

PATRICK NESS
A MONSTER CALLS



*"Compelling ... powerful
and impressive." Philip Pullman*

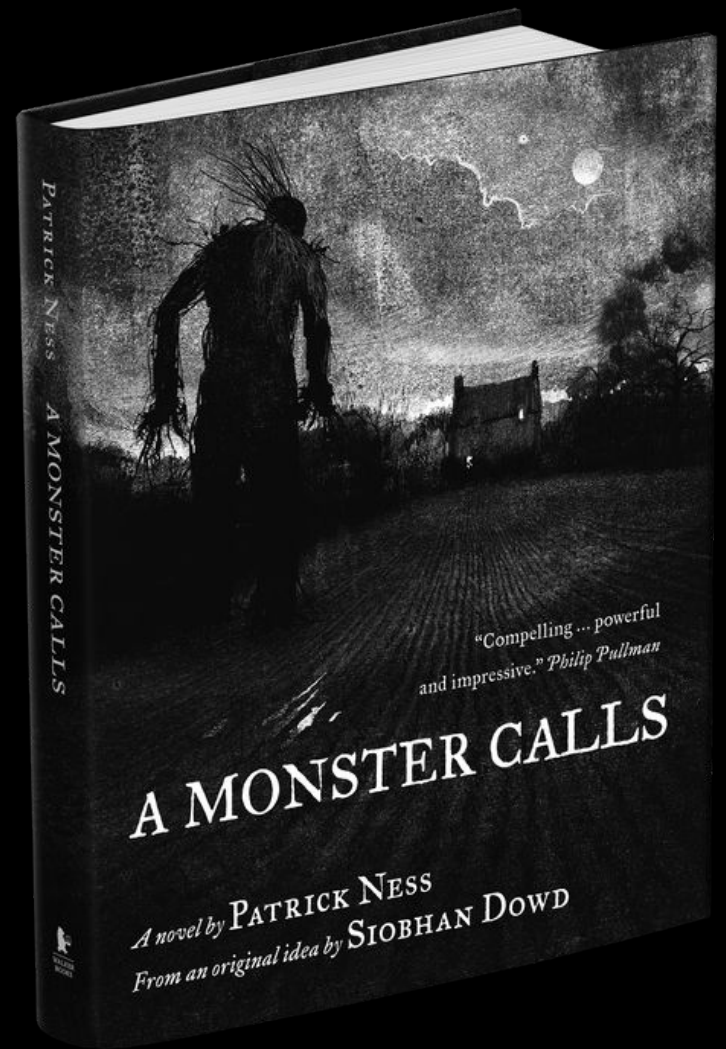
A MONSTER CALLS

A novel by **PATRICK NESS**
From an original idea by **SIOBHAN DOWD**



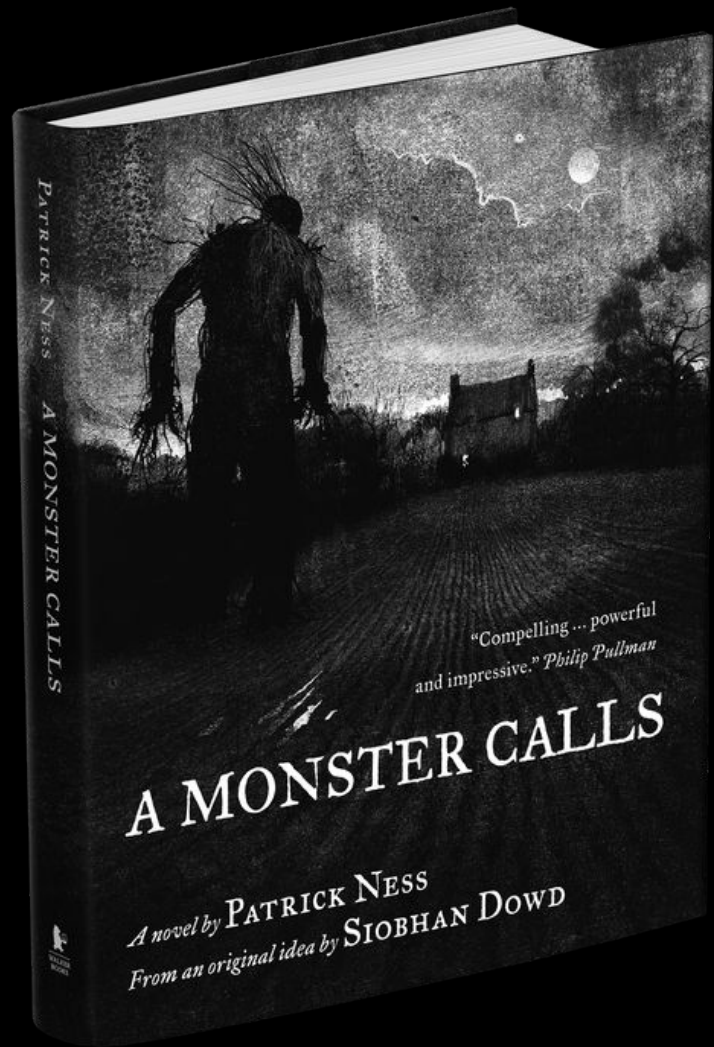
“ You think
I tell you stories to
teach you lessons?

