

GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Greatest Man That Ever Lived

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (1/20/08 - AM)

Introduction:

1. When I ask you to think of someone that is truly great, who comes to you mind first?
2. Do you think of friends, family, church leaders, presidents, etc.?
3. Jesus revealed to His disciples that they had walked with the greatest man that ever lived. – Read **Matthew 11:1-19** with me
4. John the Baptist was, in every sense of the word, a radical.
5. He was a rebel, but a rebel with a cause!
6. **Mark 1:6** says he, “*was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey*”
7. However, this great man offers a pattern for our Christian lives.
8. We need to study the life of John and see if there is anything we can learn.

Discussion:

I. John Received A Higher Calling

Luke 1:5-80

John 1:19-36

Isaiah 40:3

Ephesians 4:1

II Timothy 1:9

II. John Recognized A Higher Standard

Matthew 3:7-12

Mark 1:6

Matthew 14:1-12

Matthew 11:1-18

Matthew 16:24

Romans 12:1-2

III. John Respected A Higher Authority

Mark 1:7-8

John 3:30

Romans 12:3

Matthew 4:17

Matthew 11:1-2

John 3:22-23

John 3:26-36

John 4:1-4

IV. John Realized A Higher Purpose

Mark 1:2-3

Proverbs 28:13

John 5:31-36

Acts 2:38

Mark 16:15-16

Matthew 28:18-20

Conclusion:

1. We need to humble ourselves like John (**Matthew 20:25-28**).
2. Christianity is a radical faith that calls for a radical lifestyle.
3. Are you willing to live like the greatest man that ever lived?