

LET ME BE GOD

(a.k.a. "Déjame ser Dios" - SPANISH)

story by

Leonel Martín Larregain

screenplay by

Leonel Martín Larregain

revisions by

May Branca
Ariel M. Vázquez
Tim & Vicki Peterson
Christopher Keane

BROCKUP ARGENTINA. (AGENT)
llarregain@brockup.com

REV. FINAL DRAFT

LEONEL M. LARREGAIN
ARG. COPYRIGHT #: 546052
WGAE #: I50491
WGAw #: 1202104

© 2007
All rights reserved

LET ME BE GOD

(a.k.a. "Déjame ser Dios" - SPANISH)

FADE IN:

BLACK SCREEN - OVERIMPOSE:

In white letters: "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word and my Father will love him and will live in him. He who does not love me, does not keep my word." (JN 14-23)

FADE TO BLACK.

MAIN TITLES.

FADE IN:

EXT. FUTURISTIC CITY - NIGHT (3000 A.D.)

A futuristic city is in flames. The buildings and all the cars are completely destroyed.

There are cracks in the streets. Dead and wounded PEOPLE all around the city.

FIRE makes all the windows of the huge buildings and shops, BURN and EXPLODE.

A car in FLAMES flies out of the car dealership shop. A sales sign on its burning windshield

INSERT - SIGN

In red digital leds: "ON SALE - MODEL 2996!"

BACK TO SCENE

GOD (V.O.)

Turn away from evil and do good, seek after peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the just and his ears unto their prayers. But the countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil things, to cut off the remembrance of them from earth.

INT. CITY - CHURCH - NIGHT (PRESENT)

OVERIMPOSE: "PRESENT"

A traditional church is in flames. Its pews and walls collapse as its paintings are melted by the heat.

Its enormous lamps fall, leading to impressive EXPLOSIONS.

Its WINDOWPANES EXPLODE one by one.

The fire embraces the statues of the saints, it fails to burn them though. Likewise, the huge imposing altar remains intact.

On the floor there is a carved cross in a circle with a scripture.

INSERT - SCRIPTURE

Carved scripture: "Many are the afflictions of the just, but out of them all will the Lord deliver them."

BACK TO SCENE

Suddenly, a huge BALL OF FIRE appears in the central aisle of the church.

The DEVIL's body emerges. It's a tall blond woman with blue eyes. Her body is perfect and grandiose. She's sensual, though cold. She's wearing a very sexy attire.

All the candles in the church light by themselves.

STEPS and KNOCKS are heard on the wood of the pews.

The Devil walks down the central aisle to the altar knocking her fingers against the wooden pews.

CHURCH CHORAL MUSIC starts sounding.

The Devil makes a reverence and continues walking. When she reaches the first pew in front of the altar she stops to look at Jesus, who is on the cross.

Jesus, carved in wood, thin, with light color eyes, physically consumed and bleeding is crucified in a huge real scale cross.

The Devil stares at him.

DEVIL
(in Aramaean;
subtitled)
The world has had a dark

mentality since the Middle
Ages. Everyone will die, I will
destroy the cross and spill the
wine

(ironic)

This world belongs to me...
that is clear, right? And I
have come to recover it!

(pause)

The Earth will be my place for
ever and ever!

(challenging)

You are not even able to defend
it!

Darkness takes hold of the church. The cross shakes
violently.

WOOD creaks.

The nails holding Jesus to the cross expell like
bullets. They end up at the back of the church.

The church shakes and the falls down in some areas.

The Devil stands still, watching the scene.

JESUS jumps off the cross and becomes human. His
appearance has changed radically though.

He remains on his knees in front of the Devil after
jumping.

He's a mixed raced man, with coffee brown eyes. He's
short and has short untidy hair and a beard. He starts
bleeding.

The CHORAL MUSIC comes to a stop.

Jesus stands up. His wounds stop bleeding. Still
looking at the Devil, he steps back and turns to watch
the high statues of Joseph, Virgin Mary and Angel
Gabriel.

The Devil stands behind him. Jesus makes the sign of
the cross three times.

DEVIL (cont'd)

(in Aramaean;
subtitled)

Come on! Talk to me you damned!
I'm here to show you that this
world no longer believes in
your words or in your stupid
writings. Aren't you going to
defend yourself?

(ironic)

You choose the language since

you've created them all but
none have respected God's
words!

JESUS and the DEVIL speak in ENGLISH for the rest of
the movie.

JESUS

In the name of the Father and
of the Son and of the Holy
Ghost.

(pause)

God forgive the Devil.

(to the Devil)

Welcome home.

DEVIL

Hey OK! You do speak! Look, I
do not come here often so I
hope you are kind to your
guests

(ironic)

And make me feel at home.

(pause)

God Almighty I am thankful to
you for you have given me the
strength to save our people.

Jesus watches how the Devil starts burning the altar.
The statues are not affected by the flames.

DEVIL (cont'd)

Father... I confess to Almighty
God, and to you, my brothers
that I have sinned... In my
thoughts and in my words, in
what I have done, and in what I
have failed to do, and I asked
blessed Mary, ever virgin, all
the angels and saints, and you,
my brothers and sisters, to
pray for me to the Lord, our
God.

The DEVIL LAUGHS LOUD with big ECHOS around the church.

DEVIL (cont'd)

(ironic)

The good thing is that I have
just witnessed God's miracle!
From Wood to human flesh!
Majestic! I must admit that now
I start believing in your
divine faith...

(furious)

I know it's not that easy to be
free from that cross that I
myself created for you! And to

which you will return over and over again every three thousand years. Or maybe you do believe that you can create a perfect world of love and peace?.

THE DEVIL BURSTS OUT LAUGHING LOUDER.

FADE TO WHITE.

FADE IN:

INT. ITALY - VATICAN - CHURCH - DAY (PRESENT)

The POPE sits at a small padded pew in front of the altar. NUNS and PRIESTS pray in unison.

The SOUND of an OLD PIANO playing beautiful MELODIES is heard.

POPE

(in Latin;
subtitled)

BLESSED IS YOUR PURITY FOR TIME
AND ETERNITY. FOR GOD IS
RECREATED IN SUCH GRACIOUS
BEAUTY. YOU HEAVENLY...

A side door of the Church opens and a POPE'S ASSISTANT comes in. He closes the door and walks toward the POPE. He seizes him by the arm and closes in to his ear.

POPE'S ASSISTANT

(in Italian;
subtitled)

Excuse me Your Holiness, you
must go to your office right
away.

The Pope makes the sign of the cross and a reverence. Then they walk down the side aisle of the church.

The Nuns continue singing as the Pope's assistant speaks.

NUNS

(in Latin;
subtitled)

OH MARY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN, TO
YOU WE GIVE OUR SOULS, OUR
LIVES AND OUR HEARTS. I HOPE TO
HAVE YOUR CONSOLATION. AT MY
LAST HOUR, HOLY MARY, DEPRIVE
ME NOT OF YOUR BLESSING.

The SOUND of the PIANO is still heard.

INT. POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

The door opens and the Pope comes in. There are two important bishops, SALVATTORE AND TAGLIERI, waiting for the Pope on some beautiful seats.

The Pope's assistant closes the door and leaves. The bishops stand up.

The Pope takes his seat. The bishops, both wearing a black robe and a purple girdle, walk up to the Pope. Each of them carries a black briefcase. One at a time, they hold the Pope's right hand and kiss his Papal ring.

The men speak in ITALIAN with SUBTITLES:

SALVATTORE

It is such a pleasure your Holiness.

TAGLIERI

Blessed are the eyes that can see your Holiness. We are here to serve you.

POPE

Thank you very much. Please.

The Pope motions them to come closer. He rests his hands on their heads.

POPE (cont'd)

(sotto voce)

Let God bless and protect these two humble servants who are defenders of the faith and give their soul in each battle

SALVATTORE

Your Holiness, we are facing a difficult situation. Discrimination against Christians is clear. The Koranic law prevails over ordinary law

POPE

(sotto voce)

Jesus Christ, have mercy on this cruel world

SALVATTORE

It is no longer possible to talk. Jesus Christ's body and blood can only be protected if sinners are sacrificed

The Pope takes a glass of water and drinks nervously.

TAGLIERI

Many churches have already been
destroyed. We had to take our
people away from the Eastern
countries. Many have already
been killed

Taglieri takes the briefcase and opens it. He takes out
some papers.

POPE

We have to protect this world
from evil. Lord have mercy,
clear the evil thoughts of our
enemies and make them
reconsider

The Pope stands up. He gets closer to the wall and
watches a huge gold cross. He kisses Jesus feet.

POPE (cont'd)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on
earth.

Salvatore stands up.

The Pope looks out of the window to see the Vatican's
Square.

SALVATTORE

I don't want to be
disrespectful, your Holiness,
but I'm afraid we can't just
pray

The Pope turns to Salvatore and watches him in
surprise. He finds no answer. He looks at Tagliere
whose face is even colder than Salvatore's.

TAGLIERI

Treaties are no longer useful.
The world is closing and words
are dying. Impurity is
destroyed by fire

Salvatore lights a match, takes Tagliari's papers, and
burns them in the fireplace. The papers are completely
burnt.

POPE

(sotto voce)

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of
the Father, Lord God, Lamb of
God, who takes away the sins of
the world. Have mercy on us

SALVATTORE

Our mission is over your
Holiness. The final decision is
on our Lord

TAGLIERI

The pact will be carried out;
the decision has already been
made. Blood has covered the
walls of the Holy

Taglieri moves closer to the cross and rests his hands
on Jesus feet.

TAGLIERI (cont'd)

Life has come back and death is
facing it. We can't do anything
about it. The power of our
salvation lies in the divine
justice

The Pope walks up to the fireplace.

POPE

(sotto voce)

Lord, who takes away the sins
of the world, receive our
prayer. You are seated at the
right hand of the Father, have
mercy on us. For you alone are
the Holy One, you alone are the
Lord. And the time has come

The Pope picks up a picture of the crucifixion scene
from the fireplace. He watches it attentively.

POPE (cont'd)

(sotto voce)

You alone are the Highest,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Ghost, in the glory of God the
Father.

FX CUT TO:

INT. CITY - CHURCH - NIGHT

A painting of the crucifixion scene lights on fire. The
image of Jesus is not damaged though.

JESUS

I'm resurrection and life. He
that believes in me, although
he be dead

The Devil rests her right hand on a pew, which is destroyed into a ball of fire making diabolic figures with a big eyes face.

JESUS (cont'd)
 Shall live and everyone that
 lives and believes in me, shall
 not die forever.

The Devil goes back to the altar. She stands below Angel Gabriel.

DEVIL
 You have forgiven
 (pause)
 You have surrendered
 (pause)
 But no one has changed, even
your peers have betrayed you!

Jesus kneels down in front of the main altar.

JESUS
 God Almighty have mercy on us.
 Forgive us for our trespasses.

