

## SUMMONING THE HEROES

Text: Philippians 2:25-30

- A true hero is someone who \_\_\_\_\_.
- Four truths about the hero of Jesus Christ from the example of Epaphroditus:

### I. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE HERO

- Epaphroditus had journeyed to \_\_\_\_\_ carrying a love offering for Paul from the church and had remained to look after Paul and help him with his work.
- He was a companion, a worker, a soldier, a messenger, a minister.
- Application: A true hero for Christ \_\_\_\_\_ hard for Christ because there's a job to be done for Christ.

### II. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE HERO (vs. 26-27)

- The Philippians had heard that Epaphroditus had been very ill but didn't know that he had \_\_\_\_\_.
- Epaphroditus could not stand the thought that his loved ones in the church were suffering suspense and anxiety on his behalf.
- Application: A true hero of Christ serves because he \_\_\_\_\_ Christ and loves others with the love of Christ. He or she is motivated by a \_\_\_\_\_ love.

### III. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE HERO (vs. 30)

- Epaphroditus was a \_\_\_\_\_-taker for God.
  - "For the work of Christ" = \_\_\_\_\_ the work; his work led him to the brink of death.
  - "Not regarding" = "to disregard, or to not take pains" with your life, to not count it as an important \_\_\_\_\_.
- People like Epaphroditus are the real heroes—those who will gladly disregard all they have in this world for the sake of the world to come.
  - Not \_\_\_\_\_ God by being presumptive;
  - But \_\_\_\_\_ God and being willing to do will of God for your life despite the potential dangers.
- Application: A true hero of Jesus Christ puts his \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ and the work of Christ higher than his personal \_\_\_\_\_, health, or even life itself.

### IV. THE \_\_\_\_\_ REGARDING THE HERO (vs. 28-29)

- Paul gave two commands to the church regarding Epaphroditus:
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ him therefore in the Lord with all gladness" = welcome him home with joy.
  - "Hold such in \_\_\_\_\_" = hold up this man and others like him as examples for everyone.

- Application: A true hero of Christ is to be \_\_\_\_\_ and held in the highest esteem.

### CONCLUSION

- Question 1: Who will follow the \_\_\_\_\_ of Epaphroditus, joining the ranks of the real heroes, the sacrificial servants of Christ?
- Question 2: How do you approach the work God has already given you?
  - Are you going "through" it with \_\_\_\_\_ or grumbling all the way?
  - And how \_\_\_\_\_ through that work are you willing to go?
- Our Lord Jesus Christ is looking for some heroes to place their lives into the balance for Him, and one day, before the judgment seat, He will \_\_\_\_\_ His heroes and delight to do them honor.
- Will you be among them?