

John the Baptist. I think it's safe to say that if John were here today, you would not find him on a cable channel pushing his recipe book for Locus and honey. I suspect that we would also stick him out in the desert far removed from our world of creature comforts.

I have always been fascinated by the kind of people God has chosen to carry his message. But of all the characters in the Bible, no other is more astounding than good old JB.

This guy obviously didn't go to prep school. Diplomatic sensitivity was not his strong point. And his lifestyle would not earn him the good housekeeping seal of approval. Simply put, this guy was pretty nasty.

He was filthy, disgusting and abrasive. He was an eyesore with people skills that would even shock a trucker at rush hour. He didn't care who you were, he spoke his mind and had no fear in calling a spade a spade. There was no diplomacy in his approach to dealing with people.

Simply put, JB was perfect for God's work. He is a classic example of what is meant by the phrase, "God works in mysterious ways!"

Thousands of people left their cozy homes with air conditioning to walk miles into the unforgiving desert to listen to this abrasive, nasty guy who never set foot in any charm school, bring God's message.

And some people actually think that God doesn't have a sense of humor! Are you kidding? The whole story of John the Baptist is hilarious!

God could have chosen anyone to bring His message. He could have chosen a fine theologian, an articulate politician, or a respected military officer.

But God didn't need them, He needed JB.

JB may not have been a pretty sight. He may not have been the kind of guy you would want to hang out with. He certainly wasn't the kind of guy you would want your daughter to bring home.

But John the Baptist brought God's message with unyielding faith and conviction. He didn't speak with passion for the people. He spoke with passion for the message he gave to the people.

Yes my friends, God has a wonderful sense of humor. And He does so without taking away from the work at hand. Thousands of people were baptized and turned to God through that crazy

old nasty JB.

God made the right choice in choosing John the Baptist. He always makes the right choice. He never judges a book by it's cover, He judges a book by it's content.

God has always been a 'heart' God, and JB certainly had a lot of heart.

Funny, 2000 plus years later and we still don't get it.