

Sunday, October 30, 2005

### **Can Fiction be used to teach Truth?**

"Good night and Good Luck" is a story about Edward R. Morrow, TV journalist and Joe McCarthy, Senator and Communist Hunter in the mid 1950's. The story is presented as true. There is evidence that the story as presented is not historically accurate. That is ironic, because reviewers say the movie is about "telling the truth" and is being touted as a great story for our time in the early 2000's. In other words, the writer, producer (George Clooney), has a message for today about the current administration and is using a story from the 50's to convey it, even if that story itself is not what it purports to be. The story as written serves his purpose. This is another example of fiction presented as truth, though it is not, being used to try to teach a moral lesson. To my mind, this is not an acceptable use of fiction and leads to error. Reviews and links can be found here <http://www.christianitytoday.com/movies/filmforum/051020.html> [http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/good\\_night\\_and\\_goodLuck/](http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/good_night_and_goodLuck/) This Fall, another movie will debut: "The Lion, Witch and Wardrobe". This story is not true as presented. No one claims it to be anything other than fiction, an allegory, that communicates truth. The story itself never happened. It is not true. All agree. Aslan the Lion does not exist. What he represents, of course, does exist and is true. How do we know that? Because the Bible tells us so. The story would not have us believe that Jesus actually is a lion. The fiction faithfully conveys what the Bible does teach. Using fiction, in this case, to teach truth, is acceptable. No one will be misled if they believe it. On the contrary, the Lord has used this fiction to lead many to Himself. <http://www.christianitytoday.com/movies/interviews/michealfaherty.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/movies/commentaries/photographingnarnia.html>

Posted by Cal in Christian Living at 17:35