

Disney - Tangled Movie short report

a report from Snapshots of a Disciple and FEDBP



Disney's movie 'Tangled' is an unusual story which has all sorts of themes that are meant to plant the seeds of rebellion and bolster the pride of children to not listen to their parents as well as plant the seeds of curiosity of evil things that we are told in God's Word to flee from. For those who do not know the main points - here's the general plot.

A king and queen of a far away land (apparently Disney's version of a province in Germany) are about to have a baby. But before the baby can be born, the queen gets very ill and close to dying. So, the loyal soldiers leave to go find their last hope for her survival: a 'magic' glowing flower that has the 'power' of life and health. They find this flower deep in the forest, and bring it back to the castle and put it into tea, and give it to the queen and she lives and recovers, and the baby is born healthy. What they didn't know was that there is a witch who looked ugly, but would come to that flower often in the night and sing a 'special' 'magic' song to it and it would send out a glow that would 'magically' change her appearance back to a younger pretty lady (in the world's eyes). So, when this flower is gone, the witch tracks down the king and queen's new daughter. The witch slips into the baby's room in the darkness of night and sings to the girl, only to find that the baby's hair now has the 'power' that the flower once did. So, the witch steals the baby and takes her to a very high tower deep in the woods. The king and queen look everywhere but cannot find the girl, but they have a special ceremony every year (on her birthday) where they (and their loyal subjects) let go of flying glowing lanterns - in hopes that someday, their daughter may see them and return. The witch feigns love for the child and pretends to be the child's mom, so that's all the girl knows. As the years go by, the witch leaves the girl alone for hours - except when the witch wants to get rejuvenated by singing to her hair. So, Rapunzel does all sorts of things to pass the time - paint,

crafts, games, read, etc, etc. ~ Enter 'Flynn' - the master thief and escaped convict. Flynn is wanted for stealing (among other things) the disappeared princess's crown from the castle - with the help of two brutish thugs and fellow thieves. All three thieves are found and hunted down shortly after they steal the crown and they run for their life. To make it short - Flynn outruns and abandons the two other non-loyal thieves and escapes, and runs to the high-tower where Rapunzel is stuck. Rapunzel tackles Flynn and after much discussion and dramatics convinces Flynn to take her to see the floating lights on the next day - her birthday. After a wild and tangled journey, the witch tries to convince Rapunzel to come back with her - cooped up in that tower, Rapunzel refused (not yet realizing that the witch isn't her mom). So, the witch works with the 2 brutish convicts to turn Rapunzel against Flynn - using lies, a carefully arranged scheme, and false accusations that appear true. The plan works - just after Rapunzel sees the floating lights with Flynn on the lake. Rapunzel willingly goes back with the witch - then starts to catch and unravel the lies and realizes that she's the lost princess. Flynn is barely saved from death by hanging by some comrades, and runs back to the tower and is given a fatal wound by the witch, who has tied up Rapunzel and is getting ready to take Rapunzel deep down somewhere to never see the light again. Rapunzel makes a deal that she will stop fighting the witch, if the witch will let Rapunzel heal Flynn. The witch agrees. Rapunzel goes over to Flynn, and in a quick maneuver - Flynn cuts off Rapunzel's long hair and therefore Rapunzel loses the 'magic' powers, and the witch reverts back to looking like the ugly witch. The witch freaks out, and with the help of Rapunzel's chameleon, the witch trips and falls out the window and vanishes in thin air. Flynn dies in Rapunzel's arms, because with short hair - the 'power' is gone. But after he dies - she remembers to sing that rhyme-spell, and as she stutters through it, she sheds tears, one of which drops onto his face and seconds later, he's resurrected by this 'magic' tear (similar to in *Beauty and the Beast*), and he's resurrected (by a rhyme-spell...) Getting back to the story, the princess is taken back to the king and queen, Flynn is relieved from all crimes, eventually marries Rapunzel and 'they live happily ever after'... right - but that's how Disney's twisted world always end. Okay - that's the plot - now for some details that catch my attention, and the patterns are alarming - especially when taught to children.

Please allow me to note that I don't like to pick apart little details of Disney's logic, but rather to show the patterns of lies and deceit and demonic psychology - so that other people can not only see through the evils of the movie, but also see through the evils of that wrong and deceptive cultural logic. So, I hope that you'll keep that in mind as you read this.

