

# Great Expectations

*Andy Stanley*

## I. Introduction.

- A. If we go into situations without knowing what to expect it can be a devastating time.
- B. In order to be prepared we must know what to expect.
- C. Text: John 15.

## II. Knowledge of the future is a big step to safeguard our spiritual life.

- A. The disciples could expect rejection when Jesus departed and left the Holy Spirit.
- B. Implications.
  - 1. This keeps our expectations realistic. The world will not express appreciation or understand the Christian—he will be rejected.
  - 2. Knowing that we will be rejected keeps us from using rejection as an excuse not to share our faith.

## III. Why we will be rejected.

- A. Christians are not of the world. Non-Christians just know there is something different about them.
- B. The world does not recognize who Jesus is.
- C. Believers are instruments that God has chosen to use to convict the world.
  - 1. Concerning sin because the world does not believe in Jesus. The Spirit is constantly at work reminding people they need a Savior. The world will reject the believer because he is a reminder to them of their sin.
  - 2. Concerning righteousness. God will use believers to convince the world of their unrighteous lifestyle.
  - 3. Concerning judgment because the ruler of the world has been judged. If the ruler of the world has been judged, we can be confident that his followers will be judged.

## IV. There is peace available to us to compensate whatever rejection we will face.

- A. The first step to understanding peace is accepting that believers will be rejected.
- B. We are to trust Jesus because He has overcome the world.

**Application questions:**

1. Why did Jesus tell his followers ahead of time that they would be rejected?

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2. How can a believer find peace despite rejection?

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3. How has your witness suffered because of fear of rejection in the past? How will your witness change in light of the message?

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