

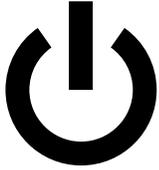


Speaker: Greg Stier

Title: The Ultimate Resolve of Jesus

Summary: Jesus resolved to be the ultimate servant to save us.

Key Verses: Isaiah 6:1-4; 50:5-7; Philippians 2:5-8; Hebrews 12:1-3



Power Up: *Take a moment to prepare.*

Greg opens with a hilarious story about his “awkward” friend Art. He gets us to think about our “awkward” friends. Who’s yours? Is it Jesus?



Replay: *Take some time to watch*

Note how Greg identifies four points of Jesus’ ultimate resolve. He “gives up” his **1)** ultimate position, **2)** ultimate authority, **3)** ultimate glory and **4)** ultimate worship for **a)** low status, **b)** painful suffering, **c)** a crown of thorns, and **d)** public mockery. And He resolves to die with joy to win us to God.



Comment: *Take a moment to talk.*

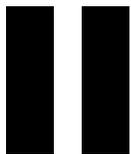
Greg observes many Christians treat Jesus like an “awkward” friend. **How awkward do you feel talking about Jesus? Why is this?**

Greg explains, “Before Jesus was the God-man, He was just “the God.” **What does he mean by this and how does he explain it?**

Read Isaiah 55:5-7. This is one of many passages in Isaiah describing God’s Servant (see also, Is. 53). Jesus saw Himself as God’s servant. **What are biblical examples of Jesus living as a servant?** Be specific.

Greg comments, “Jesus resolved to give up personal comfort for painful suffering.” **What details did Greg share about Jesus’ painful suffering? What is hematidrosis? What is a cat o’ nine tails? Asphyxiation?**

Read Hebrews 12:2-3. **What was “the joy set before” Jesus?**



Pause: *Take a moment to pray.*

Thank Jesus for His resolve. Thank Him for not staying comfortable or avoiding pain. Thank Him for serving the world and bringing salvation. Ask Him for greater boldness to share His goodness with others.



Take Action: *Make it personal.*

“Those who resolve to make it personal should resolve to make it public,” Greg closes. Choose one person can you resolve to tell about Jesus’ resolve. Contact them and invite them into a faith dialogue.

Bonus Features: Additional Notes and Quotes from Greg Stier

“Art is my embarrassing friend. Is Jesus yours?” [OUCH!]

“For the average Christian teen, their most embarrassing friend is Jesus.”

Resolve defined: *To decide on a course of action. Make a decision and follow through on it.*

Read Isaiah 50:7. 700 years before Christ, but it predicts Jesus.

Jesus’ Resolve: to become the ultimate servant. (Mark 10:45 cf. Isaiah 52-53)

“Before he became the god-man, [He] was just The God.”

Isaiah 6:1-3 – a description of The LORD (and applied to pre-incarnate Jesus)

- He held **ultimate position** – *high and lifted up, crown*
- He wielded the **ultimate authority** – *seated on a throne; created world; holds it together*
- He emanated the **ultimate glory** – *train of robe filled the temple (90’x30’)*
- He received the **ultimate worship** – *seraphs covered their faces; Holy, holy, holy; state of constant combustion; set ablaze by the power, presence of Jesus; perpetual earthquake by the sound of their voices*

“Jesus was The God, and “gave it all up” to become the God-Man (cf. Phil. 2:5-11)... “[He] exchanged the applause of angels for the mockery of mankind”

Highlights from Jesus’ Earthly Ministry

- From an **ultimate** situation [heaven] to a banal life [Galilee].
- We know little of his childhood (Luke 2:40-52).
- Carpenter’s son; Nazareth village; turned 30 and entered public ministry.
- Servant (see John 13): washes disciples feed.

“God scrubbed us clean of the mud and crud of human sin.”

- Set to suffer (see Luke 9:51): “resolutely set out for Jerusalem”

“Imagine Jesus praying—*Not my will, but thine be done*—in the garden for three hours, looking for a clause in the Atonement contract.”

Details from Jesus’ Horrible Death

- **Hematidrosis** – break out in blood-sweat (Luke’s 22:39-46)
- 6 illegal trials (3 civil, 3 religious)
- floggings (by Roman guards) – called “The Half-death.” Many people did not survive
- **Cat o’ nine tails** – whip with several tendrils, rocks and glass, tears the flesh (back, butt, legs) into ribbons
- Disjointed bones (cf. Psalm 22:17) when cross went into hole and raised.
- Breathing is difficult on a cross. Push up to exhale, come down to inhale.

- Suffocation. **Asphyxiation**. He hung 6 Hours. Scraping back. Struggling to breath. Suffering critical crowds.
- Separation from God. “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” For the lone time in history, the father turned his back on the son.

Instead of high and lifted up, He was low and despised.

Instead of ultimate position, He became a suffering servant.

Instead of crowned with glory, He wore a crown of thorns.

Instead of angels worshipping, He heard the crowds mocking.

Results of Jesus’ Ultimate Resolve

“God poured out his wrath for the world’s sin on the body and soul of Jesus.

Read Hebrews 12:2-3: “We are the joy. He loves us. We are the reason. He loves us... We have a Father who has adopted us into the family and will never forsake us... It’s not because of our resolve, but because of Jesus’ resolve.

“Good news: Jesus did not stay dead. He’s alive. He has the scars to show he loves us. A free gift, but not a cheap gift. It was purchased through his pain, through his blood. It’s a gift for us to receive.”

“Life with Jesus starts now. It goes on forever. Today is the day of salvation.”

“Those who resolve to make it personal should resolve to make it public.”

Further Resources from Greg Stier: Dare2share.org/mobile-app | Life in six words.

Isaiah 50:7