Mary, God's Masterpiece, and Lucifer's Fall

XXX

R. J. M. I.

By

The Precious Blood of Jesus Christ,
The Grace of the God of the Holy Catholic Church,
The Mediation of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Our Lady of Good Counsel and Crusher of Heretics,
The Protection of Saint Joseph, Patriarch of the Holy Family,
The Intercession of Saint Michael the Archangel
and the cooperation of

Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi

To Jesus through Mary

Júdica me, Deus, et discérne causam meam de gente non sancta: ab hómine iníquo, et dolóso érue me

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

Magnificat

"For behold as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed art thou that hast believed, because those things shall be accomplished that were spoken to thee by the Lord. And Mary said: My soul doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid: for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. Shall call me blessed... These words are a prediction of that honour which the church in all ages should pay to the Blessed Virgin. Let Protestants examine whether they are any way concerned in this prophecy. Because he that is mighty hath done great things to me: and holy is his name. And his mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear him. He hath shewed might in his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He hath received Israel his servant, being mindful of his mercy. As he spoke to our fathers: to Abraham and to his seed for ever."

(Saint Luke 1: 44-55)

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Mary's Little Remnant

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Introduction

This book is my birthday gift to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. I could not give this gift if God did not first give me the gift to love, know, and serve Him. O without this gift we are lost and just another babbling voice in an insane asylum.

Dear reader, put away your fairy tales, false religions, witchcrafts, mythologies, Greek philosophies, New age religions, Godless sciences, and science fictions and learn the truth that is more beautiful and wonderful then anything you can imagine. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard: neither hath it entered into the heart of man, what things God hath prepared for them that love him." (1 Cor. 2:9) The glories and beauty of Heaven, God's home where the saints and angels reside, is beyond anything man can imagine. Put away your horror fictions and Hollywood monsters and learn the truth regarding rebellious creatures. Indeed the truth, regarding evil and the mystery of iniquity, is stranger than fiction, more horrendous, more ugly then any figment of man's imagination. Learn of the real monsters, Satan, the devils, the damned human beings in hell, and sinful men on earth—the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

The World: "The earth is infected by the inhabitants thereof. (Isa. 24:5) The whole world is seated in wickedness. (1Jn. 5:19) Adulterers, know you not that the friendship of this world is the enemy of God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of this world becometh an enemy of God." (Ja. 4:4)

The Flesh: "Walk in the spirit: and you shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the spirit: and the spirit against the flesh: For these are contrary one to another: so that you do not the things that you would. But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest: which are fornication, uncleanness, immodesty, luxury, Idolatry, witchcrafts, enmities, contentions, emulations, wraths, quarrels, dissensions, sects, Envies, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like. Of the which I foretell you, as I have foretold to you, that they who do such things shall not obtain the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is, charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity. Against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified their flesh, with the vices and concupiscences." (Gal. 5:16-24)

The Devil: "Be sober and watch: because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, goeth about seeking whom he may devour. (1Pt. 5:8) Put you on the armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the deceits of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of s darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places." (Eph. 6:11-12)

Yes, put way your fantasies and false sciences and learn the truth! "Beware lest any man cheat you by philosophy and vain deceit: according to the tradition of men according to the elements of the world and not according to Christ." (Col. 2:8) Turn away from your fables and demonic communications and practices. Satan and his devils, no matter how they represent themselves, are not God, they cannot save you; instead, they will hurt you and drag you to hell to suffer with them for all eternity. Why do you search in vain when God speaks to all men who are willing to listen? God is accessible to

all. He reveals the deep mysteries that confound lost men who seek elsewhere in vain. God does not hide or misrepresent Himself like Satan, but reveals all the necessary good things men need to know, and all the evil things men must condemn, fight against, and avoid. Only Catholics are able to put on the armor of God. God speaks directly to all men though the Catholic Bible interpreted by the Catholic Church and by infallible decrees from popes. Do you want to find the true God and learn of Him? He is one God and thus there is only one faith and one Church, the Holy Catholic Church. "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." (Eph. 4:5) "The Church, the pillar and ground of truth." (1 Tim. 3:15) Any man who will not hear this one Church is a heathen. "If he will not hear the church, let him be to thee as the heathen and publican." (Mt. 18:17) If any man teaches or practices another faith, other than that of the Catholic Church he is anathema (condemned and outside the Catholic Church). "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach a gospel to you besides that which we have preached to you, let him be anathema." (Gal. 1:8)

God's Uncreated Wisdom

One of God's titles is "uncreated wisdom" because He is uncreated, so also His wisdom is uncreated. Uncreated wisdom always existed, exists, and will always exist in God's thoughts and ways, because God always was, is, and will always be. He is the Alpha and the Omega. "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, saith the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." (Apoc. 1:8) He is the beginning of all things, who has no beginning. He is the end of all things, who has no end. Therefore His wisdom is uncreated. It has no beginning and no end.

"All wisdom is from the Lord God, and hath been always with him, and is before all time. ... Who hath searched out the wisdom of God that goeth before all things? Wisdom hath been created before all things, and the understanding of prudence from everlasting. The word of God on high is the fountain of wisdom, and her ways are everlasting commandments. ... He created her in the Holy Ghost, and saw her, and numbered her, and measured her." (Eclcus. 1:1-5, 9)

God's wisdom is said to "hath been created" before all things in this sense. Wisdom existed in God's mind before it manifested itself in any created thing. Wisdom, such as God's wisdom in building the earth, was manifest/created in His mind before it actually existed. In God's goodness He wants to share His uncreated wisdom with rational creatures, angels and men, to redound to His glory and greatness, and to bring joy, happiness, and pleasure to all His creatures, because He is pure love. "Let us therefore love God: because God first hath loved us." (1 Jn. 4:19) God is an unselfish artist who loves to create good and lovely things and share them. "All the works of the Lord are good, and he will furnish every work in due time ... Good things were created for the good from the beginning." (Eclcus. 39:39, 30) God then created angels and men and infused them with His uncreated wisdom so they may be perfect and holy as He is perfect and holy (Mt. 5:48; 1Pt. 1:16), so they can comprehend His greatness and goodness, and glorify, praise, adore and thank Him for it, and share in His glory.

"I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; in the council of the just, and in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord. ...He will shew forth to his people the power of his works." (Ps. 110:1-2. 6) "Bless the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God, thou art exceedingly great. Thou hast put on praise and beauty: And art clothed with light as with a garment. Who stretchest out the heaven like a pavilion... Who hast founded the earth... How great are thy works, O Lord? thou hast made all things in wisdom: the earth is filled with thy riches... Thou shalt send forth thy spirit, and they shall be created: and thou shalt renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure for ever: the Lord shall rejoice in his works." (Ps. 103:1-5, 24, 30-31)

God Creates a Worthy Living Vessel for Himself

Jesus Christ is God, and as God His thoughts and ways are uncreated wisdom. Upon His Incarnation in the womb of Mary He became man; "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." (Jn. 1:14) He was then, not just God as He always was—"Jesus said to them: Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham was made, I AM." (Jn. 8:58)—but now He is also man (human). Uncreated wisdom now dwelt in a man, Jesus Christ who is a Divine Person with two natures and two wills, that of God and that of man. What vessel could possibly be worthy of giving Christ His flesh, His human nature? What vessel would be worthy to carry God and His uncreated wisdom in the flesh? This vessel would also have to contain within itself the perfect infused wisdom of God to fulfill its role. This created chosen vessel would then contain the fullest and most perfect manifestation of God's wisdom that any creature can bear. This vessel would have to be worthy of the title of created wisdom, whereas Jesus Christ is uncreated wisdom. This house (tabernacle) of God, in which He will be well pleased to dwell, would be a mirror that reflects God's attributes.

