



Series: Unexpected Messiah
Passage Matthew 1:1-17; 3:1-12
Title: Unexpected Messiah
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 2/23/2020

Discussion Starter – Why would the title of the series be called “Unexpected Messiah” when the people of Israel were clearly expecting the arrival of a Messiah?

God Meets Our Needs Not Our Expectations

- What problem would we have if Jesus had come and set up His earthly kingdom to rule and reign and remove the Roman authority over Israel?
- Pastor David made a statement that our problem with God is not that He does not love us...but He loves us too much. What did he mean by that statement? Read John 21:15-17. What do you see being revealed about God’s love for us?

Jesus’ Genealogy Is Dirty (Matthew 1:1-17)

What is the significance with book of Matthew starting out with the genealogy of Christ?

- Why a genealogy? (two reasons according to Pastor David)
- Jesus’ genealogy has quite a few shady characters in His family tree. Why do you think a sovereign God allowed this to happen? What does that reveal to us about His mission? Read Mark 2:17. Discuss the insights gained from this verse.

John the Baptist Prepares The Way (Matthew 3:1-12)

- Who was John the Baptist and explain what it meant that he was to prepare the way of the LORD? Read Isaiah 40:1-4. Discuss some of the additional revelation these passages bring to light.
- What purpose do you see God having for sending John to preach his message in the wilderness and not in the synagogue?
- What is meant by John’s message... Repent the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand? How does this message correlate to Isaiah’s prophetic message in Isaiah 40:1-4?
- What do you see happening in this region as a result of John’s preaching?
- Describe in your own words what it means to bear fruits worth of repentance?
- Explain the meaning and purpose of each of the different types of baptism’s he mentions in verse 11, John’s baptism of water unto repentance and Jesus baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire?