

Wednesday, January 23 2013

WHO ARE YOU?

(WETIN YOU CAM FIND FOR DIS GROUND?)

AS PURPOSE-DRIVEN, FOCUSED, & COMPLETELY DEVOID OF EGO
AS -----?

If you filled in the blanks above with your own name and you are still reading this, then stop and Thank The Lord for not striking your EGOTISTICAL, LYING “bAhind” with Lightning and Thunder. In "ohdah werds", if yah Church give you badge in honor of yah HUMILITY, then you wear de badge go Church every Sunday thereafter; you wear de badge go work; you wear'am go kontri meeting; you pin'am on top yah nightie, climb on top yah Vono bed sleep; you wan wash for morning time, you pin'am on top yah shower cap, then ...

You know which HIGHLY UNDER-RATED Biblical Character's name would fit squarely, and I daresay EXCLUSIVELY, in those blanks?? **JOHN THE BAPTIZER's!!!!** I know he is more commonly known as John the BAPTIST but as ah no want make Presbyterian, Apostolic, Anglican and Catholic dem vex nah, I have decided to use this actually more accurate version of his name, (in terms of today's English). The more closely I look at this “DUDE”, - from the events surrounding his conception and birth, to the tragic and gory circumstances that shrouded his death, the more my admiration and respect for him increase, and the more I am inclined to want to emulate the many OUTSTANDING & UNIQUE traits that were his, because if ever there was a person who KNEW, UNDERSTOOD & LIVED OUT HIS MISSION & PURPOSE from EVEN PRIOR TO DAY ONE, (somersaulting in the Spirit from inside his Mama Elizabeth's belly when her Pregnant-with-JESUS cousin Maria came to waka her), Till his head ended up on Madam Herodias' platter, (no one small bend-bend seff), it was JOHN THE BAPTIZER! Even the Great **Saint Paul** was first “Saul The Persecutor” before he became the formidable, sold out follower of Christ he turned out to be; **Moses** had his “issues” which resulted in Yahweh denying him entry into the

Promised Land; God had to send A BIG FISH to swallow Jonah to get him to his mission field in Niniveh, (“the story I’m sure you all know”); Jacob was first a “419 Cunny Man” before he morphed into ISRAEL, Father of the 12 tribes; Peter and the rest of the Apostles abandoned Jesus and cowered in fear behind locked doors before Pentecost came around, and as for David, e own life be be na correct, poppoh, REALITY TV, with his sons and daughters making the KHARDASHIANS look like saints! But John deh Baptizer? No nweng! No nating! No such kata-kata or wuru-wuru any wiah!!

I am not too sure what YOUR answer would be, if someone asked you the fundamental question, “WHO ARE YOU?”, but my guess is that you would give an answer that reflects your profession, your rank or your status – Engineer, Lawyer, Doctor, Entrepreneur, Housewife, MAFOR, YAH, SESSEKO, CHIEF, etc. But remember what John The Baptizer’s response to this same question was when it was put to him by the Jewish Rulers who, having “heard his news” travelled miles to come see him? He referred to himself simply, humbly, and unassumingly, as “A VOICE”!!, yet this is a man who was EXTRAORDINARY, in sooooo many ways:

1. HIS BIRTH: It was foretold 7 good Centuries earlier, by the Prophet Isaiah, and later, by the Prophet Micah as well. He was born of Old Pa Zacharias (who turned into a “Mumu” due to his disbelief of the prophesied miracle as announced to him by Angel Gabriel), and his wife, Old, barren, Ma Elisa who was well past post-postest Menopause!

2. HIS NAME: Just like Jesus’ name, it was “dictated” by Angel Gabriel, not the name of some "Uncle for Papa side" as would have been expected.

