

The Chosen: Simon the Zealot Recruited

To: Epoch Times Editorials

Cc: Dallas Jenkins (?)

by Sterling D. Allan, 228033

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I'm in a dorm setting now, with seven other inmates. Before today's airing of "The Chosen," on ^{Kable} TV, I invited one of them who doesn't have a TV to watch it with me. He ended up declining. No one else was watching it. That made me sad, because it is such a glorious treat, spiritually. They're so missing out on the best series ever, so far.

The series, including today, does such an incredible job of seamlessly interweaving the gospels accounts with their inspired extrapolations to an entirely feasible backstory. It brings to life the ancient story as if ^{it} were happening today among people we know — as if we're right there with them, ^{as if we're} ^{one of} ^{them.}

Jesus' dialogue with John the Baptist about the strategy of launching Jesus' ministry, with John impatiently wanting things to happen faster, vs. Jesus being in the midst of gradually composing/brainstorming what became the Sermon on the Mount (that didn't come from nowhere), was especially relatable.

I've experienced many of these first hands

John was all worked up about Herod's sinful marriage, but Jesus didn't share his angst, but neither did he try to deter John. His weeping as John later walked away to do his task, realizing that would be the last he'd see him, was very fitting, showing Jesus' gift to foresee what would come. All the main actors are ^{almost} exactly what the real situation ^(stet) would see, in their words, body language, expressions and robes. I don't ^{remember} seeing a single instance of bad acting, by the main actors.

I've known several

Alma 31:5 that through the episodes, the screen-writers are doing a fantastic job of showing the much-revered Nicodemus' gradual flowering as eventually becoming a disciple of Jesus, notwithstanding his having been a ^{key} Sanhedrin leader. I loved the scene where Jesus is on a walk alone with Simon the Zealot, recruiting him as an apostle, inspects his fancy dagger, then tosses it into a creek ^{with a loving smile} to the dumbfoundment of Simon. Then Jesus says, "I have a better sword," referring to the power of the word. That exchange

The scenes of the Jews scheming against Jesus and among themselves could easily be related to how religious dogmatists are today. The screen-writers are doing a fantastic job of showing the much-revered Nicodemus' gradual flowering as eventually becoming a disciple of Jesus, notwithstanding his having been a ^{key} Sanhedrin leader.

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was observed by a Roman elite spy, to his astonishment. (who will probably end up converting). He also had dialogue with Simon's brother, "Jesse," after he spoke with the scheming Sanhedrin about his taking up his bed and walking on the Sabbath.

Meanwhile, Mary Magdalene has gone missing, going back to Jericho, reverting to her former life. When John informs Jesus of her absence, Jesus has Matthew accompany John (to John's chagrin, who still has deep resentment toward Matthew) to go find her. He has Matthew recite a passage he recently memorized, "If I sink into the deep, you are there." Then he gently advised Matthew, "Keep that in your thoughts."

Those of you on the outside are fortunate to be able to binge watch these.

Sterling D. Allan

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#JesusRecruitsZealot

