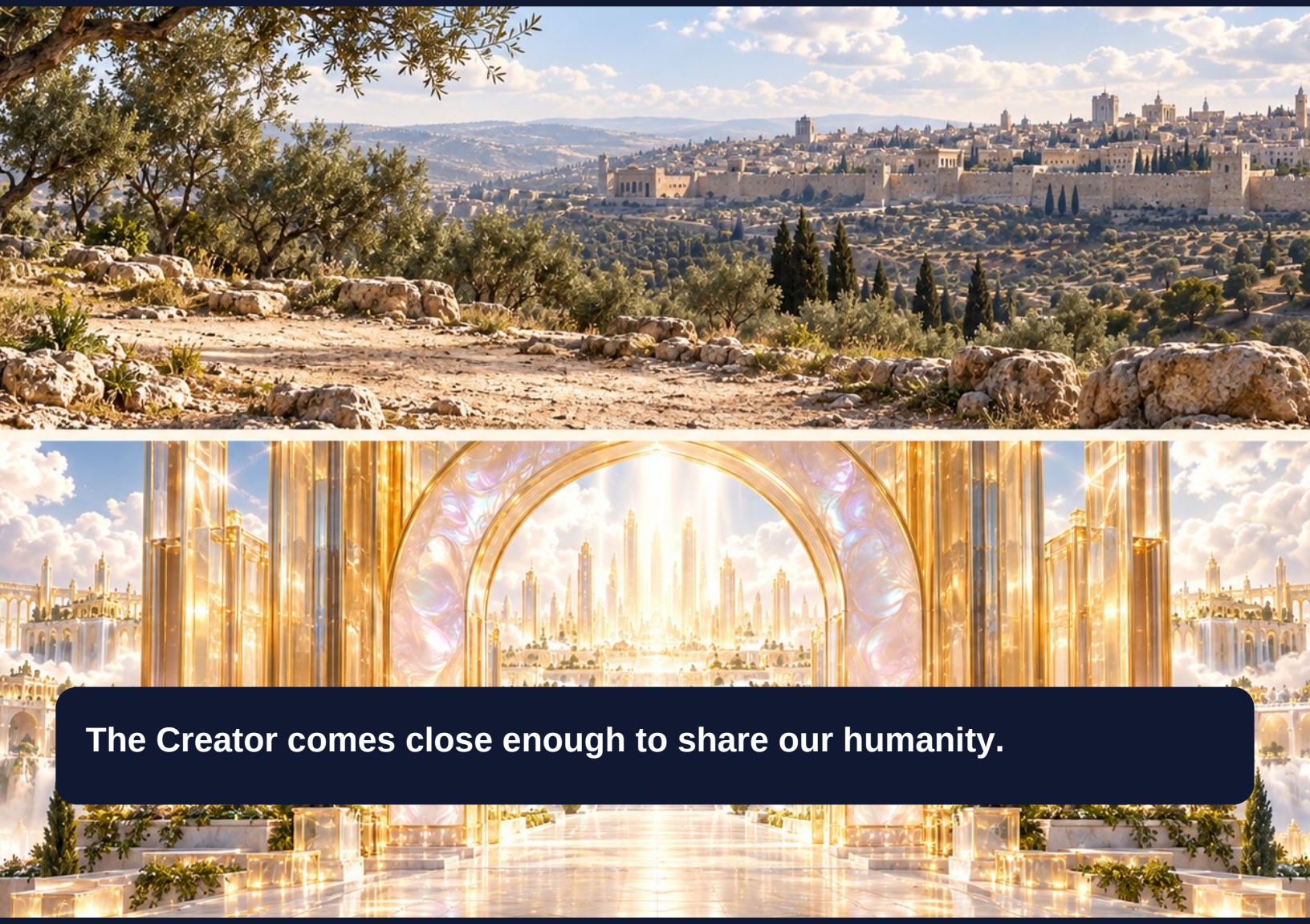
ISSUE 23 / VOLUME 4



The Creator comes close enough to share our humanity.

WHEN HEAVEN SAID GOODBYE

Why does the Son leave heaven, and why can no angel take His place?

WATCH / NOTICE / ASK

Stay with the narrator’s question



Existing movie environment concept / final scene still to be selected

Why does the Son leave heaven, and why can no angel take His place?

Return to this part of Heaven’s Diary. Describe what the narrator sees, what surprises him, and what he has not yet understood. Read the Bible before accepting the story’s explanation as a doctrine.

