



The logo features the word "MARVEL" in a small red box at the top. Below it, "CIVIL WAR" is written in large, bold, red letters with a white outline. Underneath that, "CAPTAIN AMERICA" is written in smaller, bold, blue letters with a white outline.

## BACKGROUND

### HOLLYWOOD IN GENERAL

- **HOLLYWOOD ROOTS:** When Cecil B. DeMille (the director of the epic movie, “The Ten Commandments”) first came to California in the early 1900s, he settled in a small town that was said to be a “Christian” settlement that was giving away free land to anyone who was willing to build a place of worship. The town had a picturesque name—Hollywood
- **HOLLYWOOD TODAY:** When questioned if they had any religious affiliation, citizens of Hollywood came in at 45%, saying that they didn’t, while the percentage of Americans nationwide who had no religious affiliation was a mere 4%.

### CREATORS

- The Individuals behind this movie have Biblical roots that they have left.
- **Stan Lee** is Jewish: Lee was raised in a Jewish family. In a 2002 survey of whether he believes in God, he stated, “Well, let me put it this way... [Pauses.] No, I'm not going to try to be clever. I really don't know. I just don't know.”
- **Captain America** was created in 1941 by Jewish cartoonists **Joe Simon** and **Jack Kirby**.
- **Iron man** was created by Jewish Cartoonists **Jack Kirby** and **Larry Lieber** (Stan Lee's younger brother)
- The **Captain America: Civil War** comic book was written by **Mark Millar**, raised Protestant but went on to write some particularly not Christian works.

### THE FILM’S IMPACT

- Highest grossing film of 2016 (1.1 billion), **12th highest grossing movie all time.**

### WHY ALL OF THIS MATTERS

- “If we fail to see that these myths are meant to point us to something greater, they will always betray us for they are not the thing itself; they are the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have never heard.” (C.S. LEWIS)
- We are to: “...examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil. (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

# THE GOSPEL & THE STORY

1. **God created the world beautiful and good, and he calls us to appreciate beauty and goodness.** What did you see in this story that reflected God's good and beautiful design? God did not merely create a universe that works; he created a universe that's beautiful, and he created human beings with the capacity to appreciate and to create beauty. Where did you glimpse that beauty in this book or film? Does it present us with the dream of a glorious past that's been lost? If so, what did that past look like?
2. **The world has been corrupted by sin, and this corruption extends to the works of art that we create.** What in this book or film was inappropriate and unworthy of imitation? What were the writers or creators trying to tell us that is false or only partly true? What is broken in the plot of this story that the heroes are trying to redeem or to repair?
  - FYI: We have censored the movie to remove 29 profanities, 11 times God's name was taken in vain, twice Jesus' name taken in vain and 1 sexual reference.
3. **The world needs redemption, and the best art both refuses to downplay the awful brokenness of our world and includes redemptive themes that echo God's plan to redeem this world.** What does this book or film present as the answer to the brokenness that drives the plot? How do the heroes redeem or repair the brokenness? How was this redemption accomplished and applied? What does this tell us about the writers' worldview? Were the writers or creators consistent in following their worldview, or are there conflicts within their own worldview?
4. **God has promised to make the world new, and every human heart longs for a world where everything is set right.** What is the vision of this book or film for the way life ought to be? What is the hero's hope for the future? What does this story leave you longing for? What desires for the future did this story awaken within you?

---

# UTILITARIANISM

---

Is it okay to do something wrong to accomplish something good?

**YES**

**NO**

<p><b>"We try to save as many people as we can. Sometimes it doesn't mean everybody. But you find a way to live with it. Next time maybe nobody gets saved." – Captain America</b></p>	<p><b>"Victory at the expense of the innocent is no victory at all" - King T'Chaka</b></p>
--	--

---

# AUTHORITARIANISM

---

Should we submit to the authorities?

**YES**

**NO**

<p><b>"If we can't accept boundaries, we are no better than the bad guys" –Tony Stark</b></p>	<p><b>"If we sign this, we surrender our right to choose. We may not be perfect but the safest hands are still our own." – Captain America</b></p>
<p><b>"Congratulations, Cap, you're a criminal." – War Machine</b></p>	

---

# CONVICTIONS AT THE EXPENSE OF PEACE?

---

Which is more important,  
Peace and Unity OR standing for what's right?

## PEACE & UNITY

## DOING WHAT'S RIGHT

<p><b>"Just because it's the path of least resistance doesn't mean it's the wrong path. Staying together is more important than how we stay together."</b> – Black Widow</p>	<p><b>"Compromise where you can. And where you can't, don't. Even if everyone is telling you that something wrong is something right, even if the whole world is telling you to move. It is your duty to plant yourself like a tree, look them in the eye and say, no. You move."</b> – Peggy Carter</p>
--	--

How did Cap ultimately resolve the conflict between  
Peace & Unity vs. Doing What's Right?

<b>"This isn't the real fight Steve." - Falcon</b>	
<b>"My faith's in people I guess, individuals. So far they haven't let me down" – Captain America</b>	<b>"If you need me I'll be there." – Captain America</b>

**Romans 12:18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

---

# VENGEANCE

---

Is vengeance ever the right answer?  
Should we make our enemies pay for the wrong they've done us?

**YES**

<p>Captain America: "This won't change what happened." Ironman: "I don't care, he killed my mom."</p>	<p>Black Panther: "Vengeance has consumed you, it's consuming them, I'm done letting it consume me. Justice will come soon enough." Emil: "Tell that to the dead"</p>
---	---

**NO**

---

# JUSTICE

---

Is there justice for the dead?

**NO**

<p>"In my culture, death is not the end. It's more of a stepping off point. You reach out with both hands and Bast and Sekhmet, they lead you into the green veld where... you can run forever. Father believed this. I am not my father." – Black Panther</p>	<p>Black Panther: "Vengeance has consumed you, it's consuming them, I'm done letting it consume me. <u>Justice will come soon enough.</u>" Emil: "Tell that to the dead"</p>
--	--

**YES**

---

# RESPONSIBILITY

---

**Are we responsible for the wrongs we do unintentionally?**

**Are we responsible for good things we intentionally fail to do?**

<p><b>Bucky Barnes: I don't know if I'm worth all this to you.</b></p> <p><b>Captain America: What you did all those years, it wasn't you. You didn't have a choice.</b></p> <p><b>Bucky Barnes: I know... but I did it.</b></p>	<p><b>"When you can do the things that I can, but you don't ... and then the bad things happen, they happen because of you." – Peter Parker</b></p>
<p><b>"It's your conscience, we don't talk a lot these days." – Ant Man</b></p>	<p><b>"I guess I thought by not telling you about your parents I was sparing you, but ...I can see now I was really sparing myself." – Captain America</b></p>