

# Deja Vu (2006)

Rated PG-13. Our ratings: V-5; L-3 ; S/N-3 . Running time: 2 hours 8 min.

*Do not enter the path of the wicked,  
and do not walk in the way of evildoers.  
Avoid it; do not go on it;  
turn away from it and pass on.  
For they cannot sleep unless they have done  
wrong;  
they are robbed of sleep unless they have  
made someone stumble.  
For they eat the bread of wickedness  
and drink the wine of violence.  
But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,  
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.  
Proverbs 4:14-18*

What starts out as an exciting Deja Vu police hunt for the terrorist who blows up (in the opening few minutes of the film) the Canal Street ferry in New Orleans escalates into a time travel adventure. I found myself confused by some of the jargon and reasoning behind the concept, but by putting this at the back of my mind, found myself enjoying the story. Denzel Washington is ATL agent Doug Carlin who must work with the FBI in order to solve the case of the horrific bombing in which hundreds of sailors on leave and their families were

killed.

Carlin soon finds evidence as to the nature of the bomb, plus he comes across the body of a beautiful woman who was murdered and dumped into the river. Becoming convinced that her murder is connected to the ferry bombing, he visits her now vacant home. The film takes on a touch of the 1944 film *Laura*, also about a detective who begins to fall in love with a beautiful victim of murder. Carlin turns to a team of government scientists who have been working on a top-secret surveillance project that uses images recorded by satellite cameras. Joining this system to their high-powered computer they can turn back the clock to see what happened during a certain number of hours in the past.

I have no real understanding of the supposedly scientific explanation given for this, but it makes for an interesting plot device—and it leads to an even more astonishing revelation that might make it possible for our hero to change the past. Hmm. Other than the struggle between good and evil there is not enough content for a church group to explore, but for those who enjoy combining the genres of crime, police and science fiction, this is a good way to spend an evening (or better, an afternoon matinee).