The Devil puts her hand on Angel Gabriel's feet. As the Devil removes her hand, the statue is invaded by a ball of fire.

A huge EXPLOSION destroys THE STATUE.

DEVIL
 You have forgiven me and you
 continue doing so. You have
 also handed me all the souls on
 Earth!

FADE TO:

INT. POLAND - PRISON - GAS CHAMBER - NIGHT (1943)

PEOPLE SCREAMING.

There are hundreds of Jewish men locked crying in a small enclosure.

They KNOCK the WALLS and the DOORS.

NAZI SOLDIERS are behind those walls, they are watching them through some sealed small windows.

The men faint to the ground. They are dead.

INSERT - ENCLOSURE WALL

A swastika in red aerosol.

BACK TO SCENE

DEVIL (V.O.)
Are not these things stored up
in me, and sealed up in my
treasures?. Revenge is mine,
and I will repay them in due
time, that their foot may
slide, the day of destruction
is at hand.

EXT. JAPAN - HIROSHIMA - DAY (1945)

A military plane overflies the area. The plane drops a
nuclear bomb.

People run for their lives.

THE BOMB EXPLODES.

The city is completely ruined.

DEVIL (V.O.)
It is I who put to death.
(pause)
And there is no one who can
deliver from my hand.

EXT. ARGENTINA - BUENOS AIRES - STREET - NIGHT (1974)

A green Ford Falcon car stops on an empty and dark
paving stoned street.

Four armed men dressed in military gear jump on two
civilians. These two men are knocked down to the ground
and then violently pushed into the trunk of the car.

DEVIL (V.O.)
I will make my arrow drunk with
blood, and my sword will
devour flesh, with the blood of
the slain and the captives,
from the long-haired leaders of
the enemy.

EXT. JERUSALEM - TEMPLE - DAY (1985)

A BOMB EXPLODES in a JEWISH TEMPLE in Jerusalem.

The temple collapses, it burns in flames as people run away.

SHOUTS and CRIES.

The National emergency ALARMS are heard all around the city.

DEVIL (V.O.)

I will make the memory of men
cease among men. Our mighty
hand, and not the Lord, has
done all these things.

EXT. KUWAIT - OIL DEPOSIT - DAY (1991)

Giant spurts of BURNING OIL spread across the Middle East desert. It is daytime but it looks like night. Oil is pouring down from the sky. A huge black cloud covers everything. FLAMES are gigantic.

DEVIL (V.O.)

They are a nation without
counsel, and without wisdom.
Their vines are of the vineyard
of Sodom, and of the suburbs of
Gomorrah.

(pause)

Their grapes are grapes of
gall.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - WORLD TRADE CENTER - DAY (2001)

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION at the World Trade Center.

An AIRPLANE CRASHES against the World Trade Center, causing a huge BALL OF FIRE.

DEVIL (V.O.)

And their clusters most bitter.

(pause)

Their wine is the gall of
dragons, and the venom of asps,
which is incurable.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

The statue of Angel Gabriel is completely destroyed.

DEVIL

... I shall take revenge
against my enemies and shall
purify your land and your

people... You have planted it
into people and humans have
given it back to you.

Jesus opens his eyes and gets to his feet. He walks up
to the main altar.

The Devil bursts into fire and stands by the Virgin
Mary.

Jesus runs his hands through the holes caused by the
nails. They heal.

The Devil bursts into fire and heads to Jesus. Now, she
is a real woman and rests her right hand on his
shoulder.

DEVIL (cont'd)
You may cover your wounds, but
the scars and the pain shall
remain...
(sotto voce)
... within and forever!

The Devil moves her hand away from Jesus' shoulder.

JESUS
Blessed are them whose
iniquities are forgiven, and
whose sins are covered. Blessed
is the man to whom the Lord has
not imputed sin, and in whose
spirit there is no guile.

DEVIL
Oh!, the Lord speaks to us with
his beautiful words. That's
beautiful! Blessed are those
whose iniquities are forgiven
and whose sins are covered...
(angry)
Your world is not forgiven!

The Devil sits on a pew surrounded by flames.

Jesus opens his arms and looks up; the roof has already
been destroyed allowing the sky to be seen.

JESUS
Unto you will I cry, Oh Lord,
Oh my God

The Devil moves around Jesus and mocks his words.

JESUS (cont'd)
That go down into the pit.
Hear, Oh Lord, the voice of my
supplication, when I pray to

you. When I lift up my hands to
you holy temple. Draw me not
away together with the wicked

Now the Devil goes along the right side of the church.

JESUS (cont'd)
And with the workers of
iniquity.

Jesus walks toward the Devil.

JESUS (cont'd)
That is you, you offer this and
that. You promise but do not
deliver. You do not do as you
say.

(pause)
You are the reason why God has
struggled so much and has
sacrificed himself.

DEVIL
But this is your society, your
Father's creation. He created
people after you, not after
me...

(pause)
I'm sorry...
(pause)
You created them after you...
(pause)
Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
(pause)
I haven't done anything, you
have!

On some big debris the devil magically reproduces
images that Jesus watches attentively.

INSERT - DEBRIS

Rebel military men next to a strategic map of the
Middle East.

BACK TO SCENE

DEVIL (cont'd)
You've created them too.
Without you realizing, they
have been my best tools to
carry out my desires without
much effort. You're so naive
that you have not even realized
so!

JESUS

I will take heed to my ways,
that I sin not with my tongue.
I have set a guard to my mouth,
when the sinner stood against
me.

INSERT - DEBRIS

The rebel military are gathered around a desk.

A dirty-looking military chief with a long beard and an
old cap APPEARS.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. DESERT - ARABIC QUARTERS - BIG TENT - DAY

An ARABIC LIEUTENANT is sitting at his desk.

There is a strategic map behind it with targets marked
with little flags.

In front of it there is a SERGEANT.

The men speak in ARABIC with SUBTITLES:

SERGEANT

Everything is set. We are
waiting for your order,
Lieutenant!. We are ready to
attack.

From the tent, we can see a bus coming carrying
American soldiers as prisoners. The bus pulls over near
them.

LIEUTENANT

How many are they?

SERGEANT

Thirty-two, my Lieutenant

The Lieutenant stands up. He looks at the bus from the
tent.

The COLONEL comes in hurriedly. He's in his thirties,
has a long beard and is wearing a turban and a worn-out
military uniform.

The Sergeant makes a reverence to him and stands in a
corner.

LIEUTENANT

Please have a seat my Colonel

The Colonel sits on the main seat.

The Lieutenant picks up some papers and hands them to the COLONEL who folds them and puts them into his inner military jacket pocket.

COLONEL

What do you need now,
Lieutenant?, Why did you make
me come to this fucking desert
again?

The Colonel reclines in the seat.

LIEUTENANT

Excuse me Colonel, but I need
to talk to you about the
conflict posed by the prisoners
who have just arrived.

(pause)

I think, with all your respect
Sir, that they deserve a fair
trial, my Colonel

The Colonel stands up and rests his hands on the desk.

COLONEL

You know what? I agree with you
hundred percent

The Lieutenant takes a step back.

The Colonel keeps staring at him.

COLONEL (cont'd)

Yes, trials must be fair for
everyone, of course!

LIEUTENANT

We do not know for sure if they
are responsible for the last
attack on our lands, my
Colonel.

COLONEL

So you want a fair trial for
them?

LIEUTENANT

Yes, sir.

The Colonel sits down.

COLONEL

(interrupts)

Alright!, Alright! You're right Lieutenant. Go see the prisoners. That will make them feel better and it's an excellent camaraderie action.

LIEUTENANT

At your service, my Colonel.

The Lieutenant salutes and turns around.

COLONEL

This is the time Sergeant.

SARGENTO

The time for what, my Colonel?

The Colonel takes a little bottle of whiskey out of his pocket and moves it closer to the Sergeant.

COLONEL

Drink some... Breathe deeply...
Pick up a grenade.... And
destroy that bus full of shit
right now!

SERGEANT

But my Colonel, I don't think
that is the way to proceed
since they...

COLONEL

(interrupts)

Are you not abiding by the
direct orders of a superior,
Sergeant?

The Sergeant hesitates for a second but then stands firm and makes his military reverence.

SERGEANT

No, my Colonel! Negative.

The Sergeant takes a grenade from his waist. After some seconds, he throws it under the bus.

A LOUD EXPLOSION is heard outside the tent.

An intense light resulting from the explosion can be seen through the tent.

COLONEL

Good boy. Good boy. I'll make
sure you are promoted
immediately. You can go now.

The Sergeant stands still.

COLONEL (cont'd)
Haven't you heard me? You can
go!.

(sotto voce)
That's the trial these
motherfuckers deserved!.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

A BALL OF FIRE invades the main altar creating a
luminous wall of fire.

JESUS
Because it is like the sin of
witchcraft, to rebel and like
the crime of idolatry, to
refuse to obey. Forasmuch,
therefore as though has
rejected the world of the Lord,
the Lord has also rejected you
from being king.

The FIRE SPREADS everywhere.

The curtains, the altar cloth, the walls and everything
In sight catches fire. The Devil stands at the
threshold of the altar.

DEVIL
I will pursue after my enemies
and overtake them and I will
not turn again till they are
consumed.

(pause)
I will break them and they
shall not be able to stand.
They shall fall under my feet.
And you has girded me with
strength unto battle...

(pause)
Do you really think you are the
real King?.

SLOW FADE TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Some poor children are being repressed with police
equipment and forced to leave a downtown area by a
group of policemen.

DEVIL (V.O.)
Aren't you the Messiah?. The
friend of the children and the
poor?. The one that has come to
teach them how to love you and
love each other?

FX CUT TO:

INT. MILITARY FIELD - DAY

Ten soldiers execute five old prisoners at a dark
military field.

DEVIL (V.O.)
Haven't you come to strip the
evil off their hearts?
(pause)
That evil that does not allow
them to make friends?, the hate
that does not allow them to be
happy?

FX CUT TO:

INT. STATE PRISON - DAY

YOUNG BOYS SCREAMING.

Ten young boys are being tortured by a group of
policemen.

A BOY is SHOT at point-blank by a POLICEMAN.

The young boys run around the prison trying to save
themselves.

DEVIL (V.O.)
Haven't you promised them that
your Holy Ghost would always be
with them so they can live as
real sons of yours?

FADE TO:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STREET - DAY (3000 A.D.)

The futuristic city is destroyed. There are dead bodies
spread all over the place. Papers fly all around the
city.

A front page of a newspaper appears.

INSERT - NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE

In big letters the headline reads: "WILL THE YEAR 3000
BE THE END OF THE WORLD?"

FADE TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. EGYPT - RIVER NILE - BANK - DAY

The sky is clear. Birds fly and bring life to the
landscape.

A papyrus basket floats on the bulrushes by the river
bank.

INSERT - BASKET

Inside the basket is MOSES, a beautiful 3-month-old
baby.

BACK TO SCENE

The sound of the WATER and of the soft MOVEMENT of the
BULRUSHES are the only sounds heard.

