

Mark Burnett: God Was Present on Set of 'The Bible'

TV mogul Mark Burnett is convinced he felt the **presence of God** while filming new religious epic *The Bible* in the Moroccan desert after a timely gust of wind swept through the set after a speech by Jesus Christ.

The reality show mastermind teamed up with his actress wife Roma Downey to bring the stories from the holy book back to the small screen, with Portuguese actor Diogo Morgado as the son of God, and he reveals the whole cast and crew were left speechless during one scene featuring Jesus and Nicodemus because they really believed a higher power was watching over them.

He says, "The hand of god was on this. We were there for five months in the Moroccan desert. One night there's a scene where Nicodemus steals away at night to talk to Jesus... and he asks and he says, 'They say you can see the kingdom of heaven'. And Jesus says, 'You too can see the kingdom of heaven. You've got to be born again.' He says, 'What do you mean, how can I be born again?' He said of the **Holy Spirit**, 'Spirit is like the wind'—and at that moment the wind came out of nowhere. A sustained wind for 30 seconds..."

Downey adds, "As if we turned on wind machines, it just blew through the village, it was extraordinary." The History Channel mini-series has already proved to be a big hit on U.S. TV—the first episode of the 10-hour drama became the highest-rated cable show of the year when it premiered earlier this month to 13.1 million viewers.