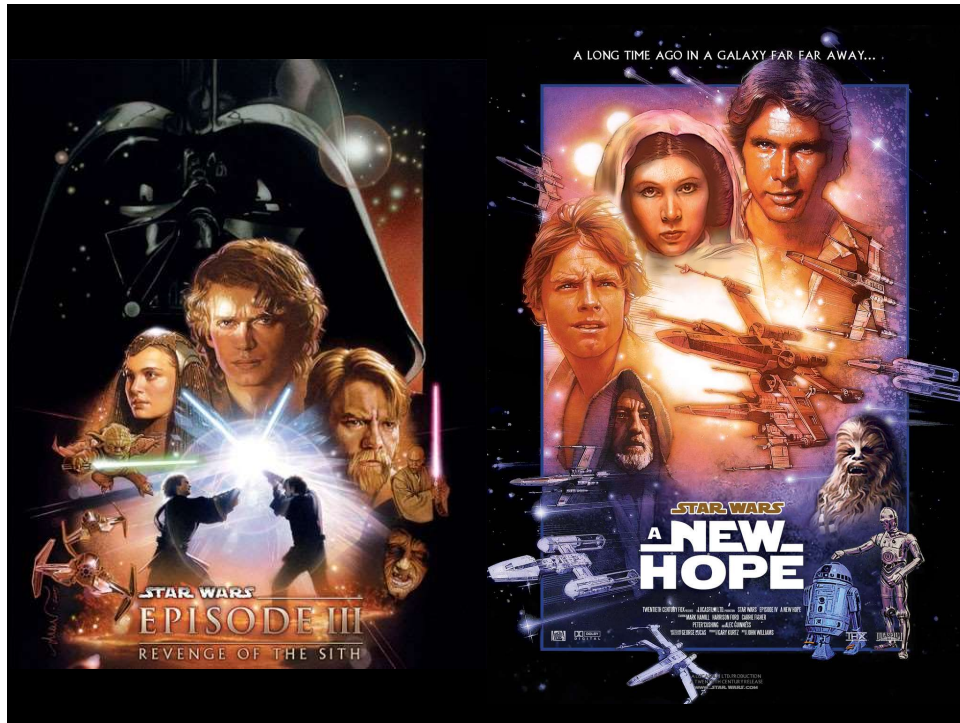
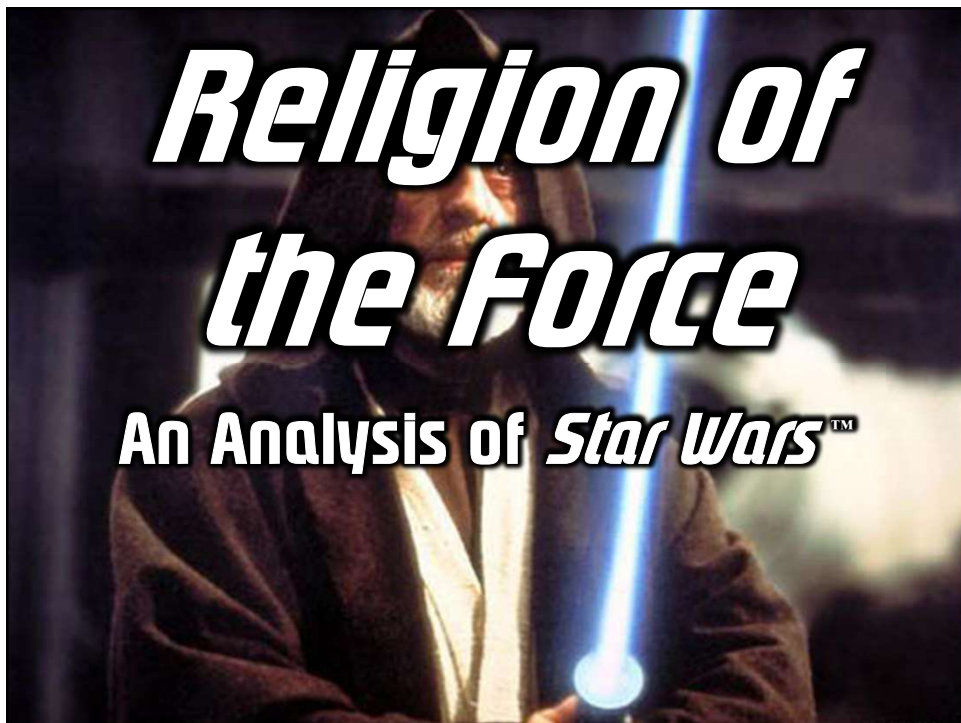


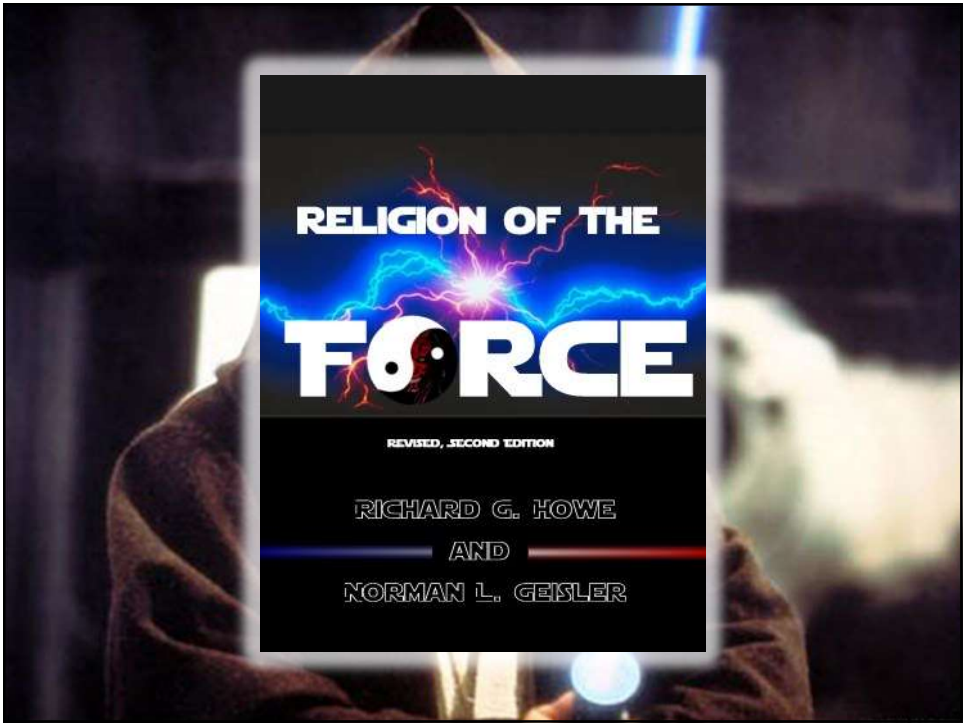
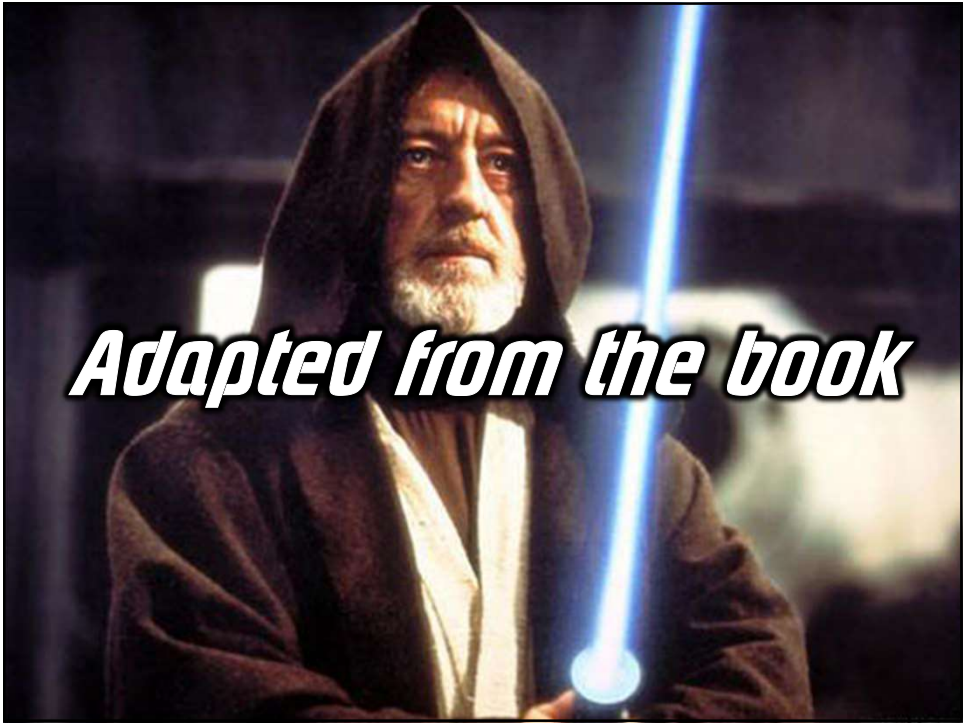
STAR WARS