You think I have
come walking out of
time and earth itself
to teach you a lesson
in niceness?”





Stories are
wild creatures.
When you let them
loose, who knows what
havoc they might
wreak?”



Not Just



Another Story

Luke 11:29-32

²⁹ As the crowds increased, Jesus said, “This is a wicked generation. It asks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah.

³⁰ For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation.

Luke 11:29-32

³¹ The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom; and now something greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and now something greater than Jonah is here.

Luke 11:29-32

1. The ask for a sign
2. The answer in two stories
3. The implications

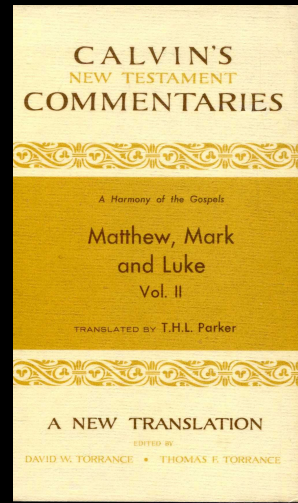
Luke 11:29-32

²⁹ As the crowds increased, Jesus said, “This is a wicked generation. It asks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation. ³¹ The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them,

Does Christ address them with such harshness of language, because they wished to have a sign given them? for on other occasions God manifests that He is not so much displeased on this account. Gideon asks a sign, (Judges 6:17,) and God is not angry, but grants his request; and though Gideon becomes importunate and asks another sign, yet God condescends to his weakness. Hezekiah does not ask a sign, and it is offered to him, though unsolicited, (Isa. 38:7, 8.)... ”

“It is not solely, therefore, because they ask a sign, that Christ makes this attack upon the scribes, but because they are ungrateful to God, wickedly despise so many of his wonderful works, and try to find a subterfuge for not obeying his word. What a display was this, I do not say of indifference, but of malice, in shutting their eyes against so many *signs!*”

John Calvin and William Pringle, Commentary on a Harmony of the Evangelists Matthew, Mark, and Luke, vol. 2 (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2010), 94.



YOU



BELONGING TO
GOD IN AN
INHUMAN
WORLD

ARE

NOT



YOUR



ALAN
NOBLE

OWN

The building blocks of any healthy society—its institutions, laws, and rituals—depend on its beliefs about humanity. Misunderstanding what we are and why we exist is a recipe for inhuman conditions. Because our society teaches that we belong to ourselves, we all suffer under the inhuman implications of this belief...

The most significant implication is that we're entirely responsible for ourselves. While this idea might at first sound liberating, it carries a number of crushing burdens: trying to justify your own existence, creating and expressing your identity, coming up with meanings for everything, deciding for yourself what's valuable, and searching for ways to belong...

Our society may not agree on much, but we almost uniformly agree that progress depends on finding and employing the right techniques (laws, self-help books, podcasts, protests, diets, planners). The tacit agreement is that if we commit to the Responsibilities of Self-Belonging, we can overcome inhuman conditions and find lasting happiness.”

TIMOTHY KLEISER, *The Inhuman Consequences of Satan's Oldest Lie*, Christianity Today
< <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/november/alan-noble-not-your-own-belonging-god-inhuman-world.html> >

Luke 11:29-30

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Jesus



This
generation

Jonah



Ninevites

A detailed woodcut-style illustration of a large fish, likely a whale, shown from a side profile. The fish's body is filled with intricate, swirling patterns. In the center of its belly, a small, dark silhouette of a person stands. The overall style is reminiscent of 19th-century religious art.

What is the sign of Jonah?