The baby is sleeping soundly.

A group of women get to the river.

The PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER takes off her clothes and starts
to bathe. She notices the basket. She gets closer
slowly and finds the baby.

MOSES CRIES.

The Pharaoh's daughter picks up the baby and cradles
him in her arms. The baby falls asleep.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. PYRAMIDS - DAY

There are thousands of Hebrew workers working in the
construction of the city. These are controlled and
permanently punished by EGYPTIAN SOLDIERS.

FADE TO:

INT. PHARAOH'S PALACE - DAY (30 YEARS LATER)

Moses, now a 30-year-old man, watches the Hebrew
workers being punished through the window.

MOSES IS THE SAME CHARACTER AS THE POOR BOY.

Feeling sorry, he approaches the PHARAOH, who is at his throne being served by his people.

MOSES

You should let the Hebrews go.

PHARAOH

I am their Lord and I will not let the Israel people go!

The Pharaoh stands up and walks up to the window where Moses is.

PHARAOH (cont'd)

Why do you so strongly believe in taking these people away from their tasks?...

(Ironic)

Nowadays they outnumber natives. So why do I have to allow breaks in their work?

MOSES

The God of the Hebrews has called us, to go three days' journey into the wilderness, and to sacrifice to the Lord our God. Lest the pestilence or the sword fall upon us.

The Pharaoh still watches the Hebrew workers being exploited.

Moses moves OUT OF FRAME.

The Pharaoh faces a group of three public inspectors standing at a side of the room.

PHARAOH

Stop handing these people the straw to make the bricks, as you have been doing so far. They must go and get it themselves. But you should demand the same number of bricks they made before, not even one less, for they are so lazy. Make them work harder and keep them busy at all times.

EXT. RIVER NILE - BANK - DAY

Moses sits by the river. His body reflects on the water.

MOSES

(to himself)

The Lord God of the Hebrews
sent me to you, saying: Let my
people go to sacrifice to me in
the desert...

(furious)

And hitherto you would not
hear. In this you shall know
that I am the Lord...

(pause)

Behold I will strike with the
rod, that is in my hand, the
water of the river, and it
shall be turned into blood. And
the fishes shall die and the
waters shall be corrupted and
the Egyptians shall be
afflicted when they drink the
waters of the river.

Suddenly, the River Nile turns RED.

Moses turns around and watches the people of the
village.

EXT. EGYPTIAN CITY - DAY

The city is invaded by locusts. The Egyptian and the
Hebrew run all over the city trying to escape from the
disgusting plague.

MOSES (V.O.)

(furious)

Thus says the Lord, let my
people go sacrifice to me. But
if you will not let them go,
behold I will send in upon you
and upon your servants, and
upon your houses all kinds of
flies.

(pause)

And the houses of the Egyptians
shall be filled with flies of
divers kinds, and the whole
land therein they shall be. And
I will make the land of Gessen
wonderful in that day, so that
flies shall not be there and
you shall know that I am the
Lord in the midst of the earth.
And I will put a division
between my people and your
people. Frogs, locusts and
mosquitoes will do the same, if
deemed necessary.

EXT. RIVER NILE BANK - DAY

Moses is standing by the river bank watching the people.

MOSES

Behold my hand shall be upon your fields and a very grievous murrain upon your horses, and asses and camels, and oxen and sheep. And the Lord will make a wonderful difference between the possessions of Israel and the possessions of the Egyptians, that nothing at all shall die of those things that belong to the children of Israel.

(pause)

If you continue resisting, your people and your animals will suffer from purulent ulcers.

CUT TO:

EXT. EGYPTIAN CITY - NIGHT

HAIL FALLS hard on the city.

MOSES (V.O.)

For I will at this time send all my plagues upon your heart, and upon your servants and upon your people, that you must know that there is none like me in all the earth.

(pause)

For now I will stretch my hand to strike you, and your people with pestilence, and you shall perish from the earth.

(pause)

And therefore have I raised you, that will show my power in you, and my name may be spoken of throughout all the earth.

EXT. RIVER NILE - BANK - DAY

Moses stretches his hands to the sky.

The sky begins to turn dark.

MOSES

I will stretch out my hand towards heaven and there may be

darkness upon the land of Egypt
so thick that it may be felt.

PEOPLE CRYING are HEARD far away.

MOSES (cont'd)

At midnight I will enter into
Egypt and every first born in
the land of the Egyptians shall
die, from the first born of
Pharaoh who sits on his throne,
even to the first born of the
handmaid that is at the mill,
and all the first born of
beasts. And there shall be a
great cry in all the land of
Egypt, such as neither has been
before, nor shall be hereafter.

The sky is completely dark.

The CRIES STOP.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. RED SEA - COAST - DAY

Moses holds a rod. Many Hebrew run desperately. The
Egyptians get closer and closer with their war
chariots.

Moses and the Hebrew stop when they get to the Red Sea.
The current is very strong. The Egyptian army, led by
the pharaoh is closer.

Moses touches the water with his rod. The water
miraculously retreats creating a road along which the
Hebrew pass through the sea.

Before the Hebrew finish crossing the sea, the Egyptian
army steps on the road.

As soon as the last Hebrew is out of the sea, Moses
stretches his arms over the sea; the water falls back
into place.

The Egyptian army is swallowed by the sea.

MOSES

(shouts)

The Lord is as a man of war.
Almighty is his name. Pharaoh's
chariots and his army he has
cast into the sea. His chosen
captains are drowned in the Red
Sea. The depths have covered
them, they are sunk to the

bottom like a stone. Your right hand, Oh Lord, is magnified in strength, your right hand, Oh Lord, has slain the enemy. And in the multitude of your glory you have put down your adversaries, you have sent your wrath, which has devoured them like stubble. And with the blast of your anger the waters were gathered together, the flowing water stood, the depths were gathered together in the midst of the sea.

The Hebrew now rest on safe ground. Moses watches the sad scene at the other side of the sea.

A woman, -the Devil-, wearing a tunic, stands up and starts to walk among the people. She walks up to Moses.

DEVIL

(sotto voce)

They will devastate the world, their own enemies will be scared when they come to take it. They will spread among the nations and will unsheathe the sword behind your back.

(ironic)

But of course, you have saved them! At least this time.

END FLASHBACK.

FADE TO:

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT (PRESENT)

The Devil walks up to the center of the altar.

DEVIL

You've offered your body and your blood, your bread and your wine before dying, that is proof of your love.

The Devil turns around to face Jesus.

DEVIL (cont'd)

Oh! That was really courageous!
You are my hero!

Jesus steps on the altar and walks up to the other side of the huge table.

JESUS
I died for them, I gave them
all, I taught them all.

The DEVIL APPLAUDS JESUS.

JESUS (cont'd)
I left disciples in your
land...
(pause)
In my land.

DEVIL
Who do you call disciples?

Jesus raises the palm of his hand and puts out the
flames spreading toward the shrine.

JESUS
They are my disciples, like you
were.

Jesus gets closer to an engraved piece of the Last
supper.

DEVIL
(sarcastic)
Apparently I'm the only one
that has come to visit you
today...

Jesus feels the engraved piece with his hands.

JESUS
When I was at the table...

SLOW FADE TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. THE LAST SUPPER - NIGHT (33 A.D.)

Jesus sits at the middle of the table. There are five
disciples at each side of him. The remaining two are at
each head of the table.

JESUS (V.O.)
With my disciples I took the
Bread, said a prayer to bless
it and give thanks, parted it
and offered it to them. You
know that very well for you
were the first one to accept my
faith and my eternal blessing.

Jesus take the bread, raises it, watches it, divides it
into many pieces and hands them to the disciples.

The first one to take a piece is Judas. For some seconds, his eyes turn light blue, like the eyes of the Devil.

END FLASHBACK.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

The Devil takes a Host from the altar and holds it up as she watches the back of the church. There's fire around her. One hand holds the Host, the other, a silver cup. The edge catches fire, producing a ring around it. It is not destroyed by the fire though.

DEVIL

Take and eat.

WHIP LASHING and SCREAMS of pain are heard in the distance.

FADE TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. PONTIUS PILATE'S PALACE - DAY (33 A.D.)

The WHIP LASHING and the SCREAMS of pain are VERY LOUD now.

Jesus is whip lashed by ROMAN SOLDIERS.

DEVIL (V.O.)

This is the body, which will be handed over for you!

A SOLDIER puts a crown of thorns on his head.

ROMAN SOLDIER

(in old Italian;
subtitled)

A beautiful crown for our King!

Jesus falls to the ground.

END OF FLASHBACK.

FX CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Jesus falls to the ground as the Devil puts down the Host. The Devil moves the cup closer.

DEVIL

Then you took the cup

The Devil holds up the cup to the sky.

DEVIL (cont'd)

All of you drink of this, for
this is my blood of the new and
everlasting covenant which will
be shed for you and for all men
so that sins may be forgiven

The Devil lets go of the cup. It falls on the altar.

JESUS

Why do you glory in malice, you
that are mighty in iniquity?

DEVIL

For I admit my evil and my sin
is always before me

JESUS

All day long your tongue has
devised injustice: as a sharp
razor, you have wrought deceit.
You have loved malice more than
goodness

The Devil drinks some holy water. It evaporates in her
mouth.

JESUS (cont'd)

How you like injurious words,
perfidious language

DEVIL

I only sinned against you and
did what's wrong to you, so you
would make a fair decision, a
fair judgment

The Devil turns around Jesus, who takes the Host and
puts it away into the shrine with the cup.

DEVIL (cont'd)

I was born out of guilt, and
was conceived in sin

Jesus kneels down in front of the altar.

JESUS

For the sin of their mouth, and
the word of their lips and let
them be taken in their pride.
And for their cursing and
lying. When they are consumed
by wrath, and they shall be no

more. And they shall know that
 God will rule all the ends of
 the earth

The Devil sits down.

DEVIL
 What beautiful words you are
 saying! But they are
 responsible for what you see
 everyday

Jesus raises his hand and puts out the flame of the
 burning candle.

JESUS
 Cast down, Oh Lord, and divide
 their tongues, for I have seen
 iniquity and contradiction in
 the city.

DEVIL
 You've created them yourself,
 using your own wisdom. But
 languages have only made them
 more different.
 (pause)
 Can't you see that every
 genocide we've suffered is your
 fault?

The Devil, angry, stands on the priest's holy seat. She
 looks at the cross and her eyes destroy it.

Jesus watches the scene and opens his hands to form a
 cross.

FX CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. CALVARY - DAY (33 A.D.)

Jesus lies on the cross. A Roman soldier nails his
 hands to the cross as he laughs at Jesus.

END FLASHBACK.

FX CUT TO:

INT. CITY - CHURCH - NIGHT (PRESENT)

A huge EARTHQUAKE takes place in the CHURCH.

The lights start to blink until they are off.

The Devil looks for shelter.

Jesus remains in the place despite the huge stones that are falling down.

