

Jesus is the New Joseph. Mary is the New Rachel.

Joseph in Genesis is another image of Christ. Joseph is sold to the Gentiles for 20 silver pieces by Judah, one of the 12 brothers; Jesus is sold to the Gentiles for 30 silver pieces by Judas, one of the 12 apostles. Joseph is imprisoned with two others, one of whom is pardoned; Jesus is *crucified* with two others, one of whom *he* pardons. Joseph is 30 when he enters Pharaoh's service; Jesus is 30 when he begins his ministry. Joseph is exalted to the right hand of Pharaoh and rules over the kingdom of Egypt; Jesus is exalted to the right hand of God and rules over the kingdom of Heaven. Joseph saves Israel and the Gentiles from death and feeds them *life-giving wheat*; Jesus saves Israel and the Gentiles from *spiritual* death, and feeds them with *his own body and blood*. Joseph gives special honor to Benjamin, the youngest of the 12, at a banquet; Jesus gives special honor to John, the beloved disciple, the youngest of the 12, at the Last Supper. Finally: Joseph is the firstborn son of Rachel and the beloved son of Jacob. Jesus is the firstborn son of Mary and the beloved Son of God.

Rachel is an image of Mary. Just as Jesus surpasses Joseph, so *Mary must surpass Rachel.* Rachel is the beloved wife of Jacob; Mary is the beloved spouse of the Holy Spirit. Rachel has two sons; she dies giving birth to Benjamin, the most beloved by Jacob after Joseph. Mary has a second son, *spiritually*. She gains John as a son when Jesus dies on the cross (Jn 19:26); this is when the sword of sorrow predicted by Simeon pierces her soul (Lk 2:35).

After her death, the Jews prayed to Rachel as their most powerful intercessor, who watched over all Israel as her children (Jer 31:14; *Lamentations Rabbah* 24). *Mary* is the mother of all Christians, every beloved disciple who has Jesus for his brother.

Conclusion

Everything that the Bible teaches about Mary is based on what it teaches about Jesus. There is no Eve without Adam, nor Adam without Eve; no Joseph without Rachel; no king without a queen. The ark and what it contained were inseparable.

Mary, like the ark, was made *immaculate* by God so that, after 4 thousand years of waiting, there would *finally* be a human being worthy to bear no mere sign, but *God himself* in the flesh. As angels adorned the ark, Gabriel visited Mary; as the cloud symbolizing God's presence descended upon the ark, so the Holy Spirit descended upon *Mary*, making God *truly present* in her. She had to be sinless, just as Christ was sinless, in order to undo the sin of Eve, Adam's helpmate in sin. Mary, Jesus' helpmate in redemption, shared in his sacrifice when *her own soul was pierced*. Elisabeth is humbled at her visit, and calls her "the Mother of my LORD" meaning "the Mother of God." She is the Queen Mother of the Messiah, destined to rule in Heaven on a throne next to his, wearing a crown of 12 stars, the Queen of the 12 apostles—of *the entire apostolic Church*. From there she intercedes for us, a new Rachel, just as she did at the wedding feast of Cana, bringing our prayers to Christ, winning miracles for us.

Jesus says: "Behold thy mother."

Jesus' last words, his *last will*, was to give Mary to his beloved disciple to be his mother. This disciple took Mary "as his own" (Jn 19:27) which means "as his own mother." John is called "the beloved disciple" to emphasize that Mary was not given *just to him*, personally, but to *every* beloved disciple. If you are an adopted child of God, if Jesus is your brother, then Mary, the mother of Jesus, *the Mother of God*, is *your* mother. If Christ is your life,

Mary is the mother of your salvation.

Why are Catholics devoted to Mary?

Where's that in The Bible?



Mary prophesied: "All generations shall call me blessed." (Luke 1:48)

And from the time of Christ until now, every generation of Christians has done just that. The Gospel cannot be false. Only WE can be false, if we do not follow the Gospel.

Egyptian papyrus from 250 AD:



WE FLY TO THY
PROTECTION, O HOLY
MOTHER OF GOD.
DO NOT DESPISE OUR
PETITIONS IN OUR
NECESSITIES,
BUT DELIVER US
ALWAYS FROM ALL
DANGERS,
O GLORIOUS AND
BLESSED VIRGIN.

Jesus is the New Adam. Mary is the New Eve.

Jesus calls Mary “*woman*” at the wedding feast of Cana and again from the cross (Jn 2:4, 19:26). No one else addresses his mother this way in the Bible. There is only *one other person* in the Bible known simply as *woman*: Eve, who is called “*woman*” 11 times in Genesis, only twice called “*Eve*.”

