

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE STORY?

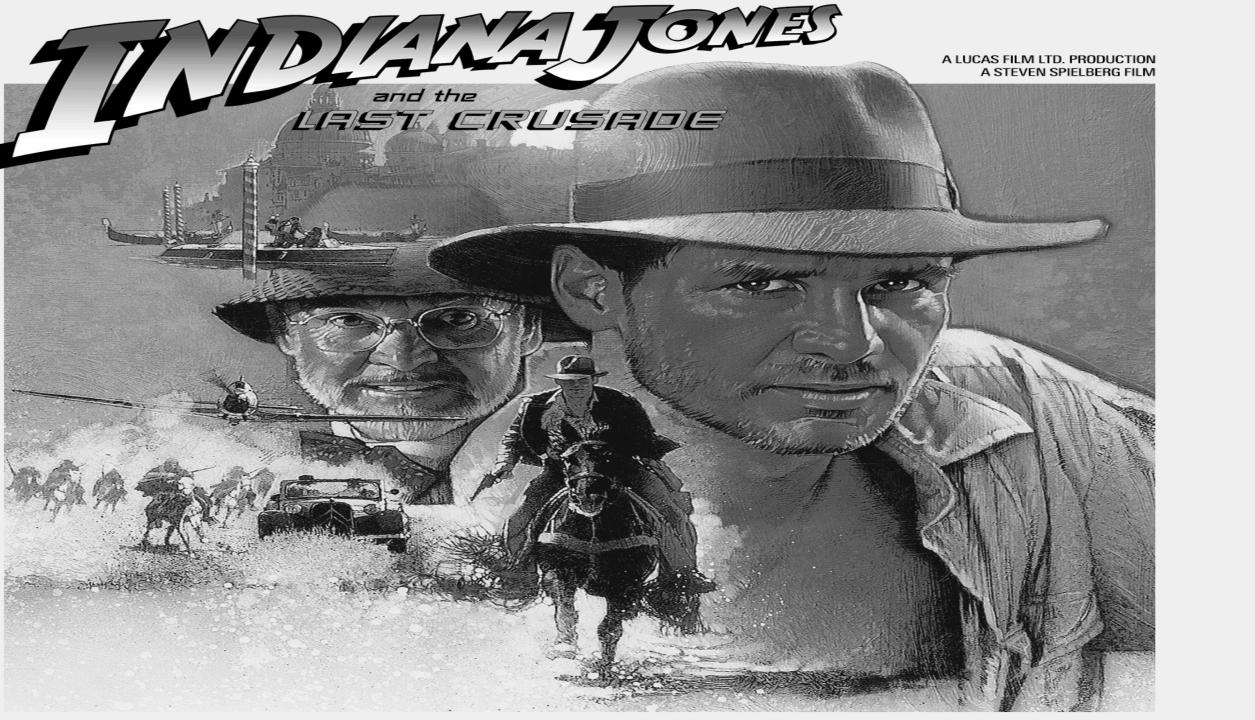


\_\_\_\_STAR WARS\_\_\_\_

## ANEWHOPE

TEPISODE IV

# ORD OF RINGS



# YOU MAY BE SURPRISED TO DISCOVER THAT MOST OF OUR FAVORITE STORIES FOLLOW A 'THREE ACT STRUCTURE'.

## WHAT IS THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD?

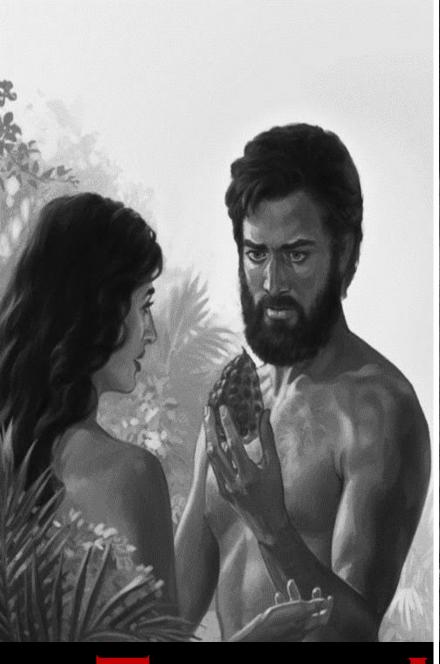
the GOSIDE

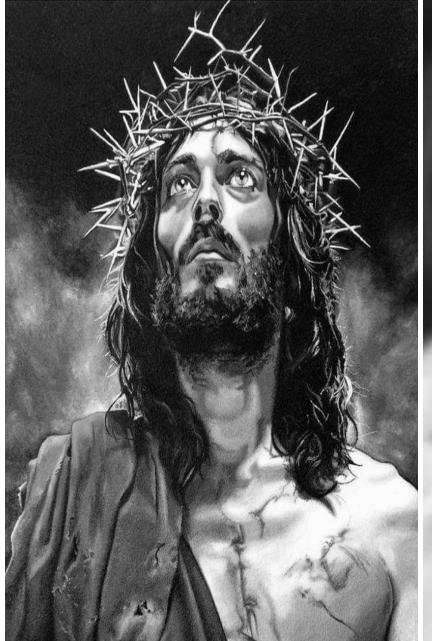
# YOU MAY BE SURPRISED TO DISCOVER THAT THE GOSPEL FOLLOWS A THREE ACT STRUCTURE.

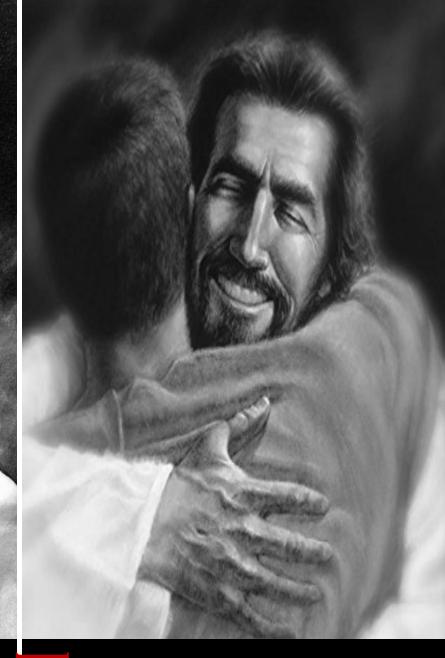


## THE GOSPEL WILL BEST BE TOLD IF IT IS TOLD IN IT'S THREE ACT STRUCTURE.

# THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO GO ABOUT DOING THIS... WE WILL LOOK AT ONE SUCH WAY OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKS.