The Mother of God

This vessel, this house (tabernacle) is Mary, the Mother of God. God was well pleased to make her His mother. "Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son: and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Most High." (Lk. 1:31-32) Thus Mary is the Mother of God. "Behold a virgin shall be with child, and bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." (Mt. 1:23) To deny that Mary is the Mother of God, as did the heretic Bishop Nestorius, is to deny that Jesus Christ is God. It is not that Mary came before God or is above God. She is a creature created by God. It is that she is the Mother of God. "He that made me, rested in my tabernacle." (Eclcus. 24:12) God is infinitely above all His creation and creatures and needs nothing and no one.

However, God desired to have a human mother, which he chose above all other creatures. God willed that his mother would love and care for Him with the special love of a mother. That says all anyone needs to know about the nature of God. He is pure, radiant, and unadulterated love and He desires, yea demands, to be loved in return. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart and with thy whole soul and with all thy strength and with all thy mind. (Lk. 10:27) This only take care of with all diligence, that you love the Lord your God." (Josue 23:11) Woe to proud, hateful, evil angels and men,

who, if they could, would have deprived God of His desire to have a mother who loves and cares for Him so very intimately.

Mary Ever Virgin

What was conceived in Mary, being God come down from Heaven, was not conceived by man but by God Himself, by God the Holy Ghost. At first Joseph, Mary's husband, did not understand how she had conceived because she knew not man. "Mary said to the angel: How shall this be done, because I know not man?" (Lk. 1:34) Joseph was confounded. God eased his mind by special revelation from an angel. "While he thought on these things, behold the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in his sleep, saying: Joseph, son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife, for that which is conceived in her, is of the Holy Ghost." (Mt. 1:20)

Hymn to St. Joseph, St. Andrew Roman Missal: "Thou, when thou didst behold thy spouse, about to bear, Wast sore oppressed with doubt, wert filled with wondering care. At length the angel's word thy anxious heart relieved: She by the Spirit hath conceived."

Mary conceived by the Holy Ghost not by man, remaining a virgin as prophesied by Isaias (Isa. 7:14). After the birth of Jesus, Mary, God's jealous and guarded possession, remained a virgin forever, and thus is known as The Ever Virgin Mary. God would have it be no other way. No other man shall go where God so intimately dwelt and dwells. Jesus Christ rode into Jerusalem on a donkey that no man had ever sat on, and was buried in a tomb that no man had ever occupied. "You shall find a colt tied, upon which no man yet hath sat. Loose him and bring him. ... And they brought the colt to Jesus. And they lay their garments on him: and he sat upon him. (Mk. 11:2, 7) Now there was in the place where he was crucified a garden: and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein no man yet had been laid. There, therefore, because of the parasceve of the Jews, they laid Jesus." (Jn. 19:41-42) No angel or man dare go where God has so intimately gone. Mary is God's unique and most special possession, more special then all of the faithful Israelites under the Old Covenant and faithful Catholics under the New Covenant. God is a jealous God. "I am the Lord thy God, a jealous God." (Deut. 5:9) Woe to you lust filled Protestants, who if you could, would have a mere man intimately possess Mary. Hands off, just as it was with the Ark of the Covenant that only the chosen priests could touch. Oza just touched the Ark and was struck dead by God.

"Oza put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it: because the oxen kicked and made it lean aside. And the indignation of the Lord was enkindled against Oza, and he struck him for his rashness: and he died there before the ark of God." (2 Kings 6:6-7) "Take care you come not near the ark." (Josue 3:4)

Mary is infinitely more special than the Old Testament Ark of the Covenant. She is the New Testament's living Ark of the Covenant In particular her womb is the Ark and her body is the tabernacle and temple. We learn just how very special Mary is to God by His planning to bring her to be, which can be observed in the building of the Tabernacle, Ark of the Covenant, and Temple in the Old Covenant. These were prefigurements of Mary. God's exact instructions included the best available materials and precise measurements. In the same way God built Mary, who would be His living Temple and Ark on earth. The Ark of the Covenant contained the written law, which was symbolic of

God's presence, whereas Mary's womb, the New Ark of the Covenant, contained the living law, God Himself. In the construction of the Temple, as described by the prophet Ezechiel, there is a prefigurement of Mary's Ever-Virginity. The east gate represents Mary, in which Christ enters the world. No other man enters that gate.

"And he brought me back to the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary, which looked towards the east: and it was shut. And the Lord said to me: This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall pass through it: because the Lord the God of Israel hath entered in by it, and it shall be shut." (Ezechiel 44:1-3)

Mary Immaculate, Without Sin

What other qualities, then, must this chosen vessel, Mary, have? She, as was the Ark of the Covenant, must be made with the purest materials and put together in the most exact manner.

"Frame an ark of setim wood, the length whereof shall be of two cubits and a half; the breadth, a cubit and a half; the height, likewise, a cubit and a half. And thou shalt overlay it with the <u>purest gold</u>, within and without; and over it thou shalt make a golden crown round about" (Ex. 25:10-11)

God will not dwell in anything that has been or is defiled and impure in any way. Just as the Old Covenant Ark was perfectly made with pure materials, more so was Mary, in order that she would be a worthy dwelling for God Himself. That means Mary was made pure, perfect, and undefiled in every way. Satan never possessed her in any way. Never could Satan have had the least power or claim over her at any time. For God to enter Mary's womb and take on her flesh, that very flesh of Mary could never have been under the dominion of Satan. If so Satan would then have had possession over that flesh before God did, and thus God would have been second choice to Satan, and in possession of a flesh that was once under the power of Satan. This would indicate a lack of power and wisdom on God's part. God, the very font of holiness, purity, and unspotted perfection, would never take on flesh that was at any time under the dominion of Satan and loaded down with concupiscence.

The Immaculate Conception: "St. Augustine says, 'that the Son of God never made himself a more worthy dwelling than Mary, who was never possessed by the enemy or despoiled of her ornaments.' On the other hand, St. Cyril of Alexandria asks, 'Who ever heard of an architect who built himself a temple, and yielded up the first possession of it to his greatest enemy?' And now if this is true, supposing that the Blessed Virgin was conceived in sin, though the Son could not have contracted its stain, nevertheless his having united flesh to himself which was once infected with sin, a vessel of uncleanness and subject to Lucifer, would always have been a blot."

Apostate Antipope Pius X, *Ad Diem Illum Laetissimum*, 1904: "18. If anyone desires a confirmation of this it may easily be found in the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. For leaving aside tradition which, as well as Scripture, is a source of truth, how has this persuasion of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin appeared so conformed to the Catholic mind and feeling that it has been held as being one, and as it were inborn in the soul of the faithful? We shrink from saying of this woman who was to crush the head of the serpent that had been crushed by him and that Mother of God that she had ever been a daughter of the Evil One. No, to the Christian intelligence the idea is unthinkable that the flesh of Christ, holy, stainless, innocent, was formed in the womb of Mary of a flesh which had ever, if only for the briefest moment, contracted any stain. And why so, but because an

infinite opposition separates God from sin? There certainly we have the origin of the conviction common to all Christians that Jesus Christ before, clothed in human nature, He cleansed us from our sins in His blood, accorded Mary the grace and special privilege of being preserved and exempted, from the first moment of her conception, from all stain of original sin."

Therefore, Mary was immaculately conceived, meaning without the stain of original sin, thus she did not have the concupiscence of a weakened flesh. Also, Mary had never commited any sin in her life. Mary was never under the dominion of Satan at any time, not even for an instant. That is not to say Mary did not need a redeemer and the merits of Christ. She did. Christ redeemed Mary by the future merits He would earn by His death upon the Cross. Christ going forward in time procured these merits and applied them to Mary before she fell into original sin. Her redemption from original sin was by way of prevention, in that the merits of Christ prevented her from ever falling into original sin. For example, a man walks down a road that has a pit. The man falls in and Christ pulls him out. Another man walks down the same road and is heading for the pit, but before he falls into the pit Christ comes along and prevents him from falling in. Christ saved both men; one by pulling him out of the pit, cleansing him of original sin; the other, by preventing him from falling into the pit, thus never being infected with original sin.

