

# Sharpening Expectations in Hard Times

## Matthew 10, 24:7-12 NIV

1. Called and Sent, vv. 1-16	<b>Our Calling:</b> <i>Love the Lord with all of your heart, with all of your soul and all of your mind (Mt. 22:37), and in Ephesians, Walk worthy of your calling.</i>
2. Be on Your Guard, vv. 17-20	<b>Guard your heart and mind.</b>
3. Results, vv. 21-25	<b>Recalibrate:</b> What did you expect?
4. Do Not Be Afraid, vv. 26-33	<b>Why not?</b>
5. Expectations, vv. 34-39	<b>Conflict, tension, cost</b>
6. Response, vv. 40-42	<b>Reward</b>

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## God is not necessarily obligated...

... to work in a way that seems financially “sound” to me.

... to be time “efficient,” as I know it.

... to be “logical” in personnel assignments.

... to make me look good.

... to make me successful.

... to answer my prayers in my ways.

... to tell me why.

He may do any or all of the above, but He is not obligated to do this.

*“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present or the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 8:38-39

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**Next Week** we begin our study of Esther. If you have time, try to read or listen to the whole book this week!