

Ever since the garden, human beings have wanted to be Superman.

Ever since the garden, we have needed a Superman.

Interestingly, the very same desire (to be a god *in* the garden and to have a God *after* the garden) saves us.

It's no wonder then that the new Superman will do well at the theaters this weekend.

In reality the 75-year old Superman is simply a retelling of the Christ story. Told in different ways (Matrix, X-Men, etc.) all human beings recognize something is wrong and Someone needs to make it right. Enter Clark Kent; an adopted baby (can you say "Mary and Joseph?) not from our planet who grows into what else, Superman. In a hologram message sent from Krypton before it exploded Jor-El (*El* being the Hebrew name for 'God') tells his adult son (at the age of 33 mind you), "You can embody the best of both worlds." But while Clark and his alter-ego have their inherent weaknesses, (Clark and Lois, Superman and kryptonite) Jesus was the perfect person who really fulfilled Jor-El's statement. More about that in a moment.

Throughout the movie Superman's nemeses remind him that he can't really save the world.

At an early point in the movie young Clark asks his adopted dad, "Did God do this to me?"

And after Clark "saves" a bus filled with children, a grateful mother exclaims, "This was an act of God!"

It seems everyone, even director Zack Snyder acknowledges there is Someone who out-supers Superman.

In the end, Superman is victorious but Metropolis is left in even greater rubble than the Avengers' fight wreaked on their hometown. And that is, after all, where Superman and the Christ story part ways. Zod, who murdered Jor-El on Krypton and is Superman's primary enemy on earth reminds our hero that "evolution always wins."

He thinks so because we learn in this movie that true Kryptonians were engineered, not born naturally as Superman was. And so it would be, all ruin, if evolution was true.

But above all of that, Jesus is the supernaturally born Son of God.

As such, the world's story does not end catastrophically.

God is in fact re-creating everything to a glorious end.

The whole Bible is the single story of God establishing his kingdom in the person of his son, Jesus Christ.

In the end of this movie, Superman really can't save everyone. In this particular version, he even kills someone. As all retellings of the Christ story do, this one also falls short of the end promised by God. It leaves movie goers still wanting and needing a real Superman.

So, go see the movie with friends.

After it's over, remind yourself and them that God has done what no mythological figure or computer generated graphics can do; he has really saved us by his Son!

