

THE GREATEST BATTLE LIES WITHIN.



## **SPIDER-MAN 3: SYNOPSIS**

Based on the legendary Marvel Comics series, Peter Parker has finally managed to strike a balance between his devotion to Mary Jane Watson and his duties as a superhero.

But there is a storm brewing on the horizon.

As Spider-Man basks in the public's adulation for his accomplishments and he is pursued by Gwen Stacy (Bryce Dallas Howard), who rivals Mary Jane for his affections, Peter becomes overconfident and starts to neglect the people who care about him most.



The film interestingly deals with the nature of sin, how it not only affects one person, but those around them as well.

Some new characters are introduced in this instalment. Eddie Brock (Topher Grace) is a new photojournalist vying for Peter's job at the Daily Bugle and Gwen Stacey is Peter's lab partner in college who ultimately becomes a pawn in Peter and Mary Jane's relationship as Peter's bitterness and revenge grows darker.



His newfound self-assuredness is jeopardised when he faces the battle of his life against two of the most feared villains ever – The Sandman (Thomas Haden Church) and Venom (Topher Grace) – whose unparalleled power and thirst for retribution threaten Peter and everyone he loves.

Most surprisingly for a big budget film, a powerful theme of forgiveness also runs through the story. Peter is confronted with a choice to forgive the man who accidentally killed his Uncle.

A complex web of secrets, vengeance, love and forgiveness, *Spider-Man 3* examines how the darkest side of human nature can change a hero.

## **BACKGROUND**

Sam Raimi, who has directed all three instalments in the blockbuster franchise, says, "The heart of the *Spider-Man* films has always been the depth of the characters and their interconnected lives. Peter's love of Mary Jane Watson and his friendship with Harry Osborn have always been the richest parts of our stories.

"When developing this third instalment, we asked ourselves, 'What does this young man still have to learn?'" says Raimi. "We placed him in situations where he'd be forced to confront his absences of character – obstacles that, in previous stories, he might not have been able to surmount. In this way, he would either be defeated or grow into the heroic person who might be capable of overcoming these obstacles. As the depth of our characters grow, they become richer human beings and can achieve more than in the previous films."



When the film opens, things are finally going so well for Peter that his success begins to go to his head a little bit ... and when a black substance clings to Peter's scooter, things take a turn.



The substance attaches itself to Peter's Spider-Man suit, changing it from the familiar red and blue to a deep black. The transformed suit also changes Peter, as he becomes stronger and quicker than ever before... but it also brings out the dark side of Peter's personality that he is struggling to control.

"We wanted to explore the darker side of Peter's character," says producer Laura Ziskin. "When his suit turns black, it enhances and emphasizes characteristics that are already in the host. In this case, it makes him stronger and quicker, but also more prideful and aggressive."

"When I read the script I was really excited about the different direction we were going with Peter Parker and the other characters and storylines," says Tobey Maguire, who returns to the role of Peter Parker. "We are covering a lot of new ground here, with a fresh take on the story while maintaining the continuity of the characters from the previous two films."

*For more information about the film go to <http://www.sonypictures.com/movies/spiderman3/site/>*

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Now Peter has accepted the life of a superhero how has this changed his life?

What attributes does the creature that turns Spider-Man's suit black amplify?

When Peter wears the black suit he becomes increasingly darker natured, how does this relate to our sinful nature?

Read Romans 6: 16 & 23 – How does this relate to what Peter did in the film? How can sin seduce us?

### ***Aunt May "Revenge is like a poison that infects us"***

When Aunt May questions Peter's need for revenge, how does his reaction to her saying that "Spider-Man wouldn't do such a thing" change his outlook on his actions?

There is a strong theme of forgiveness versus vengence running through the last third of the film. How does this coincide with Peter deciding which path to choose?

How does Proverbs 16: 18: "First pride, then the crash-- the bigger the ego, the harder the fall." (*The Message*) relate to Peter's change of character in Spider-Man 3?

Is some of Peter Parker's pride in his ability justified?

### ***"Its true – one man can make a difference in the world"***

Why do we need superheroes? Does the superhero genre of films show a need for Christ in the world?