His HANDS START to BLEED.

The WINDOWPANES start to EXPLODE.

The whole church is shaking.

The SHAKING GETS MORE VIOLENT.

The fire IS OFF and the church falls down. There's a huge cloud of smoke that slowly fades.

Darkness takes hold of the place.

COMPLETE SILENCE.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT (LATER)

COMPLETE SILENCE.

The church falls down. It's all dark until a white light starts creeping into the darkness.

SEVEN ANGELS turn up, one next to each other. Each of them has a trumpet. They hold the trumpets up to their mouths and start playing.

ANGELICAL MUSIC starts.

GOD (V.O.)

With the ear you shall hear and shall not understand, and seeing you shall see and shall not perceive. For the heart of this people is grown gross, and with their ears have they heard heavily and their eyes they have shut.

The seven Angels disappear.

It all turns to black. COMPLETE SILENCE.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

FLASHBACK - INT. HEROD'S PALACE - DAY (0 A.D.)

Herod sits in his place. The temple is luxuriously decorated.

Women hold fruits and delicious food around him. A group of soldiers watch him.

They all speak ARAMAEAN with SUBTITLES:

WOMAN 1

Herod you are so handsome and sensual, we'll make love to you all together until the night comes.

The women caress him and kiss him.

The main door opens and interrupts the scene. A servant comes in. He walks up to the king. He makes a reverence.

SERVANT

Your Majesty, there are three wise men from the East that want to see you.

HEROD

Let them in

The servant walks back to the door and lets the THREE WISE MEN come in.

They are wearing long and beautiful tunics. They are carrying some gifts. They leave them before the King as they make a reverence.

HEROD (cont'd)

What can I do for you?

WISE MAN ONE

We've heard the King of the Jews was born. Where is he?

HEROD

The King of the Jews?

WISE MAN TWO

We've just seen the star in the East and we've come to worship him.

HEROD

Go to Bethlehem and learn all you can about the boy. When you find him, you let me know so that I can also pay him a visit.

The wise men make a reverence in front of Herod and then leave.

The King stands up in anger. He hits a basket of fruit and leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. BETHLEHEM - CRIB - NIGHT (0 A.D.)

Jesus, Joseph and Mary are sleeping. The LORD's ANGEL appears to Joseph.

ANGEL

Arise and take the child and his mother, and fly into Egypt and be there until I shall tell you. For it will come to pass that Herod will seek the child to destroy him.

CUT TO:

EXT. BETHLEHEM - CITY - NIGHT (0 A.D.)

HEROD'S SOLDIERS get to the city and its surroundings on horseback. They break into every house and, with their swords, kill all children under the age of two in cold blood.

JESUS (V.O.)

That upon you may come all the just blood that has been shed upon the earth, from the blood of Abel the just, even unto the blood of Zacharias the son of Barachias, whom you killed between the temple and the altar. Amen I say to you, all these things shall come upon this generation.

The babies are snatched away from their mothers' arms, from their homes.

The WOMEN CRY sorrowful.

END FLASHBACK.

CUT TO:

EXT. AFRICA - VILLAGE - DAY

WOMEN CRY sorrowful.

EXPLOSIONS and the sound of WEAPONS can be heard.

A village is attacked with missiles. PEOPLE run in all directions.

An African Rebel Army helicopter shoots at them. People fall dead to the ground.

People hide in their houses.

PAIN SCREAMS INCREASE.

The houses made of straw catch on fire. A military powerful tank attacks the houses. People run with their bodies on fire.

Trucks with AFRICAN SOLDIERS come into the village. The soldiers come out of the trucks and shoot those who are still alive.

A MOTHER and her TWO CHILDREN run away from the soldiers.

A powerful tank stops in the middle of the road. The family tries to escape through another road but they are killed by the enemy at point blank.

INT. AFRICA - HUT - DAY

The mother and her children pray behind the door of a partially destroyed hut.

MOTHER

(in Native
African;
subtitled)

My oppressors are too many and
too many are the ones that rise
against me. Many say to my
soul.

(pause)

There is no salvation for him
in his God.

EXT. HUT - DAY

The African soldiers kick the doors of the few surviving huts.

They come in and look around.

MOTHER (V.O.)

(in Native
African;
subtitled)

But you are my protector, my
glory and the lifter up of my
head.

An African soldier hears some murmuring.

INT. AFRICA - HUT - DAY

An African rebel soldier kicks the door and sees the family. He kills them all except the mother.

MOTHER

(in Native
African;
subtitled)

From his holy hill. I have
slept and have taken my rest
and I have risen up.

The soldier shoots her in the head.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. VATICAN - CHURCH - DAY

The Pope stands at his altar.

The CHURCH MEMBERS kneel at their pews; the priest stands in front of a Jesus Christ image. The priest and the church members watch the cross.

The POPE speaks ITALIAN with SUBTITLES:

POPE

The Lord has protected me. I
will not fear thousands of the
people surrounded me, arise. Oh
Lord, save me, Oh my God.
Salvation is of the Lord and
his blessing is upon his
people.

The Pope watches the church members, who stand up.

A side door opens to everyone's surprise. A man dressed in ordinary clothes gestures at the Pope to come out.

The Pope bends his head and looks at the church members. Then he raises his arms.

POPE (cont'd)

The Lord be with you.

CHURCH MEMBERS

And with your Spirit.

The Pope makes the sign of the cross as he blesses; so do the church members.

POPE

May the blessing of God
Almighty, of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Ghost
come down upon you.

CHURCH MEMBERS

Amen.

POPE

Go in peace.

CHURCH MEMBERS

Thanks be to God.

The CHORUS of the CHURCH starts singing.

The church members turn toward the main aisle of the church waiting for the Pope to pass by and then leave. However, the Pope leaves through a side door.

The church members walk toward the main aisle to leave. When they get to the door, each of them puts their fingers in a little fountain containing holy water, and make the sign of the cross.

INT. VATICAN - CORRIDOR - DAY

The Pope and a PRIEST walk hurriedly along a corridor at the Vatican. The Pope arranges his garment.

Their STEPS RESOUND.

The POPE and the PRIEST speak ITALIAN with SUBTITLES:

PRIEST

Lord, they are already here!

POPE

This is our time, this is the
beginning of a new and only
religion.

The Pope and the priest pass by a statue of Jesus. They both make the sign of the cross.

PRIEST

Lord, I beg you, don't think
just in what's good for
religion, you should also
consider the welfare and
protection of society.

The Pope turns his head in anger toward the priest.

POPE

Society?...

(pause)

That's just a minor point in
the history of humanity.

PRIEST

I am sorry, your Holiness.

The Pope puts his right hand on the priest's chest to
stop their walking.

The priest and the Pope face each other.

POPE

I will do my best, I would
never condemn it

PRIEST

Your Holiness... I'm convinced
you will not do evil. You're
not easily led to temptation

POPE

God will protect us, he will
lead us into the right way and
will not let us fall

The Pope and the priest keep on walking. The Pope takes
a piece of paper out of his pocket and hands it to the
priest.

POPE (cont'd)

The Lord is God that performs
miracles; he has shown us how
he saved his people from sin.

The Pope gets to the door of his office; the priest
stops him.

PRIEST

Your Holiness, it's all up to
you. We fully trust you and
your faith

POPE

The Lord remembers us and shall
bless us.

The Pope opens the door to his office and comes in.

The priest stands leaning on the door.

PRIEST

(sotto voce)

God bless us, your Holiness.

INT. POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

The Pope comes into his office.

A strong man, brown hair (40) DR. GIORGETTI and a man (60) VITTORIO are in front of his desk. They both wear dark suits.

The Pope shakes hands with them and sits on his big seat.

All the men speak in ITALIAN with SUBTITLES:

POPE

God bless you.

VITTORIO

Happy are the eyes that can see
you, Your Holiness, you are
still willing to fight.

POPE

Is there any other way to
survive without facing evil?

DR. GIORGETTI

Unfortunately your Holiness,
you are the only one that can
free religion from all the evil
affecting it.

Vittorio raises a briefcase and puts it on the desk.

INSERT - BRIEFCASE LOCK

He uses a five-digit password.

BACK TO SCENE

Vittorio opens the briefcase and takes out some documents.

Then he closes it and puts it back on the floor. He hands the documents to the Pope.

VITTORIO

Religions have grown so much
and so fast, your Holiness.

(pause)

Those that were small

The Pope leaves the papers on the desk. He puts on his glasses and takes the papers again.

VITTORIO (cont'd)

Are now huge organized groups.

(pause)

In other words, there are more religions than happy children in this world...

DR. GIORGETTI

(interrupts)

How can we expect to have only one religion if we do not eliminate all these sects that call themselves religions, and that even shade doubt on our Lord!

The Pope takes a Bible, opens it and glances through it looking for a page.

VITTORIO

It is not our goal to eliminate every religion. There are actually some as old as ours. Our goal is to discourage all those that try to destroy Our Lord.

The Pope lifts the Bible and arranges his glasses to read a passage.

POPE

Oh Lord, our Lord, how admirable is your name in the whole earth!. For your magnificence is elevated above the heavens. Out of the mouth of infants and of sucklings you has perfected praise, because of your enemies...

(pausa)

You must destroy the enemy and the avenger.

Vittorio rests his hands on the desk to get closer to the Pope and faces him.

VITTORIO

Your Holiness, that is precisely why we need economic resources to combat these rebellious enemies!

Giorgetti stands up and looks out of the window. He holds the Pope by the shoulders.

They both watch the Vatican's square.

DR. GIORGETTI

Your Holiness, think about them.

(pause)

Don't use the words in the Bible, more than half of it is politics...

POPE
(interrupts)
Politics or not, we are the only ones that can help them.

Giorgetti points at some BOYS who are begging for money in the square.

DR. GIORGETTI
You must fight for them. With your help, they could be better. The church would be contributing to their well being

The Pope turns around.

POPE
I've said it before! They are just a point in history. Life goes on and we must save funds for the future! Is that so hard to understand?

DR. GIORGETTI
And in the meantime we should let the present be destroyed forever and ever, right?

POPE
I don't like your tone at all, Doctor!

VITTORIO
We don't like your attitude either, your Holiness. Why don't you open your eyes to the world?

Giorgetti looks out of the window and watches a boy with a cap asking an old lady for money.

EXT. VATICAN'S ENTRANCE - DAY

A POOR YOUNG MAN in his 30's stands against a column at the entrance of the Vatican. He's thin and lacking presence. He's wearing deteriorated dirty clothes. He's firmly holding an old big torn Bible under his arm. He's reading it out of control. He starts to cry.

POOR YOUNG MAN
Oh Lord, the God of my salvation. I have cried in the

day, and in the night before
 you. Let my prayer come in
 before you, incline your ear to
 my petition. For my soul is
 filled with evils and my life
 has drawn nigh to hell.

Three security guards walk in front of the Vatican,
 politely asking the poor people to leave.

