



Pastor Hanke's Blog

December 16, 2018

What Did You Go Out to See?

Bible Reference: Luke 7:18-35

As a kid, December was a month filled with high expectations, but often ended in disappointment. It seems harsh to say, but many times my expectations weren't met. Let me clarify...it was not that my parents were bad gift givers, but that my expectations of the gifts they gave were unrealistic. I remember how badly I wanted the Etch-A-Sketch Animator. I was convinced I would be able to make all these cool drawings that would move. There was one problem—I couldn't draw with a pencil or tool like that. Disappointment. I remember how excited I was to get my pet monster. I thought he would become my best friend. In the end, he was just a stuffed animal. Disappointment. Then as I got older I started getting basketball shoes for Christmas. If I just had those Jordans, they would help me play better, or so I thought. In reality, I was just a thin kid who couldn't really jump. Crushed expectations and disappointment once again. Thankfully, something has changed over the years and I'm no longer left with a bitter taste of the holiday. Maybe my expectations were realigned, or maybe I came to see something different than before.

Jesus asked the people a powerful question in our lesson this week, "What did you go out to see?" The people of the Bible had unmet expectations of Jesus as king. They often were faced with their "Christmas gift" that didn't live up to their dreams, or so they thought. What made this gift different is that it would live up to everything they needed, they just weren't looking for it. This Sunday we will ask, "What are you looking for?" What have you come to see in this season, and in your life? Jesus is coming. Have you come to see Him?

God's Peace,

Pastor Will