The Greatest Hero

(Training message for House Church and individual use: preached 11/8 - 11/14/2020)

Our Top 3 War Movie Recommendations for Veteran's Day Weekend

- 1. <u>Unbroken: Path to Redemption</u> "Beginning where the hit movie

 Unbroken concludes, the next [and most important] chapter brings the

 rest of Louis Zamperini's inspirational true story [of redemption in

 Christ] to life."
- 2. <u>Sergeant York</u> "[The] story of [a Christian] World War I hero who captured [an impregnable] German position single-handedly. The film also portrays York's earlier life [and conversion to Christ] in the mountains of Tennessee."
- 3. <u>Hacksaw Ridge</u> "Andrew Garfield stars as [Christian] pacifistic WWII hero Desmond T. Doss, who saved 75 men at the Battle of Okinawa without ever firing a weapon."

Please click in the comment section, at the top or bottom of your screen, and let us know what you think or if you have a better list of your own.

At the center of every war story, including the three that we have listed, is a hero. One man (or, in some stories, one woman).

So, what or who is a hero? Well, to summarize the world's opinion, here's how a local news channel defines it.

"A hero is selfless, a genuinely good person, and someone [who] gets the undivided attention of all of us and causes change. Someone willing to risk their own life to save another." (Miller, Dave."Special Report: What makes a Hero?" WalmNews10, A Gray Media Group, Inc. Station, Gray Television, Inc., 28 Feb. 2020, www.walb.com/story/14157521/special-report-what-makes-a-hero/. Accessed 11 Nov. 2020.)

That's, at least the general definition that they give. They then also include this statement.

"Webster's [dictionary] defines a hero as a mythological or legendary figure often of divine descent, endowed with great strength or ability."

(Ibid)

So what's this go to do with being a minister of God? Nothing. Nothing, if by that phrase you mean someone who has, as most have, compromised with what the world expects of a so-called minister of God; or, to be plain, what the God of this World wishes to use as a fake figurehead for him, for the Devil, to have those attached to his kingdom *call* a minister of God.

What does that mean? Well, let's flip those two definitions from the world around a bit as we compare them with God's.

Here then is a summary of what the Bible gives as four major characteristics of a real hero of God.

The world says that a hero is "selfless, a genuinely good person, and someone [who] gets the undivided attention of all of us and causes change"; but the Bible says that...

I. The greatest hero is forsaken by man:

"At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge." (2 Timothy 4:16)

The world says that a hero is "someone willing to risk their own life to save another"; but the Bible says that...

II. The greatest hero is strengthened by God:

"Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion."

(2 Timothy 4:17)

The world says that a hero is "a mythological or legendary figure"; but the Bible says that...

III. The greatest hero is speaking for God:

"Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." (2 Timothy 4:17)

The world says that a hero is "often of divine descent"; but the Bible says that...

IV. The greatest hero is hated for God:

"Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: **and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion."** (2 Timothy 4:17)

The world says that a hero is "endowed with great strength or ability"; but the Bible says that...

V. The greatest hero stands for God:

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:11)

"Therefore I will still contend with you,' declares the Lord, 'And I will contend with your sons' sons." (Jeremiah 2:9, NASB)

OUTLINE:

The Greatest Hero

(A Message to the Ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ)

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:11)

- I. The greatest hero is forsaken by man.
- II. The greatest hero is strengthened by God.
- III. The greatest hero is speaking for God.
- IV. The greatest hero is hated for God.
- V. The greatest hero stands for God.

"Therefore I will still contend with you,' declares the Lord, 'And I will contend with your sons' sons." (Jeremiah 2:9)

WORSHIP:

C.T. Studd [Here Is Love, Vast as the Ocean]

Opening:

The Fight Is On

I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go (352)

Message:

"A Call to Action" - C. T. Studd

Heroes & their message:

Selfless: Amy Carmichael

"HE IS NO FOOL" (from the diary of Jim Elliot)

<u>Selfless - William Carey</u>

Get Up and Finish the Race - from Chariots of Fire