Read / Observe

Open the Bible together

JOHN 1:1-3, 14

The Word is divine, active in creation, and becomes flesh. Read these statements together. The incarnation does not mean a created angel becomes a better creature; it is the eternal Son taking human nature.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Trace humility, servant life, obedience, death, and exaltation. The passage calls believers to His mindset. Self-emptying must not be turned into a denial that the One who humbles Himself is truly divine.

HEBREWS 2:14-18 + 4:14-16

The eternal Son remained fully divine when He became truly human. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (Luke 1:26-35). He faced temptation without sin, died, rose bodily, and ministers as our High Priest. His real humanity and undiminished divinity must be affirmed together.

Look deeper

From the passage to Christ

THE CONNECTED PICTURE

Follow Creator → incarnation → servant → faithful High Priest. Christ is both fully divine and fully human; His humility does not make Him a created being.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

John 1:1–3, 14: Who becomes flesh? Philippians 2:5–11: What does His self-humbling involve? Hebrews 2:14–18; 4:14–16: Why does shared humanity matter? Matthew 28:19: Who is named together?

EXPLAIN IT IN THREE SENTENCES

First: what the passage says in its original setting. Second: how the Adventist understanding brings the passages together. Third: how the movie illustrates that conclusion. Do not let an attractive scene substitute for the argument. Ask which connection reveals Christ’s work or character.

PHOTOTHEOLOGY / MAP THE TEXT

Trace the biblical movement

1

THE ETERNAL WORD

John 1:1-3 / He is not part of the created order He brings into being.

↓

2

THE WORD BECOMES FLESH

John 1:14 / He truly enters human life.

↓

3

THE COMPASSIONATE HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 4:14-16 / Draw near to receive mercy and help.

Use the passages to explain each step. A solid link needs textual support; use a dotted link for an illustration or a proposal that remains uncertain.

A fair objection

Questions worth taking seriously

IF HE DEPENDED ON THE FATHER, WAS HE LESS THAN GOD?

The New Testament portrays genuine human dependence and divine identity. Dependence within the incarnate mission does not by itself establish that the Son is a created or lesser deity. Read John 1 and Philippians 2 together.

IS THE TRINITY THREE GODS?

No. Adventists affirm one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three coeternal Persons, each fully divine. They are not competing gods, created beings, or one Person changing masks. Read Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19; John 1:1-3; Acts 5:3-4. Distinguish the three Persons without dividing God’s unity.

DID THE FAREWELL REALLY HAPPEN THAT WAY?

The film’s embraces, angelic offers, and detailed heavenly dialogue are imaginative. Scripture reveals the Son’s mission and love, but does not report this entire farewell scene. Let the scene awaken wonder without presenting invented details as revelation.

VISUAL STUDY / YOUR TURN

Build the picture yourself

Make three frames labeled Creator, Incarnate Son, High Priest. For each, write one passage and one implication for approaching Christ. Add a border note: three perspectives on the same Savior, not three stages of becoming divine.

FIRST FRAME

Passage / observation

SECOND FRAME

Passage / observation

THIRD FRAME

Passage / observation

RETURN TO THE STORY

Use your work to answer the opening question. Name one claim you can support directly, one inference, and one detail supplied by the film’s visual staging.

For activities needing more panels or columns, continue on a separate sheet.

A PERSONAL RESPONSE

Let the truth shape your life

READ AND REFLECT

Read the first passage again. Identify what it reveals about God, what it asks of you, and how Christ supplies hope or help. Pray with one specific response in mind.

What does Christ's willingness to share human weakness tell you about approaching Him?

MY NEXT STEP

( ) I understand. ( ) I need more study.
( ) I would appreciate a Bible study conversation.

NEXT: Issue 24 / The King of Glory

Participation and personal sharing are voluntary. Bring unresolved questions.

Leader companion

Guide the next conversation

75-MINUTE ROUTE

Scene and observation 10 / Bible investigation 20 / Christ-centered connection and map 15 / strongest objection 15 / visual activity 5 / response and prayer 10. Use a second meeting when the questions need it; do not force agreement to finish a schedule.

ISSUE-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

Use the ministry’s Godhead objections as a starting point, keeping biblical texts primary. Define incarnation and Trinity plainly. Invite prayer to the Savior who knows human weakness without making the scene’s artistic details doctrinal tests.

SOURCE AND INVITATION

Story: Heaven’s Diary transcript, 67:00–69:39. Method: Phototheology Core Method v2. Apologetics sources and editorial limitations are mapped in the accompanying source register. This is new editorial wording, not a verbatim Ivor Myers quotation. Invite a voluntary next step and preserve unresolved questions.