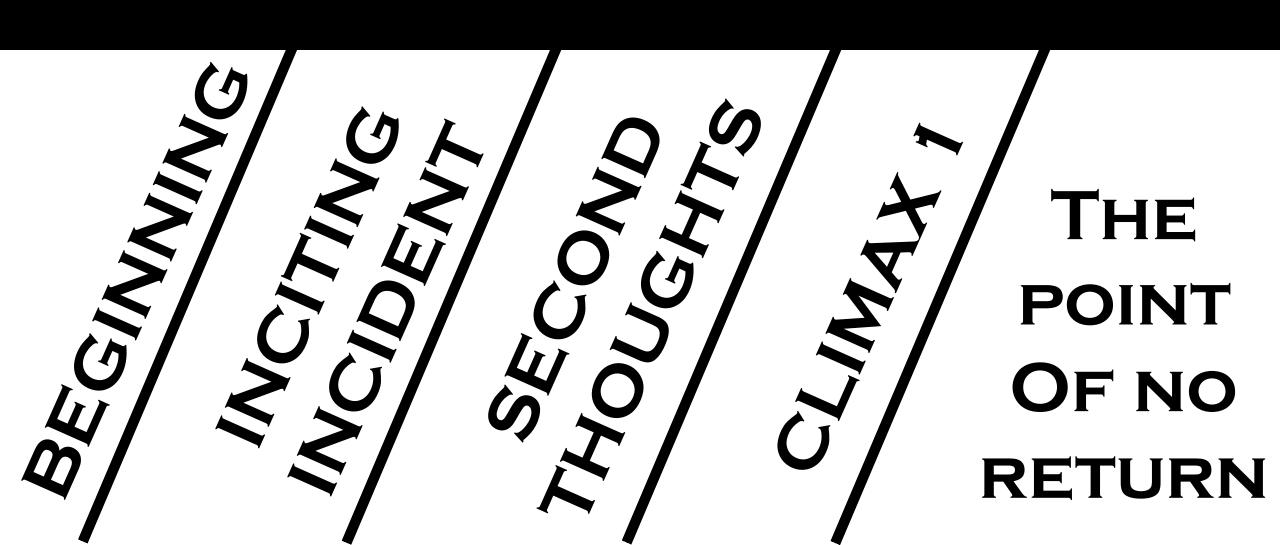




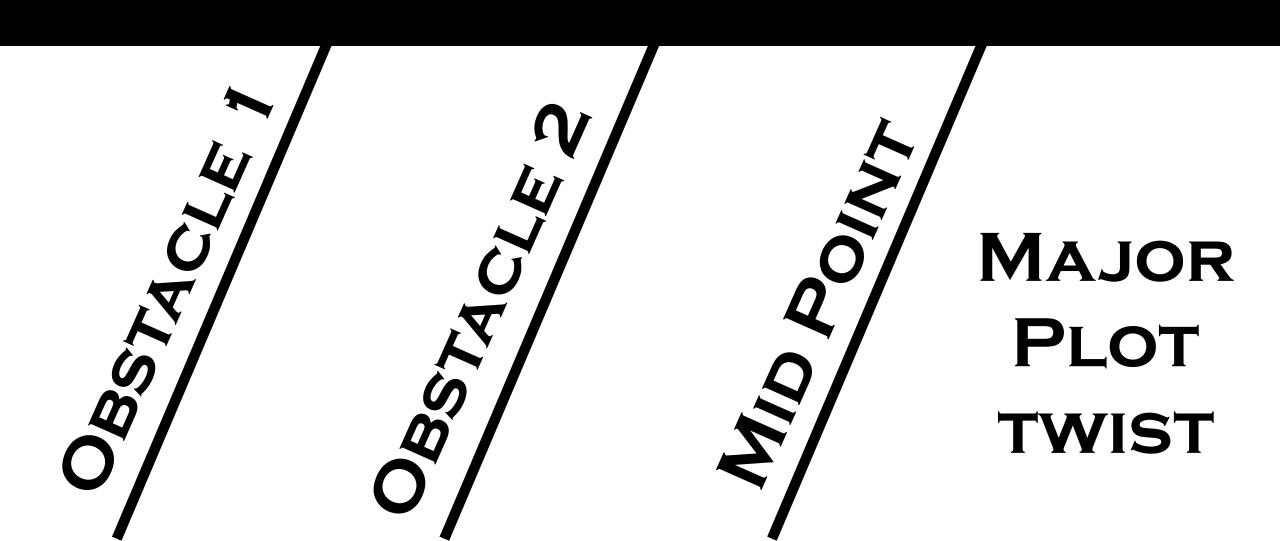


THREE ACT STORY TELLING

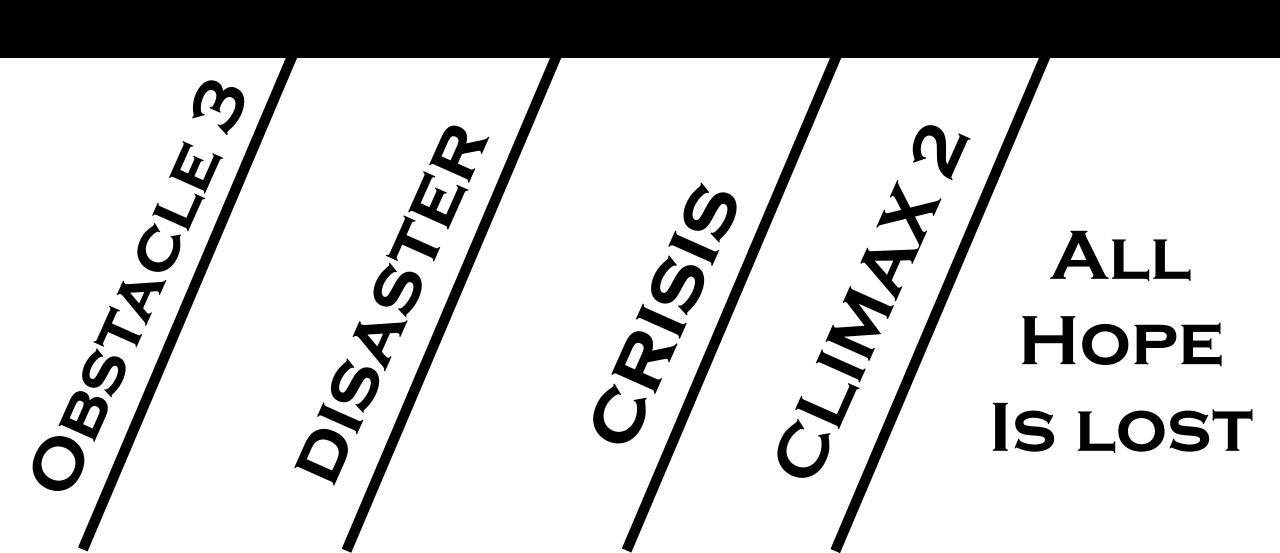
