

Should Christians Read (Or Watch) the Twilight-Saga?

The pop culture obsession with the Twilight Series and its chic brand of teenie-bopper vampirism has swept the country. I am generally altogether ignorant of such fads and rarely take an interest in learning about them since I realize “the fashion of this world passeth away” (1 Cor 7:31). Yet, I must admit that I am concerned with the reality that this odd obsession has so commonly crept in to the minds and hearts of so many professing Christians. News of these books being devoured on breaks at home school co-op outings, propagated abroad in Christian schools, allegorized in the youth devotions of liberal churches, and strangest of all, commonly read among church-members of conservative, even fundamental, churches, is disconcerting to say the least. Christians have always understood vampirism and its accompanying sub-culture to be anti-biblical and even demonic. To believe that these books and the circulation they have had among many church-goers has had a neutral spiritual impact would be naïve at best. As Christian families have sacrificed the “good book” for the “boob tube” spiritual discernment has taken a nose-dive among American Christians over the past one-hundred years that the debate over the appropriateness of reading fiction by Bible-believing youngsters (once a hot-button question in many Christian circles) has given-way to whether or not teenage-vampires are harmless enough fiction for the consumption of the Christian masses.

Dreams and Divination

Stephanie Meyer, reared a Latter-Day Saint (Mormon) strangely enough, relates that the Twilight books originated in a very vivid dream that she had (that left her desiring to stay in bed rather than care for her three children). Here’s a scriptural red-flag before you read the first word of any of the books. The word of God warns us of false dreamers: “Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams...” (Jer 23:27). Meyer’s dream has served to cause many Christians to forget what God thinks of those sins so commonly associated with vampires (i.e. witchcraft, divination, necromancy, etc.) (Deut 18:10-11). In the books Edward’s sister, Alice, has the ability to “divine” or see in to the future, and Stephanie Meyer’s dream has become nothing less than a prophetic vision given the success of her books. Believer’s are instructed to bring “every thought captive to the obedience of Christ” (2 Cor 10:3), not that Meyer, a backslidden Mormon, is a believer. Given the content and the success of these books and their leavening affect upon the minds of so many people one must wonder what, or rather who, exactly inspired this dream of hers. Meyer states on her official website that as she prepared to write the first book following her fateful dream that “Bella and Edward were, *quite literally*, voices in my head” (emphasis mine). The first book in the series has an apple on the front, imagery that she admittedly chose because of its association with the forbidden fruit. I wonder if the same voice that spoke to Eve has any relation to the voices in Meyer’s head?

Doctrines of Devils

Blood Lust

In First Timothy chapter four “doctrines of devils” are associated with commanding people to abstain from meats (v. 3). In the New Testament there is actually just one prohibition in diet set forth by the scriptures and that is blood (Acts 15:20). This isn’t limited to the New Testament either. It is so uniformly abominable in the sight of God that it is the outstanding prohibition found before the law (Gen 9:4), under the law (Lev 7:23-24), and after the law. To make light of something that God so clearly abhors, as vampirism does with the consumption of blood, is folly at least and blasphemy at worst. The vampire family that is central in the *Twilight* saga has such respect for human life that they feast on animals only, but this is a far-cry from justification of these novels if we take a Biblical world-view.

Appointed to Die

Bella (the main non-vampire character) is so smitten with Edward (the kind and chivalrous blood-sucker) that she’s prepared to give him her soul by submitting to his bite so that they might spend eternity together (Edward is a youthful 107 years old). The whole concept of some creature under a curse to live

endlessly feasting upon blood is not only evil from the blood lust standpoint, but makes a mockery of the curse of sin as found in the Bible. The curse of sin in the Bible means death (Rom 6:23), and after that death, the judgment (Heb 9:27).

Angels that Sinned

Twilight is essentially a love story; a love story involving a teenage girl and a vampire and all the drama such a relationship entails. Relations between satanically inspired immortals and the fair daughters of men actually represent an ancient story-line dating all the way back to Genesis six. It impressed the Lord so much the first time this hellish plot was fleshed-out that God destroyed the earth with a flood.

The Spirit of Antichrist

When the average mind thinks of an anti-Christ character they might call up thoughts of Hitler or some horned, pitch-fork toting caricature from the pits of hell. The Biblical reality is that anti-Christ doesn't simply denote against-Christ, but "in the place of" Christ, in other words, something dramatically similar, yet false. Edward comes on the scene with a host of characteristics that are far from what we might typically think of when we consider vampires. He's described by readers as being kind, considerate, loving, generous, and thoughtful (so many of the things that married readers realize their spouses aren't). But he's a vampire none the less. When the Man of Sin is manifested in world-wide politics the scriptures tell us that he "by peace shall destroy many" (Dan 8:25). What I'm saying here is that the central vampire character in the Twilight book is amazingly "Christ-like". Unfortunately for the thousands of ladies that are enamored by his character traits, he is not "the Lord's Christ" (Luke 2:26). While Edward might be able to discern the thoughts of those around him (Luke 5:22, 6:8), and exercise other apparently divine qualities (such as super strength and speed) he has only the power to destroy Bella's soul, while Jesus Christ came to seek and to save the lost souls of men, women, and naïve teenage girls.

Desensitization in the Last-Days

Nobody with a remotely functional conscience has any trouble seeing the demonic roots of most of the vampire movies that pepper the shelves of movie rental stores, yet Twilight (the movie) has been deemed by some as being "family-friendly" since it avoided fowl language and extreme sexual content. Perhaps Hollywood is growing more wholesome. Whether or not you have a conscience, common-sense will debunk that possibility. The fact is that the devil is getting better and better at going undercover in these last days. Perhaps there has never been a better example than these Twilight books (and their "good" vampires) of Satan being "transformed in to an angel of light" (2 Cor 11:14). *Twilight* is accomplishing for the satanic practice of vampirism what *Harry Potter* has so effectively accomplished for witchcraft: bringing the practice in to the mainstream, minimizing its dangers, glorifying its power and pleasure, and ultimately desensitizing an entire culture to something that is utterly satanic in origin. These latest efforts by the enemy have been incredibly effective, to the extent that undiscerning and unsuspecting parents are actually putting these books in to the hands of our youth. Authors like Meyer and Rowling are, in turn, depositing the seeds of demonism in to these impressionable minds. As for the "Christian" adults that are wrapped up in such books, it is simply a testimony of a Laodicean church that quit reading the word of God and let the television establish their moral standards and undermine their religious convictions.