

# JESUS REVOLUTION

PART 1

Last Sunday there was a meeting at the capital to start a revolution of sorts in our state. The constitution of the United States provides direction for the rights of the federal government and the rights of the states. There are those who feel that the federal government is infringing on the rights of the states through Supreme Court decisions that defend a woman's rights to get an abortion and that defend homosexuals rights to marriage. There are those that believe that the constitution of the United States gives states the right to revolt against these Supreme Court decisions and make their own state laws on these issues.

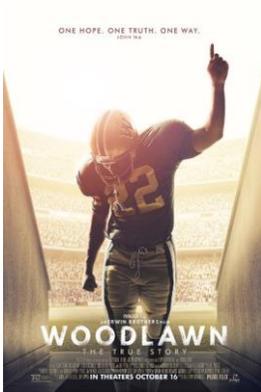
With any revolution there is a cost. The cost for a state to revolt could be the loss of federal resources. It could be that businesses will choose to relocate to another state or that businesses will not consider locating to a state.

Based on my understanding of the constitution of the United States, I for one would support a revolution in our state against these Supreme Court decisions. I am willing to pay more to replace what we would lose.

With that said, I am not so naïve that I believe that that such a revolt would change Oklahoma into a safe place to raise a family. The laws of men can never change the hearts of men. For Oklahoma to become a safe place to raise a family there is another revolution that needs to occur in our state.

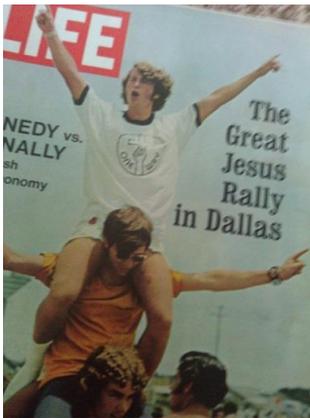


The only revolution that will change the hearts of men is a Jesus Revolution. Do you recognize this sign? This sign was the signature sign of the Jesus Revolution in the late 60's and early 70's. I was saved during the Jesus Revolution. I did not understand then that what was happening at my high school was happening all over America.



The movie Woodlawn is the story of how the Jesus Revolution impacted a football team and a high school in Birmingham, Alabama. <http://www.aceshowbiz.com/video/download/00077951/>

One of the events associated with the Jesus Revolution was Explo '72.



Explo 72 was an evangelistic conference sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ. Explo '72 has been called the most visible event of the 1970s Jesus movement.



It was held in various locations in Dallas, Texas from June 12 to June 17, 1972, with a nightly gathering in the Cotton Bowl.



Its goal was to gather 100,000 high school and college students together to train them in personal evangelism.

We are in desperate need of another Jesus Revolution but only bigger.

Movements like this are a sovereign work of the Holy Spirit. I call it the Holy Spirit gone wild.

But in every great movement of the Holy Spirit there have been certain common denominators. [Certain individuals rediscover from scripture...](#)

1. Who Jesus is
2. What it means to be a disciple of Jesus
3. What it means to be the church

These individuals display unusual courage. They are willing to make unusual sacrifices to live the way Jesus wants them to live. They are then sovereignly brought together and begin to work together. Then God blesses that group with an unusual outpouring of His Spirit.

For there to be another Jesus Revolution we must first rediscover who Jesus is!

In his book *Radical*, David Platt says there is an Christological problem in the church that must be resolved before God's Spirit will move with power in the church.

The Christological problem is the church has redefined who Jesus is and we no longer worship the Jesus of the bible. We have twisted Him into a more comfortable version of who we want Him to be. We have annulled the scriptures where Jesus told people that to be His follower we would have to give up everything. Drop you nets; Deny yourself; take up your cross; forsake your family and friends; sale your possessions and give the proceeds to the poor.

We want Jesus to be a nice middle class American Jesus; a Jesus who looks a lot like us; a Jesus who would never ask us to make great sacrifices but just accepts us just as we are; a Jesus who wants us to be balanced and avoid dangerous extremes and danger all together; a Jesus who gives us comfort and prosperity as we live our Christian spin on the American dream. We want a Jesus who we have molded into our own image.

And now instead of gathering in church and worshiping the Jesus of the bible, we gather in church and worship an image of Jesus that we have created. We fall into a form of idol worship and we just call the idol Jesus.

**The idol we worship in church is not Jesus at all but the idol we worship is ourselves!**

For a Jesus Revolution to occur there must be individuals who are brought together who have rediscovered from scriptures who Jesus really is and as a result, they take up His way of life!

So who is Jesus?

John 8:48-59

48 Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?"

49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. 50 And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. 51 Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."

52 Then the Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.' 53 Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?"

54 Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. 55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not

know Him, ' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"

58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

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When Jesus said before "Abraham was, I AM," He identified Himself with Jehovah God. He used the same name to identify Himself that God used to reveal Himself to Moses in Exodus 3:14.

Ex. 3:1-16

1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

4 So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!"

And he said, "Here I am."

5 Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." 6 Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

7 And the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. 8 So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. 9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

12 So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

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Jesus is I Am!

"I Am" means self-existent, self-sufficient, and self-complete. It describes a being that needs nothing outside of Himself to exist. It means He has no beginning. He has no end. He has unlimited power

and knowledge. He exists before all things and created all things that exist. He has been eternally present and is currently present everywhere in the visible and invisible worlds. He needs no food to eat, and no water to drink. He needs no one to make Him feel secure and no one to make him feel significant. He needs nothing outside of Himself to have life. He is life itself and the source of life for all other life.

Paul described Jesus like this...

**Col. 1:15-17**

**15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. NKJV**

When Jesus identified Himself as I am, the Pharisees thought he was guilty of blasphemy and according to the law they had every right to stone Him. They did not believe Him. They perceived him as a dangerous threat to their way of life.

When Jesus claimed to be I Am Jesus became a dangerous threat to your way of life. His claim calls for a decision.

You can reject Him and continue in your sinful way of life or you can believe Him and fall down and worship Him in fear and awe declaring Jesus you are I Am.

You can either continue to worship the idol of Jesus that is a nice middle class American Jesus or you can believe that He is I am and abandon yourself to Him and His way of life.

And if you believe that Jesus is I Am and that He took on the form of a bondservant, shed His blood, and sacrificed His life to pay for your sin, you should not only fall down and worship him in fear and awe, you should fall down and surrender your life to Him with gratitude and love.

If you will believe that Jesus is I Am and if you trust Jesus to save you, you will become one with Jesus. He will radically change who you are in the spirit. He will wash you of your sins not because of righteous things that you have done but because of His love and kindness. You will be renewed or made new by the regeneration of the Holy Spirit that He will pour out on you. (Titus 3:4-6).

You will never be the same.

And if you will begin to find your entire identity in Him and not in your humanity; not in your family; not in your friends; not in your career; not in your race; not in the color of your skin; not in your nationality; not in your gender; not in your past, and not in your sins, you will become a revolutionary. You are ready to be part of the next....

**Jesus Revolution!**

