

This book demonstrates how the Devil subtly manipulates and influences society often through ordinary people and things. The reader will discover how the Bible exposes the comic book character, Superman, as a perpetrator of deception.

Superhero, The Unauthorized Bible Exposé of Superman: 20 Ways the World's Most Famous Comic Book Hero Mimics God, Jesus Christ, Satan, Fallen Angels, & the Nephilim! By Jeffrey W. Mardis

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#### 20 Ways the World's Most Famous Comic Book Hero Mimics God, Jesus Christ, Satan, Fallen Angels, & the Nephilim!

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# PART 1: INTRODUCTION



### **CHAPTER 1**

## Unmasking Superman

his book is unlike anything I've published before. At first glance, the cover might suggest the topic is lighthearted—even trivial. I mean, comic book characters? Seriously? But don't let appearances fool you.

With Superhero, The Unauthorized Bible Exposé of Superman, the goal is to deliver a fun, bite-sized, and entertaining read that's also educational—and, most importantly for the Bible-believer, spiritually edifying (Rom. 15:2; 1 Cor. 14:3). This study is geared toward born-again Christians with an interest in spiritual discernment and End-Times issues. If that's not you, then honestly, this book might not resonate or offer much value.

In today's world, where intense spiritual and realworld challenges abound—from social engineering and pandemics to accelerating technologies and geopolitical chess moves—it's easy to dismiss pop culture as unimportant. But focusing on something as amusing, and often campy, as superheroes can give us a much-needed pause from all the chaos while still providing an important opportunity to redeem the time (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5).

To set the stage, consider that the entertainment industry—spanning sports, music, movies, video games, comic books, and more—is a multi-TRILLION-dollar global powerhouse. The following provides deeper insight into just how massive today's comic hero obsession has become:

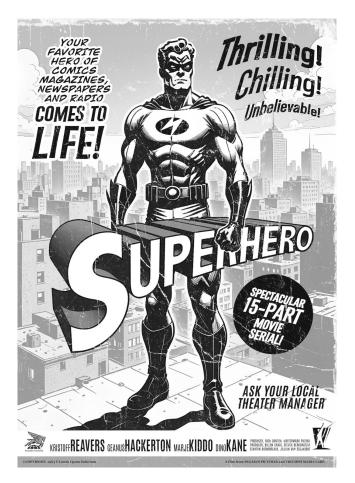
"Superhero movies have become one of THE MOST POPULAR and profitable movie genres worldwide. Over the past decade [2014–2024], millions of fans have flocked to theaters to witness their favorite characters come to life on the big screen. Thanks to titans like Marvel and DC, superheroes have moved from comic book pages and convention halls to the FOREFRONT OF MAINSTREAM POP CULTURE—now firmly among the HIGHEST GROSSING film franchises in the world." <sup>1</sup>

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As of this book's release, thirty-six new superherorelated films are scheduled or planned for 2025 and beyond. The biggest of them all? *Superman: Legacy*, hitting theaters summer 2025—the twelfth live-action Superman film since his big-screen debut in 1948. That averages out to one Superman film every 6.5 years for the past 75 years:

Superman Serial (1948) Atom Man vs. Superman (1950) Superman and the Mole Men (1951) Superman: The Movie (1978) Superman II (1981) Superman III (1983) Superman IV: The Quest for Peace (1987) Superman Returns (2006) Man of Steel (2013) Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice (2016) Justice League (2017) Superman: Legacy (2025)

By January 2025, *Star Wars* has officially been dethroned as the all-time top-grossing movie franchise. The new champion? The Marvel Cinematic



Superman's movie serials began in January, 1948. Fake serial poster above ©Jeffrey Mardis.

Universe. According to Statista, superhero films now dominate the cinematic landscape—holding six of the

top ten spots for highest-grossing movie genres.<sup>2</sup> That's a whopping 60% of the global box office pie.

On Reddit, a network of communities and diverse articles addressing nearly any hobby or topic, one poster asked the question:

"Which superhero do you think is ever so slightly known by the largest amount of humans on our planet?" <sup>3</sup>

The choices included Superman, Batman, Spider-Man, and Iron Man. The final answer returned was "Superman". Some of the most highly-voted responses included:

"As a child of an African immigrant, I can actually confirm this. My grandmother in her random Ethiopian town in Tigray, she didn't recognize my Batman or Spiderman or X-men clothing. But she did recognize Mickey Mouse and Superman." <sup>4</sup>

"For a point of reference I discussed this with my Bengali roommate, he can confirm his grandmother would also only recognize Superman's logo out of this line up." <sup>5</sup>

"Lots of old people don't watch modern super hero movies but they all know Superman. The original Superman movies [1978-1987] were a lot bigger than a lot of people think." <sup>6</sup>

