

WRAP
*Are you receiving
 EmmyWrap Magazine?*
 Sign up for your free
 subscription today!

THE WRAP

Covering Hollywood

'God's Not Dead' Stuns With Strong Limited Opening at Box Office

MOVIES | By **Todd Cunningham** on March 22, 2014 @ 8:55 am

Follow @toddcnnngm

8+1

Email Print



RELATED



'Divergent' Eyes \$55 Million After \$22.8 Million First Day at Box Office



The low-budget faith-based film is on pace for an \$8 million weekend while in just 780 theaters

A faith-based film is creating a box-office stir, and it's not Mark Burnett's "Son of God" or Russell Crowe's upcoming Biblical epic "Noah" — it's the indie film "God's Not Dead."

The low-budget PG-13 drama about a college student (Shane Harper) who sets out to prove God's existence raised eyebrows Friday when it brought in \$2.8 million from just 780 theaters — an impressive \$3,613 per-screen average. That was better than any movie in the market except for "Divergent" and "The Grand Budapest Hotel." It was running third after Friday and will likely come in around \$8 million for the three days.

TaxACT

- easy
- fast
- free

you got this - start now!

Start FREE IRS Return!

THE LATEST



'Vampire Diaries' Star Ian Somerhalder Gives Damon Salvatore Some Words of Advice (Video)

'The Originals' Star Joseph Morgan: Is Klaus More Fun As Good Guy or Bad Guy? (Video)

'Divergent' Delivers \$56 Million Box-Office Opening and Franchise is Born

'Vampire Diaries' Boss Reveals Methods for Deciding Show's Loves and Deaths (Photos)

Jimmy Kimmel Challenges Ellen With Hillary, Bill and

'Waterworld' Mostly Runs Aground



'Duck Dynasty' Star: Show Was Started to 'Get the Message of God Out There'

Day at Box Office

The big debut may have caught some in Hollywood off guard, but Freestyle Releasing co-president Mark Borde said Saturday that he wasn't among them.

"While this huge opening may be a surprise to the industry, it is not so much to us. The in-house tracking, the legitimate one million Facebook fans, the very high trending on Twitter and Fandango among many other platforms, and the huge positive reaction from the hundreds of screenings over the many past months, gave us hope for a significant opening," he said.

Kevin Sorbo, David A.R. White and Willie Robertson of TV's "Duck Dynasty" co-star in the film, which was directed by Harold Cronk and produced by Pure Flix Entertainment and Red Entertainment.

Earlier this month, "Son of God" opened to \$26 million, and Paramount's Darren Aronofsky-directed "Noah" is the favorite to top the box office next weekend.

DAVID A.R. WHITE GOD'S NOT DEAD NOAH SHANE HARPER SON OF GOD WILLIE ROBERTSON



Email Print

← PREVIOUS STORY

'DIVERGENT' EYES \$55 MILLION AFTER \$22.8 MILLION FIRST DAY AT BOX OFFICE

YOU MAY LIKE...



Part I: Celebrities Who Should Be Strippers

(Lossip)



GOP's Super-Hip 'American Dream' Campaign Spokesman Gets Slaughtered by YouTube



Kim Kardashian, Kanye West Vogue Cover Backlash: Anna Wintour Defends, Readers



ABC Family Drops 'Alice in Arabia' Series Amid Pressure From Muslim, Arab-American

Chelsea Clinton Selfie (Photo)

'Originals' Star Claire Holt Talks Exiting CW Show: 'It Was So Tough for Me' (Photos)

L'Wren Scott Funeral to Be Held in Los Angeles

Madison Square Garden Company Buys 50 Percent Stake in Tribeca Enterprises

Eminem Smashes George Strait's 44.89 Million Mark to Become Second Best-Selling Male Artist All-Time

#ICYMI on TheWrap: 10 Top Showbiz Stories - Hollywood's Big Budget Film Exodus, Christian Bale as Steve Jobs, 'The Twivergent Games'

New Paul Walker Touching Picture Tribute Posted on Vin Diesel's Facebook (Photo)

VIDEO

March 21, 2014 By Wrap Staff

'The Twivergent Games: The Saga: Bloody Dawn - Part 1' Trailer: The Hottest YA Couples Prepare for Battle (Video) **PLAY**

"Love... is a battlefield" in TheWrap's first original trailer...



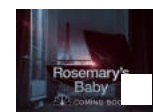
March 22, 2014 By Tony Maglio

Kevin Bacon Makes Epic 'Footloose' Entrance on 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon' (Video) **PLAY**



March 20, 2014 By Wrap Staff

Chris Pratt vs. Andy Dwyer: How Similar Is the Actor to His 'Parks and Recreation' Character? (Video) **PLAY**



March 22, 2014 By Tony Maglio

'Rosemary's Baby' Screams and Cries Its Way Through First NBC Teaser (Video) **PLAY**



March 21, 2014 By Greg Gilman

GOP's Super-Hip 'American Dream' Campaign Spokesman Gets Slaughtered by YouTube Viewers (Video) **PLAY**



March 21, 2014 By Tony Maglio

Ryan Guzman, Briana Evigan Dance, Kiss and Dance in 'Step Up: All In' Teaser (Video)

6 Comments

theWrap

Login

Sort by Best

Share Favorite



Join the discussion...



patrickstibbs • a day ago

It's nice to see an indie film like this succeed, especially with a subject matter that will raise an eyebrow or two. I have not seen the film yet but plan to. I applaud Freestyle Releasing for getting behind it.

5 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Stuart W • a day ago

Just very difficult for non-believers of any persuasion to "get it". The Wrap definitely representing the "three-monkey" class of film viewers is "stunned"; a typical condition for that reporting group. Get over it!

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Jimmy • a day ago

I've never understood why people are surprised faith-based films do well. If they're good, they've always done well.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



gabbycorner • a day ago

Sounds promising, indeed.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



wks • a day ago

My first time hearing about this film, but I will seek it out... sounds promising.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Terri • 2 hours ago

Its rated PG not PG 13. Can u correct that?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

Subscribe

Add Disqus to your site

PLAY



March 22, 2014 By Tony Maglio 'Penny Dreadful' Gets New Absolutely Creepy Literary Teaser (Video) PLAY

MOST POPULAR MOST SHARED MOST COMMENTED



James Franco and Seth Rogen Spoof Kanye and Kim Kardashian's Vogue Cover (Photo)

86364 Views



Kevin Bacon Makes Epic 'Footloose' Entrance on 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon' (Video)

26410 Views



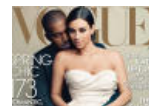
Los Angeles Times' Jason Felch Firing: TheWrap Uncovers 8 Awkward Questions

18665 Views



Lena Dunham Rips Jezebel for Publishing Her Un-Retouched Vogue Photos: 'That Was Messed Up'

15845 Views



Kim Kardashian, Kanye West Vogue Cover Backlash: Anna Wintour Defends, Readers and Players Respond

14395 Views



Samuel L. Jackson Is Still Not Laurence Fishburne - And He Has a T-Shirt To Prove It (Photo)

13786 Views



Kim Kardashian Gets 1,000 Red Roses From Kanye West for Valentine's Day, Love Is Safe for a Day (Photo)

8558 Views