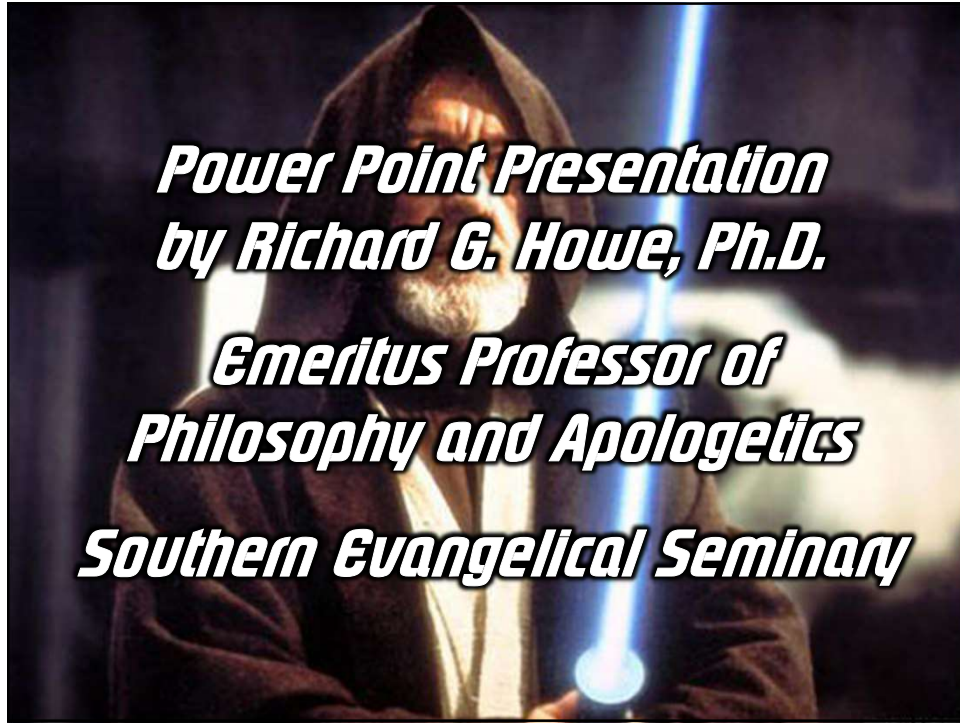












***Power Point Presentation
by Richard G. Howe, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor of
Philosophy and Apologetics
Southern Evangelical Seminary***



***The Star Wars
Phenomenon***



Episode IV
1977

Episode V
1980

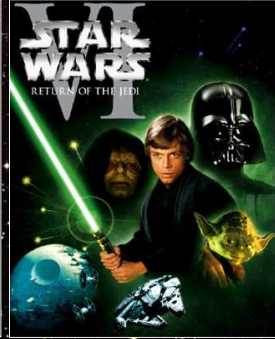




Episode IV
1977

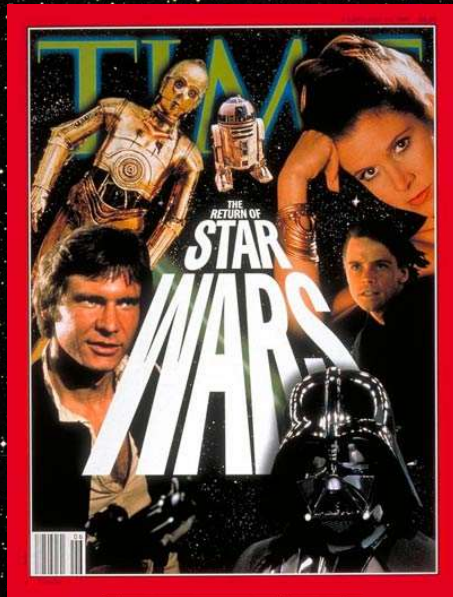


Episode V
1980



Episode VI
1983





Feb. 10, 1997



Mar. 17, 1997

Star Wars Episode I:



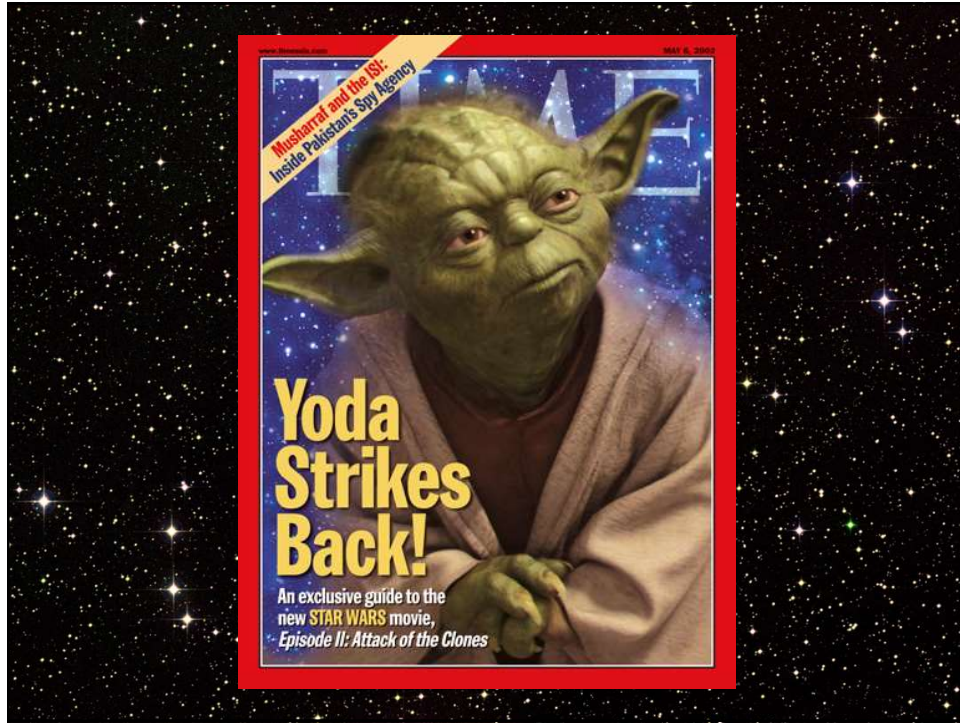
The Phantom Menace
1999



Star Wars Episode II:



Attack of the Clones
2002



Star Wars Episode III:



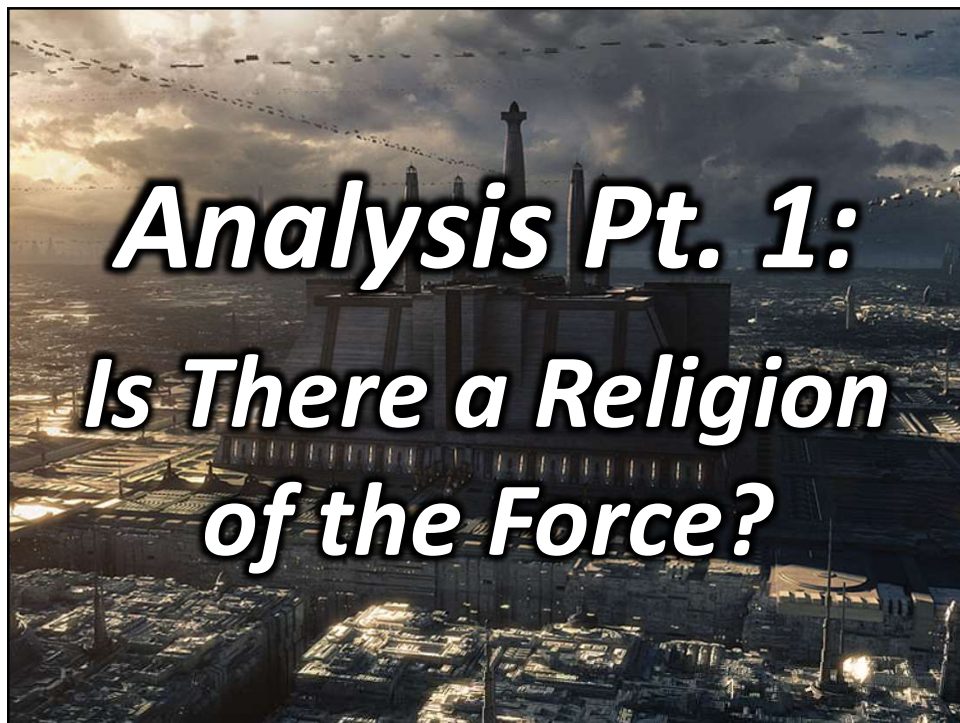
Revenge of the Sith
2005.











***Analysis Pt. 1:
Is There a Religion
of the Force?***



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Welcome to the home of the Jedi Church

Jedi Religious Faith

The Jedi Church believes that there is one all powerful force that binds all things in the universe together. The Jedi religion is something innate inside everyone of us, the Jedi Church believes that our sense of morality is innate. So quiet your mind and listen to the force within you!

*Emotion, yet peace.
Ignorance, yet knowledge.
Passion, yet serenity.
Chaos, yet harmony.
Death, yet the Force.*



An Official Religion - Census Issues.

Make sure you answer the religion question correctly. The NZ Census bureau believe that the Jedi answer means "Response outside of scope" or "Answer understood, but will not be counted", whereas "satanism", "wican", "yoga" etc are valid answers.

Approximately 20000-30000 NZ'ers answer Jedi to the religion question every census since 1991, however, the number alone does not cause Jedi to be counted in NZ in the same table along with other religions as

19:42:38 UTC [Login / Register](#)

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Temple Of The Jedi Order: Church Of Jediism



Jedi here are not Star Wars roleplayers, but a church of the Jediism religion and / or Jedi way of life. Jedi at this site are not the same as those portrayed within the Star Wars franchise. Star Wars Jedi are fictional characters that exist within a literary and cinematic universe.