POOR YOUNG MAN (cont'd)

I am counted among them that go
 down to the pit. I have become
 a man without help. Free among
 the dead. Like the slain
 sleeping in the sepulchres

The Poor man knocks at the entrance of the Vatican
 angrily.

POOR YOUNG MAN (cont'd)

(cries)

whom you remember no more and
 they are cut off from your
 hand!. They have laid me in the
 lower pit, in the dark places,
 and in the shadow of death

The security guards approach the Poor man and try to
 move him out, to no avail. Finally, they pull him up
 from the ground and take him. The Poor man, still,
 drags his feet.

POOR YOUNG MAN (cont'd)

Your wrath is strong over me:
 and your waves you have brought
 upon me. You have put away my
 acquaintance far from me: they
 have set me an abomination to
 themselves

The security guards leave him on the sidewalk. The Poor
 man kneels down and looks at the main building. The
 security people continue their way.

POOR MAN

I am calling you, Lord! I am
 calling you!

The Poor man cries disconsolately.

CUT TO:

INT. POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Giorgetti keeps on looking out of the window at the
 Poor man. He turns around and walks back to his seat.

DR. GIORGETTI
Your Holiness, they need you

The Pope turns his seat and looks out of the window.

POPE
You have made man a little less
than the angels, you have
crowned him with glory and
honor. And have set him over
the work of your hands.

(pause)g

You have subjected all things
under his feet, all sheep and
oxen, moreover the beasts also
of the fields. The birds of the
air, and the fishes of the sea

Vittorio stands up and walks toward the window. He
looks at the Poor man standing next to the Pope.

VITTORIO
Do you think that poor man is
almost at the same level as
God? Can you observe reality or
is your world limited to what's
in the Bible?

The Pope leans on his desk and sits down.

VITTORIO (cont'd)
In my opinion, he's very far
from being so. A person that
lives in the streets cannot be
compared to any God. I mean to
our God or to any God in any
religion!

Vittorio walks up to a gold cross that is hanging on
the wall.

VITTORIO (cont'd)
Think that with just that cross
we could feed how many
children?... Five hundred?, a
thousand?

POPE
That's part of the church
heritage. It cannot be
destroyed under any
circumstances

DR. GIORGETTI
(surprised)
Excuse me. You said Church
heritage?
(serious)

Is it the Lord who sends you
the gold or is it the church
that buys it thanks to the
money raised?

The Pope, feeling uneasy, looks at Dr. Giorgetti.

DR. GIORGETTI (cont'd)

Oh!, If it is the Lord, tell
him that I need an appointment
with him!

Vittorio puts his hand on Dr. Giorgetti's chest in
order to hold him back.

VITTORIO

So many walls covered in gold,
so much wealth in just one
place, whereas people outside
are struggling to survive

DR. GIORGETTI

Am I wrong or was Peter's
creation not even a fourth of
this monstrous place?

The Pope moves closer to his desk.

Vittorio sits down.

The Pope opens a drawer and takes out a rosary.

POPE

If I signed what you want me to
sign, I would be rejecting part
of society

DR. GIORGETTI

But it would be to save
religion and therefore society

VITTORIO

Imagine a flock of sheep. If
one separated from the flock,
and it was impossible to be
saved, it would have to be
killed so that the rest of the
sheep would not follow it

DR. GIORGETTI

Your Holiness, don't think of
it anymore, just feel it! You
would be saving millions of
people with just the economic
contribution we are asking you.
I understand this

The Pope takes the papers he has left on his desk and a pen.

DR. GIORGETTI (cont'd)

Is just a small point in human history for you. However, they also deserve to receive something from their religion. Not everything has to be for the future, they will receive their part!

The Pope signs the papers and hands them to Vittorio. Then, he asks them to leave.

POPE

Please gentlemen.

Both shake their hands with the Pope and kiss his Papal ring. They exit. The Pope gets closer to the gold cross. He wants to touch it but does not dare do so.

POPE (cont'd)

Lord, if injustice is in my hands, if I am on the unfair oppressor's side, let me be my enemy's worst wish.

SLOW FADE TO:

EXT. ENDLESS BLACKNESS

Jesus and the Devil are looking at each other in the darkness.

A LIGHT COMES OUT from their eyes.

JESUS

I will destroy man, whom I have created, from the face of the earth, from man even to beasts, from the creeping thing even to the fowls of the air

DEVIL

The Lord God patient and of much compassion, and true, who keeps mercy unto thousands: who takes away iniquity, and wickedness and sin and no man of himself is innocent before you. Who renders the iniquity of the fathers to the children, and to the grandchildren unto the third and fourth generation

JESUS

For obedience is better than
sacrifices: and to hearken
rather than to offer the fat of
rams

DEVIL

And the words of my mouth shall
be such as may please, and the
meditation of my heart always
in your sight. You have given
me my heart's desire and have
not withheld from me the will
of my lips

JESUS

All the ends of the earth shall
remember, and shall be
converted to the Lord. And all
the kindred of the Gentiles
shall adore in his sight

DEVIL

My People despise me though it
may not seem so
(serious)
I will never kneel down before
God. One day he will open his
eyes and see he's facing the
King, the one that has saved
him, and he will be thankful to
me for ever

Jesus talks in the Devil's ear.

JESUS

For the kingdom is the Lord's,
and he shall have dominion over
the nations. All that go down
to the earth shall fall before
him. And to him my soul shall
live: and my seed shall serve
him

The Devil turns around. Now they face each other. The
Devil stares at Jesus furiously.

DEVIL

I am surrounded by bad people,
a pack of hounds that will do
anything to destroy each
particle of your people

JESUS

I have not sat with the council
of vanity, neither will I go in
with the doers of unjust
things. Even so, I would

forgive them, as I have always
done, even when I was being
crucified

DEVIL

Turn not away your face from
me; decline not in your wrath
from your servant. Be you my
helper, forsake me not. Do not
you despise me, Oh God my
saviour.

JESUS

If armies in camp should stand
together against me, my heart
shall not fear. If a battle
shall rise up against me, in
this will I be confident.

Jesus and the Devil DISAPPEAR.

CUT TO:

EXT. MIDDLE EAST - DESERT - MILITARY CAMP - DAY

Twenty Arab-looking boys are down on the ground
shooting at some dummies dressed in American military
uniforms.

ARAB BOYS

(in Arabic;
subtitled)

Die you bastards!

Another group of boys running in the distance. Others
cross a muddy area, jump a wall and pass through an
area full of tires placed on the ground.

A military jeep follows them.

The BOYS PRAISE their Arab dictator IN A LOUD VOICE.

ARAB BOYS (cont'd)

(in Arabic;
subtitled)

"OUR LOVE IS TO YOU, OUR KING.
WE SHALL GIVE OUR LIVES FOR
YOU. WE BELONG TO YOUR FAITH.
WE SHALL PROTECT YOU AND ALLAH.
WE SHALL PROTECT YOU AND
ALLAH."

The PRAYER is REPEATED throughout the whole training.

A truck enters the boot camp with big tents.

Military formations line up with young boys.

The truck pulls over in front of one of the tents.

Three soldiers get out of the truck.

A MAJOR with a long beard, a military turban, and a worn-out appearance approaches the formation.

MAJOR
(in Arabic;
subtitled)
Stand still!

The young boys get into lines. They look ahead.

MAJOR (cont'd)
(in Arabic;
subtitled)
Here you will be trained to
fight against our enemies! When
the time comes, you will die
for your beliefs.

A SERGEANT (20), approaches the Major. He stands before the formation. The Major walks among the boys. They remain still.

MAJOR (cont'd)
(in Arabic;
subtitled)
You shall attack the enemy with
no compassion, no fear, no
mercy!
(pause)
Some people may call us
terrorists, some people may
think we have no principles,
the whole world may be against
us. But always remember that
our leaders have been created
by them, and above all that
everything we do is for him...
Allah!

ARAB BOYS
(they sing a
prayer in
Arabic;
subtitled)
"OUR LOVE IS TO YOU, OUR KING.
WE SHALL GIVE OUR LIVES FOR
YOU.. WE BELONG TO YOUR FAITH.
WE SHALL PROTECT YOU AND ALLAH.
WE SHALL PROTECT YOU AND ALLAH"

The Major approaches the Sergeant.

MAJOR
 (in Arabic;
 subtitled)
 I want to hand each of them a
 gun, today!

SERGEANT
 (in Arabic;
 subtitled)
 At your orders, Major

MAJOR
 (in Arabic;
 subtitled)
 I said today!

At the back of the formation, a young boy kneels down
 to tie his boots.

The Major notices that right away.

MAJOR (cont'd)
 (in Arabic;
 subtitled)
 You shall give your life for
 Allah!

The Major shoots the boy in the head.

Then he leaves and walks to the big tent, followed by
 the Sergeant.

SERGEANT
 (in Arabic;
 subtitled)
 Formation!. March!

The young boys follows the Sergeant. All the top
 military men come into the huge tent, which is
 camouflaged in sand color.

The young boys stay outside, in formation. They watch
 their mate lying and bleeding in the middle of the
 sand.

INT. BIG TENT - DAY

The Major comes into the big tent.

They all speak ARABIC with SUBTITLES:

MAJOR
 I apologize for the delay.
 Let's begin

The Major sits at the head of a table set up for the
 meeting. Some colonels are also present. At the other

end of the table is the Lieutenant. A screen is in the center. The Major takes out a cigar from his pocket and lights it.

LIEUTENANT

Gentlemen, the plans have already been implemented. We have already achieved very positive results according to our informant who has sent this material. I would like to share the information received with you

One of the COLONELS makes a gesture and assistant approaches.

COLONEL

Light, please.

They turn off the light. A video projection begins.

INSERT - VIDEO

A white 25-year-old man with light colored eyes appears holding a ticket.

CLOSE-UP - TICKET

Madrid - San Francisco

BACK TO VIDEO

He leaves the airport.

LIEUTENANT (V.O.)

That is Carlos Aly, twenty five years old, Spanish. He was sent to San Francisco five years ago...

Carlos Aly walks along the streets of San Francisco carrying a briefcase and wearing a dark suit.

LIEUTENANT (V.O.)

In order to be introduced in one of the world leading food distribution companies.

CUT TO:

INT. FOOD DISTRIBUTION COMPANY - LOBBY - DAY

Carlos comes into the building, where the food distribution company is. He walks by the reception

area, runs a card through an access control reader and is then granted access.

LIEUTENANT (V.O.)

We made it. The first stage has been completed

The young man checks the container where most of the minced meat that is distributed around the world is kept.

LIEUTENANT (V.O.)

This brilliant young man was able to get a position of supervisor very soon. He's waiting for our orders.

INT. CARLOS' KITCHEN - DAY

Carlos is preparing a mix in the kitchen of an old apartment. He holds a test tube while introducing some substance into it.

LIEUTENANT (V.O.)

Our bacteria are under control. We have made sure the bacteria are to be distributed to more than twenty percent of the world's population.

Lots of test tubes are on the table. Some are empty, some are full.

