

A CHRISTMAS CAMEO

Featuring: Zacharias

Topic: “Belief vs. Doubt”

Luke 1:5-25; 67-80

Introduction: For many, there have been and are _____ surrounding the Christmas Story including the characters of the story. The first doubts came from Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist.

➤ **Doubt Can Be Normal** (Even for Godly People)

- Zacharias (*Luke 1:5-18*)
- Thomas (*John 20:24-29*)
- John the Baptist (*Luke 7:19-28*)

➤ **Doubt Can Be Beneficial**

- Doubts of _____
“I can honestly say I doubt, but I’m willing to examine the evidence to see if it’s true.”
- Doubts of _____
“I don’t know if it’s true or not, but it’s more convenient not to believe; so don’t confuse me with the evidence.”

➤ **Doubt Can Be Destructive**

- It steals our _____ (*Luke 1:19-23*)
- It opens our heart to _____ (*Genesis 16:1-16*)
- It destroys our _____ (*John 18:15-18; 25-27*)
- It nullifies our _____ (*James 1:2-8*)
- It excuses our _____ (*John 3:17-20*)

➤ **Doubt Can Be Conquered**

- Examine the _____ (*Luke 1:24-25; 57-58*)
- Decide to _____ God (*Luke 1:59-64; 67-80*)

Application: One can miss God’s best by doubting Him and His Word. What are your doubts costing you? (*Mark 9:23-24*)