

# Simon

Of Cyrene



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# LOGLINE

An introverted Greek linguist embarks on a trip meeting a man for whom he ultimately carries the cross to his death, and doing so redeems the world.

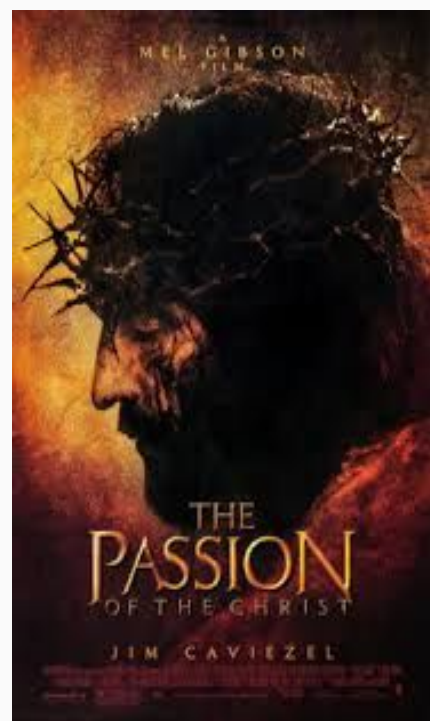
# PACE, VISUAL STYLE, AND TONE.

Every Christian knows him. Now they know about him in this adaptation of the traditional sandal and sword movie.



300

Meets



Passion  
of the Christ

# SHORT SYNOPSIS

The script follows the journey of Simon, a Greek man from Cyrene, as he encounters Jesus and becomes a follower. Simon witnesses Jesus performing miracles, teaching the crowds, and being hailed as the Messiah. The script also highlights Jesus' teachings, including the Sermon on the Mount, and his interactions with people from different backgrounds. It culminates with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, his confrontation with the money changers, and Simon and Jason reflecting on their experiences and expressing their faith in Jesus as the true King. Additionally, Simon witnesses Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, becomes a believer in Jesus as the Messiah, and returns to his hometown to share the story of Jesus with his family and friends. The script also explores Simon's love story with a woman named Di, emphasizing the transformative power of Jesus' love in Simon's life.

Simon realized and felt a deep sense of remorse and guilt after carrying the cross. He believed that his actions contributed to the crucifixion of Jesus and felt responsible for his death. Simon was overwhelmed with sorrow and regret, understanding the magnitude of what had happened and the sacrifice Jesus had made.

**“You can't pour from  
an empty cup.”**

# THEMES

The themes in this story begin with a young man finding his place in the world. Then as with all adventure he is called to leave home.

Finding relatives in a strange new land he encounters a person that seems to be a God. He is performing miracles and wonders.

Our hero follows him till the crowds become too much for him and He returns home.

Being sent once again to the city he sees that the powers and wonders have continued to grow. Ultimately he is thrown into the story in a way he never saw coming.

# THE WORLD

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# INTRO TO CHARACTERS

Simon ; Introvert protagonist is traveling to help his father.

Di; short for Diana. Simon's childhood sweetheart. They reunite at the end of the story,

Ajax; Father a tutor teaching languages.

Mother; Beautiful and caring Greek woman.

Jason; Ajax Brother. Lives in Jerusalem and is a trader.

Naomi; Jason's wife. Helps him run the shop when Jason is away on trips.

Jesus, Preacher/Rabbi. Seems to perform miracles. May be the Son of a God.

# ACTORS WISH LIST



Jack Martin  
Simon



Kevin James  
Ajax



Rebecca Lines  
Mother



Charles Esten  
Jason



Paula Williams  
Naomi

# THE HOOK

**Have you ever met a person that instantly  
changed your life?**

# THE CASE

I have said for years that there are two people I identify with in the Bible.

First is that little lamb that falls off the ledge all the time and the Lord has to leave the 99 to rescue and the other is,

**Simon of Cyrene.** A man just watching the parade go by and not wanting to be involved that ultimately ended up carrying the cross and being one of the central characters of the story.

I was at church one morning and if you ever saw *The Matrix*, during a verse of the first song. I had the whole movie downloaded into my brain. I mean everything you read in the script came to me in less than a minute.

So I wrote it.

What do we know about this man? Well, he was from Cyrene, a Greek city state across the bay from what is now Tripoli in Lebanon and he carried the cross.

Everything else I made up, or basically transcribed from the download..

# FINANCIALS

BUDGET TOPSHEET				
<b>Production Co.</b>	Cyrene Productions,		<b>Producers</b>	Art Wasem
<b>Project Title</b>	The Birth		<b>Union/Non</b>	Union
<b>Budget Date</b>			<b>Prepared by</b>	Arthur Wasem
<b>Shoot Days</b>		3	<b>Locations</b>	1
<b>ABOVE THE LINE</b>				
10-00	Development Costs	1		\$1,350
11-00	Story & Rights	1		\$182,529
12-00	Producer Unit	1		\$0
13-00	Director & Staff	1		\$204,828
14-00	Cast	1		\$136,328
15-00	Travel & Living	1		\$14,320
<b>Total Above the Line</b>				<b>\$539,355</b>
<b>PRODUCTION EXPENSES</b>				
20-00	Production Staff	2		\$125,477
21-00	Extra Talent	2		\$23,650
22-00	Set Design	2		\$54,476
23-00	Set Construction	2		\$0
24-00	Set Pre-rig & Strike	2		\$7,920
25-00	Set Operations	2		\$17,925
26-00	Set Dressing	2		\$32,360
27-00	Property	2		\$14,000
28-00	Wardrobe	2		\$95,600
29-00	Electric	2		\$32,024
30-00	Camera	2		\$104,836
31-00	Production Sound	2		\$24,500
32-00	Make-up & Hair	2		\$59,200

