

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Heroes

"In real life the greatest heroes are often found among the plainest people." – Roy L. Smith

"There is more heroism in self-denial than in deeds of arms." – Seneca

"The word's battlefields have been in the heart chiefly, and there the greatest heroism has been secretly exercised." – Henry Ward Beecher

"Some men are heroes by nature in that they will give all that is in them without regard to the effort or to the personal returns." – Carson McCullers, *The Mortgaged Heart*, "Author's Outline of 'The Mute'"

"Everyone who does the best that he can is a hero." – Josh Billings

All of us likely have similar ideas of what we regard as a hero. Webster defines a hero, "A person who is admired for great or brave acts or fine qualities."

Through our childhood we likely idealize certain individuals that we wished we could either be, or be like. The entertainment world sought its best to provide us with super heroes. Even the old Westerns presented "the good guys" in the white hats that they hoped we would idealize.

Scripture certainly provides us individuals that we would perhaps label as heroes. Some have sought to make reference to Hebrews chapter 11 as the chapter of biblical heroes, or heroes of the faith. Some even calling it, "The Hall of the Faithful." These individuals stand out for their great faith. We have men and women such as Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Rahab. The the writer follows up with this amazing thought, "And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of aliens" (Heb. 11:32-34).

And what greater hero can one truly have than the Lord Himself. Our desire is to be like Him and to follow Him. "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1). "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps" (1 Pet. 2:21).

Always remember that earthly heroes, as great as they are, are still subject to mistakes and sins. But when you put your eyes and attention on Christ, you never will see a flaw or a weakness!