CUT TO:

INT. BIG TENT - DAY

A Colonel takes out some folders from his briefcase. He hands them out to the gathered people.

COLONEL

In similar environments, though in different strategic positions

The projector shows the pictures of the people who are being introduced by the Colonel.

COLONEL (cont'd)

We chose Nicholas Kristoff, Chin Lee and Dominique Pierre to achieve the same goal we have been after for so many years.

(pause)

They all hold our same ideals.

(pause)
 Nicholas is Russian; Chin is Chinese. Lastly, Dominique, a French woman who had been analyzed for a long time.

(pause)
 She's skillful and smart...

INSERT - VIDEO SCREEN

A) EXT. RUSSIA - SNOWY FOREST - DAY

NICHOLAS KRISTOFF runs along a snowy mountain road in Russia.

COLONEL (V.O.)
 All of them work at different food companies.
 (pause)
 We have also been precisely informed about their activities and achievements...

B) EXT. CHINA - TOWN - DAY

CHIN LEE's running along a road which is full of trees. He reaches a group of people and gets lost in the crowd.

COLONEL (V.O.)
 They all have positions that allow them to be close to the base substances for the products.

C) EXT. FRANCE - RESTAURANT - DAY

DOMINIQUE, dressed as a waitress, is taking an order from a CUSTOMER.

DOMINIQUE
 (in French;
 subtitled)
 May I take your order, sir?

CUSTOMER
 (in French;
 subtitled)
 I'd like some Croq Mesie.

DOMINIQUE
 (in French;
 subtitled)
 (MORE)

How do you want it, sir?... Hot
or cold?

Dominique takes her gun from under a napkin and shoots
him at point-blank.

COLONEL (V.O.)
Courage... Cleverness...
Speed...

BACK TO SCENE

COLONEL
That's all we needed.

The projection shows Dominique running in a French
city. The Major puts out the cigar in a big ashtray and
then stands up.

MAJOR
We are ready!.

The Major leaves.

SLOW FADE TO:

EXT. SALT MINES - DAY (PRESENT)

COMPLETE SILENCE.

The sky is clear. The sun rays fall on Jesus, who is
lying in the salt mine with his eyes closed.

He is surrounded by an endless smooth area of salt.

Jesus opens his eyes and stares at the sky. He sits on
his haunches. He plays with the salt.

JESUS
In the beginning there was
nothing.
(pause)
The Earth could not be seen for
there was no light.
(pause)
All was flat, there were no
shapes or wonders.

The WIND blows the SALT.

JESUS (cont'd)
All was peace. The landscape
was an incredible painting.
(pause)
Only a pure hand could have
created it.

A GUST of WIND causes a STORM of SALT and DUST.

The Devil APPEARS amid the storm. The storm is over.

JESUS (cont'd)

I beheld the earth, and lo it was void, and nothing, and the heavens, and there was no light in them. Astonishing and wonderful things have been done in the land. The prophets prophesied falsehood

DEVIL

But the heart of these people is become hard of belief and provoking, they are revolted and gone away. And your people like it that way! Lies are all around them!

JESUS

For my foolish people have not known me: they are foolish and senseless children, they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge

The Devil confronts Jesus.

DEVIL

This is the result of your behavior and your actions. This is your evil! Did you really think that dying for your people would change them? I beheld and lo there was no man, and all the birds of the air were gone. I looked, and behold Carmel was a wilderness and all the cities were destroyed at the presence of the Lord. Destruction upon destruction is called for, and all the earth is laid waste: my tents are destroyed on a sudden, and my pavilion in a moment

JESUS

Do not make an attack or make war for I shall not surrender any portion of my territory

Jesus turns around and looks up at the sky.

JESUS (cont'd)

Be you instructed, lest my soul depart from you, lest I make

you desolate, a land
uninhabited.

The Devil walks up to his ear.

DEVIL

You have struck them and they
have not grieved, you have
bruised them, and they have
refused to receive correction.
They have made their faces
harder than the rock, and they
have refused to return. I will
make your People to be heaps of
sand, and dens of dragons: and
I will make the cities
desolate, for want of an
inhabitant. You've seen it and
you will see it again and
again!

FADE TO:

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAWN

A military plane flies through some smoke and fire.

The sky is clear. It's a sunny day.

INT./EXT. MILITARY PLANE / ATLANTIC COAST - DAWN

A white sand Atlantic Ocean coast is nearby.

A precarious raft goes along the ocean toward the
coast. TEN PEOPLE are in there, most of them are young.

The PILOT talks on the radio.

PILOT

Central Control, Central
Control, this is N575 pursuing
illegals entering national
territory. I Repeat, entering
national territory. Awaiting
orders. Over.

The PILOT targets the raft.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAWN

All are quiet on the raft. A very thin man points at
the plane; now they all notice it.

MAN
 (in Cuban;
 subtitled)
 Hey man, we are in trouble!

All of them look at the military plane overflying the area.

INT./EXT. MILITARY PLANE /ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAWN

The pilot is still targeting the raft.

CONTROL TOWER (V.O.)
 Attention N575. Here control tower. Plan T1 approved. Proceed right away. Over.

PILOT
 Roger. Over and out.

INSERT - BUTTON

The pilot lifts a lid and pushes a red button. A missile is fired, leaving smoke behind.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAWN

The men on the raft jump into the water when they see the smoke.

SCREAMS are heard.

The MISSILE EXPLODES some meters away from the raft, causing a huge wave and a ball of fire.

The raft flies in the air and is completely destroyed.

Everything is QUIET now.

INT./EXT. MILITARY PLANE /ATLANTIC COAST - DAWN

The pilot watches the results of the attack through his side window.

PILOT
 Attention tower, this is N575, mission accomplished. Over.

CONTROL TOWER (V.O.)
 Roger. Rescue coordinates ready. Proceed to base. Over and out.

The military plane flies away.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAWN (LATER)

Some military ships and Coast Guard choppers get to the place. Some divers jump into the water to proceed with the rescue. One of them grips a man, who is floating on the water.

The rest of the divers put the men together under the big orange rescue chopper.

FADE TO:

INT. TV STATION - TV STUDIO - DAWN

The back of a television studio shows the same images of the live rescue.

A REPORTER, a dark haired woman with a Central American accent, reports the news.

JOURNALIST

We can see how a destroyed raft was found. Apparently, the raft belonged to immigrants that were trying to reach our land. Laura Ríos is reporting live from the scene. Go ahead Laura.

The reporter looks at a monitor placed at the side.

LAURA RIOS, a slim, dark skinned and beautiful 26 year-old commentator gives the news live from the scene.

FX CUT TO:

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAWN

The commentator is standing in front of the camera on a motor boat in front of the Coast Guard ship.

Behind her we can see the wreckage and the divers at work.

COMMENTATOR

Today at approximately five thirty a.m. Eastern time, the Coast Guard found pieces of a raft.

(pause)

The raft may have belonged to supposedly illegal immigrants traveling from some nearby islands toward the coast of the Atlantic Ocean.

(pause)

So far, there are three

casualties. There are other
seven people seriously wounded
and burnt, possibly due to sun
exposure.

(pause)

From Costa del Cabo, this is
Laura Ríos reporting for
Noticiero Federal.

INT. TV STATION - TV STUDIO - DAWN

The image becomes smaller at the side, still shown on
the monitor in the background.

REPORTER

Thank you very much Laura.

(pause)

Some Middle East cities were
once again bombarded last
night...

Images of a missile exploding in a house are shown in a
frame next to the reporter.

REPORTER (cont'd)

So far the death toll has risen
to one hundred, including
children and women.

Once again, the reporter looks at the monitor placed at
the side.

FX CUT TO:

EXT. MIDDLE EAST - CITY - NIGHT

An American combat aircraft flies across a Middle East
city whereas an American tank runs over a car.

Some Arab demonstrators protest. They hold up banners.

PROTEST SCREAMS in ARABIC. BOMB EXPLOSIONS all around
the city.

INSERT - BANNERS

In big black Arabic letters: "No more deaths, invaders
out!".

BACK TO SCENE

Some armed Arab soldiers wearing worn-out military
uniforms behind the demonstrators.

Three big black American choppers fly over the demonstrators.

The Americans shoot at them and at the Arab soldiers.

SHOTS from the PLANES; SCREAMS from the DEMONSTRATORS.

The tank runs over the corpses.

A truck full of American soldiers pulls over at the place. The soldiers get out of the truck.

The BOMB EXPLOSIONS continue.

A cloud of smoke rises in the horizon.

The American soldiers divide themselves into two groups. The first group breaks into the houses knocking down the doors. The second group crosses the street and does the same.

An American soldier walks away from the group. He notices a small wooden door. He kicks it open.

INT. POOR HOUSE - NIGHT

The soldier opens the door.

The house is empty but a VOICE is HEARD in the distance.

There are many old and empty rooms.

An OLD MAN speaks ARABIC with SUBTITLES:

 OLD MAN (V.O.)
 Oh God, come to my assistance;
 Oh Lord make haste to help me.
 Let them be confounded and
 ashamed that seek my soul.

SHOTS from MACHINE GUNS are heard in the BACKGROUND.

Through the windows we can see the city in ruins.

 OLD MAN (V.O.)
 Let them turned backward, and
 clash for shame that desire
 evils to me. Let them be
 presently turned away blushing
 for shame that say to me. But I
 am needy and poor. Oh God help
 me. You are my helper and my
 deliverer...

The soldier keeps on looking for that voice in every room of the house.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 In you, Oh Lord, I have hoped,
 let me never be put to
 confusion: deliver me in your
 justice, and rescue me. Incline
 your ear onto me and save me.
 For you are my firmament and my
 refuge...

There is only one door to be opened at the end of a
 long corridor.

INT. OLD MAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

There is an OLD MAN (70), with white untidy hair and
 wrinkled skin. He's on his knees and rests his elbows
 on the bed. He is looking up at a rosary hanging on the
 wall.

He's holding the picture of a woman in his right hand.

OLD MAN
 Deliver me, Oh my God, out of
 the hand of the sinner, and out
 of the hand of the
 transgressor...

The old man does not blink as tears fall down his
 cheeks.

SHOTS from MACHINE GUNS. EXPLOSIONS.

OLD MAN (cont'd)
 And the unjust. For you are my
 patience, Oh Lord, my hope, Oh
 Lord, from my youth...

The American soldier watches him. He feels sorry for
 the man and quickly leaves.

OLD MAN (cont'd)
 Oh Lord, if by you have I been
 confirmed from the womb...

The old man holds the picture tight and then lies down.

OLD MAN (cont'd)
 Of you I shall continually
 sing. I am become unto many a
 wonder, but you are a string
 helper.
 (pause)
 Let my mouth be filled with
 praise, that I may sing your
 glory, your greatness all day
 long...

The old man closes his eyes.

OLD MAN (cont'd)
 Cast it me not off in the time
 of old age: when my strength
 shall fail, do not you forsake
 me.

