

Bible Movies #1

The Bible!! Such an important influence on our lives. The history of our ancestors enriches, engages and often perplexes us. We would have liked to have met all those personalities and have had a good talk with them. What were the people really like, those pillars of Jewish and world civilization? How much like us were they?

How did G-d do all those miracles? Were they as spectacular as they sound?
Maybe even more than we could ever imagine?

Well, the award-winning movies, give us a window into much of this.

Thank you Cecil B. De Mille, John Huston and your star-studded casts!!

We all have our own imageries of how our ancestors might have looked and behaved. As we go through the Passover seder, we paint our own pictures and film our own versions of the epics of the Bible. Everybody has their own idea about how G-d must have done those plagues and split the Red Sea.

Then the famous and expensive movies came along and showed us their images and perceptions. I bet in some ways it is different than you imagined. On the other hand, maybe those amazing cinema pieces help us by shaping the stories with grandeur and majesty? I find parts of those movies, can get you excited...even when they get it wrong.

In our next online course, we will address all the above.
Specifically, we will plan to analyze:

De Mille's two versions of the Ten Commandments (1923 and 1956)

His Samson and Delilah (1949)

John Huston's The Bible 1966

Were they accurate or at least close to it? How much of the Hollywood touch did they add in for effect?

So, do you think our Matriarch Sara looked anything like Ava Gardner?

Did Samson really resemble Victor Mature?

Hedy Lamarr was Jewish, but was she a good choice for the Philistine Delilah?

Which was the better Pharaoh? Yul Brynner or Charles De Roch?

And the biggy.... which Moses looked more like the real thing?

Charlton Heston or Theodore Roberts

(okay, toss in Burt Lancaster from the '74 movie, too)

This will be an informative and downright fun class.

Come spend time with us for this online course beginning May 5th

P.S. Try to catch what you can of these movies online. It may enhance your learning experience and mine as well.