

A GREATER THAN JOHN THE BAPTIST HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN BUT....

Matthew 11: 7-15

Our Lord is giving the highest complement to John the Baptist because John was highly principled and had very strong convictions.

We live in a day and age, when those who have and hold to strong moral convictions are called ignorant, narrow minded, bigoted. John was a truth seeker, and his strong convictions were all based on truth. He was jailed because of his strong conviction, based on the Word of God, that Herod's relationship with Herodias was contrary to God's will.

John had demonstrated throughout his public ministry these same strong convictions based on God's word. John could have easily played the crowds and gained the favour of everyone including the Scribes and Pharisees if he would have compromised his message here and there. We certainly have enough preachers in our time that have given themselves over to tickling the ears of people in order to gain a large audience. John spoke the truth with conviction. He called the people to repent and bring forth fruit in keeping with repentance. He rebuked the Scribes and Pharisees for their religious hypocrisy and called on them to repent as well. He was not interested in winning people, but he was rather challenging those that came to him. A greater than John had not been seen because his strong convictions were based on truth. That may not make us popular, but we are not here to be popular. We are here to live by and proclaim the truth.

Are we narrow-minded for proclaiming salvation in Jesus Christ alone? For preaching that repentance from sin, i.e. recognizing it, turning from it, asking forgiveness for it, is part of salvation? For telling the world that abortion is murder? that sex outside of marriage is immoral? that homosexuality is contrary to God's will? Maybe that is narrow-minded, but truth is always narrow while broad-minded errors, actually lies, go off in every direction.