HOW THE BIBLE IS TYPICALLY PRESENTED



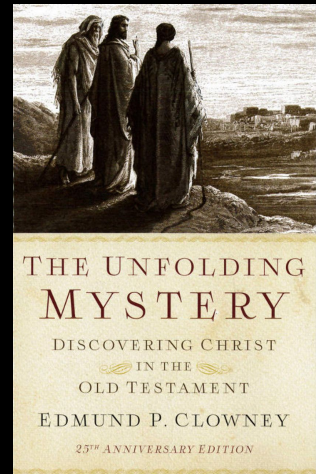
Jonah 2:9

Salvation belongs to the Lord



This is the entire Bible in one verse. It's what the whole Bible is about: "Salvation is of the Lord." To me this was a marvelous message of liberation. Because unconsciously I had turned things around and was trying to save myself by my own hold on the Lord instead of realizing it was the Lord's hold on me that would save me."

Ed Clowney



Salvation belongs to the Lord

Chapter 1: Sailors

Chapter 2: Jonah

Chapter 3: Nineveh

Chapter 4: Jonah



Salvation belongs to the Lord

Jonah 3:3-5

- ³ Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown."
⁵ The Ninevites believed God.

Matthew 12:39-40

³⁹ He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Luke 11:29-30

²⁹ As the crowds increased, Jesus said, “This is a wicked generation. It asks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation.

Luke 11:31-32

³¹ The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom; and now something greater than Solomon is here.

³² The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and now something greater than Jonah is here.

1 Kings 10:1-9

¹When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the Lord, she came to test Solomon with hard questions.

² Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—
—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold,
and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked
with him about all that she had on her mind. ³ Solomon
answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the
king to explain to her.

1 Kings 10:1-9

⁴ When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, ⁵ the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the Lord, she was overwhelmed. ⁶ She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. ⁷ But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes.

1 Kings 10:1-9

Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. ⁸ How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! ⁹ Praise be to the Lord your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel.

Jesus



This
generation

Jonah



Ninevites

Solomon



Queen of
Sheba

Barb ENHEIMER

RYAN GOSLING
IS KEN

MARGOT ROBBIE
IS BARBIE

THE MOVIE

Barbie™

DIRECTED BY
Greta Geis



7.21.23

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THE
WORLD
FOREVER
CHANGES

A FILM BY CHRISTOPHER NOLAN

OPPENHEIMER

7

21

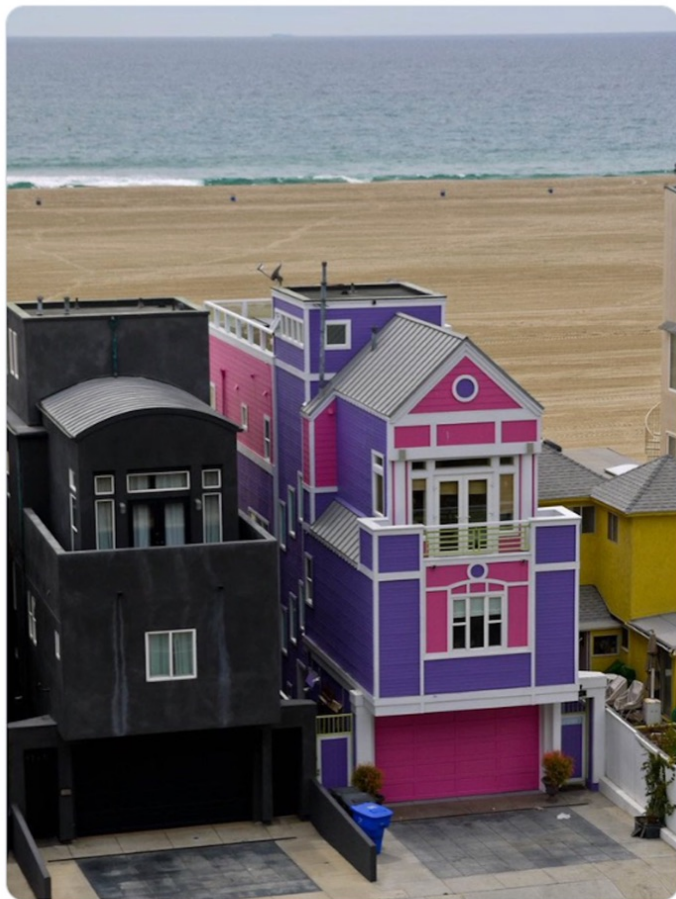
23



Yann
@yannhatchuel



Their entire lives have led up to the Oppenheimer / Barbie release



6:35 PM · Jun 26, 2023 · 1.2M Views



A FILM BY
CHRISTOPHER NOLAN

Barbie

THE DESTROYER
OF WORLDS



Stone Cold Jane Austen

@AbbyHiggs



The Barbie/Oppenheimer crossover has begun



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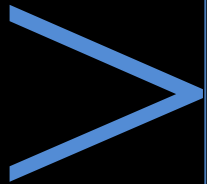
Luke 11:29-32

for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom; and now something greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and now something greater than Jonah is here.

