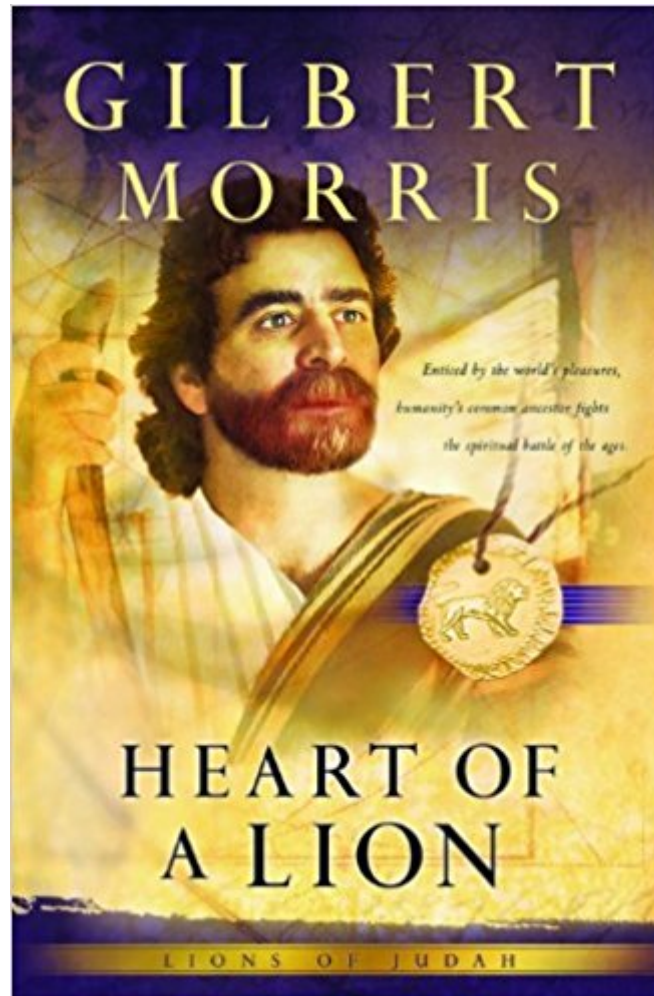




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Heart Of A Lion (Lions Of Judah Series #1)



Synopsis

In his newest series, much-loved master storyteller Gilbert Morris turns his imagination to the Jewish ancestry of Jesus of Nazareth. Combining extensive research with skillful plotting, Morris creates believable scenarios and great stories. The result is an exciting series with riveting, action-packed adventures that will entertain, enlighten, and challenge readers as never before. In the series debut, *Heart of a Lion*, Noah struggles to resist the siren call of the world's pleasures, while straining to hear the still, small voice of his father's God. The reader is in for a roller-coaster ride of surprises as humanity's common ancestor fights the spiritual battle of the ages.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review The indefatigable Morris, who has tackled everything from westerns to science fiction, tries his hand at biblical fiction in the first installment of *Lions of Judah*, a series featuring the lineage of Christ. *Heart of a Lion* begins with a lively account of Noah's boyhood, when he struggled with his feelings for a young woman who worships Baal. Eventually, after conquering a number of demons, Noah settles upon a monastic carpenter's life while he awaits directions from the Ancient One. The gathering of animals and the Great Flood could hardly fail to be entertaining, and they are, though it's hard not to recall John Huston's rather more earthy rendition of Noah in *The Bible*. John MortCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

"Readers can feel like they are actually there as a part of Noah's family... equally pleasing to young

adults." -- Historical Novels Review" gives [readers] a portrait of Noah that can help them identify more with his struggles and ultimate triumphs with God" -- Crosswalk.com

I have always loved Gilbert Morris' novels which is why I bought this one. However, he did not hold up to his usual standard of excellence. When anyone attempts to write fiction based on a Biblical character, they need to be very careful to stick to what is Biblically accurate. As has been pointed out in other reviews, he had them eating meat before the flood. He also mentioned seeing lights that shone like the rainbow. How did they know what a rainbow looked like before the first rainbow occurred AFTER the flood. I also don't believe that there was rain and thunder storms before the flood. He told a good story which held my interest but after reading some of these inaccuracies I was disappointed. I will stick to reading his books that are historical fiction, but not based on Bible characters.

