

**A Biblical Study of  
*The Catechism*  
*of the Catholic Church:*  
Bible Answers to the Most  
Frequently Asked Questions  
about Catholic Beliefs and Practices**

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**IS MARY THE  
CAUSE OF  
SALVATION?**

“Being obedient she  
became the cause of  
salvation for herself  
and for the whole  
human race.”

(CCC 494)

“Hence not a few of the early Fathers gladly assert ... : ‘The knot of Eve’s disobedience was untied by Mary’s obedience: what the Virgin Eve bound through her disbelief, Mary loosened by her faith.’ Comparing her with Eve, they call Mary ‘the Mother of all living’ and frequently claim: ‘Death through Eve, life through Mary.’” (CCC 494)

“The Virgin Mary ‘cooperated through free faith and obedience in human salvation. ... By her obedience she became the new Eve, mother of the living.’”  
(CCC 511)

“by your prayers, will deliver our souls from death” (CCC 966)

“the Blessed Virgin...  
under the titles of  
Advocate, Helper,  
Benefactress, and  
Mediatrix” (CCC 969)

“by asking Mary to pray for us....we address ourselves to the ‘Mother of Mercy,’ the All-Holy One. We give ourselves over to her now...our trust broadens further...to surrender ‘the hour of our death’ wholly to her care.

... May she welcome us as our mother at the hour of our passing to lead us to her son, Jesus, in paradise” (CCC 2677)

The Bible never mentions Mary being “full of grace” (but uses that phrase with Jesus and Stephen), redeemed from conception, or sinless. While the Bible describes Mary as “highly favored” (Luke 1:28) and “blessed . . . among women” (Luke 1:42) it does not support the claim to sinlessness.



John 2:4 “Jesus said  
to her, ‘Woman,  
what does this have  
to do with me?’”

2 Corinthians 5:21 “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (ESV)

John 14:26 “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” (ESV)

1 John 2:1 “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” (ESV)

1 Timothy 2:5 “For  
there is one God, and  
there is one mediator  
between God and  
men, the man Christ  
Jesus” (ESV)

1 Peter 4:19 “Therefore  
let those who suffer  
according to God's will  
entrust their souls to a  
faithful Creator while  
doing good.” (ESV)

Did Jesus praise his  
mother or rebuke his  
mother for her  
interference at Cana?

Why is Mary given titles that are only biblically used as titles to describe God Himself? “Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix [Mediator]” Why are there no biblical passages giving Mary these titles?



Is mercy referred to  
by the Bible as  
coming from Mary?  
Where does the Bible  
refer to Mary as the  
“All-holy” one?

Why are we called to “trust”  
and “give ourselves” to Mary?

How is this different than  
faith and worship? Doesn't  
Peter say to entrust our souls  
to the Creator? Where does  
Peter tell us to entrust our  
souls to Mary in the Bible?

Do these claims and titles about Mary elevate her to the level of deity (being a god/goddess)?

Where does the Bible address Mary as the “cause of salvation” (CCC 494)?

Where does the Bible connect Mary to Eve (CCC 494) as it connects Jesus to Adam (1 Cor 15:45)?

How do “our prayers”  
cooperate with Mary to  
“deliver our souls from  
death” (CCC 966)?

Where does the Bible  
describe this practice?

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