

By Donald Piscitelli

First, I'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. Since it is a New Year, it is pretty common for people to make resolutions. Recently there was an article that published statistics from surveys taken over the past few years. The first is that only 38.5% of US adults make a resolution. 48% of those are to exercise more and the top 3 are all health related. 47.4% set more than one goal. 54% of parents with children have resolutions which makes them 1.6 times more likely than those without kids. 59% of young adults (18-34) have resolutions whereas adults over 55 are 3.1 times less likely to have them. This last one I thought was interesting, but I guess explained by the following. 23% of resolutions fail in the first week, only 36% make it past the first month and only 9% are successful. So, I guess we can extrapolate with age comes wisdom. So now that we know resolutions are not so successful let me offer a suggestion that will increase your knowledge, faith, and life in this New Year. It doesn't involve anything physical, just a bit of time in front of your television. I'm not talking about watching Tulsa King although it is some of Stallone's best work. I'm talking about a multi-season television series about the life of Christ, as witnessed through the eyes of those he impacted. The Chosen was directed by Dallas Jenkins and released by Angel Studios. The Washington Examiner reported on January 11, 2022, that it had over 300 million views in 190 different countries and was translated into 50 different languages. It's free to view but they use a pay it forward crowd funding, so you can donate so others can watch for free. Brothers no matter where you are at in your journey with Christ this TV show is for you. Imagine if you could see the life of Jesus through the eyes of the people that walked on Earth with him – The disciples, Mary his mother and those he healed, etc. This is a quote from the Chosen's "The Chosen stays faithful to the Gospels and at the

same time tells us a story that is in between the lines of scripture. This T.V. series brings to life those people that are mentioned in the Bible, using the historical context of life at the time of Jesus. The series does not contradict scripture, but instead puts life around it so that we as viewers can imagine, what life was like with Jesus.” I’ll give an example scripture tells us Jesus raises his friend Lazarus after 4 days, but without a narrator when he raises him how do you know he was his friend. So, in the episode this past Christmas they showed Lazarus and his sisters meeting Jesus and then Lazarus playing with a ball game with Jesus, to show the friendship. Currently they’re playing season 3 of what is supposed to be 7 seasons, so this means currently there are 20 episodes. Most of the movies and documentaries show the divinity of Jesus, this to me seems to make him more human performing miracles, while speaking of his father.

At a time when we find it hard to find anything good to watch on TV, give this a try, it’s not like anything you’ve seen before. You don’t have to be a religious zealot to enjoy this series, it’s more spiritual.

In conclusion Angie and I have really enjoyed this series and believe in it. We both pay ’ed it forward so others can watch it free of any charges. So please take advantage of this series, I promise, you will not be disappointed.