

Insurmountable Odds! Jesus and the Golden Knights
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If the Las Vega Golden Knights win the Stanley Cup, they will have overcome tremendous odds, literally. According to OddsShark.com, before the season started, the Knights odds were 20,000 to 1 against them to win the Stanley Cup. This is the first year of the Las Vegas National League Hockey franchise. The idea that a first year team could be NHL champions is unheard of. The Knights won the first game of the seven game Championship series. The team that has won the first game has gone on to win the Stanley Cup for 16 of the last 21 years. The odds are now 250-1 that the Knights beat the Capitals for the Stanley Cup.

Which has the Las Vegas casinos shaking their heads and shaking in their skates. Lots of average Joes bet on the home team. It will not be uncommon for winners to walk away with \$20,000 - \$40,000 if the Knights prevail. Even some of those involved in sports betting want to see the Knights win.

In Las Vegas the casinos will take your bet on just about anything. You can bet that it's going to snow in Las Vegas on the Fourth of July. They'll be happy to take your money. You can bet that when NASA next sends mankind to the moon, they will find green cheese. They will be glad to take your money.

So, before the 2017-1018 season, when people put down money on the Knights to be Stanley Cup champions, the odds were slim to nothing.

Does this remind you of anything? What were the odds that the body that the Romans put to death on Good Friday would ever breathe again? What were the odds that life would prevail over death? What were the odds that the One who said he had the power to lay his life down could in fact take it up again? A million to one? A zillion to one? But Jesus did it! What were the odds that God would have his perfect Son pay for the sins of rebellious people? But he did!

St. Paul called Jesus Christ the "first-born of the dead," meaning there are more to follow. How many more? An uncountable number from every nation, language, tribe. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; anyone who believes in me, though he dies, yet shall he live and who lives and believes in me shall never die" (John 11:27).

What are the odds? 1 to a katrillion? Still, I am putting my money and my life and my eternal future on Jesus Christ who "once was dead, but who holds the keys of death and the grave" (Rev. 1:18).

As for the Golden Knights winning the Stanley Cup. Who would've thunk! The Black Hawks didn't even make it into the playoffs. Think of those odds.