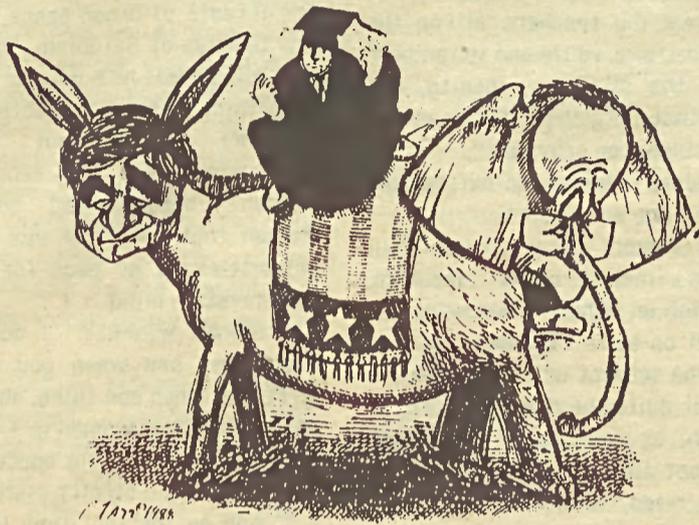


The Aletheia

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SEPTEMBER 22, 1988



WHAT ARE YOU?

Greg Ferrel

The presidential election is just around the corner. This election will be the main subject in all the media. When the results are in, just about everyone will be glad that it is over. A lot of folks would rather that all this mess be done away with and just don't care. I have heard a lot of people say that they feel that their vote just doesn't make that much difference. I have also heard people say that they don't have a real choice in the two candidates. I challenge these feelings.

Most of us live in the world with the same viewpoints as our parents. This is especially true of our political beliefs. However, college is a time of discovering new concepts and re-evaluating old views. The presidential election is one that is especially worthy of being analyzed.

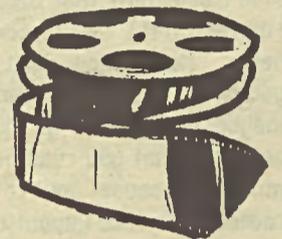
I challenge you to look closely at the candidates and make your own decisions. Don't allow family to completely influence your political

standing. This is not to say that they are wrong. Yet an open mind requires a suspension of doubt and a suspension of preconceived ideas.

The questions you will need to ask yourself are many. Do you want a president like Mike Dukakis that supports abortion (the murdering of unborn children)? Do you want a president like George Bush that supports school prayer? The best way to get a grip on the candidate's platform is to watch the presidential debates. More people watch the presidential debates than the super bowl.

Most of all, don't be apathetic. The privilege of voting is not one that everyone in the world has. If everyone didn't vote then we might wind up being dictated to by Khadafi. God has ordained the people in power -- Bush and Dukakis are not excluded. Get out and vote.

"RELIGIOUS" FILM ROCKS NATION



HEATHER EDWARDS

Riots, rallies and threats are being caused by one of the most controversial films to be released in the '80's. "The Last Temptation of Christ" directed by Martin Scorsese was released with much public protest in August of this year. The film deals mainly with a supposedly human look at the life of Jesus Christ.

Now showing in three North Carolina theatres, "The Last Temptation" is causing much concern among Christians and religious groups. References hinting at homosexuality and sex scenes are in question in this movie. In one scene, the apostle Peter (Harry Dean Stanton) gives Christ a "holy" kiss on the mouth. Christ, played by William Defoe, proceeds to make a statement about the taste of Paul's tongue in his mouth. That's gross! I was brought up believing that the holy kiss was similar to a handshake.

During the movie, Christ has a so-called "dream" in which he marries Mary Magdalene and fathers her children. After Mary's death, Christ then proceeds to move in with Mary, the mother of James, and her sister Martha. He fathers two illegitimate children in these relationships. The sex scenes are very explicit and to the point of being pornographic.

The director Martin Scorsese claims, in defending his film, that these scenes symbolize the different temptations of Christ. He said in an interview with Time magazine that he feels this movie gives a different approach and public view of Christ.

In consulting with the word of God, Matthew 5:48 states, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in

heaven is perfect." Leviticus 19:2 states, "... I the Lord, your God am Holy." And in John 10:30, "I and my Father are one."

Even in these few verses, it shows us that Jesus, the Son of God, was perfect and holy. After considering the definitions from various sources, one is led to believe this means without sin. I agree that Christ was tempted by Satan but most definitely not in the way Scorsese depicts. He has slandered the precious name of Jesus in order to make a more modern sounding Christ.

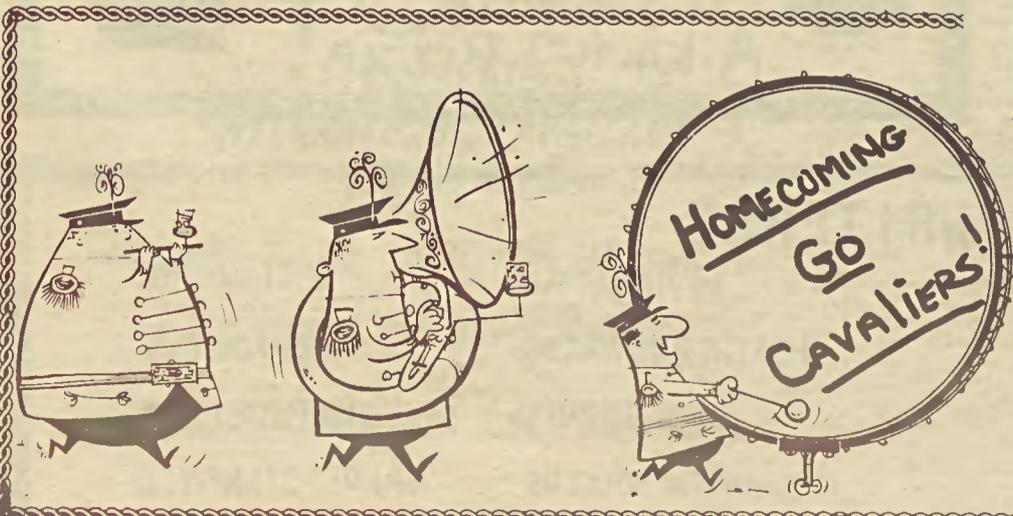
The movie ends with Christ hanging on the cross being tempted for the final time by Satan. Satan is in the form of a voluptuous young girl asking Christ to make love to her. Christ overcomes the temptation and dies.

The scenes I have mentioned in this article are all I have seen of the movie and it is all I care to see. Because of the controversy, you may feel compelled to write in and state your feelings on the film. An address to which you can reply is below.

"The Last Temptation"
American Family Association
P.O. Drawer 2520
Tupelo, Mississippi 38803

As Christians, let's stop the release of such degrading "religious" films. Take a stand for Jesus ... He stands for you.

[Editor's note: please feel equally free to respond to this article or any others in care of the Aletheia.]



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