

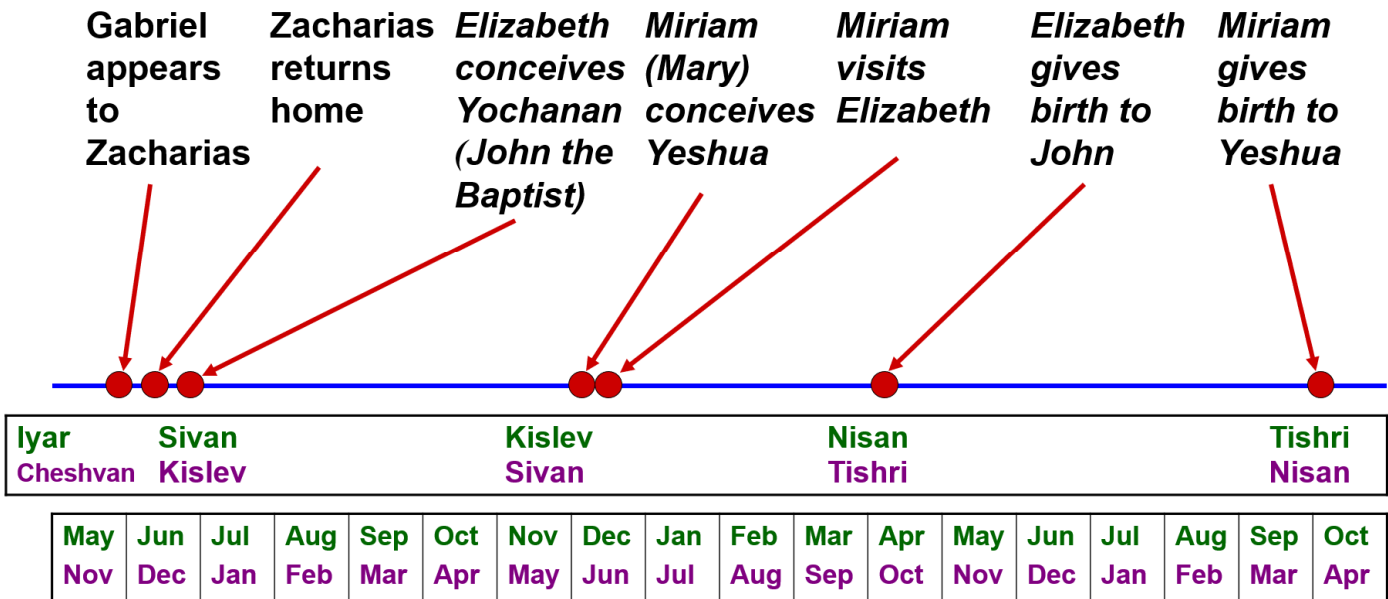
## *The Timing of Messiah's Arrival*

### Schedule of Service by the Priests in the Temple (1 Chronicles 24)

Division	Name	Service	Service
1	Jehoiarib	Tishri 1-7	Adar 29 - Nisan 5
2	Jedaiah	Tishri 8-14	Nisan 6-13
All		Tishri 15-21 (Sukkot)	Nisan 14-21 (Passover)
3	Harim	Tishri 22-28	Nisan 22-28
4	Seorim	Tishri 29 - Cheshvan 5	Nisan 29 - Iyar 5
5	Malchijah	Cheshvan 6-12	Iyar 6-12
6	Mijamin	Cheshvan 13-19	Iyar 13-19
7	Hakkoz	Cheshvan 20-26	Iyar 20-26
8	Abijah	Cheshvan 27 - Kislev 4	Iyar 27 – Sivan 3
All			Sivan 4-6 (Shavuot)
9	Jeshua	Kislev 5-11	Sivan 7-13
10	Shecaniah	Kislev 12-18	Sivan 14-20
11	Eliashib	Kislev 19-25	Sivan 21-27
12	Jakim	Kislev 26 - Tevet 2	Sivan 28 - Tamuz 4
13	Huppah	Tevet 3-9	Tamuz 5-11
14	Jeshebeab	Tevet 10-16	Tamuz 12-18
15	Bilgah	Tevet 17-23	Tamuz 19-25
16	Immer	Tevet 24 - Shvat 1	Tamuz 26 - Av 3
17	Hezir	Shvat 2-8	Av 4-10
18	Happizzez	Shvat 9-15	Av 11-17
19	Pethahiah	Shvat 16-22	Av 18-24
20	Jehezkel	Shvat 23-30	Av 25 - Elul 1
21	Jachin	Adar 1-7	Elul 2-8
22	Gamul	Adar 8-14	Elul 9-15
23	Delaiah	Adar 15-21	Elul 16-22
24	Maaziah	Adar 22-28	Elul 23-29

Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, belonged to the division of Abijah and served during the end of the month of Cheshvan and continued into the beginning of Kislev (November/December), and another week that spanned the end of Iyar and the first part of Sivan (May/June).

## CHRONOLOGY OF LUKE 1



**Conclusion:** The birth of Yeshua was either in the fall at the time of *Sukkot* (Feast of Tabernacles) or in the spring at the time of Passover. But evidence in Scripture lends credence to the *Sukkot* date:

- The connection between Yeshua and John the Baptist and Elijah in the context of Passover is strong. Yeshua does fulfill the role of the Passover lamb. But Passover is about the death of the lambs, not their birth. In fact the lambs had to be one year old. On the other hand, the arrival of the prophet Elijah is a key element of Passover. John the Baptist fulfilled the role of Elijah. So if Yeshua was born on *Sukkot*, then John was born on Passover and thus satisfies his connection with that day. But if it was the other way around, John loses the Elijah connection to Passover.
- When Joseph and Mariam traveled from Nazareth to register for the Roman census in Bethlehem, it was done for the purpose of taxation and had to be performed before the end of the Roman year, which was December 31st. As Jews, they were required to travel to Jerusalem for *Sukkot*, as one of the three annual pilgrimage festivals. So it seems reasonable to conclude that they would have made one 180 mile round trip journey right before *Sukkot*, rather than one for the holy day as required by Torah and another trip in winter as required by Roman law, with Miriam being late in her pregnancy..
- The birth at the time of *Sukkot* connects to *Hanukkah*, separated by 280 days, which matches exactly the normal gestation period for human babies.. The word *Hanukkah*, meaning “dedication,” refers to the beginning point of something significant. That is true about the temple in Jerusalem. According to Haggai 2:18-21 the foundation of second temple was completed on the 24th day of the month of Kislev, which means it began its service on the 25th day of that month. According to 1 Macc 4:52 the temple was likewise dedicated for service on the 25th of *Kislev*. Those two dedications are consistent with Yeshua to doing the same in a biological sense on the same date.
- The timing of Yeshua’s birth at *Sukkot* reinforces the primary theme of this holy day – the God of Israel dwelling with His people (John 1-14).