

# **“Living Up to Expectations”**

## **Matt. 25:20-23**

### Introduction

- I. It is not unreasonable to think that the Lord has expectations for mankind.
- II. Without expectations, man would be left to his own ideas and thoughts (Judges 17:6; 21:25; Prov. 14:12).
- III. Let us examine some of the expectations that Jesus has for us.

### Discussion

- I. Jesus expects us to know His Word.
  - A. The Jews were expected to know His Word, but failed to live up to expectations.
    1. The Sabbath Day (Matt. 12:1-14).
    2. Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage (Matt. 19:1-9).
  - B. The disciples of the Lord were expected to know His Word, but sometimes failed to live up to expectations.
    1. Peter (Matt. 15:15-20).
    2. Philip (John 14:8-14).
  - C. We are expected to know His Word, but do we fail to live up to His expectations?
    1. Rightly divide the Word (2 Tim. 2:15).
    2. Progress from milk to meat (Heb. 5:12-14).
  - D. Jesus knew the Word, and He does not expect anything of us that He was not willing to do (Matt. 4:1-11).
- II. Jesus expects us to obey His Word.
  - A. Are we wise or foolish (Matt. 7:24-27; cf. James 1:22).
  - B. He is the Author of Eternal Salvation to all those who obey Him (Heb. 5:9).
  - C. If we love Him, we will obey Him (John 14:15).
  - D. Why do we call Him Lord if we do not obey (Luke 6:46; cf. Matt. 7:21-23)?
  - E. Obedience is better than sacrifice (1 Sam. 15:22).
  - F. Do we obey, or do we fail to live up to His expectations?
  - G. Jesus obeyed the Word, and He does not expect anything of us that He was not willing to do (John 6:38; Phil. 2:8)
- III. Jesus expects us to preach and teach His Word.
  - A. Jesus expected His first century disciples to preach and teach His Word (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1ff.)
  - B. The Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; cf. 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Cor. 9:16).
  - C. Jesus preached and taught the Word, and He does not expect anything of us that He was not willing to do (Matt. 9:35; Mark 2:1ff.; 6:34).

### Conclusion

- I. Are we living up to the Lord's expectations?
- II. If not, then we should humble ourselves and repent while there is opportunity.