



### True Measures of Success?

- **FAMOUS?** - Number of followers / Most popular
- **DYNAMIC?** - Persuasive / Charismatic
- **TALENTED?** - Great communicators
- **RELEVANT?** - Motivational / Easy listening

### Some Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

Noah      Jesus      Jeremiah

John the Baptist      Peter      Stephen      Paul

### Some Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

2 Peter 2:5  
and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.

- Noah found grace / was righteous – **Gen. 6:8; 7:1**
- Preacher of righteousness for MANY years – **Gen. 6:8-7:11**
- Warned of the coming flood — **1 Pet. 3:19**
- Noah suffered persecution because of his preaching - **1 Pet. 3:18-20**
- Saved eight people - **1 Pet. 3:20**

### Some Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

**7** But the Lord said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak. - Jeremiah 1:7 (NKJV)

**Jer. 1:10**  
10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant."

### Some Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

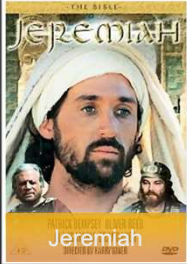
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Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?  
be dismayed before their faces, Lest I dismay you before them.

- Told to prepare - **1:17; Gal. 4:16**
- Told to not be afraid of the people - **1:8,17**
- Set as a watchman to WARN the people - "but they will not listen" — **6:16,17; 7:27**
- Despite 40 years of Jeremiah's preaching, Judah's heart did not change.
- They responded by mocking, hitting, and imprisoning him.

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- His preaching contained the indictments God had against His people, and the recurring theme was that of condemnation - **6:13-15; 7**
- His preaching contained hope, but there could be no hope until they repented of their sins and hearts turned to God - **31:28,40**

*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

**7** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" - Matthew 3:7



**John the Baptizer**

**Matt. 3:1-3**

**1** In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, **2** and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" **3** For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "*The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight.'*"

*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

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Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father...**10** And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.



**John the Baptizer**

- John's preaching emphasized repentance
- John's preaching was direct, plain, & accusatory — **Matt. 3:7-10**
- Jesus' testimony about John — **Matt 11:7-11**

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**John the Baptizer**

**Matthew 11:7-11**

**7** As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? **8** But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

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**John the Baptizer**

**Matthew 11:7-11**

**9** But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. **10** For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.'

*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

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**John the Baptizer**

**Matthew 11:7-11**

**11** "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist...




*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

<sup>13</sup> "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. —Matthew 23:13 (NKJV)

**I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.**

Some of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers' guilt. Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?

- Spoke with authority and not as the Scribes — **Matt. 5:3-7:28**
- Condemned false doctrine, false teachers, irreverence — **Matt. 15:1-14; 23:1-36; Jn. 2:13-17**
- Demanded obedience and repentance — **Lk. 6:46; 13:3**
- Warned of Judgment — **Matt. 23:31-33**

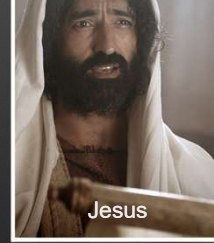


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**From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.**

- Jesus is the PERFECT preacher - yet He didn't convert the masses — **Jn. 6:60-66**
- Jesus cared deeply for the lost, but could NOT save anyone who was unwilling to come to Him — **Matt. 11:28-30**
- The perfect preacher was rejected, mocked, beaten & crucified — **Matt. 26:47-27:50**



*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...

Acts 2:36 - "... "Whom you crucified"

Acts 7:51 - "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised ..."

Acts 15:2 - no small dissension and dispute with them, ...



Peter

**Acts 2:14-41**



Stephen

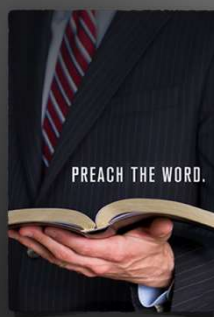
**Acts 7:51-60**



Paul

**Acts 15:2 Gal. 2:11**

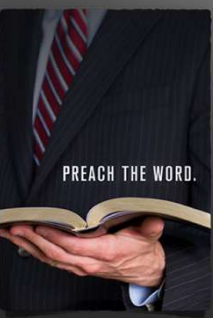
*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...



**2 Timothy 4:2-5**

<sup>2</sup> Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

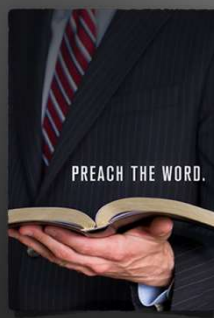
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**2 Timothy 4:2-5**

<sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; <sup>4</sup> and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

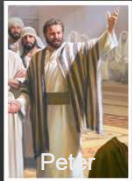
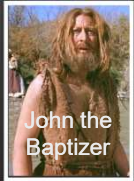
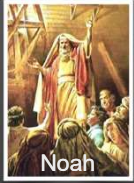
*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...



**2 Timothy 4:2-5**

<sup>5</sup> But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

*Some* Successful Preachers In The Bible ...



*The Kind of*  
**Preaching**  
That Pleases God ...

Hear	John 12:48
Believe	John 8:24
Repent	Luke 13:3
Confess	Matt. 10:32-33
Baptized	Mark 16:16
Faithful	Matt. 24:13