



Heartland Christian Center  
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## Denzel Washington and The Book of Eli

Dear Heartland,

I am sending this newsletter to our friends & partners in complete faith, but also realize there is a possibility of fall out from those who may not understand what I am trying to communicate. So, I pray everyone would listen with an open heart and get some good out of this.

My main reason is to encourage everyone who knows loved ones, friends, relatives, acquaintances, and people in the world in general who do not know the Lord or perhaps backslidden or unbelievers that God can make a way where they may not *seem* to be no way to get the gospel to them. They can run but they cannot hide. *Acts 16:31* says "me and my house shall be saved". And God can speak to us in many ways, so I want to take this opportunity to build your faith and encourage you to pray, believe and stand on the word of God and I ask you to come into agreement with me right now in prayer for the Lord to lead these people to someone who can bring them closer to God.



***"A Different Kind of Preachers..."***

So, I ask that you would have an open heart in what I am about to say. I recently felt lead to see a movie, I had no idea what the movie was about except that I really like the actor (*Denzel Washington*), and I felt the name of the movie intriguing "*The book of Eli*". My first thought was I hope this was not some twisted story about the Bible. Nevertheless, my curiosity got the best of me and I cautiously went in. The way the movie started I was wondering if I made a mistake, it showed scenes on the earth after a nuclear war and weapons of mass destruction, and I don't particularly care for these types of movies. To make it worse there were scenes where I had to close my eyes because of graphic violence, then on top of that there was some real strong profanity. I was sitting there thinking this doesn't look like the type of movie that a Christian church-goer ought to be seeing or indorsing especially a pastor and a minister.

For some reason I just told myself that the steps of the righteous are ordered of the Lord and like everything else I do in life I asked the Lord to help me get something good out of it and I did. I became more convinced then ever that god has many words to reach His people. I prophecy to you that this movie as unholy as it may seem, will be used by the Lord to reach many and to give many a realization that God and His word is real and without it and Him there is no hope.

If you know a un-church person who tells you they are going to see the movie, just pray cause I believe something good can come out of it. I do not make it a habit of telling people what a movie is about especially the ending, because I don't want to steal there thunder etc. But, because I believe that most of us would not go to see a movie with the appearance of this one, I want to take the opportunity to give you my take on it. First of all in the bible in the book of 1st Samuel Eli is a priest and a judge, who went blind. *1st Samuel chapter 3:1* says "the word of the Lord was precious in those days" meaning valuable and scares. There was no prophetic insight and because of that there was gross violence and sin even in the camp. Showing us without the prophetic word there is no convicting power of the Holy Spirit, then anything goes. God was trying to speak to Samuel, Samuel thought it was Eli speaking, Eli taught Samuel how to hear and respond to the voice of God. In the movie a man names Eli "*Denzel Washington*" basically was doing the same, sometimes knowingly and unknowingly. The movie shows how evil and corrupt the world is without the convicting power of the Holy Spirit. The movie is a story of how one book can change the world for the better forever. Evil people wanted the book so they could have ungodly power and drawing people to them. Denzel Washington (*Eli*) was on a mission from

Holy Spirit to protect the book and take it to a safe place where people would use the word and spread the word for good. As a result he was protected to fulfill his assignment. It was very interesting that when the bad guys did get ahold of the book they found out that it was written in Braille and they couldn't understand it. Just like today there are people without the help of the Holy Spirit though they see yet they are blind. Then there are those who would say I was once blind but now I see.

Another interesting note was Eli ended up with a prodeje in whom he taught by example to walk by faith and not by sight. The end result was that because of his efforts the bible which by the way was the only bible on the earth was able now again to be published and distributed showing His word would not be null and void. And that the bible is a living word and just like they couldn't kill Jesus who is the word made flesh. So the word of God goes on as the song says "*His truth goes marching on*". The movie ends with the prodeje going on in faith believing "*thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I shall fear no evil*" *Psalms 23:1-6*. I am not pretending to be a movie critic, but as a strong believer those are some of the highlights that I got out of the movie and the fact that Holy Spirit can use it to reach multitudes and bring them to the realization that there is a God and He is real.

I sincerely do hope that you see and hear my heart in this and try not to judge me because I saw a movie with violence and profanity. The fact is it is a story of good verses evil and its all around us in the real world. We are in a spiritual war. Apostle Paul said "*you can look at natural things and discern spiritual things*" I guess everything is in the eyes and heart of the believer. I personally salute the actors, producers, editors, and those who helped make the movie possible. Sometimes we need to realize we are real people serving a real God who have real life situations and not be some holier than thou spooky spiritual religious person. Anyway, let the chips fall where they may.

**On another note I will be ministering in Cocoa (*Econo Lodge on US 1*) this Sunday January 31st and every other Sunday at 1:45. The other Sundays in Umatilla and Saturday February 20th 6:30pm Holiday Inn in Deland. Remember our next ministry buffet is Saturday February 6th, please RSVP for this one as we will be serving food at 3:30pm.**

I recently had some R&R with friends and family, you can meet some of them on the picture page posted on the website and check out the programs listed on the [heartland broadcasting network](#). Prayerfully consider partnering with us in our Haiti relief programs and other ministry projects. Please go to [heartlandglobal.org](#) or [pastorjohndalesio.org](#) and be blessed in Jesus name!

Pastor John D'Alesio