

# Great Expectations

## Announcing Angels:

Angel Hector  
Angel Agnes  
Angel William  
Angel Helen

## Messenger Angels:

Angel Kelly  
Angel Sabrina  
Angel Jill

*Messenger Angels enter front stage left, in general conversation. (Heavenly Music) Announcing Angels come up as if in a lift back stage right.*

**Kelly:** Ooh, it's the announcing angels, how exciting!

**Sabrina:** Yes, yes, yes! I love hearing them praising the Lord.

**Jill:** And...and maybe they've got a special message from Him.

**Kelly:** A message...like what?

**Jill:** Well look at the Earth. *(Kelly and Sabrina look down over the front curtain)* It's wandered so far from the Lord, maybe he wants to do so something about it.

**Sabrina:** No...I'm sure He wouldn't bother Himself with them down there!

**Kelly:** I agree with Sabrina. I mean they had their chance. They blew it in the Garden of Eden, and they blew it again after Moses, lots of times.

**Sabrina:** Yes, I can't see God doing anything more...I mean what could He do?

**AAs:** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests"  
We have an announcement from God!

(The following lines are spoken concurrently)

**Hector:** God has said he plans to do something special  
**Agnes:** The Lord is going to save His People  
**William:** Good news...God hasn't given up on earth  
**Helen:** There's a rescue plan for mankind.

**Hector:** Sorry, you first.

**Agnes:** No, no...After you, you're the oldest.

**Hector:** Okay...here goes. Anyway, firstly...greetings Messenger Angels. We have a message for you to take to the human race. Okay, here goes. Great News! God is going to do something very special to rescue His people on earth who have turned away from Him.

**Jill:** Told you!

**Sabrina:** What's that then?

**Agnes:** Well' we're a bit short on the detail at the moment, we only just got given this announcement to make.

**Kelly:** Well, could you check with God? We assume He's going to send in a mighty angelic army to put things right, I mean given how much sin there is in the world?

*(AA's confer)*

**William:** I'll just go and check with God on that. Are you okay to wait?

*(Messenger Angels all nod agreement. Bit of a pregnant pause, at one point **Sabrina** says to Helen, "I like what you've done with your hair Helen"? **Helen** replies, "Oh, thank you very much" William returns and the AAs confer)*

**AAs:** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests"

**William:** *(Slightly out of breath)* Okay, just spoke to Him. He says, no army of Angels. He's just sending in one person

**MAs:** One person!

**Kelly:** That's a bit of a shocker!

**Sabrina:** Yes, you'd have expected an army. I mean...what can one person do?

**Jill:** I mean, what chance does just one person have?

**Kelly:** We really would have expected a huge army for that task.

*(MAs confer)*

**Jill:** Can you confirm then, that this "one person" will be the mightiest, strongest and most powerful angel in heaven?

**Hector:** We'll just go and check *(Hector, Agnes and Helen all look at William)*

**William:** I'll go then, shall I? *(exits)*

*(Pregnant Pause, during which **Sabrina** says to Helen, "So where did you get your hair done? It's really lovely". **Helen** replies, "Oh, it's a new place I found called 'Heavenly Hair'" William returns and the AAs confer)*

**AAs:** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests"

**William:** *(A bit more out of breath than before)* Sorry, it's all those stairs. Anyway...God says, no He's not sending the mightiest, strongest and most powerful angel. He's sending His son Jesus into the world"

**Kelly:** His Son?

**Sabrina:** His one and only Son?

**Jill:** Jesus?

**Sabrina:** Are you absolutely sure about that?

*(AAs nod)*

**Jill:** We really didn't expect that!

*(MAs confer)*

**Kelly:** Well, could you check with God then, will Jesus go down as a mighty warrior, to put the world to rights?

*(Pause...Hector, Agnes and Helen look at William)*

**William:** Oh, for Goodness sake! *(William exits)*

**Sabrina:** So...what's new with you guys?

**Agnes:** Well, I've got a new harp *(shows everyone her new harp. Plays a lovely harp chord)*.

**Jill:** Oh, that's really cool, Agnes *(Other MAs nod in agreement)*.

**Hector:** Ooh! Ooh! Look at this! *(exits, then re-enters with guitar)*. I got a new electric guitar!

*(Plays loud rock chord. MAs all put hands to their ears)*

*(William returns...takes a while to catch his breath and the AAs confer)*

**AAs:** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests"

**William:** *(Quite out of breath, still)* Someone else tell them!

**Helen:** Oh, okay, I'll tell them. God has said his son Jesus is not being sent into the world as a mighty warrior, but as a small baby.

**MA:** No way!

**Hector:** No, it's true. That's definitely what God said.

**Sabrina:** A little baby?

**Jill:** But a baby is so vulnerable.

*(MAs confer)*

**Kelly:** Well, we've just been talking together, as you can see, and we just wanted to make sure that God, if He is sending his own Son, Jesus, into the world, is going to make sure that Jesus is well protected.

**Sabrina:** Yes, so, like, He'll be born to a noble and powerful family with lots of influence.

**Jill:** That's right. And, that He'll grow up well protected in a palace, or a great house.

*(Hector, Agnes and Helen all look to William)*

**William:** *(still looking exhausted)* You're kidding, right?

**Helen:** Don't worry, I'll go this time. *(Helen exits)*

**Sabrina:** So, Hector, I hear you've got a work anniversary coming up?

**Hector:** That's right, six thousand years next Tuesday.

*(Happy Anniversary placard comes up. Couple of party poppers)*

**Jill:** Wow, how exciting. Are you doing anything special?

**Hector:** No, I'm working that day. We might all go out for pizza in the evening though.

*(Pizza box comes up)*

*(Helen returns. AAs confer)*

**AAs:** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests"

**Agnes:** Okay, I think we've got the whole story now. Anyway, God says His Son is not going to be born to a noble family, but to a young lady who is not yet married. And that he will be raised by her and her husband-to-be, who is a carpenter. And He won't be born in a palace either, but in a stable.

**MA:** No way!

**Jill:** But sending His own Son into the world like that is so dangerous. We've seen how sinful the world is, and we've seen what mankind has done even to God's prophets. Why, Jesus could get killed!

**Helen:** Yes, He could...and He will. God has said this is all part of His plan.

**Hector:** Mankind's sin is so great that it deserves a terrible punishment.

**Agnes:** Yes, and that punishment is death.

**Helen:** But God loves mankind so much that he doesn't want them to have to face that punishment.

**William:** He's going to let someone else pay the price, to die in their place.

**Hector:** His own Son, Jesus, whom He loves.

**Agnes:** God will let His own Son die a terrible death so that any person who believes in Him, Who puts their trust in Him, can be forgiven all their sin.

**Helen:** And instead, Jesus will have paid the price.

**William:** (*To audience*) And that is true, not just for two thousand years ago, for everyone today, too.

**Hector:** How does that make you feel?

**Agnes:** Doesn't it make you want to know more about Jesus?