Christian Movie Review: Carriers (2009)



Carriers (2009), PG-13

- **GENRE:** Horror, Science Fiction
- **ACTORS:** Lou Taylor Pucci, Chris Pine, Piper Perabo, Emily VanCamp, Kiernan Shipka , Christopher Meloni, Dale Malley, Stacy Marie Warden, Dylan Kenin, Josh Berry
- **RATING:** PG-13
- **PARENTAL NOTE:** *Not intended for children. Bad language and questionable situations. Violence.*
- **INTENDED AUDIENCE:** *This movie is intended for fans of the genre, and may not be appreciated by others.*
- **GENERAL PLOT:** (No spoilers) Uncle Josh[1. Cal Stewart (1856-1919) was a pioneer in vaudeville and early sound recordings. He is best remembered for his comic monologues in which he played "Uncle Josh" Weathersby, a resident of a mythical New England farming town called "Punkin Center."] once quipped that all paths lead to the grave. In *CARRIERS*, as in *THE ROAD* (another recently released on DVD end of the world story), it turns out that *ALMOST ALL* paths and/or roads lead to the grave.[2. Of course, no one in these movies literally makes to an actual grave. The people who die mainly just drop and rot where the body lies (instances of cannibalism excluded).] However, ALL paths do seem to lead to the beach. The plot of *CARRIERS* isn't so exceptional. Four

people on a road trip to the Pacific Ocean try to avoid catching a highly contagious virus which has killed off most of the human population. Their adventures, reactions, and the folks they meet along the path make an entertaining tale.

- **REVIEW:** As stated above, the simple plot is not what drives this movie. This is a well stated tale of what could happen when the end of the world gets around to happening. Human nature being what it is, not all of the actions and reactions of the characters present the human race at it finest. Frankly some of the main characters' decisions seem directly at odds with their stated goal of staying alive. Yet, I think most, if not all, of their stupid choices are completely consistent with how actual human beings would behave in like circumstances. But the really compelling behavior of these "survivors" involves the moral choices they make—whether they seem wise or stupid to the viewer. In fact, we are presented with apparently good people who react badly when confronted with life and death situations. Some people react more badly than others. From a Christian point of view, I'd caution you to not put too much weight on how well this movie matches up with Biblical prophecy about the end times. Rather, I think the better view is to concede that *CARRIERS* is fiction. *CARRIERS* follows in a long tradition of books and movies about the end of the world. I've read and seen quite a few of them. This film definitely held my attention. It's well worth watching, if you're not put off by the genre.
- **RECOMMENDATION:**[2. If you wonder why horror films have space on a Christian website like K_Line Christian Online, please see my blog post on point] *This is a horror movie. Many people will be highly offended by every movie in this genre because of the graphic violence, gore, language and other questionable*

elements. However, if you are a fan of this genre—I recommend watching *CARRIERS.*

- **RATING (out of 5 stars):** ★★★★★

MOVIE RATING SYSTEM:

Start with zero (0) out of five (5) possible STARS

- Add one STAR if it looks like the movie was made by professional film makers—not 4 or 5 guys with a camcorder.
- Add one STAR if the film has a story, theme or plot (optional for horror and/or zombie movies); or if the movie makes any sense.
- Add additional STARS for special effects, acting, good moral message(s), realistic zombies, scariness, interesting theme or plot and the like.
- Subtract STARS for extreme bad acting, COMPLETELY awful themes/messages, overall INCREDIBLE trashiness, graphic and persistent lewdness, and the like.