Imprimatured Book: "He is more honorably redeemed who is prevented from falling, than he who after falling is raised up;" for this the injury or stain is avoided which the soul always contracts by falling."

Even though Pius IX was an apostate antipope and thus his following definition is invalid and thus not infallible, he does teach the truth about the Immaculate Conception:

Apostate Antipope Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*, 1854: "Mary, the most holy Mother of God, by virtue of the **foreseen merits** of Christ, our Lord and Redeemer, was never subject to original sin, but was completely preserved from the original taint, and hence she was **redeemed** in a manner more sublime... "We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the **merits** of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful."

Deepest Mysteries

God's Creates from Nothing

"All things were made by him: and without him was made nothing that was made." (Jn. 1:3) "I am the Lord, that make all things, that alone stretch out the heavens, that established the earth, and there is none with me." (Isa. 44:24) "Thus saith the Lord the Holy One of Israel... I made the earth: and I created man upon it: my hand stretched forth the heavens, and I have commanded all their host." (Isa. 45:11-12) "I beseech thee, my son, look upon heaven and earth, and all that is in them, and consider that God made them out of nothing, and mankind also." (2 Mac. 7:28)

In Mary, uncreated wisdom built a home for it to exist, not just most perfectly as it dwells with the good angels, but also to the fullest that any creature could bear. Mary was as

superior to the angels of heaven in sanctity and purity, as it was becoming that she should be, in whose womb a king of glory was to dwell. There were deep mysteries of God found in Mary, known by Mary, that the good angels had not yet known. Thus Mary is said to possess the fullest wisdom a creature could bear.

The deepest mysteries of God, such as His infinity and ability to create out of nothing, can never be known by any creature not even Mary, because creature is not God. That is not to say these deepest mysteries are not to be believed, they must be believed, but they cannot be comprehended. The only way a creature can comprehend all the mysteries of God is if he were God. There is only one God and no creature can ever be, or become God. The essence of God is His infinity and power to create out of nothing. No creature can ever comprehend the means of these two deepest mysteries. They can easily believe it by an act of faith on earth. Or, if they enter heaven they can directly observe it. God can create something out of nothing before their very eyes. This would no longer take an act of faith to believe in, because they see it, but they will not know how God does it. They will not comprehend how it is done. A scientist with the mind of the smartest angel would never be able to inspect it, dissect it, categorize it, or duplicate it, because he is not God. The minds of God's creatures in heaven, angels and saints, as great and perfect as they are, are so inferior to that of God that they can never comprehend all there is to know about God. God can give a creature the power to speak a word and in so doing a thing is created, but the power, the act of creation comes from God through the creature. It was not Moses who gave the Israelites manna from heaven. It was God, acting through Moses, who sent the manna. "Moses gave you not bread from heaven, but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven." (Jn. 6:32) The creature cannot create. The things men make, such as houses, clothes, food, paint, ink, paper, come from already created things. Men have merely discovered how to use them. A scientist observes, discovers, categorizes, and manipulates things that God had already created. The scientist does not create them. The scientist puts two things together to make another, but he does not make it happen. God makes it happen by the inherit nature he gave to the two elements to come together to make another element. Not only did God create all these good things that men can discover and enjoy, but also, in order for them to do this, God gave men a mind, the ability to understand, along with the necessary knowledge. "For he hath given me the true knowledge of the things that are: to know the disposition of the whole world, and the virtues of the elements." (Wis. 7:17)

God has proven His supremacy and control over His created elements, by suspending or changing, their inherit qualities. "Snow and ice endured the force of fire, and melted not." (Wis. 16:22) "But these three men, that is, Sidrach, Misach, and Abdenago, fell down bound in the midst of the furnace of burning fire. And they walked in the midst of the flame, praising God, and blessing the Lord." (Dan. 3:23-24) There were also many miracles preformed by God through Old Testament and Catholic saints, and by Jesus Christ; the multiplying of bread, changing water to wine, healing the blind, deaf, lame, raising the dead to life, and the uncorrupted bodies of Catholic saints. These are supernatural events, above nature, that God shows men so they may know He is God and creator of all things. Oh, arrogant and faithless scientists, who do not believe God created all that is. Oh, stupid men, hear God's rebuke against you.

"Gird up thy loins like a man: I will ask thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? tell me if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest or who hath stretched the line upon it? Upon what are its bases grounded? or who laid the corner stone thereof, When the morning stars praised me together, and all the sons of God made a joyful melody? Who shut up the sea with doors, when it broke forth as issuing out of the womb: When I made a cloud the garment thereof, and wrapped it in a mist as in swaddling bands? I set my bounds around it, and made it bars and doors: And I said: Hitherto thou shalt come, and shalt go no further, and here thou shalt break thy swelling waves. Didst thou since thy birth command the morning, and shew the dawning of the day its place? And didst thou hold the extremities of the earth shaking them, and hast thou shaken the ungodly out of it? Hast thou entered into the depths of the sea, and walked in the lowest parts of the deep? Have the gates of death been opened to thee, and hast thou seen the darksome doors? Hast thou considered the breadth of the earth? tell me, if thou knowest all things? Where is the way where light dwelleth, and where is the place of darkness? That thou mayst bring every thing to its own bounds, and understand the paths of the house thereof. Didst thou know then that thou shouldst be born? and didst thou know the number of thy days? ... Shalt thou be able to join together the shining stars the Pleiades, or canst thou stop the turning about of Arcturus? Canst thou bring forth the day star in its time, and make the evening star to rise upon the children of the earth? ...40 -Hast thou an arm like God, and canst thou thunder with a voice like him? Clothe thyself with beauty, and set thyself up on high, and be glorious, and put on goodly garments. Scatter the proud in thy indignation, and behold every arrogant man, and humble him. Look on all that are proud, and confound them, and crush the wicked in their place, Hide them in the dust together, and plunge their faces into the pit." (Job chapter 38-40)

Oh arrogant and faithless scientists who accept Nobel prizes for your meager discoveries of what God already created, while you twist many of these discoveries to suit your Godless folly. You who want accolades for your "great" achievements, for your puny discovers, while you give none to God who created you. "As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones are joined together in the womb of her that is with child: so thou knowest not the works of God, who is the maker of all." (Ecltes. 11:5) You who pretend no intelligent Being created you and the Universes you live in. That is equivalent to saying an artist can throw paint in the air and when it lands on the canvas a masterpiece is produced Or, a man who breaks a watch in pieces and places it in a box and, then, waits for it to fix itself. You who pretend a Big Bang created the Universe. If so, "Who lit the fuse?" You will get the Big Bang you are searching for; only you will find it at the end of the world and not the beginning. Yes, at the end when God allows the world, as we know it, to be destroyed by fire, first by man's invention, the Nuclear Bomb, which brings Antichrist to power, and then by God Himself. "The day of the Lord shall come as a thief, in which the heavens shall pass away with great violence and the elements shall be melted with heat and the earth and the works which are in it shall be burnt up." (2 Pt. 3:10) If you die before the world ends, your Big Bang will come when God throws you into hell, a place whose fire is hotter than nuclear fire and never dissipates. You will find your self in the epicenter, as fuel for the fire, of the eternal never ending Big Bang in hell.

Oh arrogant and faithless scientists, your mind is like a drop of water in the sea compared to the mind of God, and a polluted drop at that. Pride comes before the fall (Eclcus. 10:14). One fateful day you will meet your Maker and your judge, and He is the God of the Holy Catholic Church. "It is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the Judgment." (Heb. 9:27)

God's Infinity

"Before the mountains were made, or the earth and the world was formed; from eternity and to eternity thou art God."

