

Owasso First Assembly

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Happy Resurrection Day!

April 20, 2025

JESUS—THE ULTIMATE HERO

Vault verse for this series: Philippians 3:17 (ESV) *Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.*

- 1. The Bible is filled with examples for us—some to avoid and others to follow. 1 Cor:10
- 2. Biblical heroes are known for <u>faith</u>, <u>courage</u>, <u>selflessness</u>, <u>integrity</u>, <u>perseverance</u>, <u>obedience</u>, and <u>compassion</u>.
- 3. The Bible tells the stories of <u>hundreds</u> of godly heroes.
- 4. Heroes are led by their **<u>conscience</u>** more than public opinion.
- 5. Jesus is the ultimate hero fulfilling **<u>every</u>** quality perfectly.
- 6. There has **<u>never</u>** been another hero like Jesus.

John 7:46 (ESV) The officers answered, "No one ever spoke like this man!"

Matthew 27:54 (NLT) The Roman officer and the other soldiers at the crucifixion were terrified by the earthquake and all that had happened. They said, "This man truly was the Son of God!" Jesus is the most influential person in history. According to J. Warner Wallace in his book, <u>Person of Interest</u>

- More books have been written about Jesus than any other person.
- The most viewed movie in history is simply entitled "Jesus." (It has been viewed by 8.1 billion people)
- No other person has inspired more art than Jesus.
- There are a multitude of songs of every genre known to man declaring the praises of Jesus.
- Christians have founded more libraries, schools, and universities than any other group.
- 228 of the founders and fathers of every major discipline of science were followers of Christ.
- Not only is Jesus the central character of Christianity but many other religions have included Him as part of their belief system.

1. Jesus lived a focused and missional life

- 1. From the earliest moment Jesus was about His Fathers business." Luke 2:49
- 2. Jesus declared that his **<u>nourishment</u>** came from **<u>doing</u>** the will of the Father. John 4:34
- 3. Jesus came from Heaven to do the will of the Father. John 6:38
- 4. He taught His disciples to pray, "Let Your will be done on Earth even as it's done in Heaven."
- 5. Jesus brought glory to God on Earth by **finishing** the work He was assigned. John 17:4
- 6. Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Luke 19:10

2. Jesus lived a <u>sinless</u> and <u>selfless</u> life

- 1. Jesus was tempted in every way, but He did not sin. Heb 4:15
- Even when his <u>opponents</u> tried to accuse Him, they <u>could find no fault</u> in Him. The were so desperate they found false witnesses to testify against Him. Matt 26:59–61
- 3. Jesus **<u>NEVER</u>** sinned and <u>**never deceived**</u> anyone. 1 Peter 2:22
- 4. Jesus was a <u>servant</u>. Mark 10:45
- Hours before his death, Jesus <u>demonstrated humility</u> and servanthood by washing the disciples' feet and then commanding them to follow His example and serve each other. John 13

3. Jesus lived a sacrificial and victorious life

- Jesus <u>willingly gave His life</u> so that salvation for all who believe could become reality. John 10:18
- 2. Jesus refused to defend Himself. Luke 23:9
- 3. Jesus **ignored** His ability to utilize the **resources of Heaven** to free Him. Matt 26:53
- 4. John referred to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the World. John 1:29
- 5. Jesus demonstrated ultimate <u>composure</u> when He prayed for his executioners while on the cross. Luke 23:34
- Jesus declares words of victory just before he dies—<u>It is Finished</u>. He was not referring to His life but His mission. John 19:30
- 7. Death could not hold Him and <u>on the first day of the week</u> He arose from the grave.
- His death left His followers <u>confused</u> and <u>fearful</u>. His resurrection gave them <u>certainty</u> and <u>courage</u>.

Why would His followers make up such a story if it weren't true?

- 1. Their telling of the resurrection cost them everything and profited them nothing.
- 2. They do not portray themselves in a good light.
- 3. The Christian faith was established on an event—the **resurrection of Jesus**.
- 4. The story is far above their **<u>ability</u>**. Great writers have never presented a story as well composed as the story of Jesus.

Who is Jesus? There are three options. 1. He is a <u>liar</u>-con artist 2. He is a <u>lunatic</u>-madman 3. He is <u>the Lord</u>-the Son of God.

Jesus is the <u>only</u> hero of a world religion who wants a personal relationship with you.