# FINANCIALS

33-00	Transportation	2		\$97,200
34-00	Locations	2		\$93,826
35-00	Picture Vehicles & Animals	2		\$31,984
36-00	Special Effects	2		\$56,300
37-00	Visual Effects - Post	2		\$14,300
38-00	Film & Lab	2		\$48,000
39-00	BTL Travel	2		\$800
<b>Total Production</b>				<b>\$934,378</b>
<b>POST-PRODUCTION EXPENSES</b>				
45-00	Film Editing	3		\$49,980
46-00	Music	3		\$138,600
47-00	Visual Effects	3		\$64,300
48-00	Post Production Sound	3		\$13,560
49-00	Post Production Film & Lab	3		\$750
<b>Total Post Production</b>				<b>\$267,190</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>				
55-00	Publicity	4		\$4,500
56-00	Legal & Accounting	4		\$0
57-00	General Expense	4		\$0
58-00	Insurance	4		\$0
<b>Total Other</b>				<b>\$4,500</b>
<b>Bond Fee</b>	3%			<b>\$52,363</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	10%			<b>\$174,542</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				<b>\$1,972,329</b>

# THE TEASER

EXT. CYRENE STREET HELLENIC PERIOD - DAY

An idyllic ancient street on the Mediterranean. Crystal blue water and sky. Men walked and grouped together discussing ideas. Women carrying bags. Children RUNNING PLAYING BALL with their dogs. Birds flying in the olive trees.

One lone child SIMON watches all this from the white granite stairs to his families business. He is wearing a classic white chiton and sandals.

Three young girls, DI and her friends appear to be around eight years old RUN UP all dressed in colorful short chitons.

DI

Simon, do you want to play with us?

Simon shakes his head no.

Another group of boys RUNS UP PLAYING A GAME OF TAG. BASIL a boy about ten trips and falls against the wall.

DI (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

BASIL

I'm fine. What are you guys doing?

DI

I was trying to get Simon to play.

BASIL

Simon?

(to Simon)

Have you ever played?

Simon Shrugs.

# THE TEASER

BASIL (CONT'D)

That's not an answer.

SIMON

I play.

BASIL

What?

SIMON

I like Backgammon and Chess.

BASIL

I mean running, fighting, tag, even ball?

SIMON

No, not so much.

The door opens behind them. Simon's Mom comes out.

MOTHER

Simon, who are your friends?

SIMON

You know Di.

MOTHER

Good day, Diana.

DI

Hi Ma'am.



# THE TEASER

MOTHER

The boys.

Simon just looks down.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

There he goes being shy again.

BASIL

My name is Basil. I go to school with Simon. I want his father to teach me Latin when I am old enough. My Dad's a scribe. We live two blocks away from the poultry shop.

The boys with Basil start to run away.

MOTHER

Thanks for coming by.

DI

If you want to play Simon we are going to the courtyard by Aristaeus's Temple.

MOTHER

Be careful of the bees.

DI

We are not going to the garden, but we will.

MOTHER

You want to go Simon?

# THE TEASER

MOTHER

Thanks for coming by.

DI

If you want to play Simon we are going to the courtyard by Aristaeus's Temple.

MOTHER

Be careful of the bees.

DI

We are not going to the garden, but we will.

MOTHER

You want to go Simon.

Simon shakes his head.

SIMON

I am okay right here. I like watching people.

DI

Next week we are dancing at Apollo's celebration. There will be lots of people to watch there.

Simon smiles.

DI (CONT'D)

Bye.

Simon raises his hand.

# THE TEASER

His mother comes out and sits next to him.

MOTHER

Are you okay Simon?

SIMON

I'm fine.

MOTHER

You never play with the other kids.

SIMON

I like to think.

MOTHER

What do you think about?

SIMON

I don't know.

MOTHER

You have to know what you are  
Thinking.

# THE TEASER

SIMON

Sometimes.

He trails off.

MOTHER

Sometimes?

SIMON

I don't know, sometimes. I just don't think of anything. I just like to sit.

INT. SIMON'S HOUSE - LATE DAY

The house has changed slightly. There is more atmosphere. Simon's mother comes down the stairs. She is older.

MOTHER

Simon, did you get the meat pies from the market?

Simon comes in from the back courtyard. He is ten years older. Bushy brown hair, olive skin, well built, maybe a runner now.

SIMON

Yes, Mother. There is a bag by the door.

MOTHER

Will your father ever finish getting dressed?

SIMON

You know he tries, after his fall. I think he does well all things considered.