- Psalm 89: 2 -

God's infinity is another deep mystery that can never be comprehended by any creature. The fact that He always was; He had no beginning and has no end. I had struggled with this mystery when I was a young child, and in so doing had gone where I should not have gone. I tried to comprehend how something could not have a beginning or an end, by first completing the universe and whether it ever came to an end. Does outer space have an end? If it did have an end, what would it be, a wall or partition of some sort? The next question is what is behind the wall, another wall? What then is behind that other wall, more space or water? One would then have to transverse that to see if there is an end to the space or water. If another wall then what is behind that? Or with God who sets limits, could there be a wall that cannot be breached, of which nothingness, not even space or water exists behind it. The other consideration, which is even deeper, is how can God have existed forever, having no beginning? Now we are faced not with nothingness, but with a Being, God, who has always existed. Tracing back God's infinity we do not end in nothingness but with God. My brain almost literally exploded when contemplating this. I could not bear it and became very perplexed to the brink of despair. I would always end with the same question, "How could God have existed without any beginning?" -and with no reason that would satisfy my intellect. This, no doubt, was a temptation from the Devil to get me to deny the existence of God. In a fit of almost total despair and sadness, because my mind could not comprehend God's infinity, God had mercy on me. He spoke these few words to me while I lie awake in bed, "Rich, you are and I Am. Go no further." While He was saying these words I felt my flesh, my hand upon my wrist, and I said, "Yes Lord I surely am, I exist, and you are." My mind was instantly at ease, and by these few words from God, I knew that God had always existed and will always be. Never again did I try to reason out His infinity with my puny intellect. Praised be the merciful Lord who condescended to save me from this temptation of the Devil and taught me a lesson. There are certain things angels and men will never understand, simply because they are not God. Although we have an intellect it must not be abused and thought of as more than it is, or used as a source of pride.

"He that liveth for ever created all things together. God only shall be justified, and he remaineth an invincible king for ever. ... Who is able to declare his works? For who shall search out his glorious acts? ... Nothing may be taken away, nor added, neither is it possible to find out the glorious works of God. When a man hath done, then shall he begin: and when he leaveth off, he shall be at a loss." (Eclcus. 18:1-6)

Catholic Commentary: "God is so great and incomprehensible that when man has done all that he can to find out his greatness and boundless perfections, he is still to

begin: for what he has found out, is but a mere nothing in comparison with his infinity."

"Seek not the things that are too high for thee, and search not into things above thy ability: but the things... in many of his works be not curious. For it is not necessary for thee to see with thy eyes those things that are hid. In unnecessary matters be not over curious, and in many of his works thou shalt not be inquisitive." (Eclcus. 3:22-23)

It is not that men should not contemplate high and deep things of God. "For many things are shewn to thee above the understanding of men." (Eclcus. 3:25) "To us God hath revealed them by his Spirit. For the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." (1 Cor. 2:10) God demands this, rather there are certain deep mysteries of God men can never know and should never try to reason out. There are limits to what angels and men can know about God.

"What needeth a man to seek things that are above him, whereas he knoweth not what is profitable for him in his life, in all the days of his pilgrimage, and the time that passeth like a shadow? Or who can tell him what shall be after him under the sun? ... And I understood that man can find no reason of all those works of God that are done under the sun: and the more he shall labour to seek, so much the less shall he find: yea, though the wise man shall say, that he knoweth it, he shall not be able to find it." (Ecltes. 7:1; 8:17)

There are those who on seeking the high things of God, do not seek and know the simple things before their face that can easily be known, because they pride fully seek God for selfish reasons. They want to know deep things of God, while violating the natural law upon their heart, such as worshipping false gods or by committing sins of immorality. Man cannot have true wisdom until he first sets out to stop doing what God hates.

"Say not: It is through God, that she [wisdom] is not with me: for do not thou the things that he hateth. Say not: He hath caused me to err: for he hath no need of wicked men. The Lord hateth all abomination of error, and they that fear him shall not love it." (Eclcus. 15:11-13)

With the natural law upon their heart and common sense, idolatry (false gods, false religions, false ideologies, etc.) and immorality can easily be known as very evil and sinful. Until they first reject these falsehoods they cannot hope to believe the in the full truth, even if it was presented to them. If they do reject the falsehoods in their life, then God will see to it that they hear His word and believe. Yet, many of these men, such as Protestants who condone divorce and sinful adulteress second unions, and those who cannot see abortion is murder, attempt to know the high things of God. How can they truly see the high things of God, when they cannot see God's laws that are easily known? "If I have spoken to you earthly things, and you believe not: how will you believe, if I shall speak to you heavenly things?" (Jn. 3:12)

A Master Builder and His Mansion - God Builds Mary

God's wisdom is known as His handmaid and thus is referred to in the feminine. She, the wisdom of God, existed before anything created. Mary was not yet created when God

alone existed with His wisdom. God's wisdom is eternal and infinite. It has no beginning or end. There exists in God's wisdom a primary and ultimate thought, the creation of Mary. This thought consists of a primary goal, a plan that God will bring about without any interference or primary consideration of any other created thing, living or inanimate. This plan is God's masterpiece. It is the ultimate manifestation of His very greatness, of His power and wisdom. An artist's greatness is not proven until he paints a masterpiece, which when shown to others manifests his ability. "He set his eye upon their hearts to shew them the greatness of his works: That they might praise the name which he hath sanctified: and glory in his wondrous act that they might declare the glorious things of his works." (Eclcus. 17:7-8) God's primary plan to create Mary manifests itself, first, in the planning stages, then the building of it, and then upon its existence. God's wisdom is perfectly and fully manifest in His creation of Mary. Mary is the crowning masterpiece of God's wisdom, and is His primary thought and purpose for all that He created. That is why God's wisdom is referred to in the feminine, because its primary goal was to create Mary. When God and His servants converse with and about wisdom they addresses it as feminine. "She reacheth, therefore, from end to end mightily, and ordereth all things sweetly." (Wis. 8:1) God's wisdom is eternal; from end to end it orders all things with the primary motive of creating, sustaining, and glorifying Mary, and then others who are worthy.

A master builder's (God's) ultimate and primary goal, by application of His wisdom, is to build a perfect mansion (Mary). "Wisdom hath built herself a house." (Prv. 9:1) The necessaries to achieve the goal, such as the proper time, place, workers, and materials are all secondary and subservient to the primary goal. Nothing created disturbs or gets in the way of the primary goal. "I adjure you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and the harts of the field, that you stir not up, nor make the beloved to awake, till she please." (Can. 2:7) The primary goal awakes, is created, in its own perfect place and time with nothing influencing it so as to be created before or after it is ready. All of God's creation is at the service of the ultimate goal of building the mansion. Nothing yet actually exists in the planning stages, but in the mind of the builder. He knows exactly what it will look like and be. He can even converse with it and about it, as if it already existed, so clear is it in his mind. It, the mansion, will even talk to him before it exists, telling him its wants and needs. Men can understand this, as they converse with inanimate objects, such as boats and cars, referring to them as she. Men will even illicit a response from these objects by asking them what is wrong, or command them to perform, such as a man talking to his car that he calls Betsy. He might say, "What's wrong Betsy, how come you don't start? O, there is no gas your tank." Or, "Come on Betsy, I know you can take this hill. Good girl, I knew you could make it." Or, "Come on girl, speed up." In much the same way a master builder will speak to his mansion even before it exists, and listen to its wants and needs. Let us listen to God conversing about and with Mary before she was created, conversing with His beloved most precious masterpiece in its planning stages. So eager was God to bring her to be, to be loved by her, by Mary who would so perfectly and fully fear, obey, know, glorify, praise, adore, and love Him.¹

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¹ References to Mary in the Old Testament can have more than one meaning. They can also refer to the Holy Catholic Church, which is referred to as God's spouse, daughter, and mother.

God Converses with Mary

Canticle of Canticles Chapter 2 Christ caresses his spouse: he invites her to him.

Mary speaking of herself says,

(1) "I am the flower of the field, and the lily of the valleys."

God confirms this,

(2) "As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters."