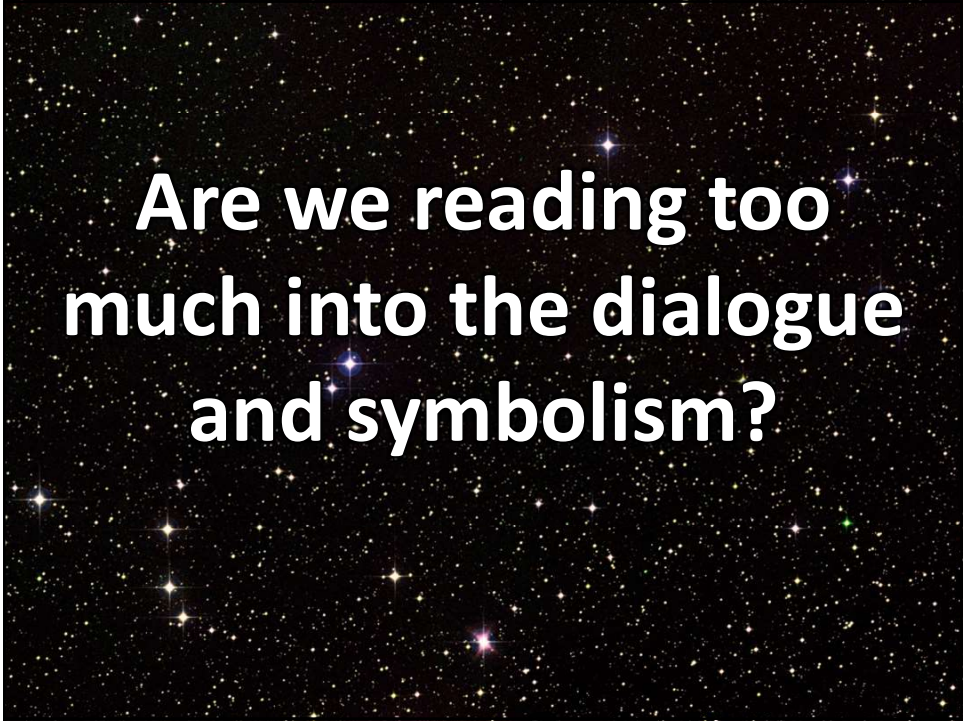
The Jedi here are real people that live or lived their lives according to the principles of Jediism, the real Jedi religion or philosophy. Jedi followers, ministers and leaders embrace Jediism as a real living, breathing religion and sincerely believe in its teachings. Jediism does not base its focus on myth and fiction but on the real life issues and philosophies that are at the source of myth. Whether you want to become a Jedi, are a real Jedi looking for additional training or just interested in learning about and discussing The Force, we're here for you.

We believe in Peace, Justice, Love, Learning and Benevolence: It is unlikely that the Jedi way conflicts with other beliefs and traditions.

A Jedi at Temple of the Jedi Order (TotJO) follows our **Doctrine**, though all are welcome to register an account and participate as a guest.

If you wish to become a Member please **register an account** and follow **these instructions**.

If you wish to further your understanding of the Jedi Path then you can begin the **Initiate Programme**.

