

# **CHRISTMAS EXPECTATIONS**

## **- Selected texts**

**With special focus on Luke 1:74-75**

**Let's consider some Christmas expectations from the biblical record of the time surrounding Christ's birth.**

### **I. VARIOUS CHRISTMAS EXPECTATIONS**

#### **A. SOME EXPECTED ROUTINE**

1. Zacharias – Luke 1:8-14
  - He expected to go do his priestly service in the order of his division (8)
2. Shepherds - Luke 2:8-10
  - They expected their night watch guarding the sheep to be uneventful (8)
3. Yet unexpected things do happen ..... outside the routine

#### **B. SOME EXPECTED MONEY**

1. Caesar Augustus - Luke 2:1-3
  - His goal was to have all register so that he could then tax them for his massive building projects
2. The Inn Keeper - Luke 2:7
  - The inn was overcrowded, every possible space was rented, and he was no doubt making money.
3. Illustration: Retail business forecasts for the Christmas season

#### **C. SOME EXPECTED A KING**

1. Mary - Luke 1:31-33
  - The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David (32)
2. Wise Men - Matt. 2:1-2
  - Herod expected a threat or revolt with this new king .... See Matt. 2:13-18

#### **D. SOME EXPECTED A SAVIOR**

1. Joseph - Matt. 1:21-23
  - He will save His people from their sins (21)
2. Zacharias - Luke 1:67-73
  - ... And has raised up a horn of salvation for us (69)
3. Simeon - Luke 2:28-32
  - My eyes have seen your salvation (30)

Over please >

## II. GOD'S CHRISTMAS EXPECTATION - Luke 1:74-75

### A. GOD EXPECTS SERVICE (74)

1. He Rescued us from our Enemies
  - a. Those that hate us (71-73)
    - See Psalm 97:10
  - b. That which holds us: Evil's bondage and guilt's condemnation
2. He Desires from us Service
  - a. We are not rescued so that we can just rejoice and then just go back to our routine ....
  - b. God expects activity and allegiance not apathy!

### B. THE SERVICE GOD EXPECTS

- Far more than mediocrity, He expects sincerity
1. Fearless Service (74b)
    - a. Having no fear of bondage, failure or retreat
    - b. Note Psalm 27:1
  2. Excellent Service (75a)
    - a. In holiness: A devotion based upon respect for God and His eternal principles
    - b. In righteousness: A demonstrated godliness as a witness to those around us
  3. Devoted Service (75b)
    - An audience of one! > I did this before You as I do this for You
  4. Persevering Service (75c)
    - An enduring, continued, unending commitment

## CONCLUSION:

**IS GOD GETTING WHAT HE EXPECTS THIS CHRISTMAS?  
- Let us give Him our undefiled and uninterrupted worship!**