

The God of Surprises and Interruptions
Luke 1-2; Matthew 1-2; Isaiah 55:8-13

Our God Is the God of Surprises - Is 55:8

- When Life Doesn't Go According to Plan, It's Time to Go to Bethlehem...

...To share in the song of Mary - Lk 1:26-38; 46-55

- to present ourselves to Him as living sacrifices - Ro 12:1-2

...To walk in the obedience of Joseph - Matt 1:18-25

- do what we already know to be true

...To enter into the gladness of the shepherds - Lk 2:15-20

- in a conflict of loyalties, go with the higher priority - Lk 11:30-37

...To engage in the worship of the Wise Men - Matt 2:10-11

- we humble ourselves before God - I Pet 5:6

- When We Embrace the Surprise/Interruption as from God...

...We learn to focus on God, not ourselves - Ro 11:36

- we cease to be self-referential

...We learn to see through appearances - II Cor 4:17-18; 5:7

- we loosen our grip on our thoughts and ways

...We begin to let go of our limited and conditional interest in God

- we let go of our utilitarian faith

...We start to see what God sees

- we repent of our self-absorbed constructs