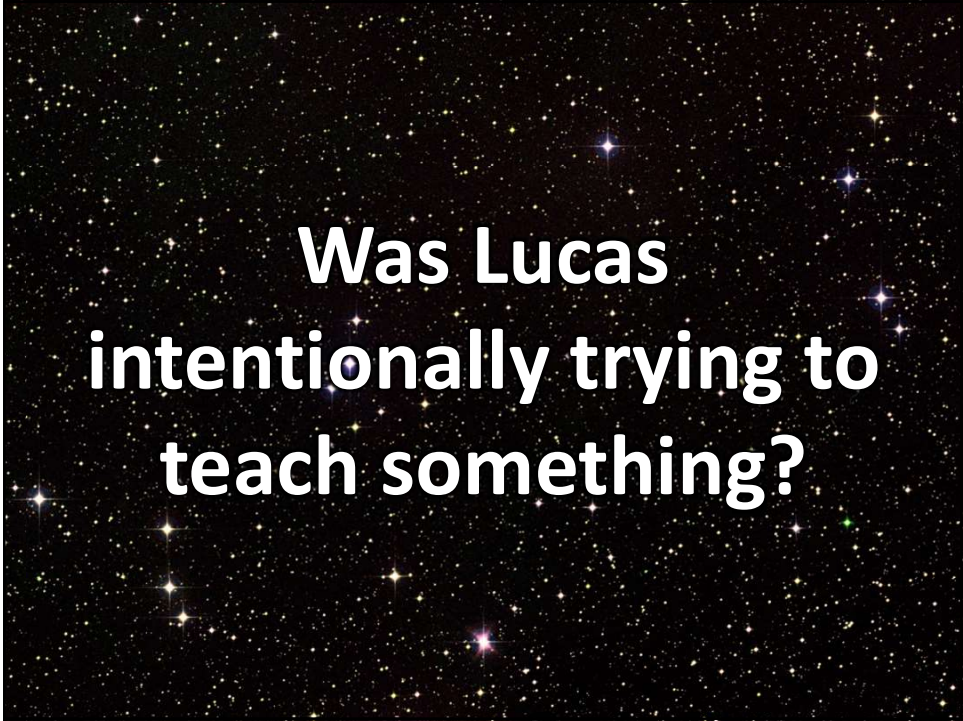


**Are we reading too
much into the dialogue
and symbolism?**

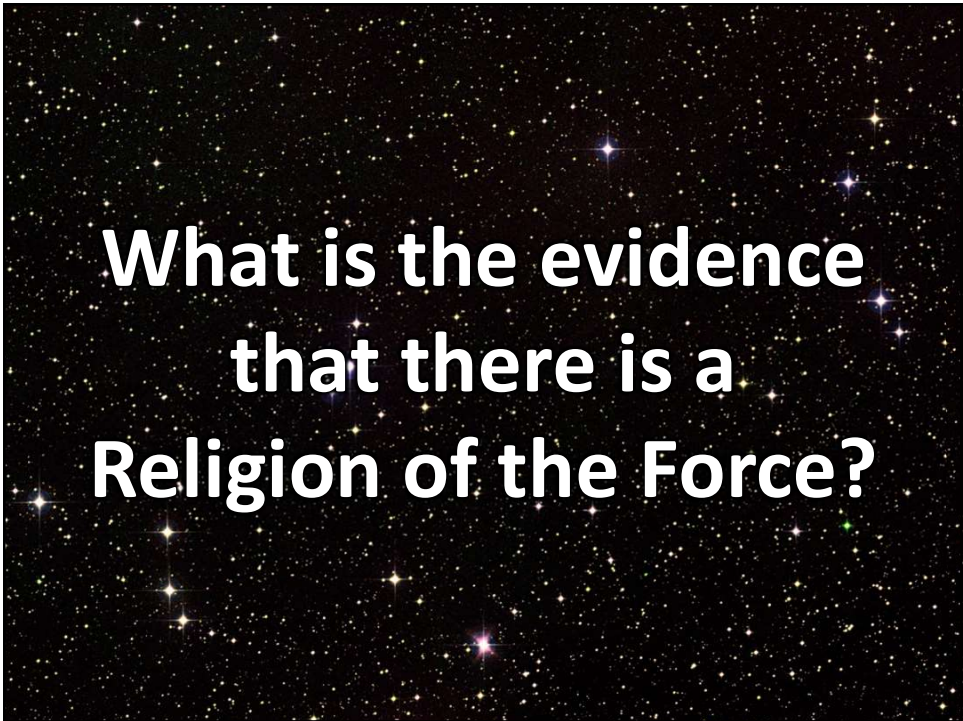


**George Lucas
on *Star Wars***

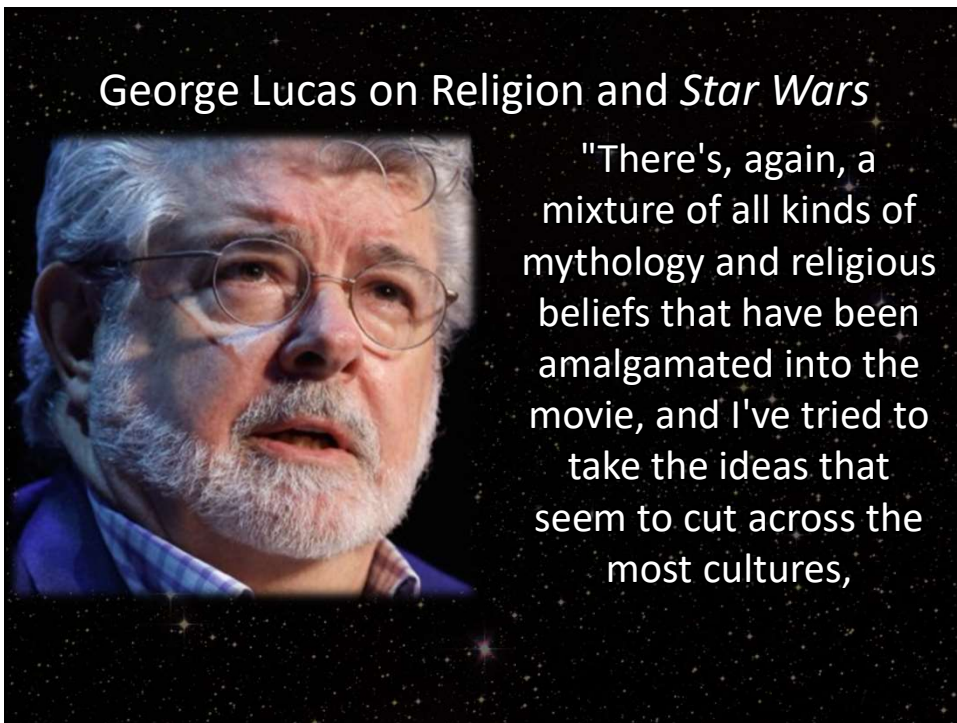
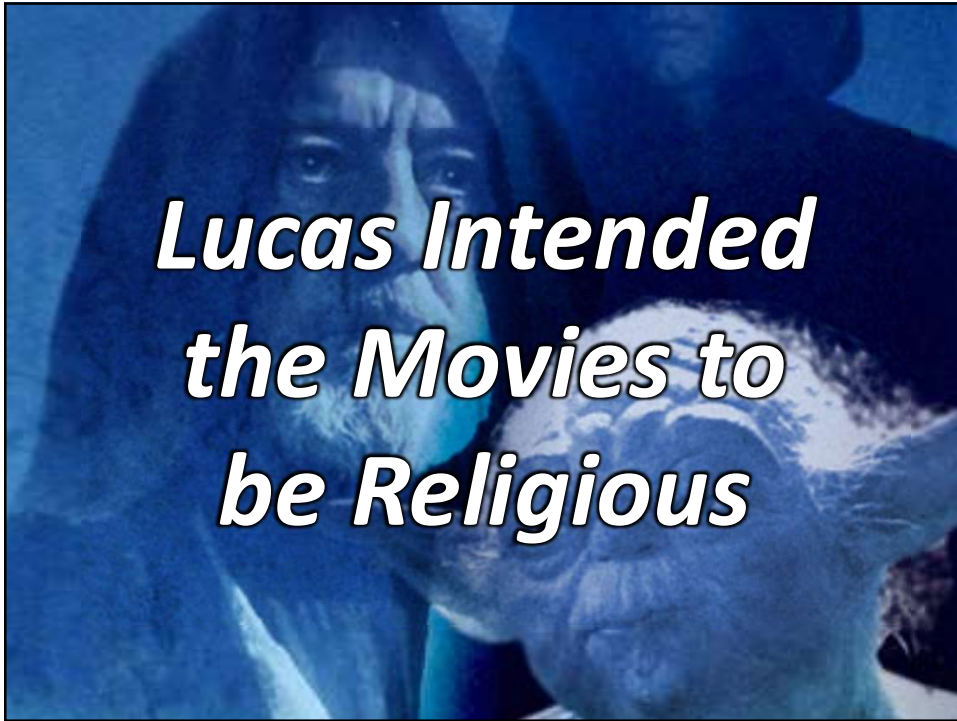
"When I did *Star Wars* I
consciously set about
to re-create myths and
the classic mythological
motifs and I wanted to
use those motifs to
deal with issues that
existed today."

A rectangular image with a black background filled with numerous small, bright white and yellow stars of varying sizes and colors, creating a starry night sky effect.

**Was Lucas
intentionally trying to
teach something?**

A rectangular image with a black background filled with numerous small, bright white and yellow stars of varying sizes and colors, creating a starry night sky effect.

**What is the evidence
that there is a
Religion of the Force?**



George Lucas on Religion and *Star Wars*

"There's, again, a mixture of all kinds of mythology and religious beliefs that have been amalgamated into the movie, and I've tried to take the ideas that seem to cut across the most cultures,

George Lucas on Religion and *Star Wars*



"because I'm fascinated by that and I think that's one of the things that I really got from Joe Campbell, was that what he was trying to do is find the common threads through the various mythology, through the religions."

THE
H
E
R
O
WITH A THOUSAND FACES



BY JOSEPH CAMPBELL

BOLLINGEN SERIES XVII PRINCETON



Joseph Campbell
1904-1987

George Lucas on Religion and *Star Wars*



"When the film came out, almost every single religion took *Star Wars* and used it as an example of their religion."

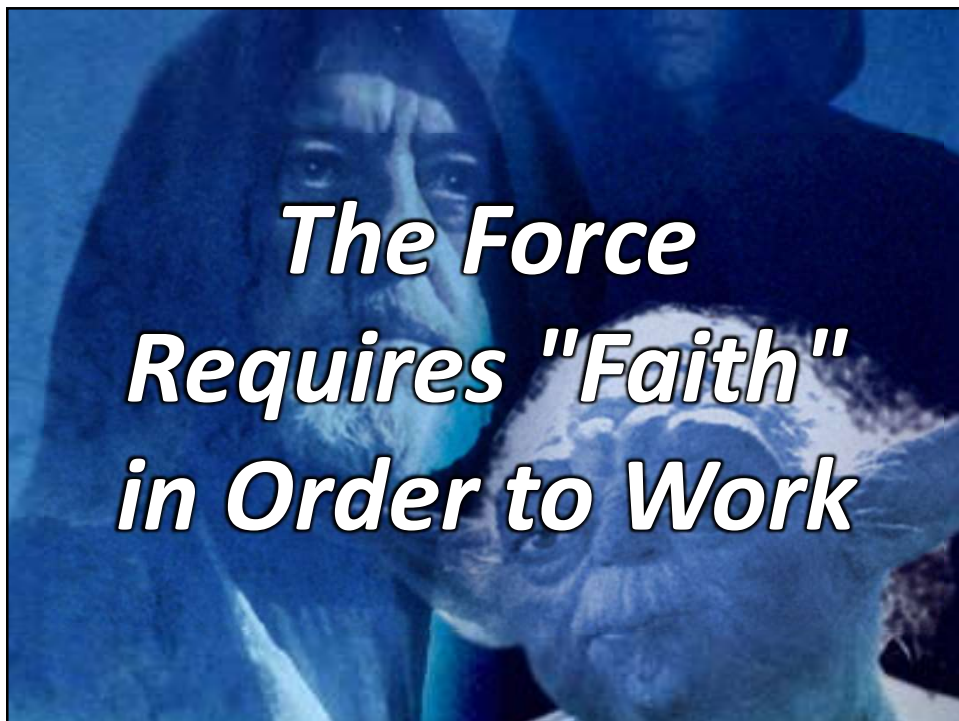
George Lucas on Religion and *Star Wars*



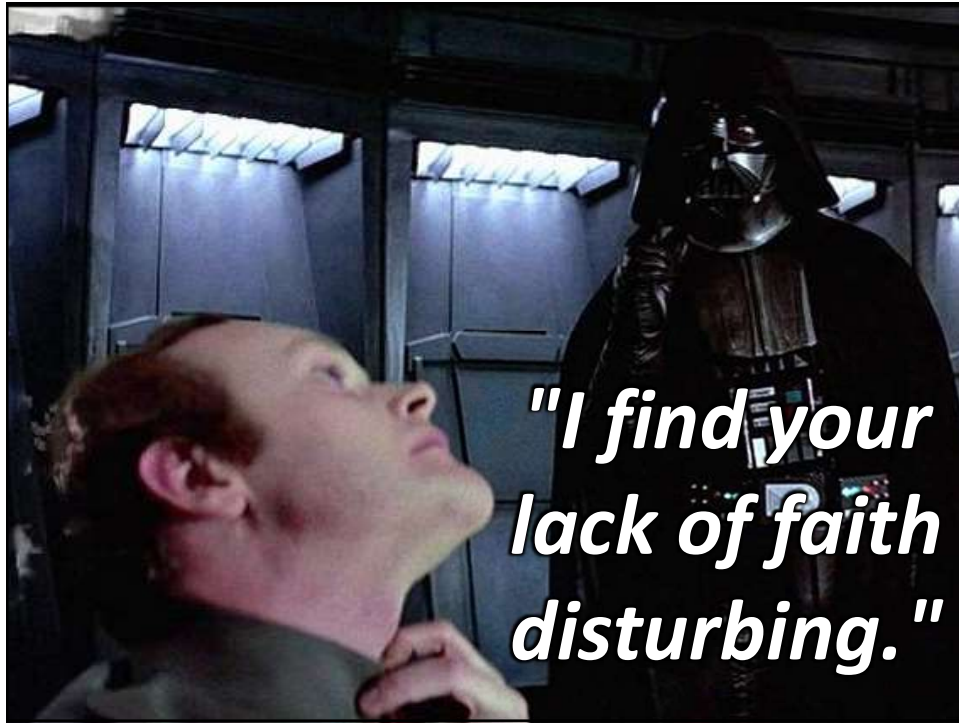
"If it's a tool that can be used to make old stories be new and relate to younger people, that's what the whole point was."



***Jedi Ways Are
Called a Religion***



***The Force
Requires "Faith"
in Order to Work***





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George Lucas



Bill Moyers

"Ultimately, doesn't it take, particularly in religion, a leap of faith? Kierkegaard's leap of faith?"

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George Lucas



Bill Moyers

"Yes. Yes. Definitely. And that's, that's ... you'll notice Luke uses that quite a bit through the films."

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George Lucas



Bill Moyers

"Not to rely on his senses,
not to rely on the
computers, not to ... but to
rely on faith.

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George Lucas



Bill Moyers

"That is what 'Use the
Force' is, is a leap of faith,
that there are mysteries
and powers larger than we
are ...