3. HIS CLOTHING: He would sooo NOT have ever made it to JERUSALEM’S NEXT TOP MODEL, with that Camel’s hair garment of his, complete wit leather belt around de waist oh! Totally UNLIKE the “Flow-Flow” Agbadas of the wealthy Jews of that day and time, or TODAY’S million dollar suit-wearing TV pastors, wit BLING for neck and fingah wey e fit loss man e eye if sun try pass on top! (Ah no talk me say make Bishop waka naket on foot oh! But when Oga Preachah e one foot shoe fit sponsor 2 pikin dem from Infants 1 to Yale

Univarsity, de Bobo get 2 Lamborghini dem and 3 private jets, there is NO WAY I can take him seriously, much less buy his Miracle "henkaychief" & "oyel" - for \$1,000!! I'm sorry! (Which Prophet or Apostle in the Bible EVER made ANYONE they healed, PAY for their healing, BIKO???)

4. HIS DIET: Maybe Dr. Oz would have invited to him to his show to discuss the organic value of the LOCUSTS & WILD HONEY which he must have fought many a "Manawa" to acquire! Hm!

5. HIS ADDRESS: The Wilderness, and the Banks of the River Jordan

6. HIS BOLDNESS: The term "Politically Correct" was entirely foreign to him. He was BOLD and did NOT mince his words or compromise his beliefs; for fear who? He let the Jewish rulers have it, and he confronted the vicious King Herod, calling him out for his incestuous and adulterous marriage to Mammie Herodias, with no hesitation whatsoever. That would be the equivalent of some Sango Pasto in Zaire back in the day, daring to confront **Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa Za Banga** whose alligator-infested pools were well known to be the final destination of many of his political opponents. (Talk about turning into an integral part of a LACOSTE logo wey you no ready! Hah!)

7. HIS FOCUS, SENSE OF PURPOSE & TOTAL OBEDIENCE: He understood his MISSION as Forerunner and "Preparer", sent into the world to bear witness to The Coming Messiah, and he stuck to it, come hell or high water, until it was perfectly fulfilled! He acquired a HUGE FOLLOWING, as crowds came to hear him speak and get baptized in droves, and he had Disciples of his own. ALL of this could have gone to his head and caused him to "clash" with Jesus when Jesus came on the scene, or at the very least, RESENT Him, but what did he say when his own disciples came to "report" that Jesus was pulling crowds of His own? **"HE MUST INCREASE, BUT I MUST DECREASE"**!!! On top of which, his disciples later left to follow Jesus, WITH HIS BLESSING!! Talk about a total LACK of ego which is practically impossible to find in our day and time!!! Oh Yes! There are Ministries where it is all about the PREACHER, and not at all about JESUS Himself oh! As in, deh MESSENGER don turn-turn important pass de MESSAGE seff-seff! So dat, before you wan wash wear closs

sey you dey go Church, you must first find out who dey preach: if na Brohda Jerry, den no need no dey for even commot for undah yah blanket, but if na Brohda Joe, den you fit stay for Church sotey go reach for evining, even if Oga and pikin dem dey cam die hungry for house!!

Here's what I take from the LIFE of JOHN THE BAPTIZER, particularly at a time like this when the demise of parents and peers alike reminds me of the uncertainty of the LENGTH of one's days on Planet Earth: We all, just like John, have a SPECIFIC, UNIQUE Mission we were sent here to Earth to accomplish. We each have a PURPOSE for being where God has placed us – be it in our homes, in our communities, in our offices and even in our Churches, and we need to PRAYERFULLY find out what that task is, and faithfully execute it oh! I don't think He grants us every additional breath just so we can waka about purposelessly and aimlessly oh! And we are certainly NOT too young to "get going" with our various tasks: John The Baptizer was 6 months older than his cousin, Jesus, and he died before Jesus, who died at age 33 so, all dis plenty-plenty work wey de John do so, na before e wan even smell da 3 score and 10 wey God dey give we when e sorry we oh!!!

Think I have "hyped up" this JOHN THE BAPTIZER a little too much? Think he really isn't "all that"? Then take it up with his Cousin, JESUS THE CHRIST Himself, who said this about him:

"I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist."

(Matthew 11:11)

WOW!!!

Egbe Mbiwan Monjimbo