

The Movie

Heaven in Stone and Glass begins with the great fire that nearly destroyed Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, France. What was your first thought when you heard the news on that fateful April day?

We still don't know what caused the fire. Some have mentioned a cigarette butt. Is it possible that, without explanation, God could have allowed something like this to happen to direct hearts and minds back to him?

How did you ultimately settle on these five cathedrals: Chartres, Amiens, Saint-Denis, Notre-Dame, and Reims? What unique value did each bring to the film?

Tell me more about giving tours of Notre-Dame Cathedral as a young man. How did you come to that job? Could you still give the tour today? Did it help you with writing this script?

At one point in the film, you mention that "studying and explaining [these buildings] to others have actually begun to change [you], by which [you] mean, the way [you] saw the world, the way [you] understood [your] faith, the way [you] prayed." Talk to me about that.

Who was Abbot Suger and what did he contribute to the style we now recognize as Gothic?

Did understanding the sacred geometry of these cathedrals come naturally, or was it something you had to first learn and then could see?

When people visit a French Gothic cathedral, how should they approach understanding the building? Where should they look or go first?

Tell me more about what these cathedrals would have meant to the medieval French. What did they mean to a lay person, a builder or craftsman, the nobility?

As you learned more about French Gothic cathedrals, was there anything that surprised you about their design?

What do you hope people walk away with after watching the film?

How can people see *Heaven in Stone and Glass*?

The Process

Talk to me about the filming process. You filmed the documentary on location in France, but you also did some voiceover and cutaway scenes. What inspired those?

Sean Beeson (title) and Spirit Juice Studios have been with you for all three of your major documentary series. How did you all come to know each other, and how has that collaborative relationship evolved?

How has filming changed between *CATHOLICISM*, *Pivotal Players*, and now *Heaven in Stone and Glass*?