

Catholic Schoolhouse

The Life of Harriet Tubman

“The Moses of American History”

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Dialectic

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Have you heard of the “Moses” of the American Civil War? Not very many people know about Harriet Tubman, but she was a person who played a huge role in the Civil War and a century later, I am here to tell you about her story. Harriet Tubman was one of the most remembered African Americans of all time. She was a person of perseverance who impacted America and its history through her courage. She was also known for her part in the Underground Railroad which is why people called her “Moses” for leading them to freedom and liberty.

Harriet displayed the virtue of courage when she escaped alone, as well as to the many slaves whom she helped escape. These were very dangerous times so if anyone would change his mind during their journey to freedom, Tubman would silently pull out a gun and say, "You'll be free or die a slave!" She knew that if anyone turned back, it would put them all in danger of discovery, capture or even death. At one point, rewards for Tubman's capture totaled \$40,000 but that did not stop her from doing her work.

Harriet impacted America’s history through her courage. As a woman of color, she was fearless, daring and did not care what anyone thought of her. She helped the slaves escape and from being sold by their owners. She allowed them to have a taste of liberty for the first time which their children and grandchildren continue to celebrate to this day. The suffering and torture that she endured as a slave was the one thing that kept her going all those years to bring her people and their descendants to freedom.

During the Civil War, Harriet worked for the Union army as a nurse, cook and spy. Her experience leading slaves along the Underground Railroad was extremely useful because she knew the land well. As a nurse, she was not afraid of caring for the gravely ill and wounded soldiers. As a spy, she supported the army by eavesdropping on the enemies attack plans. Since she played a key role during the war, without her the soldiers would have endured more suffering, terrible losses and hardships.

Harriet Tubman strongly displayed the virtue of courage throughout her life, whether it was during the war or by helping the slaves escape. She was a fearless and caring woman who helped the sick and dying in any way she could. She put her trust in the Lord during her biggest doubts and troubles and allowed God to lead the way on her journeys. By living out this virtue, she helped shape America's history. She was laid to rest on March 10, 1913 due to pneumonia. Not many people knew about her but to the slaves and people like me, she was considered a hero.

Bibliography:

Quotes, Brainy.com. "Harriet Tubman Quotes." *BrainyQuotes.com*. n.p. n.d. 3/14/18