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George Lucas

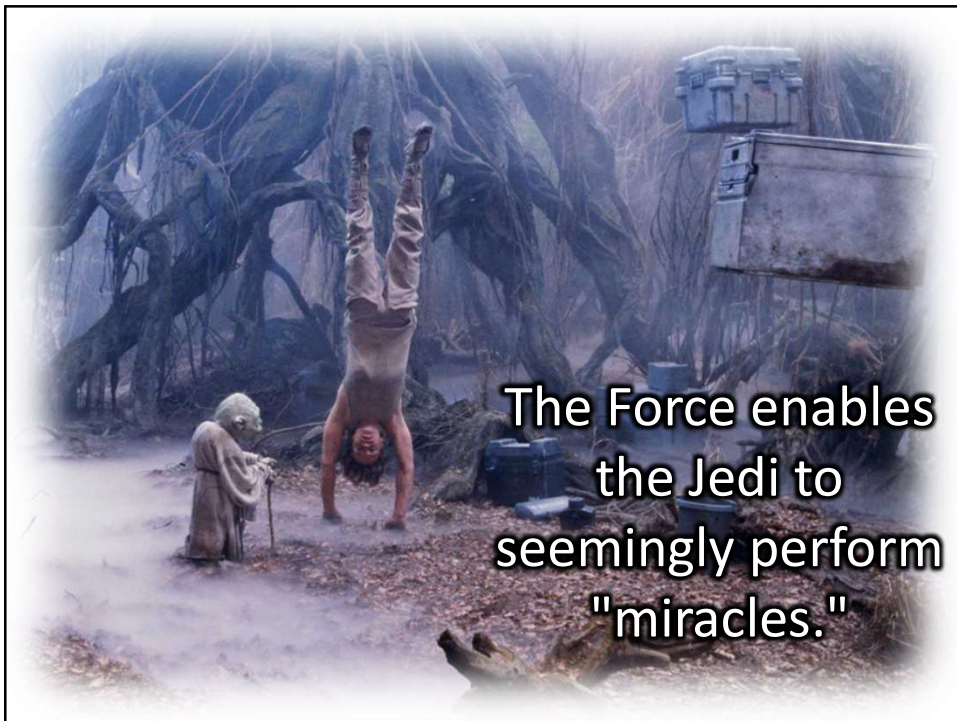


Bill Moyers

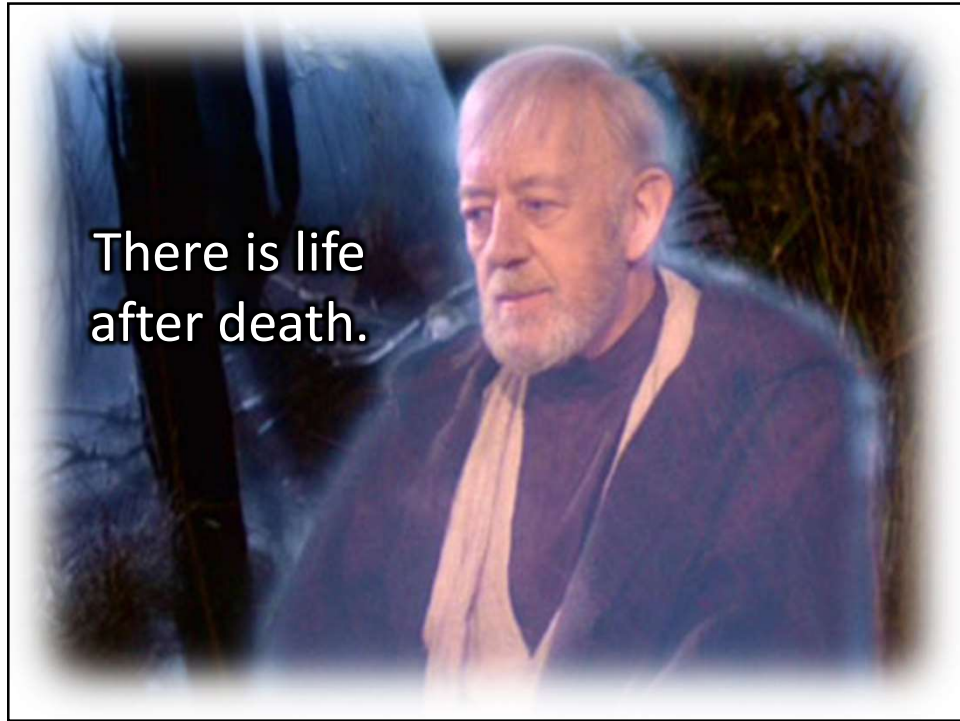
"... and you have to trust your feelings in order to access these things."

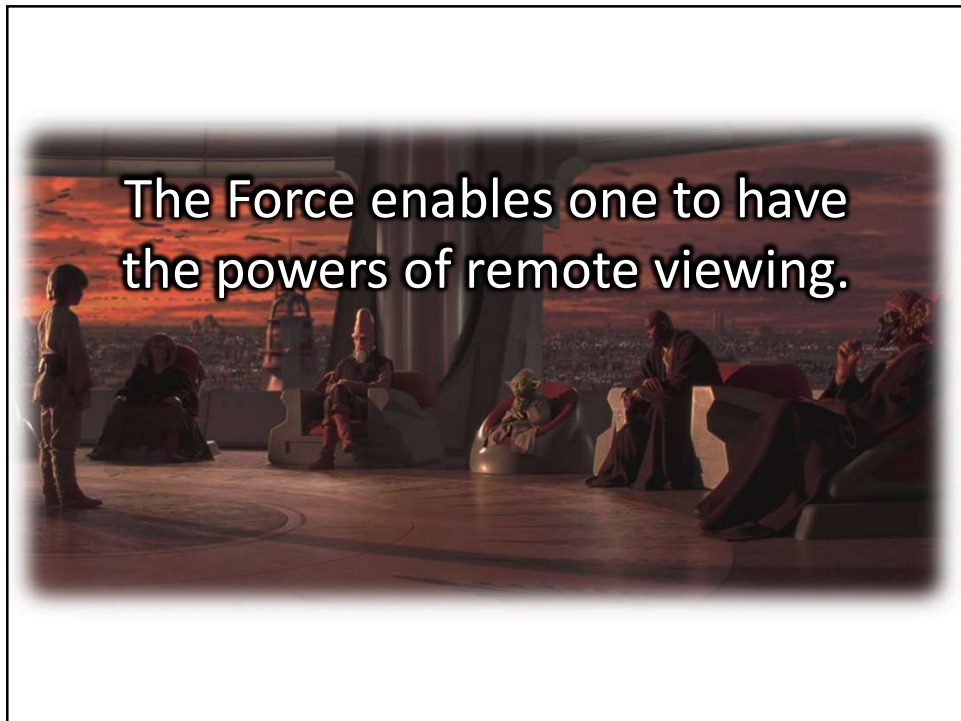


The Force Mimics
a Supreme Being



The Force enables
the Jedi to
seemingly perform
"miracles."





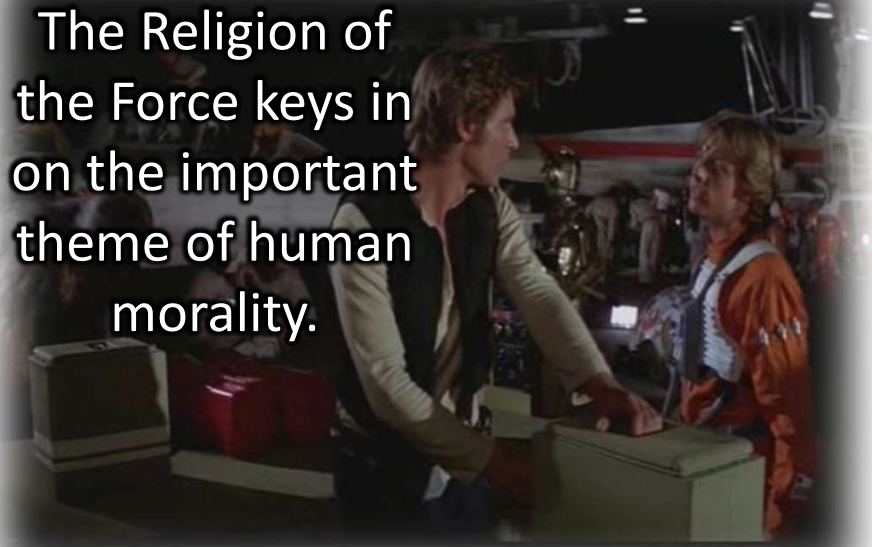
**The use of a
benediction
mimics Jesus'
benediction "Lo,
I am with you
always, even to
the end of the
age."**



**The Force was able to
effect a virgin birth.**



The Religion of
the Force keys in
on the important
theme of human
morality.