Where to start? Let's start at the flower and the glowing hair, and the 'healing' spell song. First off, there's the lie and legend of trying to find that mysterious 'magic' formula, spell, flower, fountain - that will allow us to live forever or be healthy forever - or... you get the idea. All of that is seeking to live forever on this sin-tainted earth. The only way to live forever in peace and complete health is to repent and learn to follow Christ here through tough trials so we can live in the perfect New Jerusalem beyond this temporary life - but if we do not repent or our willful rebellion

against God, that will mean eternity in the real Lake of Fire forever (Revelation 20:10-15). So, this legend distracts from getting right with God - instead plants the seed of trying to outlive the curse of sin without God. You'll notice that in all of the Disney movies, they replace the real God with something else and teach and promote one or a few false religions.

So, the 'magic' then transfers to Rapunzel's hair. But that can't happen either - we aren't born with special powers. In Romans, God teaches us that we are born with the want to rebel - against our perfect all-loving Creator, while always lying and excusing our sin. We have no power - we're sheep, and we very easily follow a lying stranger rather than the real Holy, Holy, Holy God, Creator and Judge. That's exactly what Jesus warns against in John 10. So, if someone has power, there are only two sources - God, or satan and his demons - nothing else. So, if someone has the power to heal or create the illusion of healing - there is a power behind that: God or satan/demons. None of us are superheroes. None of us are powerful in ourselves. Those who are growing in following Jesus and walking in His ways - can (maybe) when God allows, be used of God to pray for someone and God heals them. Today, this is rare because there are a huge amount of fake and counterfeits - which is the working of satan. Do you see what I'm saying - if there's power - there's a source of it and us rebellious humans do not possess it. So, let's look at the 'healing' curse/spell to see what source is behind this 'magic' flower and 'magic' hair.

The song goes like this:

***'Flower gleam and glow
Let your power shine
Make the clock reverse
Bring back what once was mine.***

***Heal what has been hurt.
Change the fate's design
Save what has been lost.
Bring back what once was mine -
what once was mine.'***

Okay - so a little analysis: God's creation is amazing, but what is displayed here in Disney's cartoon-world is 'magic' (really witchcraft spells). But, if you want to double-check this for yourself, look at who the prayer is too. It's not to God, it's to a flower (and the spirit or *power* behind that flower).

Another key note here: 'bring back what once was mine' is repeated 3 times. If you couple that with the word 'fate' (like they did in this little jingle), and you now see the selfish and self-centered perspective of this "good" curse or spell. And notice, it's simple words with a simple jingle that most children can learn and practice... while learning to blame God when He takes something evil out of their life for their own good. Is God good to say 'no'? Satan would say God is evil. Is that really what you want your kids learning? Me either...

So, that was a brief look at the 'magic' hair and the power behind it. Next, let's look at the sun symbol. Yes, I know that for some of you, you're probably scratching your head on why I would find that so interesting. The movie starts with emphasizing the sun and that theme continues all through the film.

Here's a clip. *'... This is a story of a girl named Rapunzel. And it starts with the sun. Now, once upon a time, a single drop of sunlight fell from the Heavens. And from this small drop of sun grew a magic golden flower. It had the ability to heal the sick and injured. Oh, you see that old woman over there? You might want to remember her. She's kind of important... Well, centuries past, and a hop skip and a boat-ride away, there grew a kingdom. The kingdom was ruled by a beloved king and queen. And the queen - well, she was about to have a baby. But she got sick - really sick. She was running out of time, and that's when people usually start to look for a miracle. Or, in this case, a magic golden flower. [the scene looks back to that old witch] Ah. I told you she'd be important. You see - instead of sharing the sun's gift, this woman - Mother Gothel, hoarded it's healing power and used it to keep herself young for hundreds of years. And all she had to do was sing a special song. **'Flower gleam and glow, Let your power shine, Make the clock reverse, Bring back what once was mine. Heal what has been hurt. Change the fate's design, Save what has been lost. Bring back what once was mine - what once was mine.'** All right, you get the gist. She sings to it - she turns young. Creepy - right? [the soldiers find the magic flower uncovered and holler 'We found it!'] The magic of the golden flower [put into a tea] healed the queen. A healthy baby girl - a princess was born with beautiful golden hair. I'll give you a hint - that's Rapunzel. To celebrate her birth, the king and queen launched a flying lantern into the sky. And for that one moment, everything was perfect. And then that moment ended. [scene shows witch getting into the castle] Gothel broke into the castle, stole the child, and just like that - gone. The Kingdom searched and searched, but they could not find the princess. For deep within the forest, hidden in a tower, Gothel raised the child as her own. Gothel had found her new magic flower - but this time, she was determined to keep it hidden...'*
>> Youtube clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhSVreVsJJo>

