NORTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

Catholic Denomination Compared to What We Believe Pt1
The Motherhood of Mary Doctrine
Scripture Text: 1 Timothy 2:1–7
05/13/2018
Mother's Day

1 Timothy 2:1–7 (NKJV) ¹ Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 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, ⁷ for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

"No gift to your mother can ever equal her gift to you" - Anonymous

Introduction:

I think motherhood is one of the greatest callings for women given by the grace of God. Let me say that mother hood is not defined by giving birth but by being the one that nurtured us, cared for us, taught us most of what we knew in the early years, who prayed for us, who sacrifices for us and who loved us in spite of ourselves and still do to this day, if they should be living.

Today I want to present to you a different Mother's Day message, One I hope you will not soon forget. It is in line with our continuing series on comparing religion with what we believe. We are now starting with the first message that relates to the Catholic Denomination.

Titles of Mary

Mother of God Doctrine

Bases on the <u>doctrine of the Trinity</u> many in the church are led to conclude that if Jesus were God, then Mary must be the mother of God. In 431 C.E., a church council in Ephesus officially proclaimed Mary the "Mother of God." As those from a pagan background joined the church, images and icons of the Virgin Mary gradually took the place of their fertility goddesses, such as Artemis (Diana, to the Romans) and Isis.

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Answer:

To me the doctrine of the Trinity is not essential to my faith so if the doctrine of Mary being the mother of "God" is based on the Trinity Doctrine to me **it is nonessential.**

I have yet to hear a clear Biblically support explanation of the Trinity as Doctrine. When we teach that God cannot be fully God without Jesus and the Holy Spirit or Jesus cannot be fully Jesus without God and the Holy Spirit then I think we minimize who God is and who Jesus is.

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Mary the Queen "Mother" of Heaven Doctrine

The Catholics address this doctrine this way, "Perhaps the best way to explain it is to compare Heaven to the Commonwealth. "We live in a time when the Queen of England is the highest in the Commonwealth. So it is natural that our contemporary understanding of the word *Queen* would be someone in highest authority. But what happens to the queen when there is a king? Then who has the authority? In commonwealth law, when there is a king, the queen has *absolutely no authority whatsoever* except the quiet whisper in the king's ear to influence a decision. (Jn 2:3)"

http://catholicbridge.com/catholic/mary_queen_of_heaven_and_earth.php

Answer: The phrase "the queen of heaven" appears in the Bible twice, both times in the book of Jeremiah.

The first incident is in connection with the things the Israelites were doing that provoked the Lord to anger. The women were engaged in kneading dough and baking cakes of bread for the "Queen of Heaven" (Jeremiah 7:18).

The second reference to the queen of heaven is found in <u>Jeremiah 44:17-25</u>, where Jeremiah tells the people that their disobedience and idolatry has caused the Lord to be very angry with them and will punish them with calamity

John MacArthur on Jeremiah **44:17–19 queen of heaven.** This is a title Roman Catholicism erroneously attributes to Mary, the mother of Jesus, in a blending of Christianity with paganism. The Jews' twisted thinking credits the idol with the prosperity of pre-captivity Judah, further mocking the goodness of God.1 JM

There is a Catholic video titled: "Queen of Heaven." In a review it was said the following: "Yet watching *Queen of Heaven* (even writing the title), one well **understands** why we Catholics seem to place her in equality with God. And she surely does share in divinity: as St. Athanasius wrote (and the *Catechism* [460] recalls): "For the Son of God became man so that we might become God." If that's humanity's destiny, how can it not be more so for THE Woman." https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2017/04/03/queen-of-heaven-a-review/

This was astonishing to me to read that for the idea that we can eventually become Gods is the heretical teaching of the LDS.

¹ MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 1121). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

There is no queen of heaven. The idea that Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the queen of heaven has no scriptural basis whatsoever. Instead, the idea of Mary as the queen of heaven stems from proclamations of priests and popes of the Roman Catholic Church

While Mary was certainly a godly young woman greatly blessed in that she was chosen to bear the Savior of the world, she was not in any way divine, nor was she sinless, nor is she to be worshipped, revered, venerated, or <u>prayed to</u>.

Mary, the influencer/intercessor Doctrine:

This falls under the heading of something <u>very essential to our faith</u>. I **urge you not to** believe it.

This a key <u>false doctrine</u> stems from a very poor interpretation or at the least, application of a few verses in Scripture. *I Kings 2:20*

Based on that poor example they connect the turning water into wine event. John 2:2–3 (NKJV) ² Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. ³ And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

This is the doctrine that teaches that Catholics take their request to Mary who in turn take it to Jesus

http://catholicbridge.com/catholic/mary_queen_of_heaven_and_earth.php

There are only two that can make intercessions for us"

1. The Holy Spirit

Romans 8:26 (NKJV) ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

The Holy Spirit assists us in our weakness during prayer in time when we just cannot put our prayers into words, or time when we are so heavy burdened that we feel we cannot even pray.

2. Jesus Christ

Jesus, on the other hand continually intercedes on our behalf when we faulter and ask for forgiveness (1 John1:9)

Romans 8:34 (NKJV) 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Hebrews 7:25 (NKJV) 25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since <u>He always lives to make intercession for them</u>.

1 Timothy 2:5 (NKJV) 5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

Remember that the word of God is our north star, our foundation. If it does not line up reject it. Galatians 1:8 (NKJV)⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

Message Scriptures: **1 Timothy 2:1–7**, <u>Jeremiah 7:18</u>. Jeremiah **44:17–19**, *1 Kings 2:13–14*, *1 Kings 2:20*, *John 2:2–3*, *Romans 8:26*, *Romans 8:34*, *Hebrews 7:25*, *1 Timothy 2:5*, *Galatians 1:8*, END

RESOURCES

Is Mary the Mother of God? https://www.jw.org/en/bible-teachings/questions/mother-mary-theotokos/

Why do Catholics call Mother Mary "Queen of Heaven and Earth"? http://catholicbridge.com/catholic/mary_queen_of_heaven_and_earth.php

"Queen of Heaven": a Review https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2017/04/03/queen-of-heaven-a-review/