

Chapter Fourteen

Fail Mary

The Roman Catholic church elevates Mary¹, the mother of Yeshua, to impossible positions of authority. One such title is “Mother of God”. God is eternal and can have no mother. He is the creator of the universe and without beginning. Mary was the mother of Yeshua's humanity, not His divinity. Yeshua, as the second person of the triune God, was, in fact, Mary's creator.

The Roman Catholic church also teaches that Mary is some kind of co-mediator along with her Son. However, 1 Timothy 2:5 says, “For there is one God and **one mediator** between God and men, the man Messiah Yeshua”. In John 14:6 Yeshua says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through **me**.” Hebrews 9:15, referring to Yeshua, says, “For this reason **he** is the mediator of a new covenant”. No mention of Mary in any of these verses.

The Roman Catholic church also teaches the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Many Protestants incorrectly think this refers to the virgin birth of Messiah, to which we do agree. The

Immaculate Conception of Mary is actually referring to the Catholic claim that when Mary was born, she was free from any taint of original sin. This is a serious error from a Biblical point of view.

- Romans 3:10 says, “As it is written, “There is **no one** righteous; **no, not one.**”
- Romans 3:23 says, “For **all** have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.” No mention of an exception for Mary.
- Romans 5:12 says, “Therefore, as sin entered into the world through one man, and death through sin, so death passed to all men because **all sinned.**” No exception for Mary.
- 1 Corinthians 15:22 says, “For as in Adam **all die**, so also in Messiah all will be made alive.” We all share in the sin of Adam, including Mary.
- 1 John 1:8-10 says, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we haven’t sinned, we make him a liar, and

his word is not in us.”

To be fair, Mary, herself, never claimed to be without sin. She acknowledged her need for a savior. In Luke 1:46,47 Mary herself says, “My soul magnifies the Lord. My spirit has rejoiced in God **my Savior**”. The truth is that only a sinner needs a savior. Mary had a correct understanding of her status as a sinner before God and in need of a savior.

The Roman Catholic church elevates Mary to other impossible places of authority as well. I possess a copy of a book titled “The Glories of Mary” translated from the Italian of Cardinal St. Alphonsus Liguori, founder of the congregation of the Holy Redeemer. It bears the official Imprimatur seal of Archbishop John of New York dated Jan 21, 1852. It is, therefore, officially accepted as Roman Catholic doctrine on the subject of Mary. It lists the following “Offices of Mary.”

- Mother of sinners
- Finder of grace
- Securer of pardon
- Giver of perseverance

- Giver of strength
- Protector in temptations
- Helper of dying Christians
- Receiver of her servants at death
- Consoler of the penitent at death
- The destroyer of the serpent
- Mediatrix of salvation
- A loving advocate
- An earnest advocate
- A wise and prudent advocate
- Our peace-maker
- The arbitress
- Saves those for whom she prays
- Helper of souls in purgatory
- Deliverer of souls in purgatory

- Deliverer of those who wear the scapular
- Guide of souls to paradise
- Queen of hell
- Sovereign mistress of the devils

The Glories of Mary also states the following heretical statements referring to Mary:

- "St. Augustine rightly calls her the only hope of us sinners, since **by her means alone** we hope for the remission of sins."²
- "St. John Chrysostom repeats the same thing, namely, that sinners receive pardon **only through the intercession of Mary**."³
- "He who does not implore **the aid of Mary**, is lost; but who has ever been lost that had recourse to her?"⁴
- "Oh Mary, we poor sinners know **no refuge but thee**. Thou art **our only hope**; to thee we intrust our salva-

tion. Thou are the only advocate with Jesus Christ; **to thee only** we all have recourse."⁵

- "But now, if God is offended with any sinner, and Mary undertakes to protect him, **she restrains the Son from punishing him, and saves him.**"⁶
- "Wherefore, St. Bernadine of Sienna says that when Mary, the ark of the New Covenant, was crowned queen of heaven, the power of hell over men was weakened and overthrown." "Oh, how the devils in hell," says St. Bonaventure, **"tremble at Mary and her great name."**⁷
- "But the point that we here propose to prove is, that **the intercession of Mary is even necessary for our salvation.**"⁸
- "And to increase our confidence, St. Anselm adds, that when we have recourse to this divine mother, we may not only be sure of her protection, but that sometimes **we shall be sooner heard and saved by invoking her holy name than that of Jesus our Saviour.**"⁹

What does the Bible say about all these claims? Is Mary truly the source of grace, the mediatrix of salvation, the source of power from Heaven, the Queen of Heaven and hell, and the valid recipient of worship? Does her exalted position not usurp that of the Messiah Himself?

- 1 Timothy 2:5 says, “For there is one God and **one mediator** between God and men, the man Messiah Yeshua.”
- John 14:6 says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, **except through me.**”
- Acts 4:12 says, “There is salvation in **no one else**, for there is **no other name** under heaven that is given among men, by which we must be saved!”
- Ephesians 1:21 says, referring to Yeshua, “far above all rule, authority, power, dominion, and **every name that is named**, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.”
- John 10:9 says, “I am the door. If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out and will find pasture.”

- Isaiah 43:11 says, “I myself am the LORD. Besides me, there is **no savior**.”
- Matthew 28:18 says, “Yeshua came to them and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to **me** in heaven and on earth.”
- Philippians 2:10 says, “that at the name of **Yeshua** every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Yeshua the Messiah is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- Colossians 1:18 says, “**He** is the head of the body, the assembly, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things **he** might have the preeminence.”

The clear and unmistakable record of the Word of God elevates Yeshua, the Messiah, as the only Savior, the only Deliverer, the only Redeemer Who is our only recourse to give us peace with God and the forgiveness of sins.

1. The name Mary is problematic. It is not a Hebrew name. The most likely name for the mother of Yeshua is Miriam.

2. The Glories of Mary, page 83.
3. The Glories of Mary, pages 83,84.
4. The Glories of Mary, page 136.
5. The Glories of Mary, page 130.
6. The Glories of Mary, page 133.
7. The Glories of Mary, page 159.
8. The Glories of Mary, page 170.
9. The Glories of Mary, page 149.