



RE»NEW

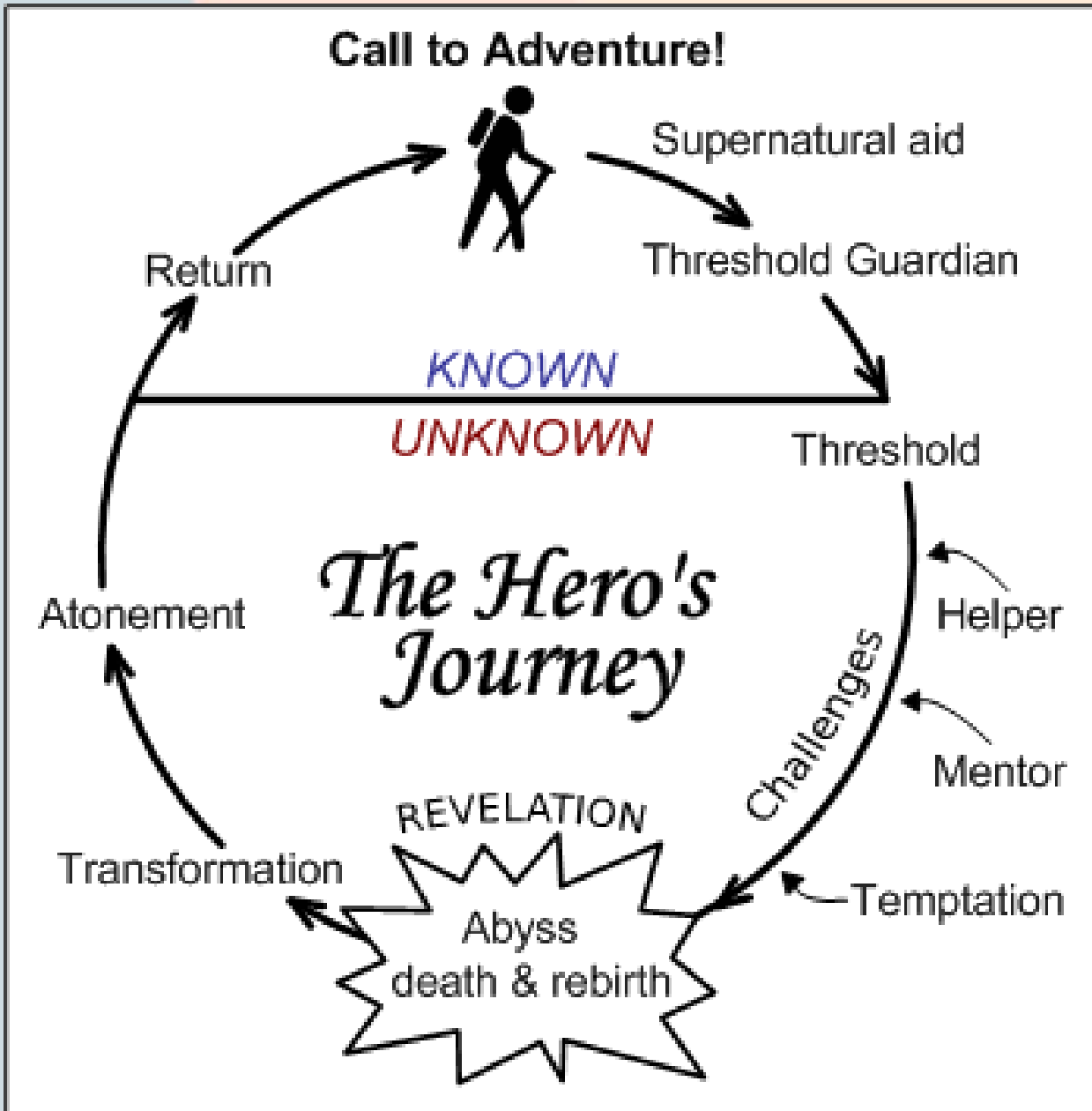
WHAT DO CHRISTIANS BELIEVE?

