

“THE KIND OF MAN WHOM GOD WILL USE”

John 1:6-8, esp v. 6

The eleven words of John 1:6 speak volumes regarding the purpose of God in the use of a man of God, “There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John.” From these words and verses 6-8 and a few other key passages there are some principles which help us understand the kind of man whom God would use in His work. John the Baptist is the man of whom Jesus said, “I say to you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John...” (Luke 7:28). What kind of man will God use?

I. God will use a man CONSCIENTIOUS ENOUGH TO GET A MESSAGE FROM GOD. (II Corinthians 5:19 “He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”)

A. John had a message from God at the BEGINNING OF HIS MINISTRY.

(John 1:6-8, esp. v. 7a “He came for a witness...”)

B. John had a message from God at the END OF HIS MINISTRY.

(Matthew 11:2-5, esp. vv. 4-5)

II. God will use a man CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO BELIEVE A MESSAGE FROM GOD. (John 6:69 [of Peter] “We have believed and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God.”)

A. John believed Jesus was ETERNAL IN HIS EXISTENCE. (John 1:15)

B. John believed Jesus was SUPERIOR IN HIS NATURE. (Matthew 3:11)

C. John believed Jesus was REDEMPTIVE IN HIS PURPOSE. (John 1:29)

III. God will use a man COURAGEOUS ENOUGH TO PROCLAIM A MESSAGE FROM GOD. (Matthew 3:1 “John the Baptist came preaching...repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”)

A. He proclaimed God’s message TO RELIGIOUS LEADERS. (Matthew 3:7-8)

B. He proclaimed God’s message TO GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS. (Mark 6:18-19)

IV. God will use a man with CHARACTER ENOUGH TO LIVE A MESSAGE FROM GOD. (Luke 7:28 “...among those born of women there is no one greater than John.”)

A. His character was VISIBLE TO THE LORD. (Matthew 11:11)

B. His Character was VISIBLE TO THE WORLD. (Mark 6:20)

Every man of God should be “a man, sent from God,” with a clear, confident, and courageous message. Would you commit to be that kind of man?