(pause)
 For my enemies have spoken
 against me.

A big EXPLOSION is heard in the room.

A bomb has been dropped on that room. All is covered
 with dust. The house falls down.

Darkness takes hold.

COMPLETE SILENCE.

FADE TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. JERUSALEM - PATH - DAY

Jesus walks carrying the cross on his shoulder. The
 Devil is beside him. The Devil is the only one that
 recognizes him.

A Roman soldier whips Jesus, who is followed by about
 ten soldiers and a group of euphoric people.

JESUS and the DEVIL speak Aramaean with SUBTITLES:

JESUS
 Your heart is nothing but
 ashes, your hope is more evil
 than earth, and your life is
 more insignificant than clay

DEVIL
 Why? If life is a game and
 existence is a fair where to
 obtain profits

Jesus falls on his knees.

JESUS
 You have eyes and see not, you
 have a nose and smell not...
 (pause)
 You have ears and hear not...
 (pause)
 You have hands and feel not

The Devil puts out her hand to help Jesus up. Jesus
 does not accept the help.

DEVIL

And your feet are not fit to
walk

The soldier WHIPS Jesus. Jesus stands up and keeps on walking.

JESUS

No fire will be strong enough
to light this horrible night

Though feeling the heavy cross, Jesus looks at the Devil.

JESUS (cont'd)

The lofty eyes of man are
humbled, and the haughtiness of
men shall be made to stoop...
Woe to you that call evil good,
and good evil: that put
darkness for light, and light
for darkness, that put bitter
for sweet, and sweet for
bitter.

The Devil steps into his way to make him stop.

A soldier tries to punish Jesus, the Devil stops him by breaking his leg. The soldier does not understand what's going on for he missed what has happened.

CLOSE ON - FX

Everything keeps still except Jesus and the Devil.

The Devil takes the cross and puts it down on the ground.

Jesus looks at the Devil in surprise.

JESUS (cont'd)

How much further will you go?

DEVIL

Until cities are destroyed and
there are no people left; until
houses are completely empty and
desolation rules the devastated
soil.

JESUS

That will not happen, it will
not happen.

CLOSE ON - END OF FX

BACK TO SCENE

The Devil and Jesus walk along the path.

EXT. HILL - DAY

There are two upright crosses; there is a man fixed to each of them. There is some space in between the crosses.

DEVIL

And the people shall pass by
it, they shall fall, and be
hungry. And when they shall be
hungry, they will be angry, and
curse their representatives and
their God

JESUS

What will you do in the day of
visitation, and of the calamity
which comes from afar?.

(pause)

To whom will you flee for
help?.

(pause)

And where will you leave your
glory?

DEVIL

That you be not bowed down
under the bond, and fall with
the slain? In all these things
his anger is not turned away,
but his hand is stretched out
still

JESUS

Behold, the day of the Lord
shall come, a cruel day and
full of indignation, and of
wrath and fury, to lay the land
desolate, and to destroy the
sinners thereof out of it...

(sotto voce)

Among whom you will obviously
be.

Jesus gets closer to the Devil and touches her chest.

The Devil stands between the crosses.

DEVIL

Are you sure you want to die to
save your People?

It becomes cloudy. It becomes dark.

DEVIL (cont'd)

You know how it is... You know what will happen... Is it worth stop enjoying your life and your popularity to save your People?

Jesus lets his head fall and looks at the Devil, who is standing in front of him.

JESUS

I know what will happen. I am the King, you just pretend to be. What you do is my decision, and what you don't it is not yours, it is simply what I don't allow you to do.

(pause)

I control you and do with you what I think is necessary.

The Devil gets mad and strikes the cross.

DEVIL

Behold the Lord shall lay waste the earth, and shall strip it, and shall afflict the face thereof, and scatter thereof the inhabitants thereof.

JESUS

If that is what you wish, let it be so.

It becomes darker.

END FLASHBACK.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. DESERT - BIG TENT - NIGHT

It's all dark in the tent. There is only one small red light in a corner.

The sound of the MAJOR snapping his fingers is heard.

The men speak ARABIC with SUBTITLES:

MAJOR

Lights on, please

The light is turned on.

MAJOR (cont'd)

Gentlemen

The Major stands up violently.

MAJOR (cont'd)
 There are many countries that
 want to be destroyed; I have
 already given the order to make
 their wishes come true.

CUT TO:

INT. SAN FRANCISCO - CARLOS' APARTMENT - DAY

Carlos Aly takes a test tube containing gelatinous liquid and puts it in his briefcase. He opens the door.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. MOSCOW - NICHOLAS'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Nicholas opens the door of the refrigerator. He takes out a recipient made of glass covered with an hermetic silver lid. He puts it on the table and removes the lid. He puts a silver tube in the inner pocket of his coat.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. HONG KONG - CHIN'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Chin Lee removes silver lid from a glass recipient containing a test tube full of some yellowish liquid.

FADE TO:

INT. SAN FRANCISCO - FOOD COMPANY - OVENS - DAY

Carlos takes his briefcase, opens it and takes out the test tube. Then he pours the liquid in the huge ovens.

INT. MOSCOW - SODA FACTORY - NIGHT

Nicholas takes out the silver tube from his pocket and pours the liquid into one of the mixers.

INT. TOKYO - POTABILITY PLANT - POOLS - NIGHT

Chin Lee pours the liquid from the tube in a huge pool.

SLOW FADE TO:

INT. CITY - CHURCH - NIGHT (PRESENT)

The Church is in ruins. The pews are broken. Pieces of glass are spread among the ruins.

The cross of the altar remains upright.

The Devil sits on the debris of the altar.

Jesus cleans the statue of the Virgin Mary.

DEVIL

Now it's too late.

Jesus keeps on removing the debris, he pays no attention to the Devil.

DEVIL (cont'd)

Leave it alone, it's only a statue. Anyway, you can create a new one with your powers. Can you rebuild your house?, right?

Jesus rebuilds the altar. The Devil stands still under the cross.

JESUS

The Lord is patient, and great in power, and will not cleanse and acquit the guilty.

DEVIL

So he will have a lot of work? There are no more faithful men in the world. There are no more fair men! Everyone is on the lookout to spill blood, everyone is against everyone. Their hands serve evil!

The altar falls to pieces. Jesus is surrounded by the debris.

JESUS

The mountains tremble at him, and the hills are made desolate: and the earth has quaked at his presence, and the world and all that dwell therein. He will make an utter end: there shall not rise a double affliction

DEVIL

And what about the good, kindness, respect, happiness?... Doesn't the Lord talk about that?

Jesus confronts the Devil.

JESUS

The Lord has been humiliated
and that will not happen again.
Sinners will be fairly
punished.

(pausa)

Only those who have done the
good shall be saved.

Jesus closes his eyes and looks up at the sky since the
roof has been completely destroyed.

JESUS (cont'd)

Fear the Lord and give him
honor, because the hour of his
judgement is come...

(pause)

And adore him that made heaven
and earth, the sea and
fountains of waters.

The Devil GETS OUT OF SIGHT quickly.

FADE TO:

INT. VATICAN - POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

The Pope is at his seat; his eyes are closed.

There is a KNOCK on the door.

The Pope opens his eyes and sits up.

POPE

(in Italian;
subtitled)

Come on in!

His assistant opens the door and comes in. He hands the
Pope a newspaper.

ASSISTANT

(in Italian;
subtitled)

With your permission, your
Holiness.

The assistant leaves.

The Pope stretches his hand to get the newspaper. He
opens his eyes and reads the headlines.

INSERT - NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE

The headlines reveal in big black letters: "LETHAL VIRUS! - Millions dead around the world!". There are two big photographs featuring Dr. Giorgetti and Vittorio...: "Apparently funds were provided by the holy Vatican itself!"

BACK TO SCENE

The Pope folds the paper in two and throws it to the burning fireplace. Then he kneels in front of the gold cross. He closes his eyes and bends his head.

POPE

My soul is weary of life, I
will let go my speech against
myself, I will speak in the
bitterness of my soul. Lord, do
not condemn me! Tell me why do
you judge me so?. I know I have
made a mistake... I have made a
mistake!

QUICK CUT TO:

INT./EXT. PARIS/SUBWAY STATION - DAY

The subway station is packed. Dominique sits on a bench. She has a briefcase. She carefully puts it behind. Nobody notices. Then she leaves and disappears into the crowd.

POPE (V.O.)

... Does it seem good to you
that you should calumniate me,
and oppress me, the work of
your own hands, and help the
counsel of the wicked?

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

The Pope is still kneeling in front of the cross.

POPE

Have you eyes of flesh? Or
shall you see as a man sees?
Are your days as the days of
man, and are your years as the
times of men: that you should
(MORE)

inquire after my iniquity, and
search after my sin?...

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. PARIS - MALL - DAY

Dominique comes in one of the rest rooms at a mall carrying a box. She gets into one of the private toilets and hides the box behind the toilet seat. Then she opens the door and leaves.

POPE (V.O.)

And should know that I have
done no wicked thing, whereas
there is no man that can
deliver out of your hand. Your
hands have made me, and
fashioned me holly round about,
and do you thus cast me down
headlock on a sudden?!...

Before leaving, she looks into the mirror. Suddenly, her face becomes the Devil's face, who smiles at her.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

The Pope is still praying in front of the cross.

POPE

Remember you molded me like
clay, and that dust I shall
become...

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. PARIS - HOSPITAL - DAY

Dominique is now dressed as a nurse. She's carrying a small handbag. She walks into a room.

Some minutes later, she comes out without the handbag.

POPE (V.O.)

You have clothed me of skin and
flesh: you have put me together
with bones and sinews. You have
granted me life and mercy, and
your visitation has preserved
my spirit.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. POPE'S OFFICE - DAY

The Pope is still praying before the cross. Some tears are rolling down his face.

POPE

... Although you conceal things
in your heart, yet I know that
you remember all things.

(pause)

If I be wicked, woe unto me. If
just, I shall not lift up my
head, being filled with
affliction and misery

The Pope feels a terrible pain in his chest.

POPE (cont'd)

And for pride you will take me
as a lion, and returning, you
torment me wonderfully.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT./EXT. PARIS/SUBWAY STATION - DAY

The subway station is packed.

POPE (V.O.)

You renew your witnesses
against me, and multiply your
wrath upon me...

The subway gets to the station.

There is a BIG EXPLOSION.

A ball of fire invades the place. The walls fall down.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Two stretcher-bearers are running with a patient.

POPE (V.O.)

And pain war against me...

The hospital EXPLODES, a ball of fire invades the
corridor.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. MALL - DAY

Lot of people around the mall.

POPE (V.O.)

Why did you bring me forth out
of the womb? Oh that I had been
consumed, that eye might not
see me....

A huge EXPLOSION comes from a corridor.

Pieces of glass coming from the shops fly all around.
People are hurt.

A cloud of fire and dust takes hold.