Act 1:
Creation

Act 2:

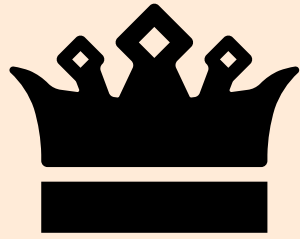
Fall

Act 3:
Rescue

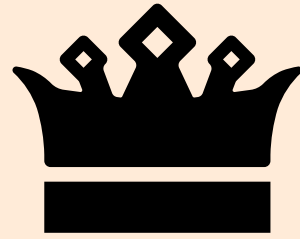


“The Hero is our protagonist, or central character, whose primary purpose is to separate from the ordinary World and sacrifice himself for the service of the Journey at hand-to answer the challenge, complete the quest and restore the Ordinary World’s balance.”

- Stuart Voytilla in *Myths & the Movies*

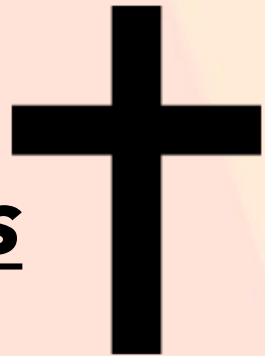


4. Crown



1. Crown

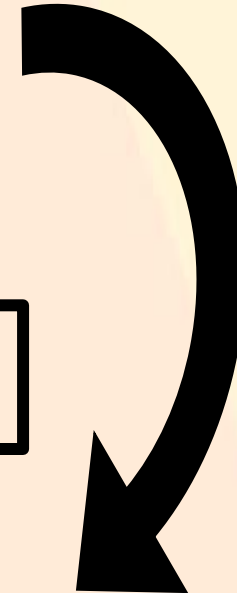
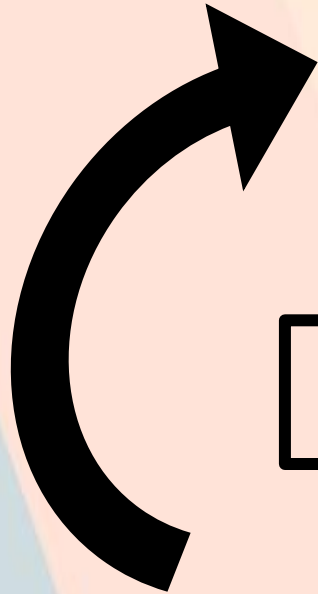
Jesus' Hero Journey



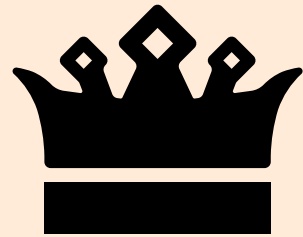
3. Cross



2. Cradle



Scene 1: *Crown*



The What

- **Jesus existed eternally as God before His birth**

Philippians 2:5-6

(5) Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, (6) who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped

The Why

- **The rest of the rescue plan depends on it**

Scene 2: *Cradle*



The What

- **Jesus became fully human**

Philippians 2:7-8

(7) but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. (8) And being found in human form, he humbled himself...

The What

- **Jesus became fully human**
- **Jesus remained fully God**

Philippians 2:7

**but emptied himself, by
taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of
men.**



“Remaining what he was, he became what he was not.”

- Gregory of Nazianzus
in *On God & Christ*

The Why

- **To sympathize with us**

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.



"Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is. After all, you find out the strength of the German army by fighting against it, not by giving in. You find out the strength of a wind by trying to walk against it, not by lying down...Christ, because He was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means."