Christ's beloved Mary is a lily among thorns. This is a reference to her immaculate purity, free from all stain of sin, compared to all other women born in sin and infected with concupiscence that she will dwell with when created. Mary speaks of Christ.

(3) "As the apple tree among the trees of the woods, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow, whom I desired: and his fruit was sweet to my palate."

Mary speaks of the greatness of God, her love of and desire for God, who protects her under His shadow and fills her will sweet things. She alludes to Christ being born among men, "my beloved among sons."

(4) "He brought me into the cellar of wine, he set in order charity in me."

God builds His most willing vessel, Mary, with the most perfect charity any creature can have.

(5) "Stay me up with flowers, compass me about with apples: because I languish with love"

Mary, before she is created, asks God to fill her with all good things, she yearns in God's mind to be created, languishing with love for God. O, God knows this, just as if she were already created. "All things were known to the Lord God, before they were created: so also after they were perfected he beholdeth all things." (Eclcus. 23:29)

(6) "His left hand is under my head, and his right hand shall embrace me."

Mary speaks of God's protection and love for her, being God's most protected creature. He protects her heart with his right hand by a tender embrace, and her mind and thoughts with his left hand for a sturdy support. All encompassed by God, Mary melts into His very bosom. Anything that would interfere with her mission, either before in way of preparation, or after her conception is suppressed or destroyed by God.

(7) "I adjure you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and the harts of the field, that you stir not up, nor make the beloved to awake, till she please."

This is proof of Mary's superiority over all other creatures. All other creatures are placed in time to accommodate her, who would be God's living and most intimate vessel, in which He enters into communion with men.

(8) "The voice of my beloved, behold he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping over the hills."

Mary speaks of Jesus whom she is destined to give birth to. When she hears His voice through the Angel Gabriel during the Annunciation, God from His high mountain cometh leaping with joy, into her womb upon the Incarnation.

(9) "My beloved is like a roe, or a young hart. Behold he standeth behind our wall, looking through the windows, looking through the lattices."

God is not yet conceived in Mary, while Mary sees Him at a distance, from behind a wall looking through the lattices. God from behind the wall, the wall the separates Heaven from earth, looks upon His beloved on earth through a window. Most faithful Mary feels the closeness of God watching and protecting her from Heaven before the Incarnation, and yearns for Him. In the following verses Mary hears God speaking to her, commanding her to be created.

(10-14) "Behold my beloved speaketh to me: Arise, make haste, my love, my dove, my beautiful one, and come. (11) For winter is now past, the rain is over and gone. (12) The flowers have appeared in our land, the time of pruning is come: the voice of the turtle is heard in our land: (13) The fig tree hath put forth her green figs: the vines in flower yield their sweet smell. Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come: (14) My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hollow places of the wall, shew me thy face, let thy voice sound in my ears: for thy voice is sweet, and thy face comely."

Mary's conception ushered in the fullness of time, which took place during the Incarnation. When the time is right God speaks to Mary, commanding her to be created. "Arise, make haste, my love..." for the time is right, "the time of pruning is come." The world is ripe for the coming of the Messiah, in which good vines will be pruned bearing good fruit, while bad vines (foxes) will be destroyed.

(15) "Catch us the little foxes that destroy the vines: for our vineyard hath flourished."

Foxes are enemies of Christ who seek to destroy His vineyard, the Catholic Church, of which apostates and heretics are the worst enemies. We see God uses Mary to catch foxes (apostates and heretics), and so, she is known as the "the destroyer of heresies". "Glory be to thee who destroyest heresies and crushest demons." (The Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin) By the suffering of her soul hearts of men shall be revealed. "*Thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that, out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed"* (*Lk.* 2:35)—good or evil thoughts. It is man's disposition to Mary that will determine his love of God. Will men submit to Mary as God wills or reject or demote her as Protestants have?

(16) "My beloved to me, and I to him who feedeth among the lilies,"

Mary speaks to Jesus after His birth, "My beloved to me, and I to him," both now dwelling upon the earth "feeding among the lilies."

(17) "Till the day break, and the shadows retire. Return: be like, my beloved, to a roe, or to a young hart upon the mountains of Bether."

From the beginning to the end, Mary leads men to God. She tells men "be like her beloved," imitate Christ and become saints—roes and young harts upon the heavenly mount Sion.

Let us listen to Mary converse with God before she was created, before she actually existed. This conversion takes place in the mind of God. Mary speaks of being God's primary thought, as existing before anything else created. She says that she was conceived in the mind of God before any other created thing.

"The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his ways, before he made any thing from the beginning. I was set up from eternity, and of old, before the earth was made. The depths were not as yet, and I was already conceived, neither had the fountains of waters as yet sprung out. The mountains, with their huge bulk, had not as yet been established: before the hills, I was brought forth: He had not yet made the earth, nor the rivers, nor the poles of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was present: when with a certain law, and compass, he enclosed the depths: When he established the sky above, and poised the fountains of waters: When he compassed the sea with its bounds, and set a law to the waters that they should not pass their limits: when he balanced the foundations of the earth. (Prv. 8:22-29)

God created everything primarily for Mary. Everything was formed by God with Mary in mind. All things were formed with her as the template, the master form. "I was with him forming all things: and was delighted every day, playing before him at all times" (Prv. 8:30) And, Mary was destined to be created and dwell among men. "Playing in the world: and my delights were to be with the children of men." (Prv. 8:31)

After the planning stages the project begins. The first things to exist are the secondary things that are necessary to bring about the ultimate and primary goal, the existence of the mansion, the masterpiece. Everything, angels, men, animals, and inanimate objects, are acquired in its proper time, place, quality, and quantity to suit the purpose of the building of the mansion (Mary).

"The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth, hath established the heavens by prudence. By his wisdom the depths have broken out, and the clouds grow thick with dew." (Prv. 3:19-20) "All the works of the Lord are good, and he will furnish every work in due time." (Eclcus. 39: 39) "It is he who giveth to all life and breath and all things: And hath made of one, all mankind, to dwell upon the whole face of the earth, determining appointed times and the limits of their habitation." (Acts 17:25-26)

Mansion Built Among Defective Elements

If this mansion must be built in a world in which there are defective and competing elements, due to the abuse of free will—"Wherefore as by one man sin entered into this world." (Rom. 5:12)—in a world in which others seek to build their own mansions with these defective elements and pass it off as perfect, there then must necessarily be a trial, a conflict.

"All his ways are according to his ordering: so man is in the hand of him that made him, and he will render to him according to his judgment. Good is set against evil, and life against death: so also is the sinner against a just man. And so look upon all the works of the most High. Two and two, and one against another." (Eclcus. 33:14-15)

There must, then, be a test to see which are the truly perfect mansions and which are the imposters, defective mansions. To confirm the greatness of the perfect mansion, amidst defective circumstances and elements, the mansion must then prove itself to be truly perfect by standing and functioning amidst the assaults of the defective elements which seek to compete with it and prop themselves up as perfection. The truly perfect mansion, because it is built and protected by the Master Builder (God), will prove itself by standing firm when assaulted by every possible element that seeks to destroy or

undermine it. The defective mansion is built on a foundation of sand and will crumble due to its inherent defects and lack of protection from its incompetent and weak master, Satan. Whereas, the perfect mansion is built on a firm rock and will withstand any assault brought against it because of its inherent perfection and protection given it by the master builder (God).

"Every one therefore that heareth these my words, and doth them, shall be likened to a wise man that built his house upon a rock, And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and they beat upon that house, and it fell not, for it was founded on a rock. And every one that heareth these my words and doth them not, shall be like a foolish man that built his house upon the sand, And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and they beat upon that house, and it fell, and great was the fall thereof." (Mt. 7:24-27)

The master builder is the one who made the mansion perfect. In this perfection he also provides for its protection to withstand all assaults. The master builder's protection is threefold; First, the strength and purity of the building itself; Second, the builder's sustenance and maintenance of the mansion; Third, the builder's defending it from outer attacks from enemies, in which an army (good angels invested with the power of God) is posted to guard and protect it. Thus, if the master builder did not first build the mansion, it would not even exist; second, if he did not maintain it, it would become defective and crumble; third, if he did not protect it from enemy attacks it would be overcome and destroyed. The perfect mansion must then acknowledge its very existence and good things depend upon the master builder. This humble acknowledgment is necessary if the mansion is to be and remain perfect.

