

Doctrine of Mary

1. The devotion to and veneration of Mary has helped to transform society's view towards all women in a positive way.
2. Once viewed as the origin of temptation, a servant of man, or a tool of the Devil, the daughters of Eve began to be viewed as the daughters of the New Eve, worthy of honor and respect.
3. The medieval development of chivalry, with the concept of honoring a lady and ensuring knightly devotion, is largely based upon the new way of looking at women because of Mary.
4. Perhaps the most Marian pope, the pope who idolized Mary the most, in Church history was Pope Pius XII (1876 – 1958). John Paul II (1920 – 2005) was also committed to honoring her.
5. Most of the adulation lavished upon Mary is inappropriate, for while Mary is to be honored among women, she is not to be exalted above them.
6. Mary realized that she was a sinner in need of a Savior.
 - *Luke 1:47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*
7. Mary does become a role model in the area of moral theology.
 - She remained a virgin until marriage.
 - She was submissive to the will of God.
 - She worshipped God.
 - She was a mystic to which spirituality relates.
 - She was a young lady of charisma, or compelling attractiveness, that can inspire devotion in others.
 - She received divine revelation.
8. There are a number of false doctrines associated with Mary, perpetuated by the Roman Catholic Church and others.
 - Doctrine of Mary's Perpetual Virginit
 - Doctrine of Mary's Immaculate Conception
 - Doctrine of Mary's Assumption into heaven,
 - Doctrine of Mary as the Mother of God
 - Doctrine of Mary as the Mother of the Church
 - Doctrine of Mary as the Queen of Heaven
 - Doctrine of Mary as Mediatrix
 - Doctrine of Mary as Co-Redemptrix.

9. The cumulative evidence that Mary did not remain a virgin after the birth of Christ is scripturally overwhelming.

- The Bible speaks of “his mother and his brethren”.

Matthew 12:46 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

Mark 3:31 There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him.

Luke 8:19 Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press.

John 2:12 After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.

Acts 1:14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

- The Bible names four of the Lord’s brethren: James, Joses, Simon, Judas.

Matthew 13:55 Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

- The Bible speaks of several sisters of the Lord.

Matthew 13: 56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?

- The Bible speaks of Jesus as being a brother-in-law, and perhaps an uncle if children are presumed, according to the flesh of His humanity.

1 Corinthians 9:5 Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?

- The apostle Paul recognized James as the Lord’s brother without comment or protest.

Galatians 1:19 But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

10. The Bible is careful to indicate that Mary remained a virgin “till” [until] her firstborn son was brought forth. The implication is that a normal marital relationship was engaged in after the birth of Christ.

- *Luke 2:7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.*

- *Matthew 1:25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.*

11. The doctrine of Mary's Immaculate Conception contradicts biblical theology. Pope Pius IX wrote that "We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful" (*Ineffabilis Deus*, Apostolic Constitution issued by Pope Pius IX on December 8, 1854).

- *Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- *Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

12. The idea of Mary being Co Redemptrix dishonors the redemptive work of Christ at Calvary.

- *Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

13. The belief that Mary is a mediator is contrary to the teaching of Scripture.

- *1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*