

Movie displays more of a "critical perspective" Langdon's skepticism: Langdon's skepticism

News in the [June 13, 2006](#) issue

Did the movie version of *The Da Vinci Code* introduce some skepticism to the part of the Harvard professor played by Tom Hanks so as to soften the novel's bald claims about church cover-ups concerning Jesus?

Veteran religion writer Richard Ostling of the Associated Press thinks so. He noted some changes in a pivotal theological discussion between the story's two experts, Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) and Sir Leigh Teabing (Ian McKellen).

When Teabing contends that the churches considered Jesus a mere man and turned him into a divinity in AD 325. "Langdon mildly objects, inserting a critical viewpoint that the novel lacks," Ostling wrote.

Furthermore, "when Teabing introduces the plot's central theme about Jesus taking a wife, Langdon responds, 'This is an old wives' tale,' then repeats his doubts," Ostling said.