"And as I knew that I could not otherwise be continent, except God gave it, and this also was a point of wisdom, to know whose gift it was, I went to the Lord, and besought him, and said with my whole heart: God of my fathers, and Lord of mercy, who hast made all things with thy word, And by thy wisdom hast appointed man, that he should have dominion over the creature that was made by thee, That he should order the world according to equity and justice, and execute justice with an upright heart: Give me wisdom." (Wis. 8:21; 9:1-4) "For if any man think himself to be some thing, whereas he is nothing, he deceiveth himself." (Gal. 6:3)

Second Sunday in Lent, Collect Prayer: "O God, who seest that we have no power whatever from ourselves; keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts which may hurt the soul. Through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God world without end. Amen."

Imprimatured Book: "Our soul, untied to our body, has become so carnal that it is called flesh: 'All flesh having corrupted its way.' (Gen. 6:12). We have nothing for our portion but pride and blindness of spirit, hardness of heart, weakness and inconstancy of soul, concupiscence, revolted passions, and sicknesses in the body. We are naturally prouder then peacocks, more groveling then toads, more vile than unclean animals, more envious than serpents, more gluttonous than hogs, more furious than tigers, lazier then tortoises, weaker than reeds, and more capricious than weathercocks. We have within ourselves nothing but the anger of God and everlasting Hell."

Mary, the most humble of all creatures, the perfect mansion, acknowledged her gratitude to and dependence on God for all the good things she possessed. If a perfect mansion does not acknowledge its dependence and gratitude to its maker then the maker

will take away his maintenance, sustenance, and protection and the mansion will fall into imperfection, be overcome by the enemy, decay, crumble, and die. This is what happened to Lucifer and the bad angels. Lucifer believed he was made mighty solely due to his own merits. "Say not: How mighty am I? and who shall bring me under for my deeds? for God will surely take revenge." (Eclcus. 5:3) Angels and men cannot even know who they truly are unless God tells them and they are willing to obey. When Lucifer fell from grace he no longer knew who he was, what God created him to be, thus he was transformed into a monster, the first monster, and God changed his name to Satan. Men cannot know who they are unless God tells them and they are willing to listen to and obey. "The steps of men are guided by the Lord: but who is the man that can understand his own way?" (Prv. 20:24) "Now I know in part: but then I shall know even as I am known." (1 Cor. 13:12) It is only by God's grace and man's cooperation that man can know who he is.

Imprimatured Book: The Disciple:

"I WILL speak to my Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. If I consider myself anything more than this, behold you stand against me, and my sins bear witness to the truth which I cannot contradict. If I abase myself, however, if I humble myself, if I shrink from all self-esteem and account myself as the dust which I am, your grace will favor me, your light will enshroud my heart, and all self-esteem, no matter how little, will sink into the depths to perish forever.

"It is there you show me to myself—what I am, what I have been, and what I am coming to; for I am nothing without you and I did not know it. Left to myself, I am nothing but total weakness. But if you look upon me for an instant, I am at once made strong and filled with new joy. Great wonder it is that I, who of my own weight always sink to the depths, am so suddenly lifted up, and so graciously embraced by you.

"It is your love and grace that does this, graciously upholding me, supporting me in so many necessities, guarding me from so many grave dangers, and snatching me, as I may truly say, from evils without number. Indeed, by loving myself badly I lost myself; by seeking you with my whole heart and by truly loving you I have found both myself and you. For you, O sweetest Lord, deal with me above all my merits and above all that I dare to hope or ask.

"May you be blessed, my God, for although I am unworthy of all the benefits thou has given me, yet your nobility and infinite goodness never cease to do good even for those who are ungrateful and far from you. Convert us to you, that we may be thankful, humble, and devout, for you are our salvation, our courage, and our strength."

How many men think more of themselves than they actually are? "We will not glory beyond our measure: but according to the measure of the rule which God hath measured to us..." (2 Cor. 10:13) How many men think less of themselves by slothfully and lazily shunning the gifts God has given them? How many men misuse the gifts God has given them? It is a great grace from God for a man to know who he is, nothing more and nothing less, to know his limitations, talents, and the proper use of them. These gifts come from knowing and obeying the true God, the God of the Catholic Church, without which man cannot be truly at peace and totally contented. "There is no peace to the wicked." (Isa. 57:21) All non-Catholics and Catholics not in a state of grace (living in mortal sin) are wicked. All those condemned to hell died not knowing who they truly were, because God created them for Heaven, and by falling short they have not truly known who they are and what they were called to be, because they have either not known

the true God or knew Him and disobeyed Him. "In a flame of fire, giving vengeance to them who know not God and who obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who shall suffer eternal punishment in destruction, from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his power:" (2 Thess. 1:8-9)

O, wicked and rebellious men, can you not see you are lost? Constantly asking, "Who am I?" "What is it all about?" "Where am I going?" "What will my end be?" "What has all this availed me, who am now sick and ready to die?" Yes, men run hither and thither seeking answers to these questions, to every kook, quack (psychologists and psychiatrists), false religion, philosophy, or ideology. O foolish and rebellious men, do you not know that guilt can only be removed when your sins are truly forgiven. Do you not know that only God can forgive sins? "Who is a God like to thee, who takest away iniquity, and passest by the sin of the remnant of thy inheritance? he will send his fury in no more, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, and have mercy on us: he will put away our iniquities: and he will cast all our sins into the bottom of the sea." (Mich. 7:18-19) Do you not know that only the Catholic Church has the power to forgive sins, through the sacraments of baptism and penance? Yes, the Catholic sacrament of penance is the only way in which guilt can be removed from those who fall into mortal sin after baptism, and is only available to Catholics because outside the Catholic Church there is no remission of sins. Without these sacraments of forgiveness and remission of sins men just gets worse and end up confessing their sins anyway, but to every kook and quack, and doing it publicly, reveling in their mess, so as to make fools of the themselves. Just look how modern men run to psychologists and psychiatrists to remove their guilt, but alas, they only get worse. Can you imagine the immensity of the sin when a priest, who was given the power to forgive sins and remit guilt, goes to a psychologist or psychiatrist to cure him and remove his guilt, when he goes to a mere man with no power from God whatsoever to remit sin and guilt or give any grace at all. There can be no worse affront to God, as a result God abandons these bastard priests and their condition only gets worse. The whole dilemma revolves primarily around the loss of the Catholic faith, which placed these priests and the flock outside the Catholic Church, so that even if they should go to confession it avails them nothing because they are outside the Catholic Church and receive the sacraments unworthily. The whole root of the problem is the loss of the Catholic faith.

Woe to fallen-away Catholics who have now put their faith and trust in these kooks and quacks; psychologists, psychiatrists, self-help programs, false religions, philosophies, and ideologies instead of Jesus Christ the Divine physician and healer. "Beware lest any man cheat you by philosophy and vain deceit: according to the tradition of men according to the elements of the world and not according to Christ." (Col. 2:8) Only Catholic priests were given the ministry from God to cure all spiritual aliments (Jn. 20:23). I say to you that every so-called Catholic that goes to a psychologist, or to a psychiatrist to cure spiritual ills is a non-Catholic heretic who has denied God and idolizes man and his false sciences. God has abandoned you because you did not put your trust in him, and you will only get worse. He has turned you over to be tormented by the very enemy you put your trust in instead of God. "By what things a man sinneth, by the same also he is tormented." (Wis. 11:17) One condition may seem to be cured while another appears. And ultimately, when you die, the cycle ends when your soul lands in

the eternal fires of hell. See then if the quacks and kooks you placed your trust in while you lived can save you from that.