FADE TO:

DREAM SEQUENCE - EXT. VATICAN - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The young poor man and Jesus are sitting against the
Vatican's main door.

The Pope walks toward them.

Jesus hugs the poor man.

JESUS

Come you blessed of my father,
posses you the kingdom prepared
for you from the foundation of
the world. For I was hungry,
and you gave me to eat. I was
thirsty, and you gave me to
drink. I was a stranger, and
you took me in. Naked, and you
covered me, sick and you
visited me. I was in prison and
you came to me.

The young poor man takes Jesus hand and looks at him.

POOR YOUNG MAN

Lord, when did we see you
hungry and fed you: thirsty and
gave you drink?. Or when we see
you a stranger and took you in?
Or naked and covered you? Or
when did we see you sick or in
prison and came to you?

Jesus takes the young man's hand, a tear rolls down his
face.

JESUS

Amen, I say to you, as long as
you did it to one of these
least brethren...

(pause)

You did it to me.

Jesus looks at the poor man.

END DREAM SEQUENCE.

FX CUT TO:

INT. POPE OFFICE - DAY

The Pope prays at the cross.

POPE

Shall not the fewness of my
days be ended shortly?. Man's
days are as grass, as the
flower of the fields so shall
he flourish...

Once again the Pope feels a deep pain in his chest.

POPE (cont'd)

That this remains written for
the future generations, and the
new borns shall pray the Lord.
Then have I in vain justify my
heart, and washed my hands
among the innocent... God
forgive me. God forgive me!

The Pope feels a very deep pain in his chest and falls
to the marble floor.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. VATICAN - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The poor man falls against the asphalt. He hurts his
head. He starts bleeding.

He stands up all covered in blood, as if he had awaken
from a nightmare. He holds onto the entrance door of
the Vatican.

POOR YOUNG MAN

(reads)

Don't leave me Lord!, no!,
please!

He takes out a small wooden cross from his pants and
starts to read his big Bible, totally outraged.

POOR YOUNG MAN (cont'd)

The Lord is the God to whom
 revenge belongs; the God of
 revenge has acted freely. Lift
 up yourself, you that judge the
 earth: render a reward to the
 proud. How long shall the
 sinners, Oh Lord: how long
 shall the sinners glory?

The poor young man cries. He is upset and angry.

Clouds cover the sky. A catastrophic storm comes.

FADE TO:

EXT. PRAIRIE - DAY (PRESENT)

Jesus and the Devil stand on the top of a beautiful
 hill surrounded by lakes.

The sky is clear. The wind is blowing hard.

Jesus raises his arms and looks at the sky.

JESUS

We give you thanks, Oh lord God
 almighty, who are and who was
 and who are to come, because
 you have taken to you your
 great power, and you have
 reigned. And the nations were
 angry, and your wrath is come.
 And the time of the dead, that
 they should be judged and that
 you should render reward to
 your servants the prophets and
 the saints, and them that fear
 your name, little and great:
 and should destroy those who
 have corrupted the earth.

Jesus and the Devil stand now in front of an apple
 tree. The Devil holds an apple. She moves it closer to
 Jesus to seduce him, but Jesus refuses.

DEVIL

What's going on?... Can't you
 see that you can't stop what
 you have created yourself?...

(pause)

They trusted you... And now...
 Who will save them?... Look how
 easily I can take away the
 little hope they have in your
 beliefs...

(pause)

Come on Jesus, you should give me some credit..

(pause)

Can't you see the power I can control?

JESUS

I only show my strength when someone does not believe in my power. But I control my strength, I judge with serenity and rule with indulgence, for I can use my power whenever I want.

The Devil bites the apple.

DEVIL

So what are you waiting for?...

(mockingly)

Who will blame you for destroying the Nations that you created? Who will confront you as the avenger of the unfair?

Jesus stretches his arms out, looks at the sky and weeps.

JESUS

Lord, I beg you let me be God!.

Just for one day and I will make men feel like brothers again!.

The sky turns completely dark.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STREET - DAY (DARKNESS)

The sky is black even though it's daytime. The sea has become stormy.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STREET - DAY (DARKNESS)

The WAVES HIT against the STATUE OF LIBERTY.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STREET - DAY (DARKNESS)

People run away from the huge waves invading the streets.

The police try to take a group of people away from the huge waves.

POLICE OFFICER

Go west!. Go west right now!...

(pause)

Come on!

(to himself)

God what is this?.

The street lights are on. The buildings are being invaded by the sea. People run through the streets away from the water.

WINDOW PANES and CARS EXPLODE continuously.

The WIND blows HARDER. It starts to HAIL VIOLENTLY. HUGE DROPS of FROZEN RAIN destroy everything in sight.

Chaos rules the city.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - STREET - DAY (DARKNESS)

Hail falls heavily on the city which has been covered by the sea. There are tornadoes. A huge hurricane destroys everything in sight. Pieces of wood, cars, trees, tiles, and mail boxes fly in the air at great speed.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. HONG KONG - STREET - NIGHT

The city has been hit by a terrible storm.

The WINDOW PANES of the SKYSCRAPERS EXPLODE.

Trees are pulled out. They hit against the shops breaking their windows and falling on PEOPLE that try to run away.

INSERT - RESTAURANT SIGN (SUBTITLED)

In big letters, in Chinese: "EAT SAFE".

FADE TO:

EXT. VATICAN - NIGHT

Clouds turn black.

The lightnings illuminate the sky.

The wind pushes the Poor man against the Vatican door .

He holds on tight as he cries in desperation.

Thousands of people pray in front of the Vatican. Some cry, some are going mad.

There are media trucks from every channel. Among them a truck from a TV station.

REPORTER

The situation is out of control. People from around the world are gathered together to pray in the Vatican, which is on alert due to possible attacks. This is something never seen before. People are trying to get in the Holy See. We are in a state of...

A lightning interrupts the reporter.

It is pouring down.

REPORTER (cont'd)

Stop! This is crazy! Let's get the hell out of here!

POOR MAN

(shouts)

Why God?!

The Poor man is on the ground amid the crowd that steps on him and kicks him. However, he takes his Bible and begins to read.

POOR YOUNG MAN

(shouting)

By the wrath of the Lord of hosts the land is troubled, and the people shall be as fuel for the fire. No man shall spare his brother. Run! Run!

The blood from the poor man's head flows along the street as he reads the Bible.

DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. JERUSALEM - GOLGOTHA - DAY

Finally, Jesus, covered in blood, lowers his head and dies on the cross.

Mary cries. Next to her is JOHN, who hugs her in tears.

ROMAN SOLDIER

(in old Italian;
subtitled)

You are the King of the Jews,
Almighty, you perform miracles,
so why don't you save yourself?

JOHN

(in Aramaean;
subtitled)

Shut up infamous man!... Shut
up!... You killed the King of
the Jews... Beg for forgiveness
and save yourself cause
judgment day will come for
you... Infamous soldier!

MARY

(in Aramaean;
subtitled)

My son, My Lord, King of the
Jews, give me strength to fight
in your name...

(pause)

I will spread your word and I
will not stop until I save you.

Jesus' blood runs through his legs.

It begins to rain heavily. It all turns dark on the
hill.

Everyone is scared by an earthquake.

Day becomes night.

END FLASHBACK.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ENDLESS BLACK

Everything is black. The Devil and Jesus confront each
other in the middle of nothing.

They are suspended in the air. There is nothing around
them. It's an absolutely endless space.

The Devil gets closer to Jesus.

DEVIL

I will take the chalice of
salvation; and I will upon the
name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord before all his
people

JESUS

He raises the needy from the
dust, and lifts up the poor
from the dunghill, that he may
sit with princess, and hold the
throne of glory

DEVIL

What saint are you going to
talk to? Anger killed the
foolish. Annoyance killed the
stubborn

The Devil walks away from Jesus.

Jesus reveals a ball of clay in his hand. He molds it.

JESUS

His work is praised and
magnificence and his justice
continuous forever and ever.

The Devil walks toward Jesus again; Jesus keeps on
molding the ball of clay.

DEVIL

This is a generation that
curses their father, and does
not bless their mother. A
generation that is pure in its
own eyes

The Devil moves around Jesus as she talks.

DEVIL (cont'd)

And yet are not washed from
their filthiness. A generation
whose eyes are lofty, and their
eyelids lifted up on high.

(pause)

A generation that for teeth
have swords and grind with
their jaw teeth, to devour the
needy from off the earth, and
the poor from among men.

Jesus and the Devil are back-to-back.

JESUS

For the pangs of death have
surrounded me, the floods of
Belial have made me afraid. The
cords of hell compassed me, the
snares of death prevented me.
In my distress I will call upon
the Lord, and I will cry to my
God: and he will hear my voice

(MORE)

out of his temple, and my cry
shall come his ears.

Jesus faces the Devil.

JESUS (cont'd)
The Lord is merciful and just,
and our God shows mercy. The
Lord is the keeper of little
ones. I was humble and he
delivered me.

The Devil laughs. Jesus shows the Devil what he has
created with the clay, and lets his creation fall into
the endless black void.

JESUS (cont'd)
By wisdom the house shall be
built, and by prudence it shall
be strengthened...

(pausa)

By instruction the storerooms
shall be filled with all
precious and most beautiful
wealth

Jesus, angry, approaches the Devil.

JESUS (cont'd)
A wise man is strong, and a
knowing man, stout and valiant.
That small ball of clay will be
the new world the Lord will
give us, he will shelter us and
give us his faith and endless
love

The Devil pushes him angrily.

JESUS (cont'd)
And there shall be safety where
there are many counsels. Wisdom
is too high for a fool.

DEVIL

Do you think you have won?...
You have never defeated me. I
crucified you once and I'm
doing it once again and will
keep on doing it for all
eternity.

JESUS

The Lord rules eternity... Your
time is over, your services
have already been used. I
devoured your crop and your
Bread, I devoured your flock

and your cattle, I devoured
your vineyard and your fig
tree...

(pause)

... Isn't it time to reconsider
everything for ever and
eternity?...

(pause)

... A new world has been
created!...

(pause)

... Amen.

Jesus SNAPS his FINGERS and bends his head.

There appear two Angels beside the Devil. They seize
the Devil by the arms and take her away. The Angels and
the Devil disappear into the darkness.

DEVIL

I beg for forgiveness this
time, and that you beg our God
to save me... Forgive me!

The ECHOES are heard.

A bright light covers it all and it becomes day again.

SLOW DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MODERN CITY - DAY

The sun shines bright in the sky. Enormous buildings
stand high in -well-known streets-.

Peace rules the city.

The young poor man stands on the cornice of the tallest
building in the city. His arms are spread out. He's
looking up at the sky.

The sun shines on his face. The young man closes his
eyes and smiles, showing thankfulness and happiness.

A white light COVERS THE WHOLE SCREEN.

GOD (V.O.)

If anyone loves me, he will
keep my word. And my father
will love him and will come to
him and will make our house
with him. He who does not love
me, does not keep my word.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END - ROLL CREDITS