# THE TEASER

AJAX

I know you are talking about me.

Ajax comes down the stairs. He is also much older, much heavier, and limping.

MOTHER

Of course, we are talking about you. The sun and the moon, all the stars, even the Gods themselves revolve around you.

AJAX

Stop. Simon do you have my cane?

SIMON

Right here.

He walks to the doorway grabs a crutch and hands it to his Father.

AJAX

That's my boy. How I wish I was your age again. All the adventures I would have.

MOTHER

Adventure? You never had any adventures.

AJAX

Reading. The adventures are all up here.

Pointing to his head.

MOTHER

Might be the only things up there. Now we have to go. They will not hold up the harvest feast for us.

# THE TEASER

Simon picks up the bag of meat pies. His Mother takes the pan of bread and Father picks up his crutch and follows them out the door.

EXT. APOLLO TEMPLE PARK - DAY

There is a party going on. Forty tables are low on the ground. There are taller ones with the food on them. Guards are chasing dogs and birds away. Children are running in large packs.

A large group of older boys are sword fighting.

A group of mothers are nursing their children and laughing.

There are a couple of groups of girls talking among themselves. They are all watching the boys.

Ajax and his wife walk up to an empty table.

MOTHER

Will this be alright?

AJAX

This will be perfect.

SIMON

I am going to take these to the banquet table.

AJAX

Simon, sit.

He does.

AJAX (CONT'D)

I have to tell you something.

Simon watches.

# THE TEASER

AJAX (CONT'D)

Many years ago my brother lent me the money to start our school.

Simon nods. He has heard this before.

AJAX (CONT'D)

Every year after the harvest I have always sent him a payment.

He looks away for a while.

AJAX (CONT'D)

I paid him back, plus interest many years ago, but I have always sent payment as a way of saying thanks for his belief in me.

He looks at his crutch.

AJAX (CONT'D)

This year, I do not think I can make the trip. I would like you to do me a favor.

Simon nods.

AJAX (CONT'D)

I would like you to make the trip for me and give him the payment.

Simon looks straight ahead.

SIMON

I know you have made a journey every year, and was wondering if you were going this year. Where would I have to go?

# THE TEASER

AJAX

He is in Jerusalem.

SIMON

Jerusalem? Father, I have never been out of Cyrene.

AJAX

It is a simple trip. Israel is only a week by sea. Then a simple day's journey to the city. His shop is at the North Gate. It is called the Mercy Gate. I know he will be excited to finally meet you. I have told him every year about you.

SIMON

Father.

AJAX

Simon, I really need you to do this. There is no way I can do it on my own.

SIMON

Could you heal and maybe take two portions next year?

AJAX

No, it is time you left the nest. I really need you to do this.

SIMON

What if I am robbed? If I lose your money?



# THE TEASER

AJAX

I believe in you. You will be fine. Apollo will guide you. This is a good time to pray to the Gods for guidance.

Simon leans back on the ground and takes and lets out a deep breath.

AJAX (CONT'D)

The gods will be with you. I just know it.

EXT. SHOP COURTYARD - LATER

Jason enters followed by Simon.

JASON

(yelling)

Naomi, Naomi!

No reply.

JASON (CONT'D)

She still must be out.

BURSTING IN AND OUT OF BREATH. Naomi puts her hands on her knees.

NAOMI

Did you see him?

JASON

We saw...

NAOMI

Praise God, Our savior has come.

# THE TEASER

JASON

We were...

NAOMI

I followed him to the temple. The crowd was chanting. We were all so happy. He went into the temple and it all went nuts.

Both turn to look at her.

She slowly struts.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

He walks up the stairs and sees the money changers. The merchants. The bloodsuckers who sell animals for sacrifice.

She starts THROWING SCARVES and BLANKETS into the air from baskets against the wall of the shop.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

He over turns tables, He lets all the doves go. They are flying here and there. The goats and lambs are running. People are screaming.

She takes SCARVES and FLUTTERS them up and down and runs around the courtyard.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

It was so amazing. He was saying  
(in man's voice)  
You den of thieves, get out of my Father's house. You den of vipers.

# THE TEASER

NAOMI (CONT'D)

(normal voice)

He was like a crazy man. Even the Pharisees  
ran from him. It was so wonderful.

She takes a few deep breaths.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Of course, then the Romans came and I  
left. Stupid Romans.

Both men smile at the feminine story.

JASON

What happened to Jesus?

NAOMI

I didn't see. It was chaos. I ran into a few  
friends and they said they saw him leaving  
the city.

RUNNING into Jason's arms.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Do you think it is true? Do you think? He  
could really be the Savior?

JASON

I believe he is.

JUMPING UP AND DOWN in his arms.

NAOMI

I am so happy, so happy.

# THE TEASER

Looking at Simon.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

You must think I am crazy.

He shakes his head no.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

I am going to start a meal. We will have  
wine tonight. This is a reason to celebrate.  
Our Savior has come. HOSANNA!!!

JASON

HOSANNA!!!

They both start to pick up the scarves and blankets.

JASON (CONT'D)

We should go in and make sure she doesn't  
destroy the house with her excitement.