A few errors there - just from that short clip. First off, God set the limit on human life-span before the world-wide flood - at 120 years. **"And the LORD said, 'My Spirit shall not strive/struggle with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; so his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.'"** (Genesis 6:3) Secondly, interesting that they're pushing a form of masonry/mythology thinking instead of God. Notice that God is not mentioned anywhere, and yet the sun is given a personhood and a bit of 'magic' ability, when then transfers to a flower, which then transfers to a girl... There's much more to say about the witchcraft elements here, but I will stop with that. If you want to know more, just ask.

So... Curious: Are you starting to see how God, the real Creator, is smoothly replaced here with fate, witchcraft, and mythology? It's a subtle trick and not an accident - it's one of the usurper's (satan) favorite schemes. Is that really what you want your kids

learning? I know I don't. And, I know quite a few parents who would be frustrated to realize the ramifications of just those subjects alone - and the long-term problems that can cause for a child. But, there is one more subject I need to cover with this movie.

That subject is obeying and honoring our parents. God's Word talks about this in several places - here are just two.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother,' which is the first commandment with promise: 'that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.'" (Ephesians 6:1-3)

"Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord." (Colossians 3:20)

This little film does some sleight of hand tricks to teach children (by example) how they can be disrespectful to their parents and outright disobey them, and probably get away with it. Yet, Disney portrays it in such a way that we can so easily pass off Rapunzel's actions toward her 'adopted' 'mom', because Ms. Gothel is not her real mom. But, the attitudes are never dealt with, and in real life, girls whose attitudes never get dealt with become brats - or to put it in Biblical terms: contentious women, gossips, and busybodies. Does Disney know this? Sure - but covetousness is how they keep themselves in business, right? How much do we need to be happy? 'Just a little bit more'... they say.

And then there's the kiss and full-hugs between a single lady and a single guy. Yet, God warns single men not to touch a woman in a way that will stir her up emotionally or sexually - except in marriage. Yet, to Disney, a kiss and full-hug is nothing... I hope you are starting to see how opposite these worldviews are - God's Word vs Disney and the worldly culture around us.

So, after reading all of that, I'm sure some of you parents probably will have some more questions. This report is not meant to cover everything - for if I did, it would be too long. It's only meant to highlight - not the mistakes or bad examples, but the patterns that set a child on the wrong path for years to come with the simple planting of multiple seeds of rebellion - that, unless weeded out completely, will grow into a full-fledged rebellion later on. Seeds are funny - we can plant them, but we cannot determine how rapidly they'll grow, nor change what we planted. We can only keep rooting out the lies, closing the doors of satan, and filling our minds, our homes, and our children's lives with the Word of God and Truth - which is part of God's beautiful perfect character.

A few verses to think on in conclusion:

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." (1st Peter 5:8)

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works." (2nd Corinthians 11:13-15)

May the Lord be with you and grant you wisdom as you keep identifying avenues of satan into your home, and cleaning how and growing steadily more like Christ - our Master and Savior for all who are genuinely His.

Please know that you can always email me any questions that I can help with. Sometimes it may take a day or two to reply, because of work and life, but I always like getting feedback, because I learn from the conversations. I only ask that you keep it polite, even if the information I share makes you angry. Okay - fair enough? - my email: Steven.H3@gmail.com. - Also, I'm still taking requests for what Disney movies to do short reports on, so you're welcome to message me and add to that list - here on Vine-of-Life or my email or on FaceBook.

Fair well for now.

your friend, and a growing servant/life-slave of Jesus, SH

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