Both Adam and Eve, a man and a woman, are responsible for the fall of the whole human race. A man and a woman are also responsible for our salvation. If Christ, the new Adam, is *far greater* than the old Adam, then Mary, the new Eve, must be *far greater* than the old Eve. Eve, like Adam, was made sinless. Mary, to undo Eve’s choice, was also made sinless. But she surpassed Eve, *just as Jesus surpassed Adam*: Mary never sinned.

God said to the serpent (devil) in Genesis 3:15: “I will put enmities between thee and the woman, thy seed and her seed: he shall crush thy head.” Jesus is the ‘seed’ of Mary. Eve, Adam’s helpmate, assisted him in sin. Similarly, *Mary assists Jesus* when he crushes the head of Satan from the cross.

Revelation 12 speaks of “a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars” who gives birth to a male child, “who was to rule all nations” from the throne of God—but the dragon, Satan, tried to devour the child, and *persecuted* the woman. If the child is Christ, then *this woman must be Mary*: “And the dragon was angry against the woman: and went to make war *with the rest of her seed*, who keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Rev 12:17)—which means that all faithful followers of Jesus have Mary for their mother, and are protected from the assaults of the devil.

The knot of Eve’s disobedience was loosed by the obedience of Mary —St. Ireneaus, 180 AD

Mary is the New Ark of the Covenant.

In the Old Testament, the ark of the covenant was the holiest thing there ever was. It was kept in the *Holy of Holies* of the tabernacle. It was so holy that even priests could not touch it; they carried it by poles. When one of them *did* touch it, he was killed instantly by God (2 Sam 6). It was the *ark*, not *Moses*, that led the Israelites into the Promised Land. The ark was God’s *dwelling place on earth*: God would *overshadow* it with his *presence* and *speak* to his people (Ex 25, 40). It was so holy because it contained 3 things, *all signs of Jesus*:

- The tablets of the Commandments, prefiguring Christ as the new Moses, the new Law-giver
- A bowl of the manna from Heaven, prefiguring Christ who gives his flesh as the new bread from Heaven
- Aaron’s staff, prefiguring Christ as the new High Priest

In all three, the reality of Jesus *far surpasses* the sign of him which was put in the ark.

The ark, which contained the *signs* of Christ, must then be a *sign of Mary*, who bore the real Jesus in her womb. Just as the heavenly cloud (a sign) overshadowed the ark, the Holy Spirit (the reality) overshadowed Mary. David arose and brought the ark to the hill country of Judah, leaping before it with shouting, the ark residing in the house of Obededom for 3 months. Mary arose and went to the hill country of Judah, residing there 3 months; at her visit, John the Baptist leapt in the womb of Elisabeth. Just as David said, “How shall *the ark of the LORD* come to me?” so Elisabeth confessed her unworthiness, exclaiming, “Whence is this to me that *the mother of my LORD* should come to me?” (Lk 1, 2 Sam 6).

The ark was made out of “incorruptible” wood and *pure* gold (Ex 25:5, *LXX*), just as

Christians have always believed that Mary was free from all sin.

In Revelation, Jesus is depicted by *two images*: as “a male child” and as “the lamb.” Mary is *also* represented by two images: as the “*woman*” *and as the ark*, no longer on earth, but in the heavenly temple.

From the time of the apostles, *Christians have always believed* that, just as David brought the old ark to his earthly kingdom, Jerusalem, so Jesus brought the new ark, Mary, into his heavenly kingdom, the new Jerusalem.

Mary is the Queen Mother.

In the Old Testament, God promised David an everlasting *monarchy* (2 Sam 7:13). Jesus is the new David, the new and everlasting King, prophesied by Gabriel: “God shall give unto him the *throne* of David his father; and he shall reign in the house of Jacob for ever. And of his kingdom there shall be no end” (Lk 1:32-33).

In the Bible, the queen was not the *wife* of the king—she was his *mother*, and had the title “Queen Mother.” Bathsheba bows to her husband, King David; but when *her son*, Solomon, is king, *he* bows to *her*, and gives her a *throne*, where she sits *at his right hand*; second in command in all the kingdom (1 Kgs 2:19-20). The same prophets who foretell the Messiah also prophesy about his mother (Isaiah 7, Micah 5).

If Jesus is the new King, who *far surpasses* the greatest earthly kings, then Mary must be the Queen Mother—who *far surpasses* any earthly queen. God cast down the mighty from their thrones—to elevate the lowly (Lk 1:52)—to bring Jesus and Mary to their thrones in Heaven. Mary is the Queen of Heaven, described in Revelation 12, wearing a crown of stars. Only kings and queens wear crowns.

If Christ is your King, Mary must be your Queen.