IN THE SIXTH MONTH THE ANGEL GABRIEL WAS SENT FROM GOD TO A CITY OF GALILEE NAMED NAZARETH, TO A VIRGIN BETROTHED TO A MAN WHOSE NAME WAS JOSEPH, OF THE HOUSE OF DAVID. AND THE VIRGIN'S NAME WAS MARY. AND HE CAME TO HER AND SAID, "GREETINGS, O FAVORED ONE, THE LORD IS WITH YOU!" BUT SHE WAS GREATLY TROUBLED AT THE SAYING, AND

TRIED TO DISCERN WHAT SORT OF GREETING THIS MIGHT BE. AND THE ANGEL SAID TO HER, "DO NOT BE AFRAID, MARY, FOR YOU HAVE FOUND FAVOR WITH GOD. AND BEHOLD, YOU WILL CONCEIVE IN YOUR WOMB AND BEAR A SON, AND YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS. HE WILL BE GREAT AND 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." AND MARY SAID TO THE ANGEL, "HOW WILL THIS BE, SINCE I AM A VIRGIN?" AND THE ANGEL ANSWERED HER, "THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU, AND THE POWER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL OVERSHADOW YOU; THEREFORE THE CHILD

TO BE BORN WILL BE CALLED HOLY—THE SON OF GOD. AND BEHOLD, YOUR RELATIVE ELIZABETH IN HER OLD AGE HAS ALSO CONCEIVED A SON, AND THIS IS THE SIXTH MONTH WITH HER WHO WAS CALLED BARREN. FOR NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD." AND MARY SAID, "BEHOLD, I AM THE SERVANT OF THE LORD; LET IT

BE TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD." AND THE ANGEL DEPARTED FROM HER.

NOT WHAT YOU'D EXPECT

THE UNLIKELY CHARACTERS OF CHRISTMAS



(PAGE 499 IN OUR BIBLES)





FAITH IS OPEN-MINDED, NOT CLOSED-MINDED.



FAITH IS HUMBLE, NOT ARROGANT.



IN DEALING WITH THE ARROGANT ASSERTER OF DOUBT, IT IS NOT THE RIGHT METHOD TO TELL HIM TO STOP DOUBTING. IT IS RATHER THE RIGHT METHOD TO TELL HIM TO GO ON DOUBTING. TO DOUBT A LITTLE MORE, TO DOUBT EVERY DAY NEWER AND WILDER THINGS IN THE UNIVERSE, UNTIL AT LAST, BY SOME STRANGE ENLIGHTENMENT, HE MAY BEGIN TO DOUBT HIMSELF.

G.K. CHESTERSON





WHOEVER **TRUSTS IN HIS OWN MIND** IS A FOOL, BUT HE WHO WALKS IN WISDOM WILL BE DELIVERED. (PROVERBS 28:26)



WHOEVER **TRUSTS IN HIS OWN MIND** IS A FOOL, BUT HE WHO WALKS IN WISDOM WILL BE DELIVERED. (PROVERBS 28:26)

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND DO NOT LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING. (PROVERBS 3:5)



THUS SAYS THE LORD: "CURSED IS THE MAN WHO TRUSTS IN MAN AND MAKES FLESH HIS STRENGTH, WHOSE HEART TURNS AWAY FROM THE LORD." (JEREMIAH 9:23)





WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY TO THESE THINGS? IF GOD IS FOR US, WHO CAN BE AGAINST US? HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN SON BUT GAVE HIM UP FOR US ALL, HOW WILL HE NOT ALSO WITH HIM GRACIOUSLY GIVE US ALL THINGS?

ROMANS 8:31-32



THE LORD IS NOT SLOW TO FULFILL HIS PROMISE AS SOME COUNT SLOWNESS, BUT IS PATIENT TOWARD YOU, NOT WISHING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH, BUT THAT ALL SHOULD REACH REPENTANCE.

2 PETER 3:9

GOD IS NOT MAN, THAT HE SHOULD LIE, OR A SON OF MAN, THAT HE SHOULD CHANGE HIS MIND. HAS HE SAID, AND WILL HE NOT DO IT? OR HAS HE SPOKEN, AND WILL HE NOT FULFILL IT?

NUMBERS 23:19

THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD NEVER CEASES; HIS MERCIES NEVER COME TO AN END; THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS. "THE LORD IS MY PORTION," SAYS MY SOUL, "THEREFORE I WILL HOPE IN HIM."

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-24

BUT WHEN THE FULLNESS OF TIME HAD COME, GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF WOMAN, BORN UNDER THE LAW, TO REDEEM THOSE WHO WERE UNDER THE LAW, SO THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE ADOPTION AS SONS.

GALATIANS 4:4-5

NOW MAY THE GOD OF PEACE HIMSELF SANCTIFY
YOU COMPLETELY, AND MAY YOUR WHOLE SPIRIT
AND SOUL AND BODY BE KEPT BLAMELESS AT THE
COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. HE WHO
CALLS YOU IS FAITHFUL; HE WILL SURELY DO IT.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24