



GEEKS UNDER GRACE

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Hellboy (2019) | Versus the World | BIBLE STUDY

Facilitator Note: We encourage facilitators to take this Bible study and expound on it throughout the week, allowing it to be a springboard for deeper conversation and personal meditation.

PRESS START

This movie was released at the height of the superhero film genre. Not only is the movie unconventional compared to the standard superhero movie, but Hellboy is also not your typical kind of hero. However, there are some redeeming qualities to his character.

ASK: What are some qualities you look for in a hero or role model?

EQUIP

One of the biggest struggles of the character is he is an outcast to our world. Christians are often times looked upon in the same way, but we can take comfort in knowing our identity was no longer tied to the world when we received salvation. The Bible provides evidence of this in **John 15** when Jesus is speaking to his disciples. That statement can be applied to us as well.

John 15:19 *"If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you."*

Throughout the film, Hellboy fights against giving into the identity his enemies expect him to carry. The Blood Queen even offers up power and much more that he nearly gives into. Unfortunately, the world can often do the same to us. Christ commands we resist those things and provides some examples of what they are in **1 John 2:15-17**.

1 John 2:15-17 *"Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever."*

ASK: What are the kind of pleasures that are "from the Father" and "please God"?

LEVEL UP

Hellboy works for the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense to fend off evil supernatural forces. As Christians, we have our own methods we can use to drive out darkness. **Mathew 5:16** says to let our light shine and let our good deeds bring glory to God.

Mathew 5:16 *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

Hellboy doesn't have quite the exposure as a force for good as he did in previous films. What he doesn't know yet is his actions speak louder than what is seen on the surface. Let's go back a few verses to **Matthew 5:13-16**; the same can be said as we put our faith into practice and be the salt and the light.

ASK: In what ways can we go about being the salt and the light in our world today?

MOD

Comic book superheroes usually come with an origin story, but Hellboy's is much like a testimony. He was conceived as a being meant to cause destruction, but ended up becoming one of the good guys. Everyone's testimony is unique - like an origin story. However, what we have in common is salvation and how sin was overcome in our lives.

Psalm 107:2 "Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe."

Sharing our testimony may not only impact the life of someone who does not know Christ yet. But it can also be encouraging to our fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

ASK: If ever given the opportunity or in a particular situation, would you be willing to share your story or testimony?

PRAY

ASK: Are there any prayer requests before we close?

Pray God will give everyone the strength to resist the temptations of our world, but also the strength and courage for anyone to share their story and testimony with someone that would be willing to hear it. Pray we continue to be the salt and the light throughout our week.

THE NEXT LEVEL

When interacting with the world around us, it is important we speak the truth with love.

1 Peter 3:8-9 "Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing."

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