

Critics Hate 'Reagan,' but I Promise: It Will Inspire You

Midway through the new movie "Reagan," there's a scene in which Christian entertainer Pat Boone and evangelist George Otis Sr. visit Ronald Reagan when he's running for reelection for governor of California. As the men stand outside the governor's mansion in Sacramento, Otis gives a prophetic message from God to Reagan: "If you walk uprightly before Me, you will reside at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue."

That scene wasn't fabricated. It really happened. One eyewitness of that moment, author Bob Slosser, said charismatic preacher Harold Bredeson was also with Otis and Boone when they prayed for Reagan that day in 1970. Otis recalled that after he gave Reagan the prophecy, Reagan simply looked up from the prayer circle and said, "Well"—as if he were filing away the profound words in his heart for a later time.

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Otis' prophecy was fulfilled in 1980. Ronald Reagan became the 40th president of the United States, and he is remembered most for courageously confronting communism and helping to dismantle the Soviet Union.

Nobody is surprised that critics don't like "Reagan." But while elitist film reviewers gave it low ratings, audiences gave it a 98% score on Rotten Tomatoes. "Reagan" also earned an A from audiences on CinemaScore, and 4 1/2 stars on PostTrak.

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Critics today wouldn't dare give four stars to any movie that has wholesome values or that portrays Christianity in a positive light. But "Reagan" was doubly doomed by critics even before it was screened because several actors in the film—including Dennis Quaid, who plays Reagan like he was born for the role—have publicly endorsed the Republican ticket in the 2024 election.

In this case, I say ignore the critics. I loved this film—not only because Reagan is my all-time favorite president, but because politically incorrect director Sean McNamara (who also directed the faith-based film "Soul Surfer") unashamedly made Reagan's Christian faith a central theme.

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