

The Great

HOLLYWOOD

by Ron McGehee

Hoax

Don't believe everything you see.

The bright lights, glitz and glamour of Hollywood are where trends are often set. And people are beautifully perfect ... or are they? We've all watched television and movies that transported us to another place where there was great beauty, riches and Brad Pitt with long flowing hair.

Sigh!

Sorry to burst the bubble ladies, but Brad was wearing a foundation concealer to hide his acne scars—which would make anyone look really awesome, but that doesn't mean it's real. I work in the entertainment business, and I've seen the behind-the-scenes work done to distort the truth.

I love watching movies and losing myself in a great story with fascinating characters and exciting places, but when this fantasy-based industry starts to spill over into the real world and actually dictates how we should live—well, that's ridiculous.

The Hollywood image is thrown on

magazine covers, television, movies, posters and billboards around the world. They're screaming, "This is what makes you beautiful, cool, cutting-edge and popular."

Wanna know the real truth? The Hollywood image can't even live up to the Hollywood image. With special camera techniques, makeup, lighting and computer-generated special effects, they're able to produce "flawless" images.

For example, let's say they want to film an apple. A director looks at the apple and sees that on camera it doesn't look as red as he wants it. So someone paints it to be as red as the director wants it. Now they realize it's not shiny enough. So they put furniture polish on it to make it shine to their liking. When you see this apple, it looks juicy and perfect. You want to take a bite out of it! The reality is if you were to actually take a bite of that apple, because of the paint and furniture polish, you'd be poisoned and could die.

That's "The Great Hollywood Hoax." They show you manufactured perfection and goad you into trying to obtain what isn't even real. They want you to buy the products that sponsor them. Hollywood wants your money, but God wants you to come to Him as you are and freely accept His truth.

Check this out: "A truthful witness does not deceive, but a false witness pours out lies" (Proverbs 14:5).

Don't be so quick to believe what you see on the screen. Ask God to give you His wisdom and discernment. Learn to live your life in reality, not an illusion.

PS, "The O.C." isn't even filmed in the O.C.! *

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