of us knows exactly all that transpired on the ark. Who can speak to the interpersonal relationship dynamics between family members? Was there tension? Did they fight? The Scripture is silent on those details. What Scripture does tell us is that the relationship between Noah and Ham led to Ham sexually assaulting Noah. A son doesn't wake up one day and decide to do that to his father. Also, related to Noah's being drunk, a person doesn't one day decide to pick grapes, make juice and then pass out drunk. Something happened to Noah that caused him to abuse what the Creator provided and he began a dark journey toward becoming what one could arguably call an alcoholic.

The movie casts Ham as single, which is not biblical. Ham had a wife and she boarded the ark with him. I think the director cast Ham as single so that a subplot would develop between Ham and Noah that would eventually result in a fallout. I didn't think this was a big deal because frankly, I don't gather with moviegoers to learn doctrine and Bible stories; I gather with a local Christ-centered congregation.

I cannot believe there are Christian leaders who have recommended people see this movie.

I'm struggling to understand why you dislike this film. There is no pretense that this is what viewers should believe about the flood account. Shame on people if the extent of their intellectual curiosity (and beliefs!) rise and fall based on what's seen on a big screen at the mall on Friday nights.

It's as if someone heard the name Noah, that there was a Flood and an Ark and then made a pagan movie up about it. I don't think there is anything else that really has to do with the Bible's account except some names of people! Methuselah is some sort of witchdoctor who can do magical things.

Do you know that Methuselah could not have done those things? I wonder what Enoch was able to do? God preserved Enoch from natural death!

There is so much more I could say about it—so much more. And what's with the bizarre fallen angels being living rocks helping Noah??

I'm not purporting that the living rocks are the fallen angels, but let me ask you what plausible animation you would provide for Genesis 6.4? *The Nephilim were on the earth both in those days and afterwards, when the sons of God came to the daughters of man, who bore children to them. They were the powerful men of old, the famous men.* This has been a verse I've wrestled with for nearly 20 years. Please describe to me the imagery that comes to your mind when you think about Nephilim, the powerful and

famous men of old. Also, can you prove God did not send Noah supernatural help to build the ark and prepare for what humanity had never seen or experienced?

I suggest you join us tomorrow night for our live stream at 8 pm EST. A number of AiG researches watched the movie tonight and four of us will be on the live stream to explain what we saw and heard.

I am SO GLAD my wife did not come with me to see this—she would have been terribly upset.

What would have upset your wife, or any other Christian for that matter? The concept of original sin? God exercising His justice? Seeing Noah portrayed as a typical follower of Yahweh whose faith walk has ups and downs? What is so upsetting?

I feel violated as a Christian.

What in your belief system was violated? I personally was reminded of Ephesians 2 *You were once dead in your sins, but now have been made alive by Christ.* God was violated by rebels, yet *while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* That the love of God was poured out upon His image bearers through the death and resurrection of Jesus Messiah is humbling and weighty.

I violated Him, He vindicated me.

Regardless of what others say—I just had to come right out and say this.

Oh—it is also a boring movie—yes boring! Worst movie I think I’ve ever seen.

That’s my personal take—join us tomorrow night for our discussion of NOAH.

The movie begins with (and has the same statement later on):

‘In the beginning there was nothing’

Again, missing the forest for the trees. Noah was telling the story as passed down generation to generation. There is never an assertion that “there was nothing” refers to the existence of the Creator. The movie affirms the eternity of the Creator. If I were to guess, the screenplay line “In the beginning there was nothing” is the writer’s attempt to literally interpret the second verse in Genesis: 1.2 *Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.* So...how would one best convey the concept of “formless” “empty” and “darkness”? Probably by saying “in the beginning there was nothing”. This concept, as you point out, is mentioned more than once.

The Bible states 'In the beginning God.'

That really sums up the difference!

The difference between what?

Here's a quote from the Director, from a pretty good interview:

My job is first and foremost as an entertainer. I entertain people, and I try to make films that are exciting, and fun, and emotional, and moving, and filled with action, and that's all I care about.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/a-conversation-with-noah-director-darren-aronofsky/2014/03/28/8c469388-b46d-11e3-b899-20667de76985_story.html

Ken, there is one thing you and I can agree the movie got wrong. I stayed through the entire credit roll. At the end of the credits, in big letters was this statement:

“ALL EVENTS AND PERSONS PORTRAYED IN THIS FILM ARE FICTITIOUS.”

You and I both agree that's a false statement. We both agree the flood event and the person and work of Noah is true. Why do we think it's true? Well, we found our answers in Genesis.

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