Mary is the template for all houses, angels and humans

The Blessed Virgin Mary, who would be elevated as the crowning jewel of God's creation, is the highest elevated creature that has and will ever exist. She is the Queen of angels and saints, and of heaven and earth. Her thoughts were always with God before any consideration of other creatures. The Blessed Virgin Mary is God's primary thought. All other creatures were created for her. She is the template of perfection for angels and men. This primary perfect mansion will then serve as the template for all other mansions. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the most perfect mansion that must be imitated by angels in order to remain perfect and by fallen men if they want to become perfect. If other mansions are to be perfect they must imitate this most perfect mansion in its proper measure and degree. One may be bigger another smaller, one may be located here another there, but the building principles are all the same, each will be perfect in its own kind and measure because it followed the principle plans of the masterpiece, the primary perfect mansion.

The goal of man is to become exactly like Mary and not exactly like God, like Jesus Christ, because man is not God. Man can be like God and the spirit of God can dwell in him, but he cannot become God. "He hath given us most great and precious promises: that by these you may be made partakers of the divine nature..." (2 Pt. 1:4) However, Mary is a creature as is man, and therefore, man can become just like Mary. Mary is the hope of men. Men say, "Look what God has done for her and she is a human creature just like us, flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone and created just like us. Yet, God has made her perfect. O, what a blessed hope. For we also, being human creatures can rise to those great heights. She is our life, our sweetness, and our hope. We live for God to make our life like hers. She is our hope by seeing what God has done for her and we can hope for the same. We can be filled with all the sweetness that God has given her." God says, "O man, look upon my most perfect creature and put your hope in her that you will become the same as she. For no creature can exceed her in greatness. Call her most blessed above all creatures and you shall be blessed by Me." "And Mary said ... behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. Because he that is mighty, hath done great things to me." (Lk. 1:46-49)

Yes, God has ordained that all His great gifts should come from Jesus Christ, the one mediator before the Father. "No one cometh to the Father, but by me." (Jn. 14:6) But, He has also ordained that they should come to the Son through Mary. Never did Jesus teach there would be no mediators between Him and men, only that He is the one mediator before God the Father. Jesus Christ has a hierarchy of mediators under Him, while He is the one mediator before the Father in heaven. Jesus Christ placed Mary at the head of that hierarchy, as the one mediator before Him, and then follows the angels and saints, and then the Catholic Church, and then Peter the pope, and then the apostles (Catholic bishops), and then Catholic priests. Christ formed the apostles and created the Catholic Church and the papacy to be His mediators on earth. The Angels and Saints mediate in heaven: "And the smoke of the incense of the prayers of the saints ascended up before God from the hand of the angel." (Apoc. 8:4) The Church mediates on earth: "The manifold wisdom of God may be made known to the principalities and powers in

heavenly places through the church." (Eph. 3:10) "If he will not hear the church, let him be to thee as the heathen and publican." (Mt. 18:17) The Pope rules the Church on earth and mediates for men: "Thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church... I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. (Mt. 16: 18-19) "Peter... Feed my sheep." (Jn. 21:17) The Catholic bishops (apostles) and priests mediate: "Going therefore, teach ye all nations... Teaching all that I have commanded you." (Mt. 28:19-20) "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." (Jn. 20:23) Christ himself ordained this mediation that takes place under Him as the means to reach Him, who is the one mediator before God the Father.

It is true to say that all mediation before God hinges on Jesus Christ the one mediator before the Father, so that without Jesus there can be no mediator between God and men. "There is one God: and one mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Tim. 2:5) "By his own blood, entered once into the Holies, having obtained eternal redemption... For Jesus is not entered into the Holies made with hands, the patterns of the true: but into Heaven itself, that he may appear now in the presence of God for us." (Heb. 9:12, 24) Without Christ the whole hierarchy of mediation under Him falls and can never mediate between God and man. Only Jesus Christ, the slain lamb, is worthy to open the seven seals. "Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof? ... Thou art worthy, O Lord, to take the book and to open the seals thereof: because thou wast slain and hast redeemed us to God, in thy blood, out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation." (Apoc. 5: 1-9) The prophecies of the Seven Seals began when Christ, the slain Lamb, ascended into heaven and opened them.

Imprimatured Book: "We need Mary as our Mediatrix... We have need of a mediator with the Mediator Himself, and that it is Mary who is the most capable of filling that charitable office. It was through her that Jesus Christ came to us, and it is through her that we must go to Him."

Just as Jesus first came to earth through Mary, so if men want to go to Jesus in heaven they must go through Mary. And Jesus Christ shall return to earth a second time through Mary. It is she who is given the privilege to crush the head of the serpent (Satan) with her heel. "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her heel." (Gen. 3:15) Through Mary, who is the living Ark of the Covenant, Jesus comes the second time. "And the nations were angry: and thy wrath is come. And the time of the dead, that they should be judged... and shouldest destroy them who have corrupted the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven: and the ark of his testament [Mary] was seen in his temple." (Apoc. 11:18-19) Through this ark, Mary, comes Christ the King. First Mary will appear in the heavens and then through her comes Christ with His heavenly army to strike the earth and save the elect.

God Converses with Marv

Canticle of Canticles, Chapter 4

Christ sets forth the graces of his spouse: and declared his love for her.

God speaks of Mary's exterior and interior beauty and purity.

(1) "How beautiful art thou, my love, how beautiful art thou! thy eyes are doves' eyes, besides what is hid within. Thy hair is as flocks of goats, which come up from mount Galaad..."

What is "hid within" is the immaculate purity of Mary's heart and soul.

(2) "Thy teeth as flocks of sheep, that are shorn, which come up from the washing, all with twins, and there is none barren among them."

Mary is not barren. All her children, Catholics who truly serve her, are full of grace and bear much fruit, which come from Jesus through Mary.

(4) "Thy neck, is as the tower of David, which is built with bulwarks: a thousand bucklers hang upon it, all the armour of valiant men."

As mediator before Jesus, Mary's neck is the Catholic Church (the Tower of David) armed and defended by valiant men (faithful Catholics). Her neck, the Catholic Church, connects God with its members. Mary, who is terrible in battle array, is also the Queen of Saints, "valiant men" (faithful Catholics) who put on the armor of God. "Put you on the armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the deceits of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places." (Eph. 6:11-12) The valiant men fight and die for God's Kingdom, with Christ as their King and Mary as their Queen, some fighting heresy and heretics, some as missionaries for the conversion of non-Catholics, some physically by defending the Holy Roman Empire and missionaries from savage assaults that inhibit the preaching of the gospel and edification of the faithful.

(6) "Till the day break, and the shadows retire, I will go to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense."

All grace comes from God through Mary. Mary goes to God to get graces (myrrh and frankincense) to dispense to men until end of the world, until "the shadows retire".

(7) "Thou art all fair, O my love, and there is not a spot in thee."

God speaks of Mary's immaculate conception and eternal purity, "there is no spot in thee."

(8) "Come from Libanus, my spouse, come from Libanus, come: thou shalt be crowned from the top of Amana, from the top of Sanir and Hermon, from the dens of the lions, from the mountains of the leopards."

Mary comes from God (Libanus), and is chosen in the midst of sinful men (lions and leopards), to be crowned as Queen of heaven and earth and of angels and men.

(9) "Thou hast wounded my heart, my sister, my spouse, thou hast wounded my heart with one of thy eyes, and with one hair of thy neck."

God's heart is wounded for the love He has for Mary, whom He primary died for on

the Holy Cross, being pierced with a lance that physically wounded His Sacred Heart. Jesus loves, suffered, was wounded, and died for all men. But, first-and-foremost above all else, He loves Mary. If she would have been the only one worthy, and all the rest of mankind would have went to hell, Jesus still would have suffered and died for her.