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George Lucas



Darth Maul

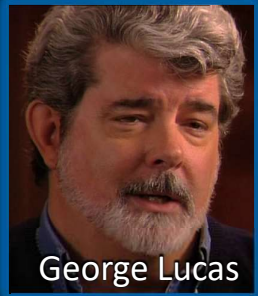


Bill Moyers

This one is all human. And I wanted him to be like an alien

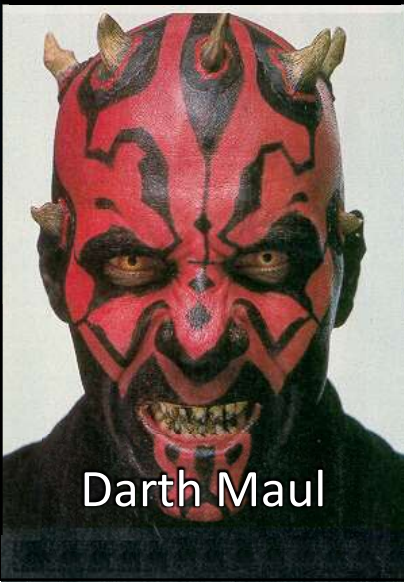
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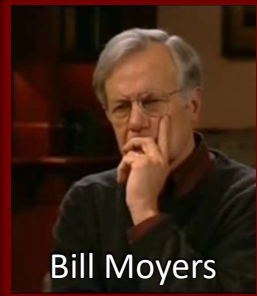


George Lucas

but I wanted him to be human enough that we could identify with him



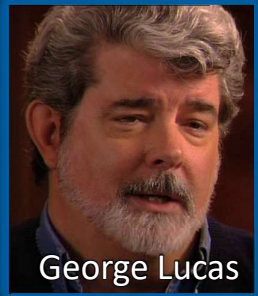
Darth Maul



Bill Moyers

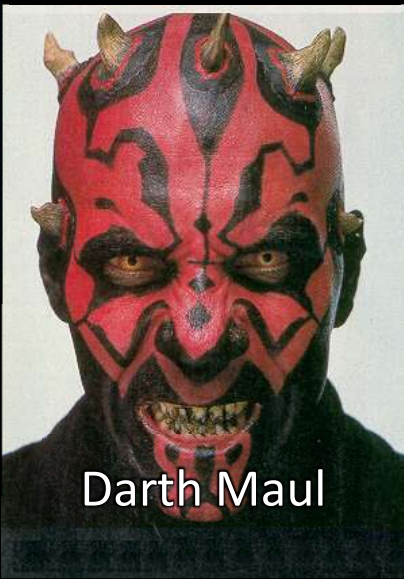
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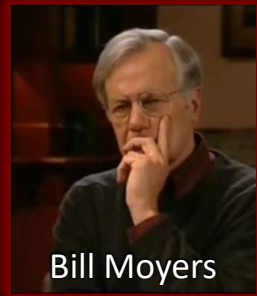


George Lucas

because he's not a sort of a monster we can't identify with. He's ...



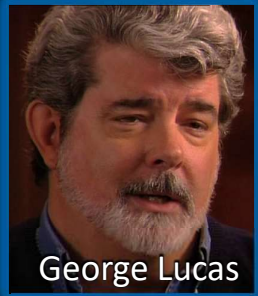
Darth Maul



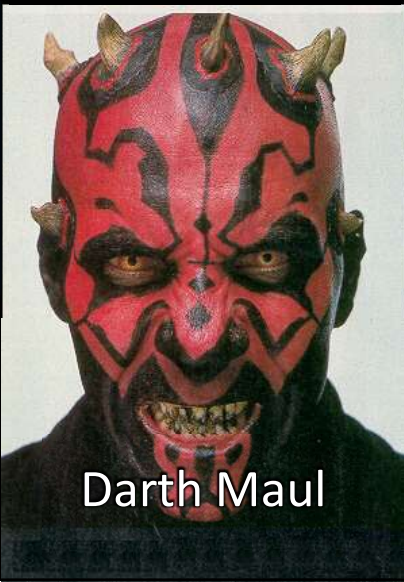
Bill Moyers

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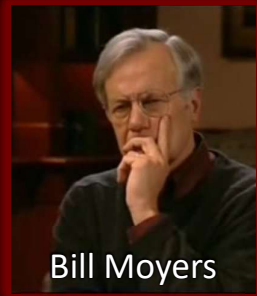
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George Lucas



Darth Maul

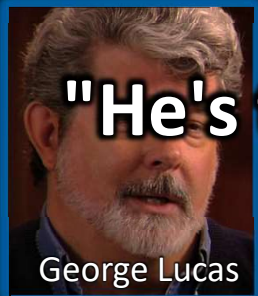


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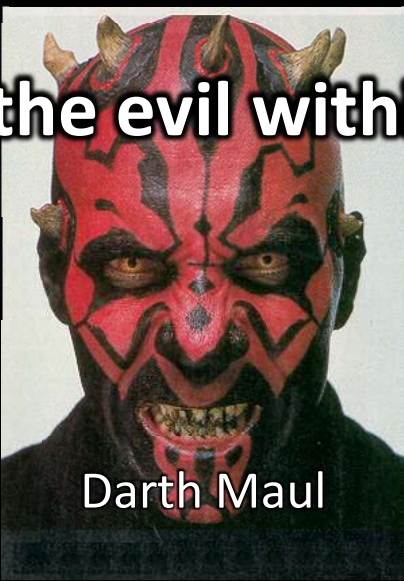
He's us.

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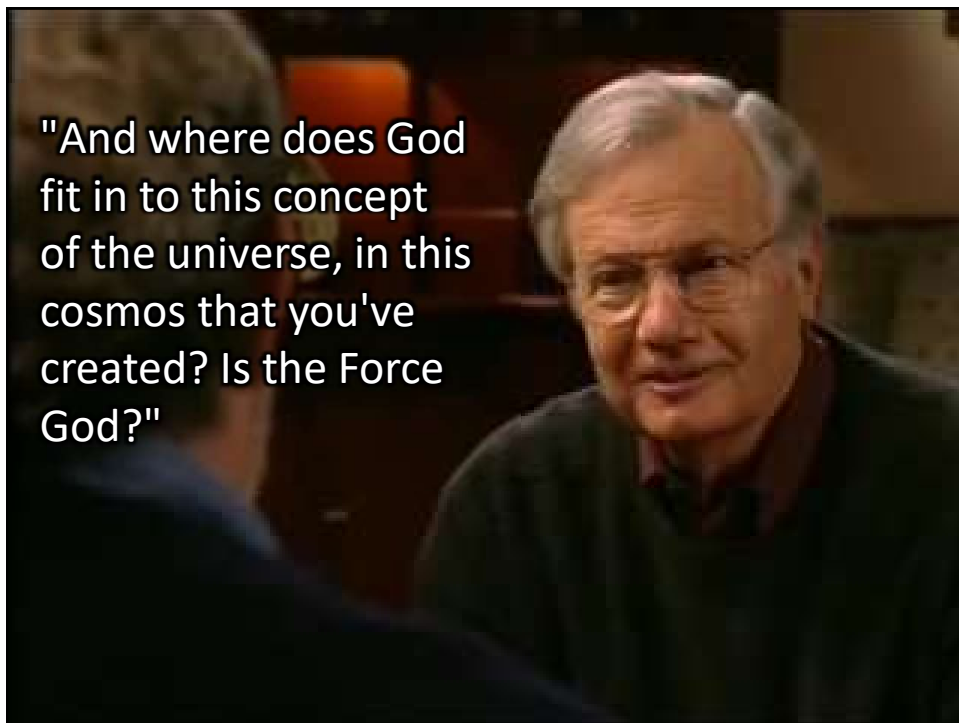
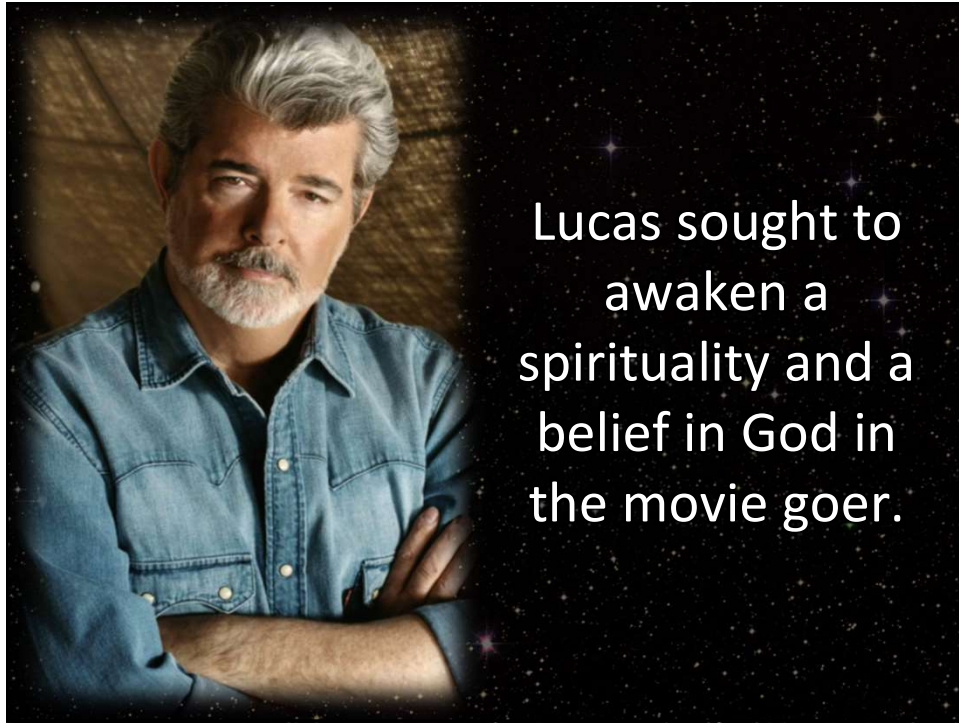