I generally enjoy historical fiction, but this book seemed to deviate too far from scripture. Often I found myself simply skimming pages just to finish the story. The author captures well the highs and lows of faith and lack thereof. I could feel the worry that Noah and his family felt, wondering, "are we crazy, have we heard God correctly?" But the inaccuracies were rampant: Scripture says that man was vegetarian before the flood, but the author has them eating meat. Genesis 6:9 says "Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God." But the author presents him as overcome by sexual temptation and unable to separate himself from lust. Can he support this idea? If not, don't mess with God's appraisal of the man. And certainly DO NOT imply that sexual immorality is the norm. I got tired of the author implying that sin came to "helpless men" besieged by immoral women. Sure there are immoral women, but God tells us that sin entered the world through one man - Romans 5:12. There is a dangerous tendency in men in some "Christian" circles to blame women for the sin of man, but God never says this nor treats women thusly. Galatians 3:28 English Standard Version (ESV) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. I doubt I will read another book by the author.

I gave "Heart of a Lion" 5 stars because: 1. ... It captured my attention and interest immediately, in the first few pages; I read it in 2 sittings (literally) - I didn't want to stop reading; 2. ... The plot and the characters were believable; 3. ... The narrative descriptions made me feel as though I was right in the middle of the story, a participant not just an observer; 4. ... In my nearly 65 years of life I have had

a number of experiences which I could identify with various experiences of several of the characters;5. ... I was impressed with the manner in which the characters, some more than others, interpreted their interaction with our Creator - it help me see new ways to understand old truths;6. ... I felt as though I had worshipped as I read "Heart of a Lion;"7. ... Also, as an aside, the grammar and story continuity were superb, causing no challenge to my being able to focus on what was happening in the story;I would recommend this book to anyone who might have ever wondered what it might have been like to live in the days before and just after the Flood. This novel is appropriate for teens through senior adults.Be prepared to laugh, cry, hold your breath and be amazed as you discover the "Heart of the Lion."

Though this is not scripture, it fleshes out what might have been everyday living in Noah's time. I always hve felt that these fictional novels, no matter how long, are based on a small scripture. And to me, it seems to help me see how it might have been and how men became evil and idol worshippers and how strong others had to be to resist filling the crowd and continuing to rely on God. But the knowledge that Jesus was to come forth from this family and line and the way the author wrote about it gives an insight in how great our God is and in these times how much we need to rely on Him and follow thru His perfect plan for us, His beloved children. Looking forward to the next in this series. I believe Gilbert Morris is an exceptional author.

I like historical fiction, especially books that open my mind to a bigger picture than I had before the reading. As with most Biblical based stories, this Bible story has been fleshed out a lot. You may or may not be offended by the way Gilbert Morris fleshed out the story. I often do not like the way authors flesh out stories . . . I believe the Bible to be God's story, so altering truth bothers me. I was not offended by this one. Though the story is fiction based on a factual event, the fiction part added to the characters, not detracted from them, without making them in to some kind of superhero. They were real people with real strengths and weaknesses.

The author had a good plot, but seemed to be honing his writing skills as he wrote. The first part of the book contained strange similies such as a man belching like a frog that boomed. Also, the author had Noah eating meat, even though Genesis says only after the flood that animals would be good for eating. Also, he had Noah's son being born before he began the ark and one of them even in charge of engineering it. But the Bible says that Shem, the oldest, was 100 years old two years after the flood. Since Noah took 100 years to build the ark, Shem wasn't even born until two years

after Noah began building it. Also, he talked about flat land at the bottom of the mountain with emerald grass, then said the land was rocky and mountainous. I did appreciate that he went into Noah preaching before the flood and life aboard the ark. I have read two other books about Noah and, though one was superbly written, neither covered these two things.

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