






Are you ready...?

[Only 10 days to go...!!]








David Hillson, PCF 15 December 2002



"What are you waiting for...?"

- Two similar pre-Christmas stories :
 - The hopeless old man
 - Part 1 : Luke 1:5-25
 - The helpless young woman
 - Part 1 : Luke 1:26-38
- Common themes :
 - Powerless, angelic visit, question



The Offer, by Mark Greene

*It was an offer she could have refused,
A life she could have used
In some other way:
To grow great with child, for example,
after her wedding day...*

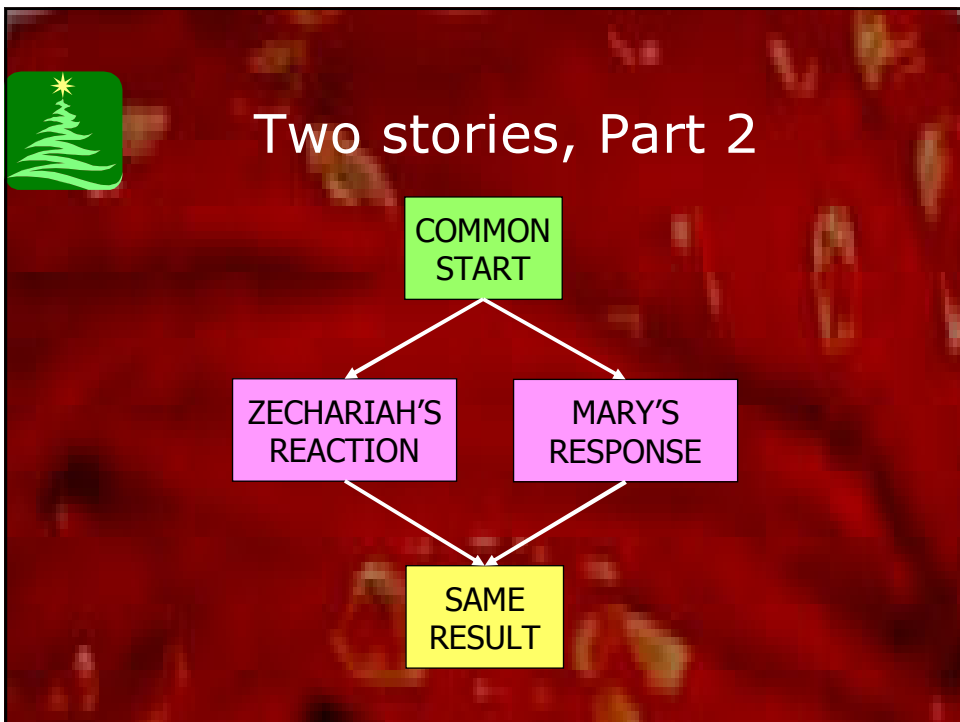
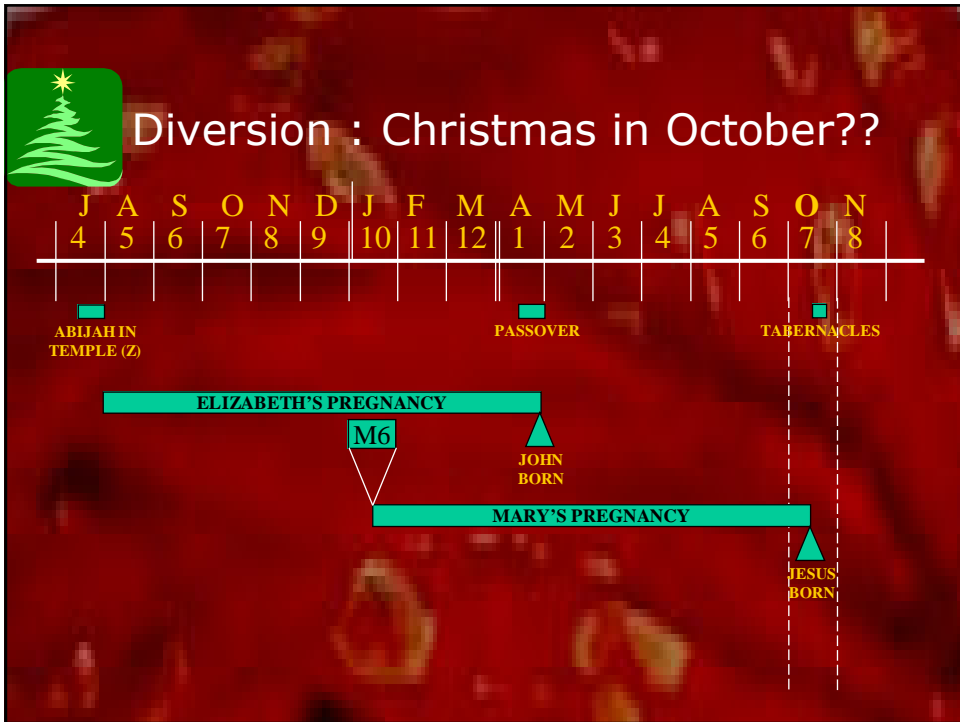
*She, turning from the safety of
merely human possibility,
Marvelling at how it could be
That He should choose her to bless,
Welcomed truth to her womb, and said "Yes".*



Diversion : Christmas in October??



- Evidence :
 - 24 divisions of priests, each with 2-week Temple duty
 - Zechariah part of division of Abijah
 - Abijah has 8th turn, end of month 4
 - Elizabeth was pregnant soon after (start of month 5?)
 - Angel visits Mary "in 6th month" (before end of month 10)
 - Jesus born 9 months later (before end of month 7)
 - Month 1 in Jewish year is April (Passover)
 - End month 7 = end October (Tabernacles)





How about you?

- Is God speaking to you?
- Is he promising the impossible?
- How will you react/respond?
 - I'm too old/too young
 - I don't understand how
- Trust in God's ability
- Respond like Mary :
 - *"I am your servant – let it be as you say"*



Are you ready...?