LIGHTENING APOLOGETICS



MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Ever wonder why we as Catholics call Our Blessed Mother Mary the "Mother of God." Here are some Scripture quotes that will help you.

"Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). (Matt 1:23)

St. Matthew quotes Isaiah 7:14 which foretold of the birth of Christ. The verse states that the child's name means "God is with us." The mother of this child must be the mother of the God who is with us; Jesus. Mary is the Mother of Jesus and therefore the Mother of God. Catholics honor Mary in the same way that Our Lord Jesus honors her. Jesus kept the fourth commandment (honor your father and mother) and we as members of the Body of Christ imitate Christ in honoring His Mother Mary.

"And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:43)

Elizabeth refers to Mary as the "Mother of my Lord." "Lord" to the Jewish people and in the New Testament refers only to God. This does not imply that Mary was the mother of the Father; only of Jesus Who is True God and True Man. To deny that Mary is the Mother of God is to deny that Jesus is God.

We can even look to St. Paul. In his letter to the Galatians (4:4) he says, "But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law ..."

In St. Paul's writings to the Galatians, he points out that God's Son was born of a woman. Jesus, the Son of the Father, is God the Son. Therefore Mary is the Mother of God (the Son). Some people misunderstand the Catholic title for Mary as "The Mother of God" thinking we believe that Mary gave birth to the Creator and therefore pre-existed God. This is NOT the Catholic Church's teaching regarding Mary. (*CCC# 466, 495-96*)

In the weeks ahead, since its Advent and then Christmastime, we will be touching on Mary's Immaculate Conception, Her perpetual virginity, and Her sinlessness and the so-called "brothers and sisters of the Lord." God bless Phillip Bellini, DRE.