



# BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW



“It would all be over in three weeks.”

Governor Pickens

A SAGA OF HUBRIS, HEARTBREAK, AND  
HEROISM AT THE DAWN OF THE CIVIL WAR

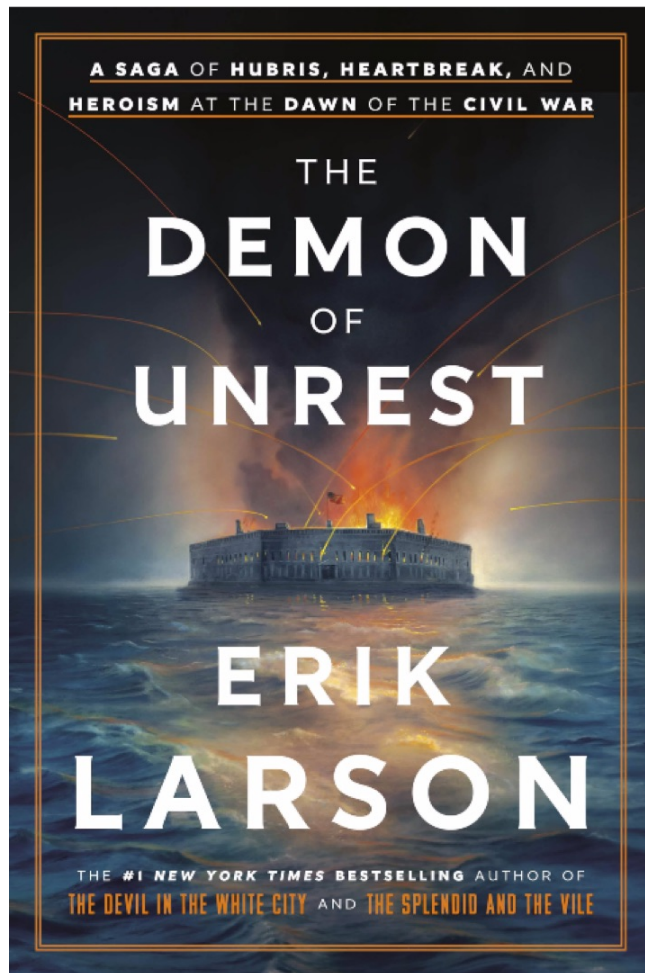
# THE DEMON OF UNREST

ERIK  
LARSON

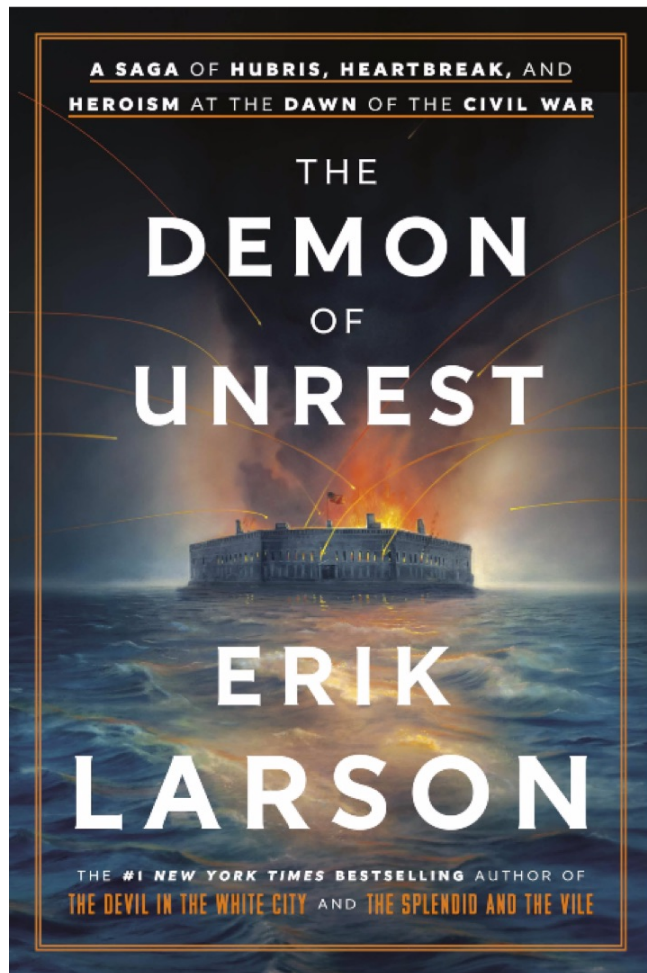
THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
THE DEVIL IN THE WHITE CITY AND THE SPLENDID AND THE VILE







“A common expression often attributed to Colonel James Chesnut forecast that the total amount of blood likely to be shed in a war over secession would fill ‘a lady’s thimble.’