These comments seem both fair and legitimate. They demonstrate that, even in the twenty-first century, DC comics' Superman still retains a relevant cultural position. On April 9, 2024, an *Associated Press* article reported:

"A 1938 copy of the comic that first 'introduced Superman to the world' has sold for a RECORD-SETTING \$6 MILLION, the auctioneer that handled the purchase said last week. According to Heritage Auctions, the rare copy of *Action Comics* No. 1 was sold to an anonymous buyer on Thursday. The \$6 million price tag makes the book THE MOST EXPENSIVE COMIC TO EVER SELL AT AUCTION, the action house added. Heritage Auctions hails *Action Comics* No. 1 as 'the most important comic ever published'..." <sup>7</sup>

All the facts presented above highlight one undeniable truth: the world today is obsessed with superheroes. As the old saying goes, "money talks" and in this case, it's shouting. Audiences are shelling out billions for superhero films, and collectors are

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paying more for a single *Superman* comic than most people will earn in a lifetime. That kind of investment tells us this is more than just mindless entertainment —it's a CULTURAL PHENOMENON with real SPIRITUAL IMPLICATIONS. Because so much interest surrounds this stuff, it's prudent to heed Scripture which has always admonished the Christian to "prove all things" and "try the spirits" (1 Thess. 5:21; 1 John 4:1), so that's exactly what we'll do here.

With this small book, it's my hope that readers come away from this study realizing that this isn't just some throwaway read on Superman. At its core, it reveals how the Adversary subtly manipulates society —often through ordinary people (like comic book creators) and seemingly harmless things (like comics and movies). One of his most effective tactics is disguising darkness behind what appears to be good and let's be honest, comic book "heroes" (Batman, Spider-Man, Iron Man, Hulk, etc.) fit that mold perfectly.

The evidence laid out in this book is meant to help you see that there's a spirit—yes, a spiritual force behind all of this, orchestrating it. And while that may sound startling, it's nothing new. In fact, it's true for many aspects of life in this world. Scripture makes it plain: "the course of this world" is not aligned with God—it's heading in the opposite direction (Eph. 2:2). That's why, as Christians, we are called to be sober and vigilant (1 Pet. 5:8). We are to keep our heads on a swivel, especially as we "see the day approaching" (Heb 10:25). Note how the following verse reveals that an operating "spirit" can often be one of the things that's deeply affecting us:

[1] Now we beseech [implore, beg] you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

[2] That ye BE NOT SOON SHAKEN IN MIND, or be TROUBLED, neither BY SPIRIT, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

[3] LET NO MAN DECEIVE YOU by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that MAN OF SIN BE REVEALED, the son of perdition;

– 2Thes. 2:1-3

The verses warn us against deceit!

And speaking of deception, here's a thoughtprovoking quote to help kick off our study:

"Disagreement exists among scholars concerning the absolute originality of the Superman ethos. The

other precursors [similar fictional characters to Superman] are plentiful; many have argued a perhaps-subconscious borrowing from the Christian phenomenology. So whether the two young friends from Cleveland created Superman in a vacuum is open to question."<sup>8</sup>

The key takeaway here? If there are any "Christian" themes or overtones woven into the Superman mythos, THEY LIKELY WEREN'T INTENTIONAL. Did you catch that? The quote even suggests the possibility of SUBCONSCIOUS BORROWING—implying that the creators of Superman may not have fully understood what they were writing, saying, or promoting.

That's a huge statement.

From a biblical perspective, this opens the door to something far more profound. Could it be that an outside spiritual influence (and no, I don't mean God —Eph. 6:12) was subtly shaping the character and legacy of Superman from the very beginning?

That's exactly what we're about to explore starting right now. From this point on, we begin the unmasking of Superman.

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Wait—does Superman even wear a mask? Technically, no... not in the traditional sense. But make no mistake—he does wear one. It's just not the kind you can see at first glance. His true mask is subtle, concealed behind charm, strength, and cultural nostalgia. But by the time we reach the end of this study, that mask will be stripped away and SUPERMAN EXPOSED!



### CHAPTER 2

## Regarding Source Material

n the world of comic books, Superman's origin has evolved significantly over time—retold no fewer than eleven different times. These versions, dating from 1938 through 2005 (1938, twice in 1939, 1945, 1948, 1949, 1961, 1973, 2001, and 2005), each add or remove elements from the previous iterations. It's a patchwork history, shaped and reshaped by changing times, creators, and agendas.

