

unexpected

four unexpected christmas stories

Zechariah

Herod

Mary

Simeon



Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." ³⁴ **"How can this be,"** Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

38 Then Mary answered,
“Here am I, the servant of
the Lord; **let it be** with me
according to your word.”
Then the angel departed
from her.



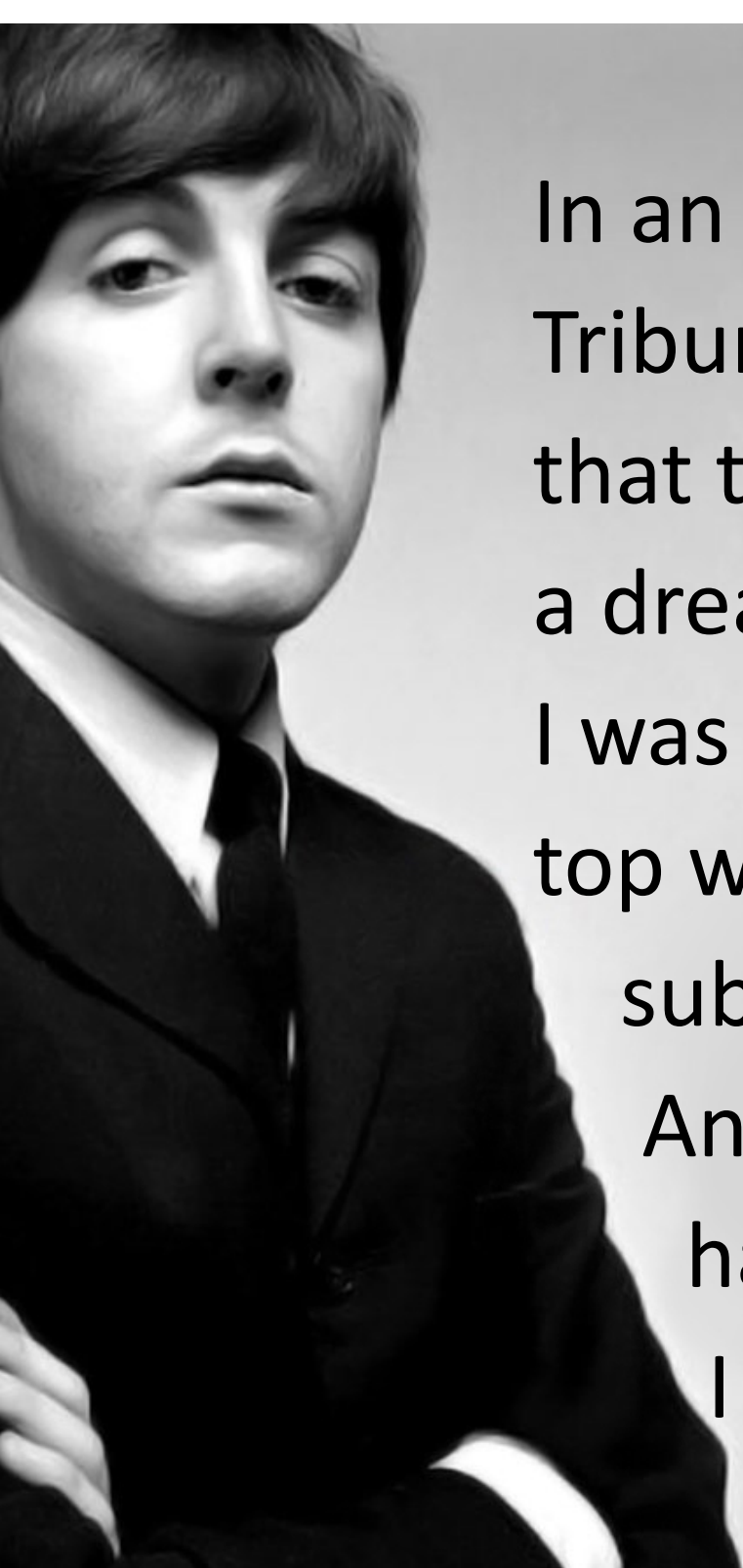


*When I find myself in times of trouble,
Mother Mary comes to me*

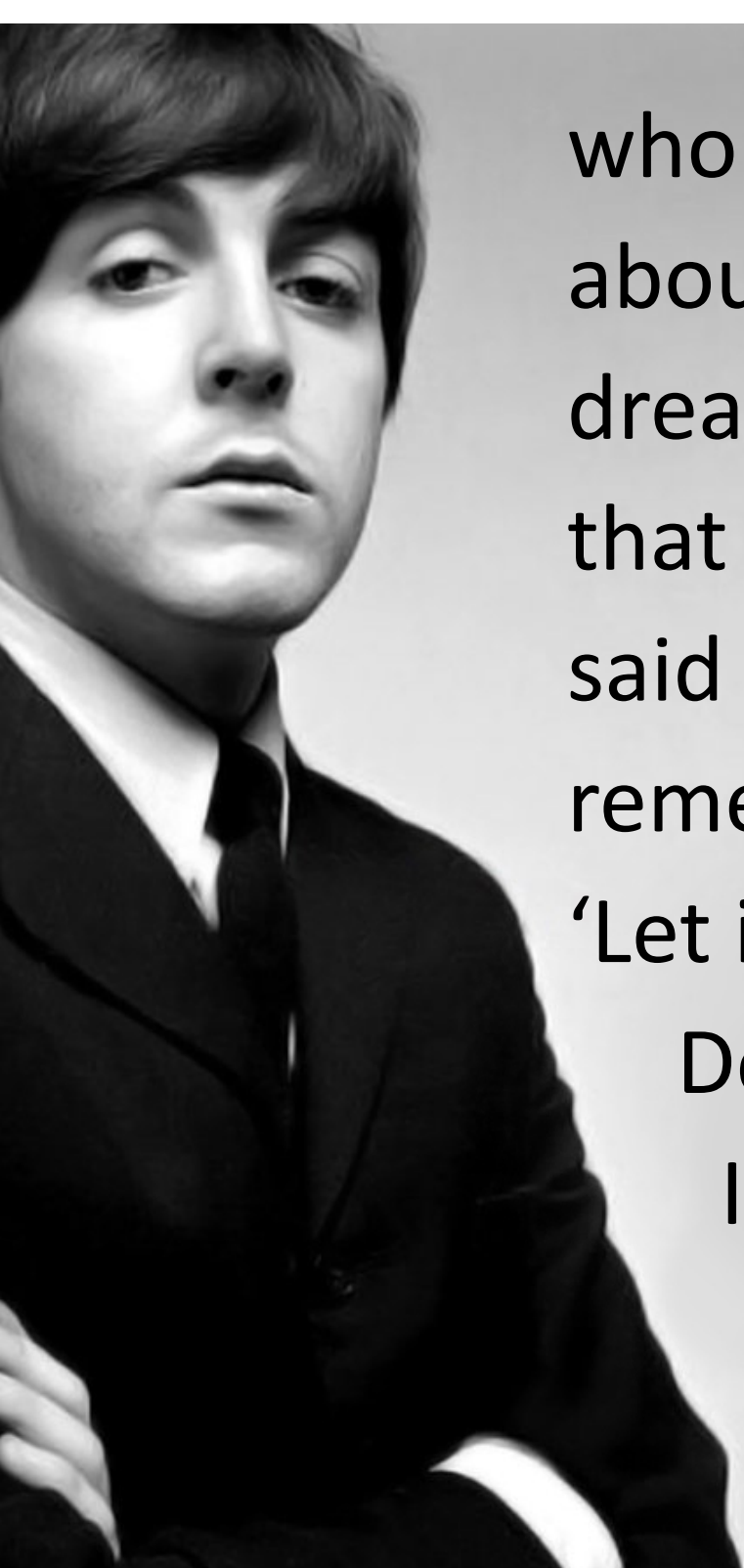
*Speaking words of wisdom, "**Let it be**"*

*And in my hour of darkness, she is
standing right in front of me*

*Speaking words of wisdom, "**Let it be**"*



In an interview with The Salt Lake Tribune, Paul McCartney explained that the words “Let it be” came from a dream of his late mother. “I think I was getting, like, a little bit over the top with overdoing the use of substances. We certainly were. And I went to bed one night and had a kind of restless night. But I had a dream where my mother,



who had been dead at that point for about 10 years, came to me in the dream and it was as if she could see that I was troubled. And she sort of said to me, she said, 'Let it be.' And I remember quite clearly her saying, 'Let it be,' and 'It's going to be OK. Don't worry.' You know, 'Let it be.' I woke up and I remembered the dream, and I thought, 'Well, that's a great idea.'