“Chestnut also made the vivid pledge to drink whatever blood actually did get shed.”

Erik Larson

# GREAT EXPECTATIONS

BY  
CHARLES DICKENS.

IN THREE VOLUMES.  
VOL. I.

LONDON :  
CHAPMAN AND HALL, 193, PICCADILLY.  
MDCCCLXI.

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an expectation =  
a feeling or belief that  
something will or should  
happen

Cambridge Dictionary



- If we don't have any expectations...

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“There is one thing which gives radiance to everything. It is the idea of something around the corner.”

G.K. Chesterton

- If we don't have any expectations...
- If we have too many expectations...

- If we don't have any expectations...
- If we have too many expectations...
- If our expectations are unrealistic or false...



“When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities.”

Matthew 11:1

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## Behold the King!

### Show and Tell

<b>1-2</b>	<b>3-7</b>	<b>8-10</b>	<b>11-13</b>	<b>14-18</b>	<b>19-25</b>	<b>26-28</b>
Prologue	Ministry Begins (3-4)	Kingdom Breaks In (8-9)	No Middle Ground (11-12)	You Are the Christ (14-17)	Escalation of Conflict (19-23)	Passion of Christ (26-28)
	Sermon on the Mount (5-7)	Sermon on the Mission (10)	Sermon in Parables (13)	Sermon on Relationships (18)	Sermon on Mt of Olives (24-25)	Great Commission (28:19-20)

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# 1. Expectations of Jesus (2-6)

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“Now when John heard in prison...” (2a)



Machaerus

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“Now when John heard in prison...” (2a)

“John had been arrested” (4:12)





Machaerus

# 1. Expectations of Jesus (2-6)

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“Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”

# 1. Expectations of **Jesus** (2-6)

- John's question (3)
- Jesus's answer (4-6)

“And Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.

“And blessed is the one who is not offended  
by me.”

Matthew 11:4-6

Why is John confused?

“Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.”

Isaiah 35:5-6a



“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;

“he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who  
are bound;”

Isaiah 61:1

“to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;”

Isaiah 61:2

“Instead of your shame there shall be a  
double portion;  
instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in  
their lot;”

Isaiah 61:7a

“For I the LORD love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;”

Isaiah 61:8a

“Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
‘Be strong; fear not!’

“Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance,  
with the recompense of God.  
He will come and save you.”

Isaiah 35:3-4

“As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ,



“John answered them all, saying, ‘I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.’

“He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Luke 3:15-17

1. Expectations of Jesus (2-6)
2. Expectations of **John** (7-15)

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2. Expectations of **John** (7-15)

“As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John” (7a)

What did you expect to see?

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“What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing?



What did you expect to see?

- a politician - someone easily swayed (7c)
- a **privileged person** - someone lavishly **clothed** (8)

“Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses.”

What did you expect to see?

- a politician - someone easily swayed (7c)
- a privileged person - someone lavishly clothed
- a **prophet** - someone **sent by God** (9-14)

“What then did you go out to see? A prophet?  
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.” (9)

Why is John more than a prophet?

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“This is he of whom it is written,

‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’”

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.”

Malachi 3:1

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“Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist.” (11a)



“Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Matthew 11:11b

“He must increase, but I must decrease.”

John 3:30

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“From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.

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- His prophecy was **climactic**. (12-14)

“For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.”



Herod the Great

“For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied  
until John,”

Matthew 11:13

“For all the promises of God find their Yes in him.”

2 Corinthians 1:20a



“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Matthew 11:15

What do we do with this?

What do we do with this?”

- \* Learning to discern our **expectations** is vital to **following Jesus**.

John was ...  
discouraged by his circumstances,

John was ...

discouraged by his circumstances,  
confused by Jesus's actions, and

John was ...

discouraged by his circumstances,  
confused by Jesus's actions, and  
unaware of Jesus's timing.

greatness = nearness to Jesus







“He must increase,  
but I must decrease.”



I expected \_\_\_\_\_.

When this didn't happen, I felt like \_\_\_\_\_.

But I believe God is calling me to \_\_\_\_\_.