

01/07/07 AM

***“What Do You Expect?”***  
***Matthew 8:1-13; 9:20-22***

**Introduction:**

1. What Do You Expect For This Next Year?
  - Do You Expect Great Things In Your Life?
    - A Better Job? Better Health? Greater Happiness?
  - What Did You Expect Last Year?
    - The Same Things?
    - Did What You Expect To Happen Ever Come About?
  - Many People Become Disappointed & Discouraged Because What They Expect To Happen (Or At Least Hope Will Happen) – Never Happens!
2. This Morning, You May Expect & Hope For Great Things In Your Life, But I Want You To Think About This:
  - Do You Expect Great Things From Your Lord?
    - What Do You Expect From God?
3. In The Time We Have Left, I Want To Consider What Three People Expected From The Lord, As Found In The Gospels!
  - And As We Look At Them, I Want You To Consider What Motivated These People To Approach The Lord Jesus Christ To Help Them With Their Need!

\* First, Look At The Leper We Find In Matthew 8:1-4!

- This Leper Had A Terrible & Terrifying Skin Disease – Known Today As Hansen’s Disease. It Was Contagious, And Caused Him To Be An Outcast! It Also Made Him Unclean In The Jewish Religion. He Was In A Very Desperate Situation!
  - He Probably Went To Other Doctors & Sought Help & Comfort From His Family & Friends Many, Many Times! And Many, Many Times, He Was Probably Disappointed & Discouraged!
- Yet, As He Approached The Lord Jesus, What Did He Expect?
  - He Expected Something Great From Him!
  - He Said: “ Lord, If You Are Willing, You Can Make Me Clean!”
    - He Wasn’t Just Looking For Another Treatment, Or Another Helping Hand, He Was Looking For Something Great – Complete Healing!

\* What Did The Leper Expect From The Lord?

**1. *The Leper Expected Great Things From His Will!***

- He Said: “ Lord, If You Are ***Willing!***”
  - The Leper Understood Something About The Will Of Christ!
    - And This Knowledge Of Christ’s Will Caused Him To Expect Something Great From The Lord!
  - What Do We Know Of Christ’s Will?
    - Someone’s Will Consists Of At Least Three Things:
      - Desire, Determination & Delight!
    - Christ’s Will Consists Of His Desire!
      - And We Know That Christ’s Desire Is To Perform The Will Of His Father!
      - John 6:38-39 - “ For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day!”
        - The Desire Of His Will Is Upon You!
    - Christ’s Will Consists Of His Determination!
      - That Is, What He Wills, He Does!
        - John 17:24 - “ Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world!” / John 14:2 - “ In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you!”

- The Determination Of His Will Is For You!
- Christ's Will Consists Of His Delight!
  - John 4:34 - "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work!"
  - The Delight Of His Will Is In You!
  - Philippians 1:6 - "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ!"
- How Much More Do We Understand Of The Will Of Christ Than This Leper!
  - And Yet, We Expect So Little From Him!
  - Instead, We Worry & Concern Ourselves With The Matters Of This Life, Not Truly Expecting Some Great Provision From His Will!
- What Do **You** Expect From God & His Will?
  - Do You Expect Something Great?

\* Look Next At The Centurion Found In Matthew 8:5-13!

- This Centurion Was Concerned About His Servant, So He Came To The Lord For His Help. The Lord Promised To "Come & Heal" The Servant – What A Great Miracle!
- Yet, As He Continued With The Lord Jesus, What Did He Expect?
  - He Expected Something Greater From Him!
  - He Said: "Only Speak A Word, And My Servant Will Be Healed!"
  - In Humility & Meekness, He Was Convinced Of Something Great – The Power Of Christ's Word!

\* What Did The Centurion Expect From The Lord?

2. ***The Centurion Expected Great Things From His Word!***

- He Said: "Only Speak A **Word!**"
  - The Centurion Understood Something About The Power Of Christ's Word!
    - He Based His Understanding On Christ's Own Authority In His Teachings & Over His Disciples – An Authority He Too Possessed. But He Recognized That The Power Of Christ's Word Was Infinitely Greater Than The Power Of His Words – Christ's Words Could Heal!
    - And This Knowledge Of The Power Of Christ's Word Caused Him To Expect Something Great From The Lord!
- What Do We Know Of Christ's Word?
  - Hebrews 4:12 - "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do!"
  - How Much More Do We Understand Of The Power Of Christ's Word Than This Centurion!
    - And Yet We Expect So Little From His Word!
    - Instead, We Ignore His Word, Neglect His Word, And Replace His Word!
- What Do **You** Expect From God & His Will?
  - Do You Expect Something Great?

\* Last, Look At The Woman Found In Matthew 9:20-22!

- Look At This More In Depth In Mark 5:24-34!
- This Woman Had Sought Treatment For Her Blood-Disease For 12 Long, Frustrating, Disappointing Years – And Instead Of Getting Better, She Got Worse!
  - But This Time, She Heard That The Great Physician Was Walking By!
- So, As She Approached The Lord Jesus, What Did She Expect!
  - She Expected Something Great From Him!
  - She Thought: "If I May But Touch His Clothes, I Shall Be Whole!"
  - She Too, Like The Leper, Wasn't Just Looking For Another Treatment, She Was

Looking For Something Great – Complete Healing!

\* What Did This Woman Expect From The Lord?

3. ***The Woman Expected Great Things From His Worth!***

- She Said: “ If I May But Touch His Clothes!”
  - This Woman Understood Something About The Value, Virtue & Worth Of Jesus Christ!
    - And This Knowledge Of Christ’s Worth Caused Her To Expect Something Great From The Lord!
- What Do We Know Of Christ’s Worth?
  - 1 Peter 1:19 Speaks Of “ The precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot!”
  - Philippians 3:8 Speaks Of “ The excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord!”
  - How Much More Do We Understand Of The Infinite Value And Worth Of Jesus Christ Compared To This Woman!
    - And Yet We Expect So Little From His Worth!
    - Instead, We Are Content With The Scraps This World Has To Offer!
- What Do **You** Expect From God & His Worth?
  - Do You Expect Something Great?

**Conclusion:**

1. The Baptist Missionary William Carey Once Said: “ Expect Great Things From God; Attempt Great Things For God!”
  - You Will Never Attempt Great Things For God Until You Expect Great Things From God!
  - What Is This Kind Of Expectation?
    - It Is Faith!
      - Jesus Said To The Woman: “ Your Faith Has Made You Whole!”
    - It Is Great Faith!
      - Jesus Said About The Centurion: “ Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel!”
  - When You Expect Great Things From God – From His Will, His Word & His Worth – It Reveals Your Faith (Or Lack Of Faith) In God!
2. What Do You Expect From The Lord?
  - Do You Expect Something Great?
  - When You Do, It Will:
    - Lead To A Greater Relationship With The Lord!
    - Lead To Greater Service For The Lord!
    - Lead To Greater Works From The Lord!

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