### ACT 1-SET UP



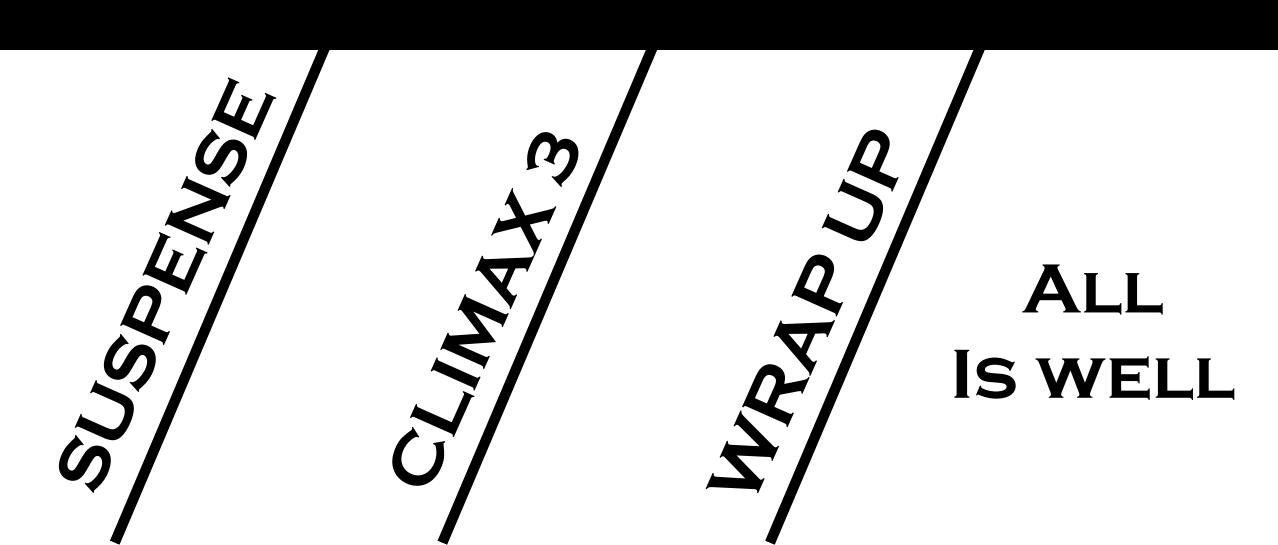
### ACT 2 - CONFLICT



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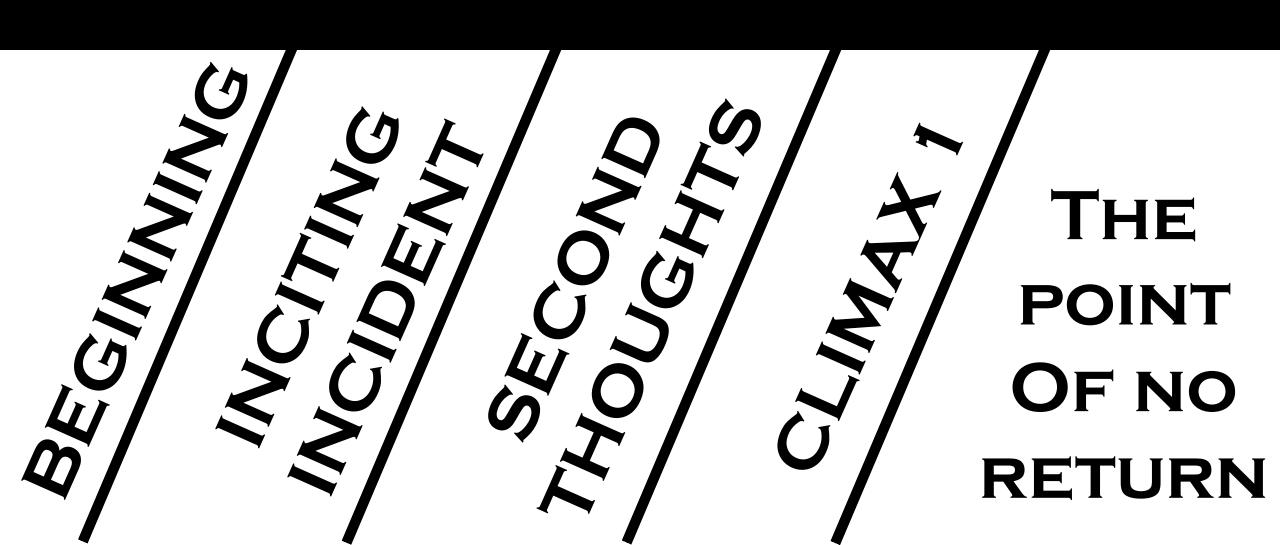


### ACT3-RESOLUTION



# OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKS WE WILL BE LOOKING AT EACH OF THESE THREE STAGES, AS IT PERTAINS TO THE GOSPEL.

