

Sunday, December 17, 2023
Mary: Setting the Record Straight!
by C Benjamin Dill

Good Morning, Lighthouse, Are you ready for the Word of God this morning?

In about a week we will be celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will sing songs related to His birth, we will feast and exchange gifts and hopefully as in all aspects of our worship, we will make this all about Jesus instead of something or someone else!

As we strive to worship and serve the Lord, we must remain aware that we are also at war with an enemy, who is set on corrupting the truths for which we stand.

It is bad enough that Santa would take our attention off Jesus if we allow it, yet there is another source of corruption of which many, especially new Christians, are sadly unaware.

When the world speaks about "the Church", they are almost exclusively talking about the Catholics.

It is generally accepted that what is published and taught by the Catholics is the view of Christians in the world today.

This is where I talk about how glad I am to be a Baptist!

Real Baptist Churches are not Protestants. The historic line of Churches from which we stem were never a part of the Catholic system and thus were never in it to protest and come out of it.

We have thus avoided most of the theological errors from filtering down into our doctrine which is strictly "Bible doctrine".

Doctrine which has been declared by various Popes to be "dogma" or truth has, within the Catholic system, been elevated even above Scripture.

This is heresy at its highest level.

One area of this shocking heresy is concerning Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Here is one such quote from Pope Pius IX: "The foundation of all our confidence. . . is found in the Blessed Virgin Mary. For God has committed to Mary the treasury of all good things, in order that everyone may know that through her are obtained every hope, every grace, and all salvation. For this is his will, that we obtain everything through Mary."

I realize that to stand in our pulpit and call out the sin, the heresy, of a different religious group is considered unacceptable by many. Be that as it may, that is what I am doing today.

What I am exposing is taken from various Catholic websites and is universally documented by Catholic publications worldwide.

I. Catholics believe and teach that Mary was sinless.

“A. She is the Immaculate Conception

While Jesus is the Incarnation, Mary is the Immaculata! The [Immaculate Conception](#) refers to the conception of our blessed mother, who was preserved from the stain of original sin. It does not refer to Jesus’ virginal conception!”

B. What does the Bible say?

1. [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:

2. [Romans 3:23](#) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

3. Here’s what Mary herself said:

Luke 1:46-47

46 And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,

47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

4. **Only a sinner needs a Savior!**

II. Catholics believe and teach that Mary was a perpetual virgin.

“A. Perpetual Virginity

Mary lived [perpetual virginity](#), even after the birth of Christ.”

1. Catholics claim that after Mary’s birth in Jerusalem, she was presented in the temple, where later she took a vow of virginity. (No Bible reference to anything like this).

2. They also say that later she was betrothed to Joseph. (True enough).

3. Yet the dogma of perpetual virginity is still enthusiastically supported.

B. So what does the Bible say?

1. **Matthew 1:18-25**

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

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

2. **Mark 3:32** And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.

3. **Mark 6:3** Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

III. Catholics pray to Mary and teach that she is their mediator.

"A. **She is a Maternal Mediator**

Through Mary's closeness to God as His mother, she has a unique power in [obtaining graces](#) for those who call upon her. Prayers such as the [Memorare](#) or the [Rosary](#) can be great means of invoking her intercession."

1. Quoting Pope Pius IX: "...through her are obtained every hope, every grace, and all salvation"

2. Prayer to Mary by Mother Theresa: "Mary, Mother of Jesus, give me your heart so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate, [SEP]so full of love and [SEP]so full of humility that I may be able to receive Jesus in the Bread of Life, [SEP]love Him as You loved Him, and serve Him as You served Him...."

3. That sounds nice, but...

B. Again, what does the Bible say?

1. **1 John 2:1** My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2. **1 Timothy 2:5-6**

5 For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

IV. Catholics have declared Mary to be the Queen of Heaven.

“A. Mary was assumed body and soul into Heaven

As Catholics we believe that Mary was assumed into Heaven body and soul. Without the stain of original sin, as the Mother of Christ she did not know death as we know it, but rather was assumed into Heaven at the end of her earthly life, where she reigns as [Queen of Heaven](#) and Earth.”

1. That Mary was assumed, body and soul into heaven, was declared as dogma by Pope Pius XII in 1950.

B. But, what does the Bible say?

1. **Hebrews 9:27** And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

2. In the Bible the Queen of Heaven is a title given a demon god idol (probably the fertility goddess Astarte) in Jeremiah 44, declared to be a curse to Israel.

Conclusion:

Luke 4:1-8

1 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

2 Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.

3 And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.

4 And Jesus answered him, saying, **It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.**

5 And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.

7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, **Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.**

Mary was not sinless,

She was not a perpetual virgin; there is no sin in a husband and wife making babies.

She is not our mediator, JESUS IS!

She is not the Queen of Heaven.

What she is ...is remarkable!

When the Angel of the Lord appeared to Zacharias to announce the birth of John the Baptist, Zacharias did not believe the Angel, and was struck dumb until after John was born.

Not a great response from one of the Lord's priests.

When the Angel came to announce to Mary the coming birth of the Lord Jesus, she was fearful at first also, but her response was far different.

She had one question:

Luke 1:34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

Then here was her answer:

Luke 1:38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.

You can be remarkable, too!

Mary is in heaven because of the death, burial, and resurrection of her Son.

You can be as well.