

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT???

Luke 1:5-26
August 12/13, 2023

Our story picks up _____ before Jesus is born
This is a _____ time in Israel's History
Israel is under the _____ of the _____
The local King Herod is not _____ (v.5)
God hasn't spoken in _____ (Malachi 4:5-6)
The Old Testament ended with a _____
Their Question: Does God _____?

(vv. 5-7)

Abijah: *Abia* - Hebrew origin, My Father is Ja (God) (OTESD)

Zacharias - from the Hebrew *Zek-ar-yah*

Zakar: to remember, *Yah-Jah*, the sacred name (God) (OTESD)

Elizabeth - from the Hebrew *Elisheba*

El: The almighty, *Shabba* - God of (the) oath (OTESD)

Zacharias, Elizabeth: God _____ God's _____

God's Two Promises:

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.
- Malachi 4:5-6 (ESV)

... your women will not miscarry or be barren.

- Exodus 23:26-27 (CJB)

Regardless of _____ Zacharias and Elizabeth
_____ what _____ of people they would be

Lesson: God _____ people who will be _____
even when it doesn't appear to be _____

(vv.13-17)

Zacharias and Elizabeth get _____ (Hebrew - *yo-khaw-nawn*)

Yehovah: God, *chanan* - move to favor by petition,
(KJV) Be gracious

John: the grace or mercy of the Lord (Hitchcock's)

Zacharias is an _____ believer (v.18)

**He believes _____ God but doesn't _____ God
Will speak his _____ but not _____** (v.18)

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "This is what applies to the Levites: from twenty-five years old and upward they shall enter to perform service in the work of the tent of meeting. But at the age of fifty years they shall retire from service in the work and not work anymore. - Numbers 8:23-25 (NASB)

Good News: He (like us) still gets _____

John: the grace or mercy of the Lord (Hitchcock's)

As an unbelieving believer he can't _____ for God (v.22)

Why did God shut his mouth?

(God) *I create the fruit of the lips - Isaiah 57:19 (CWSB)*

(vv.24-25)

*Now after these days his wife Elizabeth became pregnant, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying (lego), "This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked with favor upon me, to take away my disgrace among people."
- Luke 1:24-25 (NASB)*

Why did Elizabeth keep "herself in seclusion"?

To avoid the _____ of _____

*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- Romans 10:17 (CWS)*

To _____ her faith with praise _____

Saying: *legō* - verb; to "lay" forth, i.e., (figuratively) relate (in words usually of systematic or set discourse) (OTESD)