

Believing the Gospel Makes Us Weird

Let's admit it: John the Baptist looked like a weirdo. He lived in the desert, wore animal skins, and ate bugs. Why? He believed the gospel. The good news of the Lord's Coming puts anyone who believes it out of step with everyone else. The gospel puts us out of step because it goes against the grain of the fallen, sinful state of humanity. Like a brood of vipers we get so used to acting like snakes that we forget that we're not snakes - we're the Father's adopted children through Jesus. Anyone who believes that gospel, and stops living like a snake, looks like a weirdo to the rest of us snake-living people. For example:

The Triune Life is a life of sharing (Matt. 5:40) and that looks weird in a world of selfishness.

The Triune Life is a life that includes everyone (Matt. 5:44-45) and that looks weird in a world of division and exclusivity.

The Triune Life is a life of repentance (Matt. 3:2) and that looks weird in a world of stubbornness and pride.

Here's good news for all us weirdoes: what's weird now will be normal in the fullness of the Kingdom when the knowledge of the Trinity covers the earth as the waters cover the sea. Perhaps John wasn't so weird after all, he was just way ahead of his time.

~ Jonathan Stepp