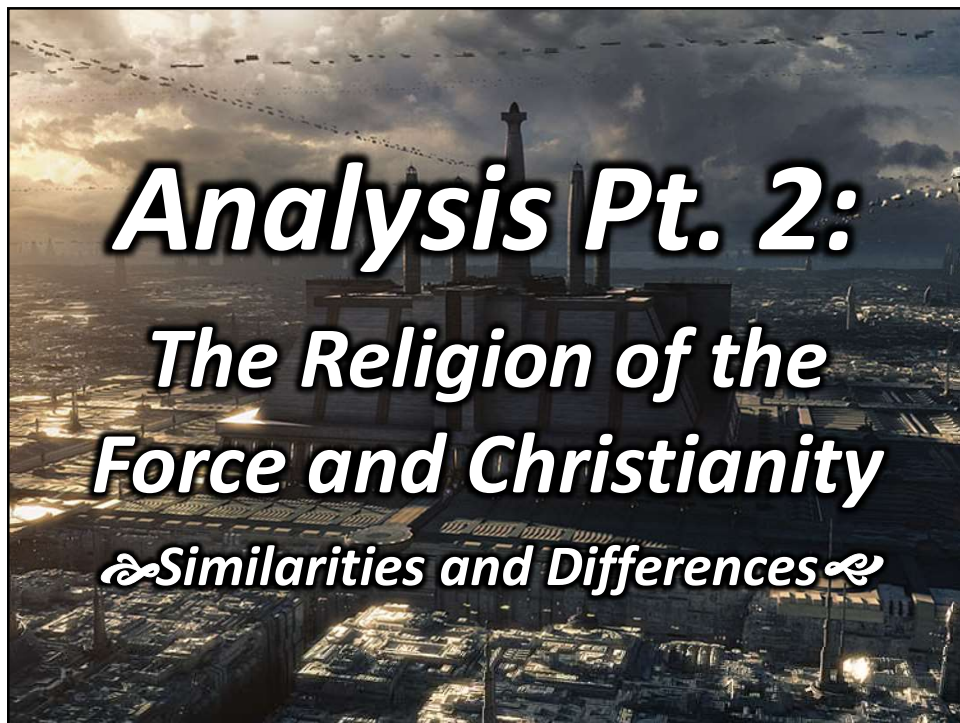
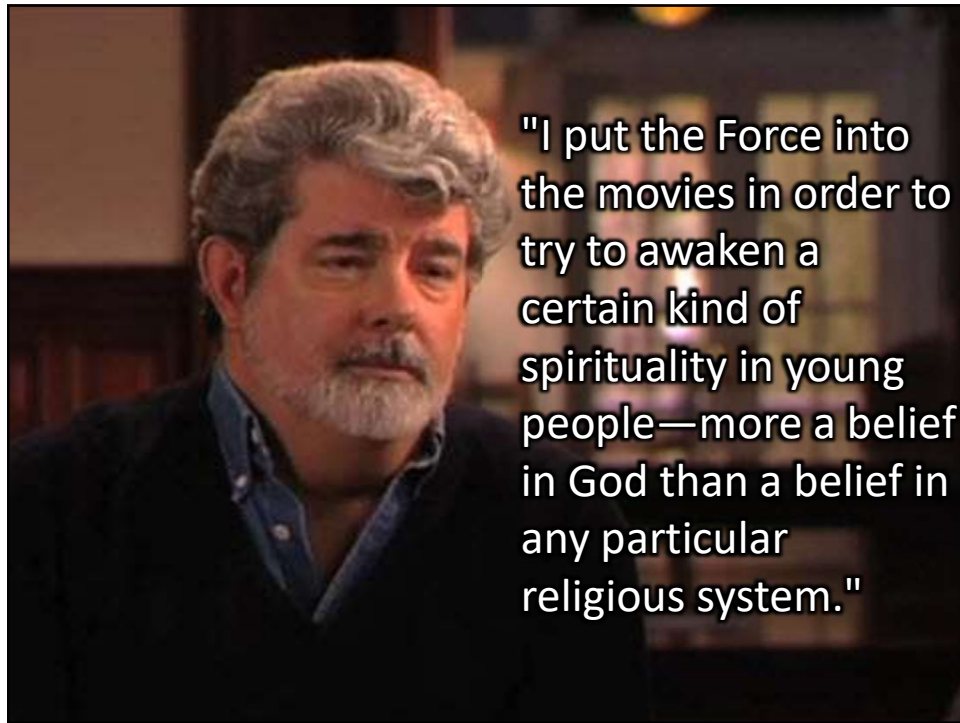
Darth Maul

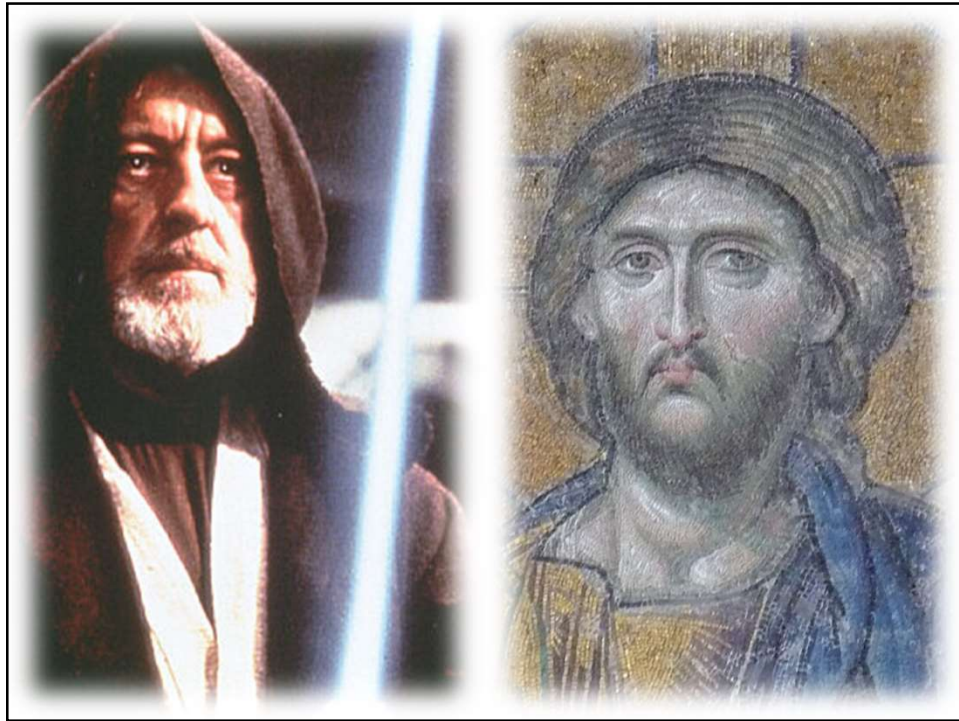


Bill Moyers

"He's the evil within us."







∞ Similarities ∞

1. There is a spiritual dimension to life.
2. There is a supreme Power in the universe.



Similarities

3. Man is caught in a conflict between good and evil.

4. Man has a choice in this conflict.



Similarities

5. Evil can be overcome by making proper contact with the Supreme Power.



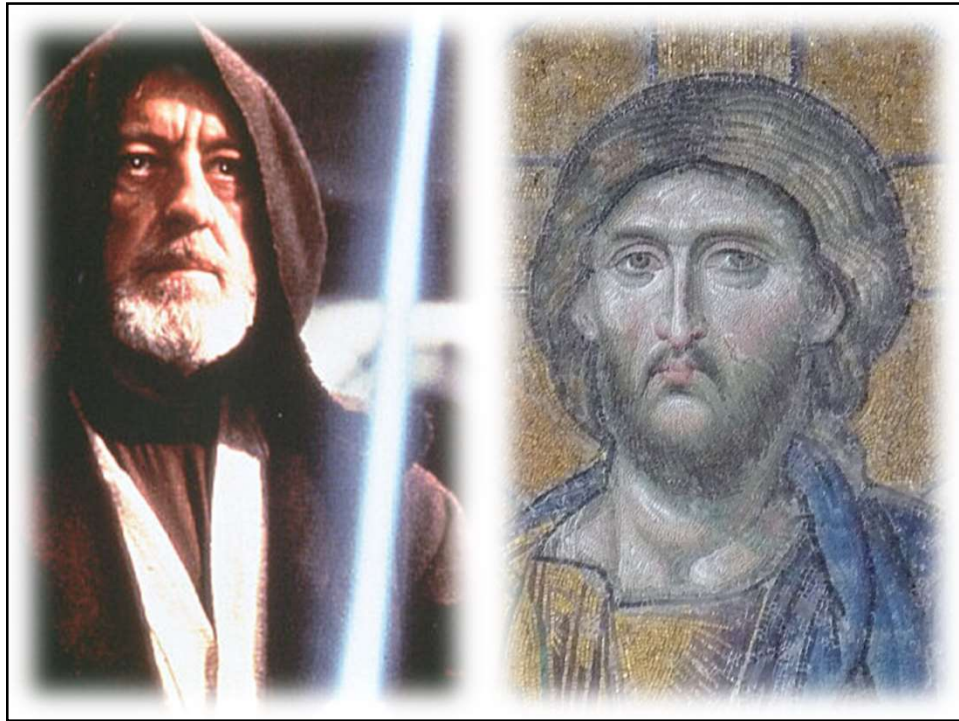
Similarities

6. "Faith" is an essential ingredient in this contact with the Supreme Power.

