

Unexpected Favor

Scripture: **Luke 1: 28–38**

Series: **Advent 2015: The Unexpected Savior**

Sunday, November 29, 2015



REDEEMER
FELLOWSHIP

Overview

Expectations can lead us astray. We all struggle with misguided and unrealistic expectations. The unexpected favor of God is the salvation found in the person of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Consider what this means in light of our expectations, and what this says about said expectations in the grand scheme of things.

Corroborating Texts

Malachi 4:1–6; Luke 1: 26–27; Romans 3:10–18; Ephesians 2:8–9; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Matthew 16:13–16; Isaiah 11:10; Revelation 22:16; Philippians 3:1–6

Discussion Questions

1. What are some of our expectations? How do these tend to line up with our true needs?
2. What happens when our expectations are not met (either by others, or by God)? What are some biblical examples of unmet expectations and results? [discuss Israel's expectations for their savior specifically]
3. What is our reaction to the unexpected? What external factors can play into this? What implications does this have when it comes to our faith in a sovereign God?
4. What are some of the types of favor that Jim mentioned on Sunday? [initiative; calling; salvation; assurance; obedience] Are there any of these that seem particularly hard to believe are indeed favor? What gospel truths can we tell ourselves to remind ourselves that these things truly are favor? What gospel truths can we use to encourage one another when the unexpected happens?