

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING

Matthew 11:2–19

Expectations can dictate experiences. If our expectations of a relationship or situation are inaccurate, unrealistic, or misguided then disappointment, disillusionment, and discouragement often result. To expect your spouse to meet *all* your needs, your job provide *unwavering* purpose, your education to secure *sustained* credibility, or your children to bring *unblemished* pride is a fool's errand. This type of anticipation, rooted in nothing more than wishful thinking, is a recipe for tragedy because expectations can dictate experiences. And it's much the same with our relationship with God and the life of following Jesus. Behind every disappointment with God, every frustration with Christianity, and every disillusionment with the church lurks unbiblical expectations. Why? Because expectations can dictate experiences.

Our ENJOYMENT of the LORD

- John's question vv. 2–3
- Jesus's response vv. 4–5; Isa 35:5–6; 61:1
- Jesus's beatitude v. 6; Psa 1:1–3

Our EXPECTATIONS of the LORD

- *Incomplete* expectations vv. 7–11; Mal 3:1
- *Inaccurate* expectations vv. 12–15; Mal 4:5
- *Immature* expectations vv. 16–19

Manage our Expectations!