

## The Bible, week 3

Jump all the way to Zedekiah. End of kingdom of Judah.

Babylon enters the scene with Nebuchadnezzar.

Jeremiah comes to the king to advise surrender.

Man's obedience to God is the most important thing. God is angry and sends destruction.

Why is Nebuchadnezzar portrayed as an old man?

Continues violence as primary motif to be depicted, far beyond what is portrayed in the Bible.

ChristianMingle - just change one word of a praise song, and it becomes a dating song...

The series could tell a better story if it reduced the length of violent scenes and added real material.

Daniel and friends.

Zedekiah's sons killed, he is blinded.

Jeremiah is said to escape to Egypt, which is not entirely true.

Skip to Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the image. Deviation re: Daniel's entry and appointment.

No reason seen why people would want to be God's people.

Golden image on the plain. Mischaracterizes both Nebuchadnezzar and the Hebrews. No offer for another chance, Daniel is with the king.

To Nebuchadnezzar and his insanity. Daniel sounds like he has no affection, only contempt. No recovery, no aftermath.

Skip to Persian invasion. Babylonians know they don't stand a chance, so they let Cyrus in. WHAT!? No stopping up the river, Belshazzar's feast, writing on the wall? It was Darius, not Cyrus, in the Bible.

Daniel befriends Cyrus? Because Daniel knows about Cyrus in Isaiah's writings?

Why the heck do all the Babylonians and Persians have raccoon eyes?

Daniel prays disobeying a decree. Thrown into lion's den. No king calling for his safety.

Release of the Jews from Babylon during Daniel's time? Only if Darius is Cyrus. There are historical issues around this.

Skip to Roman occupation of Israel.

Jewish zealots taking down a Roman eagle from the temple. Soldiers, violence, Herod the Great, killing.

Why are men and women in the same part of the synagogue?

WTH? Mary and annunciation scene. Why does the angel have to take Mary's hands?

Why didn't Mary go see Elizabeth?

Joseph. No internal struggle to divorce quietly. Sees angel on the street, not in a dream.

No character development at all. It's all about conflict and action.

Travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. They wouldn't be traveling alone. If there was a census, more people would be on the road. But that wouldn't work so well with the motif, "alone against the world."

Joseph and Mary reach Bethlehem. Mary in labor.

Astrologers and Herod. Jesus isn't born yet. They leave. Herod calls scribes in to figure out what is going on. Isaiah prophecy of virgin birth narrated. Goes to Micah - Bethlehem. Jesus is born. Herod orders troops to Bethlehem. Shepherds show up immediately. Then the astrologers right on their heels. Mary speaks the name Jesus. They all fall and worship.

Joseph has a dream of murder of children. Joseph and Mary flee. Massacre of the innocents.

No possible place to include visit to temple and the prophecies of Anna and Simeon.

Execution of Herod's son. Herod dies, Jews revolt, Romans respond, more violence. Slow motion killing, with blood spurting out. Crucifixion of rebels, graphically in slow motion.

Joseph and Mary return to Galilee. They encounter crucified bodies. Dramatic foreshadowing...

Herod Antipas, arrival of Pilate to Judea.

John the Baptist at the Jordan. Jesus appears. Is baptized. Sky scene. But no voice or any other manifestation or recognition by John.

Wilderness temptation. Nothing about fasting or praying. But a snake appears. A black hooded being appears, obviously looking evil. Jesus immediately recognizes him as Satan. Transported to another spot, not the temple, and told to throw himself down. Given a vision of greatness vs. crucifixion. Satan offers former for bowing down to him. Sake again, crawling away.

John arrested for drawing crowds and disturbing the peace, while Jesus was still in the wilderness.

Jesus returns to Galilee. Fishing scene. Ignoring John's gospel account of Jesus' call of disciples and first part of ministry. Jesus enters boat of Peter, asks to go fishing.

Herod speaks with John. His crime is sedition, according to Antipas. John has way too much understanding of Jesus' work than he should.

Fishing trip is successful. Wrong kind of net though, for the times. Where are James and John?

Jesus explicitly states they will change the world. John is beheaded - wrong reason.