Jesus



This
generation



Jonah



Ninevites

Solomon



Queen of
Sheba

1 Corinthians 1:20-24

²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom,
²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews
and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has
called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and
the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser
than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger
than human strength.

Something greater than Jonah is here,

& there

HOW THE BIBLE IS TYPICALLY PRESENTED



HOW THE BIBLE PRESENTS ITSELF



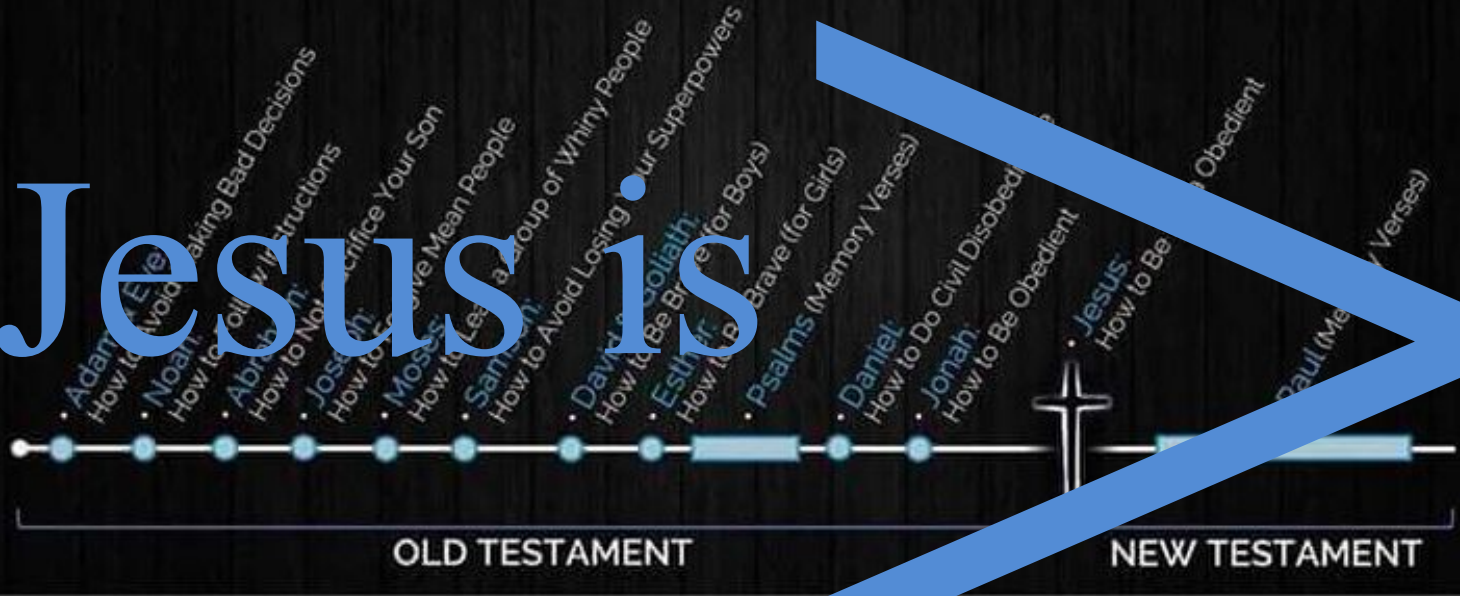
“Once you know how all the lines of all the stories and all the climaxes of all the themes converge on Christ, you simply can’t not see that every text is ultimately about Jesus”

Timothy J. Keller, *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism* (New York: Viking, 2015), 87



HOW THE BIBLE IS TYPICALLY PRESENTED

Jesus is



Jesus is the answer to the who & how of the OT:

- **Job 25:4**, "How then can man be in the right before God?"
- **Psalm 24:8**, "Who is this king of glory, mighty in battle?"
- **Proverbs 30:4**, "Who has ascended to heaven and come down? What is his name?"
- **Ecclesiastes 7:13**, "Who can make straight what God has made crooked?"
- **Songs 3:6**, "Who is that coming up from the wilderness ... on the day of his wedding?"

Something greater than Jonah is here,

& there,

& everywhere.

Gospel Application

Where is God inviting you into the
freedom of not being your own?