



**Haven Community Church  
Pastor Jack D. Cohen – May 30, 2010**

“And why do you think I keep risking my neck in this dangerous work? I look death in the face practically every day I live. Do you think I'd do this if I wasn't convinced of your resurrection and mine as guaranteed by the resurrected Messiah Jesus? Do you think I was just trying to act heroic when I fought the wild beasts at Ephesus, hoping it wouldn't be the end of me? Not on your life! It's resurrection, resurrection, always resurrection, that undergirds what I do and say, the way I live. If there's no resurrection, "We eat, we drink, the next day we die," and that's all there is to it. But don't fool yourselves. Don't let yourselves be poisoned by this anti-resurrection loose talk. "Bad company ruins good manners." – 1 Corinthians 15:30-33 (MSG)

**What Makes a Hero?**

**I. What's in a hero?**

“I will make the godly of the land My heroes.” – Psalm 101:6 (LB)

Celebrities:

Heroes:

**• Real heroes stand for what is right**

“These are the three most heroic men in David's army: Josheb...Eleazar, the son of Dodo... and Shammah. Once during an attack, when all Shammah's men deserted him, he stood alone at the center of a field and beat back the Philistines; and God gave him a great victory.” – 2 Samuel 23:8-12 (LB)

“Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong.” – Exodus 23:2 (NIV)

“Do not model your behavior on the contemporary world, but let the renewing of your minds transform you, so that you may discern the will of God—what is good and acceptable and mature.” – Romans 12:2 (NJB)

“Blessed are you who give yourselves over to God, turn your backs on the world's “sure thing,” and ignore what the world worships.” – Psalm 40:4 (MSG)

**• Real heroes sacrifice for others**

“Whoever wants to be great must become a servant.” – Matthew 20:26 (MSG)

“Jesus brought the sacrifice for the sins of all the people, once and for all, when He sacrificed Himself.” – Hebrews 7:27 (GW)

“Even if you give a cup of cold water to one of the least of My followers, you will surely be rewarded.” – Matthew 10:42 (NLT)

“Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless. Speak for them... and protect the rights of the poor and needy.” – Proverbs 31:8-9 (TEV)

*“A hero is someone who understands the responsibility that comes with his freedom.” – Bob Dylan*

**• Real heroes take risks for God**

– We want to be comfortable

– We are afraid of being hurt

“Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of. Play it safe and you'll end up holding the bag.” – Luke 19:26 (MSG)

“Why do you think I keep risking my neck in this dangerous work? I look death in the face practically every day I live. Do you think I'd do this if I wasn't convinced of your resurrection and mine as guaranteed by the resurrected Jesus? Do you think I was just trying to act heroic...Not on your life! It's the resurrection that undergirds what do and say, and the way I live.” – 1 Corinthians 15:30-32a (MSG)

“...If we will never live again after we die, then we might as well go and have ourselves a good time! Let us eat, drink, and be merry. What's the difference? For tomorrow we die, and that ends everything! Don't be fooled by those who say such things!” – 1 Corinthians 15:32b-33 (LB)

“If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for My sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will find true life.” – Mark 8:35 (NLT)

“Take the thousand and give it to the one who risked the most.” – Matthew 25:28 (MSG)

“Anyone who sacrifices home, family, fields—whatever—because of Me will get it all back a hundred times over, not to mention the considerable bonus of eternal life.” – Matthew 19:29 (MSG)