Beyond the comics, Superman's legacy spans seven different television series, seventeen feature films and movie appearances, thirteen animated films, and nineteen animated TV series. Add to that around fifteen character-specific comic book titles (totaling

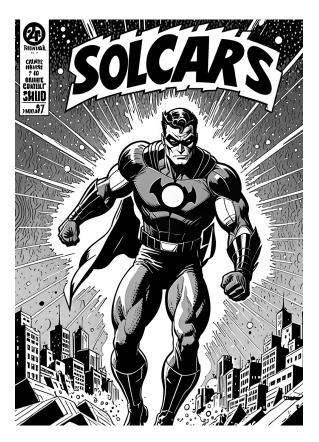
thousands of issues) and countless crossovers, cameos, and alternate universe versions—and you begin to see the massive scope of this fictional universe since Superman first soared onto the scene in 1938.

With so much material, it's inevitable that contradictions and plot holes have emerged. This means that there simply is no single, unified "canon" for Superman—because all of it is part of his history. Superman is a perpetually evolving character, shaped by generations of writers, publishers, and licensors. The result? A mythos filled with inconsistencies, yet undeniably powerful and enduring.

But the goal of this investigation isn't to quibble over which version of our hero is most "accurate." Rather, it's to show that—despite the chaos— Superman has come to embody striking characteristics that mirror GOD, JESUS CHRIST, SATAN, FALLEN ANGELS, and even the NEPHILIM (the hybrid offspring of fallen angels described in Genesis 6).

Believe it or not, more people know Superman from movies and TV than from the original comics. That's an important fact for us, because this study draws heavily from cinematic interpretations—

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Superman's history is comprised of multimedia like radio, television, comics, newspaper strips, etc.

especially *Superman: The Movie* (1978). Yes, there are contradictions between the films, the comics, and other media. But here's the truth: they're all valid. Why? Because Superman is a fictional character—free

to exist in multiple forms, with multiple lives, and multiple histories.

So, when a Superman film contradicts the comics, or one TV series diverges from another, which version is correct? Answer: All of them. Each portrayal contributes to the broader mythos. And with no definitive canon to constrain us, every official depiction is fair game for analysis in this study.

Worried about "staying true" to Superman's history? Don't be. Even major Superman creators and fans acknowledge that the 1978 film permanently shaped the character's lore:

"In addition to being a groundbreaking superhero movie, 1978's *Superman* also added some key elements to Superman's origin." <sup>9</sup>

We'll begin our deep dive by exploring twenty key points where the Superman universe mirrors Biblical themes. Each section includes relevant Scripture and commentary. From there, we'll examine how this character came to be, uncovering little-known facts about the birth of the superhero comic book industry. We'll wrap up with some intriguing final thoughts and insights surrounding the Superman phenomenon.

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"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 T H E S S. 5 : 21

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**



Christian author Jeffrey W. Mardis has been reading, writing, and researching on Bible discernment issues since the late 1990s. He has read and studied the scriptures from Genesis to Revelation many times; written personal summaries on all 1,189 chapters; taken thousands of pages of notes. In 2009, He began writing books to provide an outlet to teach and edify others.

Jeffrey's passion is in writing about the supernatural aspects of scripture and why modern Christians need to return to this

foundation (1Cor. 2:5). His mission is to make the Bible real, while instilling a deeper love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and strengthening one's faith in the Final Authority of the *King James Bible*. Jeffrey's works have appeared on Christian websites, radio, and television, including Southwest Radio Church, Prophecy Watchers, SkyWatch TV, and Now The End Begins (NTEB).

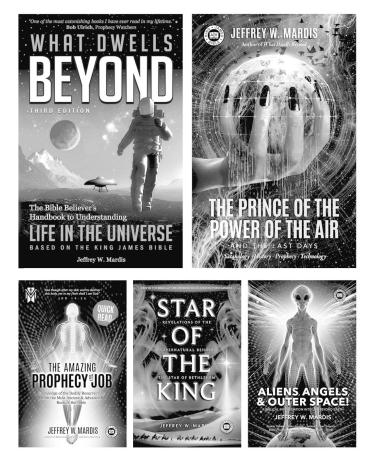
Jeffrey has served in the graphic design field since 1993. He is a former internationally recognized logo and trademark designer, whose work has been showcased numerous times in top peer publications. In 2009, Jeffrey began serving in the book publishing industry. Due to this, he has had the privilege of working with several widely published Christian authors, including Lieutenant Colonel Bob McGinnis, Derek and Sharon Gilbert, L.A,. Marzulli, David Heavener, and the late Dr. Thomas Horn.

Jeffrey has been a born-again Christian since 1979. He is an Independent, King James Bible-Believing Baptist who enjoys spending time with his family and is looking forward to the Lord's soon return.

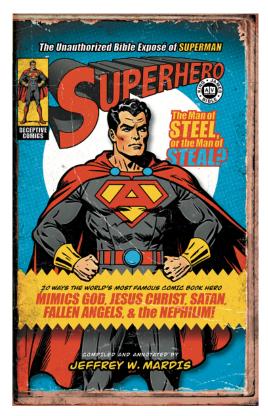
"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Rev. 22:20

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