

## Talk 2: Mary-Model, Mother, and Intercessor

- The mystery of Christ makes Mary clear
  - o Mary always points us to her son
- Christ and Mary
  - o Mary is a fruit of Jesus' redemptive work
  - o She is the Mother of Jesus biologically, she tends, feeds, educates him, she has an integral role
  - o She is the disciple whom Jesus called "blessed" for having heard the Word and kept it
  - o She is the faithful handmaid who serves under him and with him
  - o She is the co-redemptrix, she cooperates in the savior's work
- Mary in the Old Testament
  - o New Eve
    - Disobedience/Obedience
      - "The knot of Eve's disobedience was untied by Mary's Obedience"
    - At the tree/At the cross
    - Mother of the dead/Mother of the Living
  - o Virgin- Isaiah-prophecies about her
    - Virgin will conceive and bear a son and he will be called Emmanuel
    - She personifies Israel- God's chosen people
    - Poor and Lowly are those whom God loves
  - o Queen Mother
    - In the Old Testament the King's mother was the Queen
    - She interceded on behalf of the people of the kingdom
- Mary in the New Testament
  - o "When the fullness of time came, God sent His Son, born of a woman." *Gal 4:4*
  - o "Hail favored one. The Lord is with you." *Luke 1:28*
  - o Freely cooperates in the work of salvation through faith and obedience
  - o "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to thy word." *Luke 1:38*
  - o "How does this happen to me, that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?" *Luke 1:42*
  - o "From this day all generations will call be blessed." *Luke 1:48*
  - o Magnificat gives praise to God and recalls his faithfulness *Luke 1:46-55*
  - o Faithful Jew presenting her child to the Lord *Luke 2:22-38*
  - o Ponders her son in her heart *Luke 2:19*
  - o Present at the Wedding and Cana and the Crucifixion in the Gospel of John, indicating that she was there throughout his public ministry
  - o "Do whatever He tells you." *John 2:5*
  - o Affirmed by Christ for hearing the Word of God and keeping it *Luke 11:27-28*
  - o Present at the Cross and given to the disciple as his mother *Luke 19:26-27*
  - o Present at Pentecost *Luke 1:14*
  - o "Great sign seen in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and upon her head was a crown of 12 stars" *Revelation 12:1*
- Mary helps us understand who we are as human beings
  - o She incorporates all humanity
  - o She is one with us as an offspring of Adam
  - o She is in need of redemption
  - o She displays man redeemed
  - o She is the person most perfectly realized

- She manifests perfect receptivity
- Mary communicates what has been received, she brings grace to others
- Mary's yes to God's will
  - She represents all mankind as she stands in the place of Israel, God's chosen people
  - Her decision is free and momentous, could have freely rejected
  - Her choice is courageous as she consents knowing that her son is the one through whom the covenantal promises are fulfilled
  - Her yes expresses total obedience and trust
- Four Dogmas
  - Mother of God
    - Emphasis on powerful role of the humble
    - As a son in common with the Father
    - Place of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
  - Perpetual Virgin
    - Emphasis on the dedication to God
    - Points to Jesus' divinity
  - Assumption
    - Rewarded for doing God's will faithfully
    - Dormition Theory
    - Queenship of Mary
  - Immaculate Conception
    - Gift given by God
    - God initiates his own coming into the world
- Marian Apparitions
  - Our Lady of Guadalupe
    - "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?"
    - Conviction of her role as a mother and caregiver
    - Deep devotion and unity with the native people
  - Our Lady of Lourdes
    - Appears to young humble girl
    - Miraculous water that has produced many healings
  - Our Lady of Good Help
    - Appears to young girl and gives words of encouragement
    - Focus on her Son
    - Teaching other to pray and the treasures of the faith
- Questions for discussion:
  1. What was one thing you learned during the presentation?
  2. What is your attitude toward Mary? How can you better go to her as a Mother and Intercessor?
  3. How can you model Christ and Mary more fully in your own life?