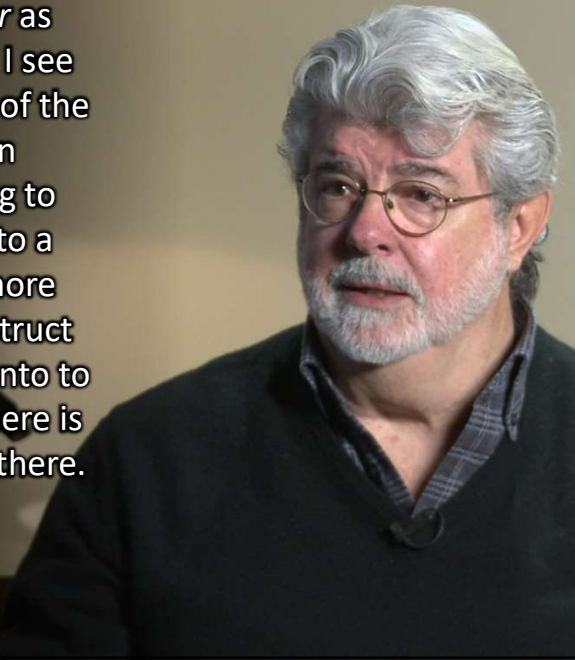


Similarities

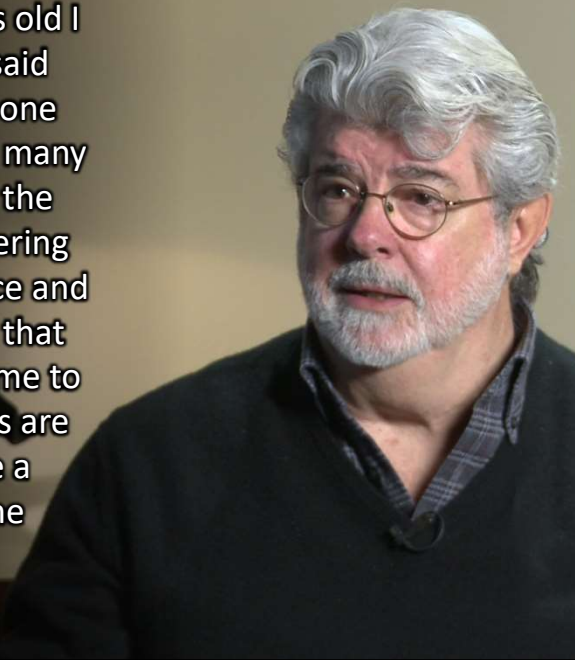
7. There is a glorious destiny (immortality) awaiting the faithful.

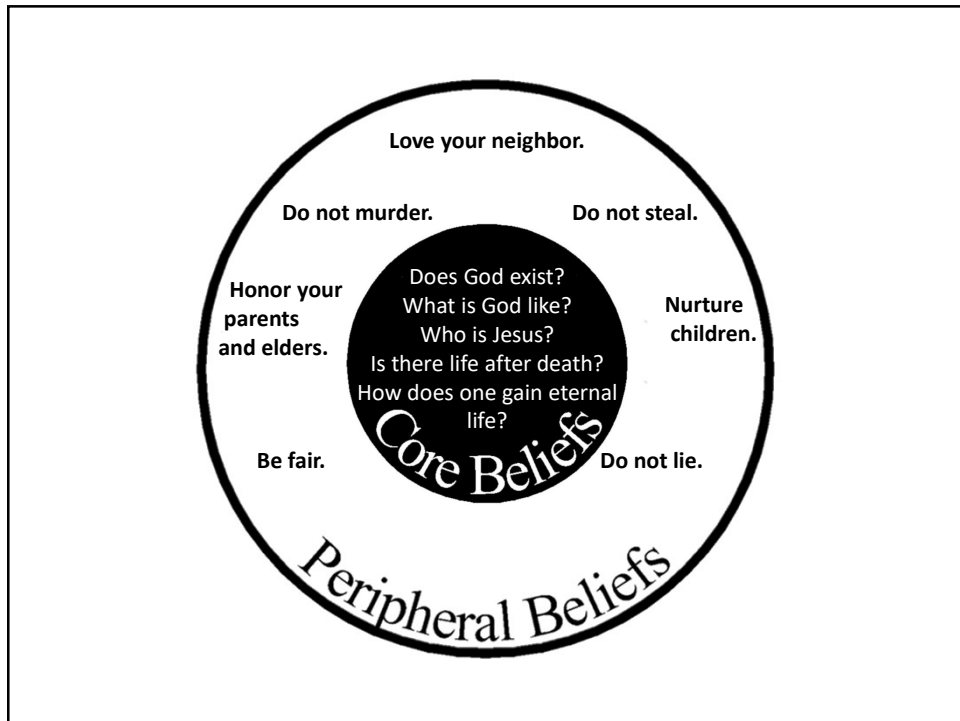
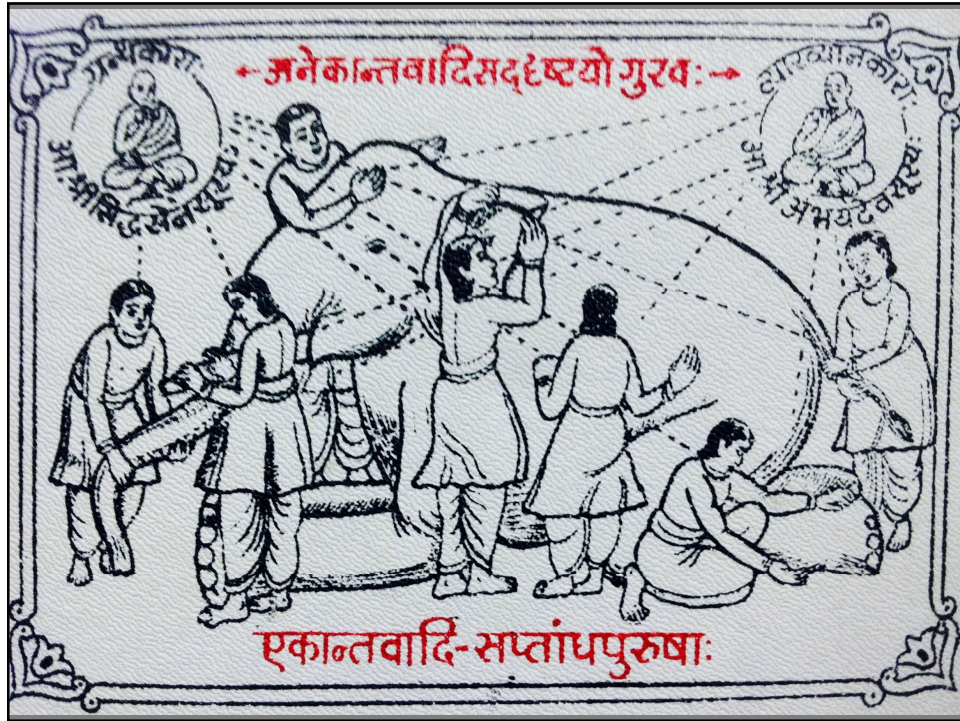


"I don't see *Star War* as profoundly religious. I see *Star Wars* as taking all of the issues that religion represents and trying to distill them down into a more modern and more easily accessible construct that people can grab onto to accept the fact that there is a greater mystery out there.



"When I was ten years old I asked my mother I said 'Well, if there's only one God, why are there so many religions?' And over the years I've been pondering that question ever since and it would seem to me that the conclusion I've come to is that all the religions are true. They just see a different part of the elephant"







∞ Differences ∞

The Force is an impersonal energy field, created by living things and permeating all things.

The Christian God is a personal being who is the transcendent creator and upholder of all things. (Matt. 6:9; John 14:9; Gen. 1:1, 21; Isaiah 40)



∞ Differences ∞

The Force has both a good side and an evil side.

The Yin/Yang of Daoism



The Yin/Yang of Daoism

- Yin**
- passive
 - earth-related
 - cold
 - moist
 - mysterious
 - dark
 - feminine



- Yang**
- active
 - sky-related
 - hot
 - dry
 - clear
 - light
 - masculine



∞ Differences ∞

The Force has both a good side and an evil side.

The Christian God is absolutely good with no taint of evil. (Psalm 99:9)



∞ Differences ∞

The Force is anti-empirical, teaching that one's senses cannot be trusted.

God has revealed Himself through the things that are made (Rom. 1:20).



∞ Differences ∞

The Force is anti-empirical, teaching that one's senses cannot be trusted.

Christianity is based on eyewitness testimony. (Luke 24:36-43; Acts 1:3; 1 John 1:1-2)



∞ Differences ∞

The Force is non-rational, a power to be felt but not to be perceived or thought.

God is a person to be discovered through creation, known by reason, and loved with one's heart. (Matt. 22:36, 37)



∞ Differences ∞

Yoda teaches that one knows good from evil by feelings, namely, being calm, peaceful, passive.

The Bible teaches that one knows good from evil by testing, evidence, and discernment.
(1 John 4:1; 1 Thess. 5:21; Hebrews 5:13-14)



∞ Differences ∞

In *Star Wars*, our human nature is ultimately a non-physical luminosity.

The Bible teaches that humans are both physical and non-physical.
(Genesis 2:7)

∞ Differences ∞

When a Jedi Master dies he dematerializes and becomes a luminous being.

"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth— those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation." (John 5:28-29)

The Religion of the Force
and Christianity
∞ Three Questions ∞