### ACT 1-SET UP



## ACT 1-SET UP



## IN THE SET UP WE ARE INTRODUCED TO OUR MAIN CHARACTERS.

# WE LEARN ABOUT THE PROTAGONIST (MAIN CHARACTER) AND THE ANTAGONIST (THE VILLAIN, ENEMY OR ARCHRIVAL).

WE LEARN ABOUT A NEW SITUATION WHICH THE PROTAGONIST HAS BEEN PLACED IN, AND IN THE FORM OF RISING ACTION WE ARE THRUST INTO A TREACHEROUS DILEMMA ALONG WITH THEM.

# THE PROTAGONIST OF OUR STORY IS NOT GOD, NOR IS IT TRULY ADAM AND EVE.

# THE PROTAGONIST IN THE GOSPEL STORY, AND THE BIBLE, IS MANKIND (EVERY HUMAN).

# THIS PROTAGONIST IS MANIFESTED AS ADAM, EVE, CAIN, ABEL, NOAH, ABRAHAM, DAVID, THE DISCIPLES AND EVENTUALLY THE EARLY CHURCH.

### MANKIND (EVERY HUMAN BORN) IS THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE GOSPEL STORY AND THIS PROTAGONIST IS THE FOCUS OF THE STORY.

#### OUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS MUST RELATE TO THE PROTAGONIST AS IF THEY WERE THEM, BECAUSE THEY ARE.

MORE ON THIS AT THE END...

### BEGINNING



# THE BEGINNING OF OUR STORY OCCURS WHEN GOD MADE THE WORLD AND EVERYTHING IN IT, INCLUDING ADAM AND EVE.

#### THE IMPORTANT POINT IS THE SETTING.

EVERYTHING WAS PERFECT,
EVERYTHING WAS RIGHT, EVERYTHING
WAS BEST FOR MAN AND WORKING
JUST AS IT SHOULD.

# THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG, NO SIN, NO STRIFE, NO ILLNESS, NO DEATH AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, MAN AND GOD WERE FRIENDS.

# AS IN ANY GOOD THREE ACT STORY... AN INCITING INCIDENT IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER TO PUT THE SET UP TO THE TEST!

## INCITING INCIDENT



## Just when you thought life was going perfectly, without a care in the world...

OUR PROTAGONIST COMES ACROSS
SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING
DIFFERENT WHICH PRESENTS A TYPE
OF <u>CHALLENGE</u> OR <u>CHANGE</u> IN COURSE
IN THE FORM OF AN INCITING INCIDENT.

### THE INCITING INCIDENT OF OUR STORY OCCURS WHEN GOD <u>INSTRUCTED</u> ADAM WHERE HE WAS TO EAT AND NOT EAT.

# GOD <u>INSERTS</u> HIMSELF AS THE AUTHORITY FIGURE IN THE STORY, THE RULING BEING IN THE UNIVERSE AND PRESENTS ADAM WITH THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE.

# LIKE MOST INCITING INCIDENTS, THIS PRESENTS OUR PROTAGONIST WITH THE OPTION TO CONTINUE WITH LIFE AS NORMAL OR TO <u>INVESTIGATE</u> THIS INCIDENT FURTHER.

#### SECOND THOUGHTS



THE NEXT EVENT IN ANY GOOD STORY IS WHEN THE MAIN CHARACTER HAS SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THEIR LIFE/ DIRECTION DUE TO THE INCITING INCIDENT WHICH JUST OCCURRED.

THE INCITING INCIDENT TYPICALLY FORCES THE MAIN CHARACTER TO QUESTION THEIR WORLDVIEW, THEIR UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS AND THEIR DIRECTION IN LIFE UP TO THIS POINT.

