

CHRISTMAS

THE EPIC ADVENTURE BEGINS!



Christmas: The Epic Adventure Begins!

– WAR!

- Life is a story! Life unfolds like a drama. We **CAN** discover *the* Story! There is a Story that we just can't seem to escape. There is a Story written on the human heart.
- *"He has planted eternity in the human heart (Ecclesiastes 3:11 NLT)*
- Christianity, in its true form, tells us there is an Author and that he is good, the essence of all that is good and beautiful and true, for he is the source of all things. It tells us that he has set our hearts' longings within us, for he has made us to live in an Epic Adventure. What IF? – What IF all the great stories that have ever moved you were telling you something about the true Story into which you were born? You need to discover this Epic Adventure for yourself! This study will help you do just that!



**THE
LARGER
STORY – The
Entrance of
Evil.
- Genesis
3:14, 15 and
Revelation
12:7-12.**

1. **THE VILLAIN** → Every great story has the BAD GUY! Every story has a villain because *yours* does. REALITY tells us that evil is cast around us—war, famine, betrayal, murder, etc.! Something happened before our moment on the stage.
2. **ANGELIC POWER** → We are not alone. This universe is inhabited by other beings; we share the stage with other players (Daniel 10:4-8). Real angels are mighty, glorious, dreadful beings, more powerful than you can imagine. God sets the stage for a GREATER REALITY – A LARGER STORY!
3. **TWO WORLDS** → The Bible has warned us about all these years; we live in two worlds—or in one world with two halves, part that we can see and part that we cannot. We are urged, for our own welfare, to act as though the unseen world (the rest of reality) is, in fact, more weighty and more real and more dangerous than the part of reality we can see.



BETRAYAL & MUTINY

– Ezekiel 28:11-19.

1. PRIDE → The excellent captain came to believe he was being cheated somehow. He didn't merely want to play a noble role in the Story; he wanted the Story to be about him. He coveted the throne; he wanted to be the star. He wanted the worship and adoration for himself (Ezekiel 28:17).
2. EVIL → The Story acknowledges EVIL. Many people are naive regarding evil. They don't take it seriously. Life is very confusing if you do not take into account that there is a Villain. You have an Enemy! Quote by C. S. Lewis.

A group of approximately 20 people, mostly men, are gathered on a rocky riverbank. They are all wearing red and white Santa hats and orange life jackets. Some are wearing sunglasses and casual summer clothing. They appear to be preparing for or participating in a water activity, possibly rafting. The background shows a river and a forested hillside.

ACTION: Journal This!

1. Tell your story – Have you done things you are ashamed of?
2. Tell your story – Have things been done to you that bring hurt and shame to you?
3. Tell your story – Do you feel like you are being hunted and opposed?

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