

## Great Expectations

### The Prophet

#### Deuteronomy 18:9-22, Selected Scriptures

#### 1. Creating an Expectation

Israel requested a mediator between them and the Lord (Ex. 20:18-19) and He promised to speak to them and commanded that they listen to Him.

##### A. The Persistence of a Perversion (Deut. 18:9-14)

The wickedness of the nations were both moral and spiritual, and Israel was not to imitate either wickedness.

##### B. The Promise of a Prophet (Deut. 18:15-20)

The Lord provided the basis for the continuing prophetic ministry as well as the expectation of a singular prophet who would come.

##### C. The Peril of a Phony (Deut. 18:21-22; see also Deut. 13:1-11)

The Lord gave standards of judgment by which Israel would be able to discern whether a prophet was sent from Him or not.

#### 2. Waiting with Expectation

All who waited for the Messiah were waiting for the prophet who would come (John 1:21; Acts 3:22-23; 7:37). It is with the blessing of the New Testament revelation that we can confidently see how Jesus was both the awaited Messiah and the expected prophet.

#### 3. Requiring an Examination

Jesus' ministry required His contemporaries to examine what He said and what He did. When His words and miracles came about as He said, they authenticated Him as a speaker of the truth that God had given Him to speak (John 3:1-3; Luke 5:12-26; Matt 27:62-28:15).

#### 4. Deserving our Obedience

With the multitude of Jesus' miracles and sayings that have been shown true, all men are to listen to Him (Dt. 18:15) and fear Him (cf. Dt. 13:4). We should believe and obey Jesus commands for what has not yet come because He has proven faithful and true (see John 14:1-6; also Matt. 11:20-24; 24:4-15; 25:31-46).