- C.S. Lewis in *Mere Christianity*

Hebrews 4:16

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The Why

- **To sympathize with us**
- **To obey on our behalf**

Romans 5:19

For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Why

- **To sympathize with us**
- **To obey on our behalf**
- **To die for us**

Hebrews 2:14

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil

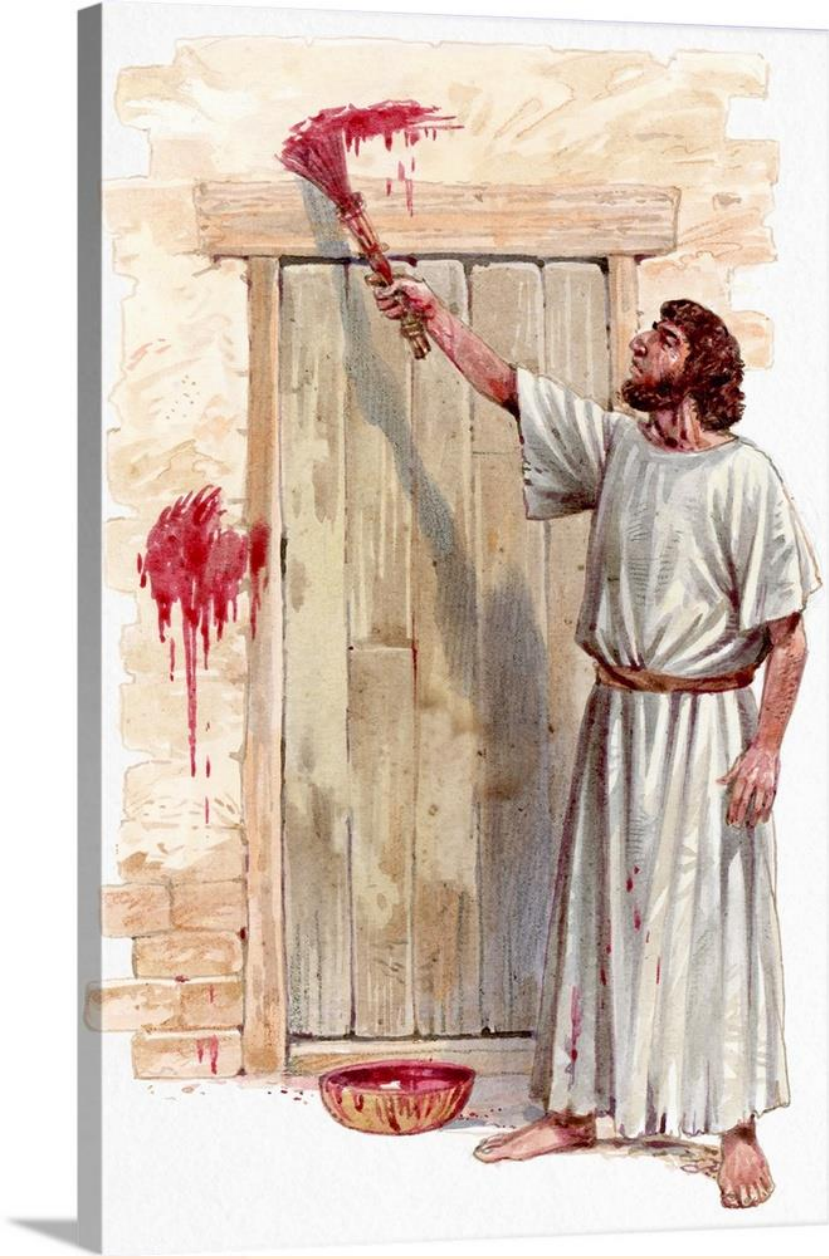
Scene 3:

Cross



Philippians 2:8

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.



The What

- **Substitutionary Sacrifice**

Isaiah 53:4-7

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. (5) But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed...(7) He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter...

The Why

- **Redemption**

Romans 3:23-24

(23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (24) and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

The Why

- **Redemption**
- **Propitiation**

Romans 3:25

whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith...

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

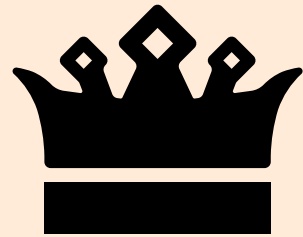
The Why

- **Redemption**
- **Propitiation**
- **Reconciliation**

Romans 5:10

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Scene 4: *Crown*



The What

- **Jesus rose from the dead
bodily & eternally**

Luke 24:39

See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.

Romans 6:9

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

The What

- **Jesus rose from the dead bodily & eternally**
- **Jesus ascended to heaven to intercede for us**

Romans 8:34

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

The What

- **Jesus rose from the dead bodily & eternally**
- **Jesus ascended to heaven to intercede for us**
- **Jesus will literally return to reign as king**

1 Thessalonians 4:14-17

(14) For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. (15) For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. (16) For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (17) Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

The Why

- **Jesus is King...right now and forever**

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, (10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, (11) and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Big Question

- **How then shall we live?**

Galatians 2:20

...And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.