# THE SECOND THOUGHTS OF OUR STORY OCCURS WHEN EVE MEETS THE ANTAGONIST, THE VILLAIN, THE ARCHENEMY...SATAN.

IT IS DURING HER CONVERSATION WITH SATAN IN WHICH SHE SECOND GUESSES GOD'S GOODNESS & DOUBTS HIS LOVE FOR HER...AND THE THOUGHT OF **DISOBEDIENCE** FIRST ENTERS HER MIND.

A STRONG INCITING INCIDENT, COMBINED WITH CONVINCING SECOND THOUGHTS TYPICALLY LEADS ANY STORY TO A VERY POWERFUL CLIMAX FOR ACT 1.

#### CLIMAX ACT 1



#### THE ACT 1 CLIMAX FOR OUR STORY OCCURS WHEN ADAM & EVE INDEED DISOBEY GOD... THEY SIDE WITH HIS ENEMY AND EAT FROM THE FORBIDDEN TREE.

### ADAM & EVE HAVE NOW BECOME THE <u>ENEMIES</u> OF GOD; THE RULER OF THE UNIVERSE.

### THIS CLIMAX HAS <u>DEVASTATING</u> CONSEQUENCES. ADAM & EVE ARE NOW SINFUL BEINGS...

## THIS MEANS THAT THEY ARE NO LONGER FRIENDS WITH GOD, THEY ARE <u>IMMEDIATELY</u> REMOVED FROM THIS INCREDIBLE SETTING...

THEY WILL FACE A TERRIBLY DIFFICULT LIFE RIDDLED WITH HARDSHIP AND DISEASE... WHICH WILL END IN THEIR INEVITABLE DEATH AND THEIR EVENTUAL PUNISHMENT FOREVER IN THE LAKE OF FIRE.

#### THE POINT OF NO RETURN



IN ANY GOOD THREE ACT STORY,
THE CLIMAX OF ACT 1 SHOULD RESULT
IN SUCH A MAJOR EVENT THAT OUR
PROTAGONIST HAS CROSSED OVER AND
HAS REACH THE POINT OF NO RETURN.

A GENUINE POINT OF NO RETURN MEANS THAT THE FATE OF THE PROTAGONIST IS TRULY IN THE BALANCE, AND THE ODDS ARE GREATLY AGAINST THEM OF EVER RETURNING TO LIFE AS NORMAL (IN THE SET UP).

#### Next week, in act 2 we will learn of the two major obstacles in the way of humanity, which prevent them from returning to life as normal.

### THE FIRST IS AN INABILITY TO OBEY CLOSELY ENOUGH TO BE CONSIDERED RIGHT WITH GOD AGAIN...

### THE SECOND IS THE INSUFFICIENCY OF ANIMAL SACRIFICES TO MAKE ETERNAL AMENDS FOR THEIR SIN.

# WE WILL ALSO LEARN ABOUT THE MAJOR PLOT TWIST, WHEN GOD BECOMES A MAN AND WE ARE INTRODUCED TO OUR HERO.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS



## REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE BEEN COVERING ALL OF THIS TO SIMPLIFY THE STORY THAT YOU SHOULD BE TELLING YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS.

AND EVERY GOOD MOVIE DIRECTOR & STORYBOOK WRITER KNOWS THAT THE HEARER/AUDIENCE MUST RELATE TO THE PROTAGONIST...SO MUCH SO THAT THEY MUST IMAGINE THEMSELVES AS THE PROTAGONIST.

MOST DIRECTORS FILM A MOVIE 'FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PROTAGONIST' AS THIS IS THE VIEWPOINT THAT THEY WANT THE AUDIENCE TO SEE THE FILM FROM.

OUR FRIENDS MUST <u>SEE</u> THEMSELVES AS ADAM & EVE...AS CHARACTERS LIVING IN THE TRUE STORY OF THIS WORLD...WHERE GOD IS STILL THE RULER OF THE UNIVERSE.

#### **OUR FRIENDS MUST SEE THEMSELVES** AS HAVING INCITING INCIDENTS AND SECOND THOUGHTS IN THEIR LIFE WHICH LED THEM TO THE CLIMAX OF ALSO SINNING AGAINST GOD.

OUR FRIENDS MUST SEE THEMSELVES AS HAVING CROSSED THE POINT OF NO RETURN...CUT OFF FROM FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD AND LIVING IN A WORLD RIDDLED WITH DISEASE AND EVENTUAL DEATH...WITH NO HOPE.

#### MAY GOD HELP US TELL THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD...AS BEST POSSIBLE!