And I then sat down and wrote the song using the feeling from that dream and of my mum coming to me in the dream.”



let it be?

What's in the Name?

It's clear from Gabriel's announcement to Mary that this Baby will change everything.

1. He will be... called the Son of the Most High
2. Given the throne of his father David
3. he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever
- 4 his kingdom will never end

Luke 1:32-33



Mary's Response

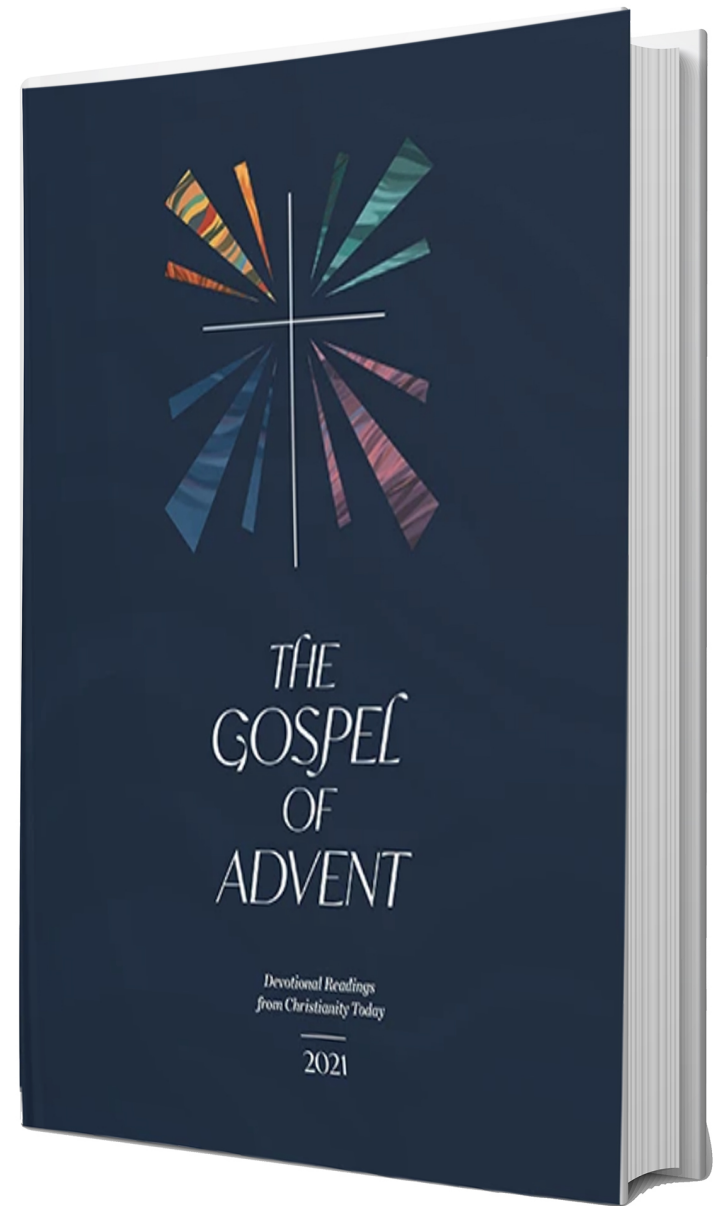
Obedience.

In chapter 1, Luke contrasts two different reactions to a difficult-to-believe message from an angel: Zechariah the Priest and Mary, a teenage girl from a small town. The difference being, Mary moves quickly from questioning to unqualified obedience.

“Obedience would
be easy if it all
made sense.

And if we agreed.

Or if we thought of
the plan ourselves.”



Mikes Baptism



“I have a new boss”

Your Response

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