

"Tis the Season":  
Three Primary Messianic Expectations in the First Century BC / BCE

**St. Bart's Church, NYC**  
**The Forum — December 21, 2015**  
**The Rev. Dr. Robert S. Dannels**

I. The Lay of the Land: First Century Palestine / Israel

II. The First Primary Expectation: A Davidic Tradition — A New Monarchy

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and he will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Luke 1:31-33

... And What Did They Get?

III. The Second Primary Expectation: The Isaiah Tradition — The Suffering Servant

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden... and his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm, and he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and has exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things ... he has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of mercy ..."

Luke 1:46-55

... And What Did They Get?

IV. The Third Primary Expectation: The Elijah Tradition — Victory Over Evildoers

"He said therefore to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire' ... 'His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear the threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' "

Luke 3:7-17

... And What Did They Get?

V. What Do You ... I ... We expect?

... And What Do We Get?