(12) "My sister, my spouse, is a garden enclosed, a garden enclosed, a fountain sealed up."

God speaks of Mary's ever virginity and immaculate purity. A garden enclosed and sealed up in which no devil or any evil can enter.

(13-14) "Thy plants are a paradise of pomegranates with the fruits of the orchard. Cypress with spikenard. Spikenard and saffron, sweet cane and cinnamon, with all the trees of Libanus, myrrh and aloes with all the chief perfumes."

Mary is the Queen of Saints (plants in paradise), each having special graces and gifts, all sweet and pleasing.

(15-16) "The fountain of gardens: the well of living waters, which run with a strong stream from Libanus. Arise, O north wind, and come, O south wind, blow through my garden, and let the aromatical spices thereof flow."

Mary is the Mediatrix of Grace. Grace comes from God (Libanus) through Mary, then through the Catholic Church, and is dispensed to men. The north and south wind, God's Catholic Church on earth, scatters grace (aromatical spices) throughout the world. The Holy Ghost on Pentecost Sunday is compared to a wind that fills the apostles with grace. "And when the days of the Pentecost were accomplished, they were all together in one place: And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming: and it filled the whole house where they were sitting... And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost..." (Acts 2:1-4) It is said that the Holy Ghost first dropped upon Mary and then through Mary to the apostles.

God Tested the Angels

God created the angels with free will and told them Mary is to be the Queen of all creation and second only to Him. God revealed this plan to the angels before it came to pass and also revealed that He would incarnate into her womb and take on her flesh, the flesh of a human. God always planned for Mary to be His mother even if the original sin was not committed. Whether Adam and Eve committed the original sin or not, God still would have Incarnated into the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary so as to intimately dwell among His own creatures and creation. God desires to dwell intimately among men, and all things work toward the fulfillment of that end.

"Sing praise, and rejoice, O daughter of Sion: for behold I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee: saith the Lord. And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and they shall be my people, and I will dwell in the midst of thee: and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me to thee. ... Thus saith the Lord of hosts: I am returned to Sion, and I will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem..." (Zach. 2:10-11; 8:3)

"I, John, saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice from

the throne, saying: Behold the tabernacle of <u>God with men: and he will dwell with them</u>. And they shall be his people: and God himself with them shall be their God." (Apoc. 21:2-3)

If Adam and Eve did not commit the original sin God wouldn't have had to suffer, be crucified, and die in His humanity. There would have been no need to redeem man. Jesus' first coming in the womb of Mary would have been among faithful and sinless men. All would have said, and truly meant, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest." (Mt. 21:9) Jerusalem would have never known sadness and tribulation; would have known her time of visitation; thus, would have never been destroyed. "And when he drew near, seeing the city, he wept over it, saying: If thou also hadst known, and that in this thy day, the things that are to thy peace: but now they are hidden from thy eyes." (Lk. 19:41-42) Christ's first coming was supposed to be peace for all men.

If the original sin were not committed, then, upon Christ's first coming, heaven and earth would be united in total oneness and harmony not known until then. When Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden they were perfect, but were not yet shown the heavenly Kingdom. If mankind passed the test, by not committing original sin, then the reward of the manifestation of the heavenly Kingdom of God would have been given mankind upon the first coming of Christ. Now, because of the original sin, man must wait for the second coming of Christ.

God showed the angels portions of His plans before they came to pass. God showed the angels a picture of Mary and all her attributes and commanded that they must obey her even though she did not yet exist. The angels knew Mary was to be a human being, thus not having the knowledge and power that God gave to them. This was the test of humility the angles had to pass. Those who passed had humility and thus obeyed and submitted to Mary. Those who failed did not have humility but contaminated themselves with pride and thus did not obey and submit to Mary. The first lesson is that the quality and quantity of knowledge and power do not always equal wisdom. One can have little knowledge about the many things there are to know and have a perfect wisdom in the things of God, the science of the saints. One can have much knowledge about many things and have no wisdom whatsoever, not being able to ultimately make sense, to truly understand the value, meaning, or worth of all the knowledge. Knowledge, with those who have no wisdom, only serves to feed their pride and hold them fast in darkness.

Imprimatured Book: "EVERY man naturally desires knowledge; but what good is knowledge without fear of God? Indeed a humble rustic who serves God is better than a proud intellectual who neglects his soul ... If I knew all things in the world and had not charity, what would it profit me before God who will judge me by my deeds? Shun too great a desire for knowledge, for in it there is much fretting and delusion. Intellectuals like to appear learned and to be called wise. Yet there are many things the knowledge of which does little or no good to the soul, and he who concerns himself about other things than those which lead to salvation is very unwise... The more you know and the better you understand, the more severely will you be judged, unless your life is also the more holy. Do not be proud, therefore, because of your learning or skill. Rather, fear because of the talent given you.... I am He who in one moment so enlightens the humble mind that it comprehends more of eternal truth than could be learned by ten years in the schools. I teach without noise of words or clash of opinions, without ambition for honor or confusion of argument."

Power alone does not always mean the one who possess it has true wisdom or is favored by God. There are men and nations stronger than others but that does not mean they have true wisdom. The good angels acknowledged that their very existence and power and all the good things they have come from God. They acknowledged that all the wisdom and power they have, yea, their very creation (existence) came from God—"And he... clothed him with strength... and gave him power" (Eclcus. 17:2-3) More important than the gifts they have is the loving, kind, and beneficent Giver who granted them these gifts, the gift of life, their good attributes, and all good things to enjoy. "I will sing to the Lord, who giveth me good things." (Ps. 12:6) They also acknowledged that once created God also sustains them, maintains their good attributes and the good things they enjoy. "Cast thy care upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." (Ps. 54:23) "And how could any thing endure, if thou wouldst not? or be preserved, if not called by thee?" (Wis. 11:26) "The Lord preserveth the souls of his saints..." (Ps. 96:10) It is not the knowledge and power God gave the good angels that made them worthy. It was their adoration, humble obedience, fear and love of God, who gave them these gifts that made them worthy. Their gifts of wisdom and unfailing power are God's rewards to those who are faithful to Him. "The blessing of God maketh haste to reward the just... The just shall live for evermore: and their reward is with the Lord, and the care of them with the most High. (Eclcus. 11:24; Wis. 5:16) Without wisdom we cannot know God, and thus we cannot love God. Without power we cannot have the strength to praise, love, and serve Him, as well as serve others and enjoy His creation. Yes, while we sinful men dwell in this fallen world, we must especially have power to suffer well and die for the Lord God while not denying Him and this is one of the greatest gifts from God. "Strengthened with all might according to the power of his glory, in all patience and longsuffering with *joy...*" (Col 1:11)

The perfection of the good angles, their perfect wisdom and disciplined power, is rooted in their obedience to God in imitating and submitting to Mary as God's ultimate masterpiece. God used Mary, His most beloved and perfect masterpiece, as the object in which the angels would be tested. The good angels humble submission to Mary enabled them to understand God's nature in relation to humility over raw knowledge and power. Humility is the basis of their perfect wisdom. It enabled them to understand God's demand for humility, simplicity, and their own weakness and inability to do good if it were not for the gifts God had endowed them with. Lucifer and the bad angels failed this test and became devils (fallen-angels). God used Mary as the meter in which angels would be judged as worthy or not. The bad angels, because in disobedience to God they did not submit to Mary, became unworthy and were cast out of heaven by St. Michael the Archangel. The good angels remained faithful and perfect and increased in wisdom because in obedience to God they submitted to Mary. It can be said that God made the good angels perfect through Mary, as she was the object God used to test them. The good angels and good humans all come to God through obedience and submission to Mary. Lucifer would not Hail Mary and call her blessed, as the faithful St. Gabriel the Archangel did. "And the angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." (Lk. 1:28) Gabriel speaks for all the good angels. Hail, in this context is both a greeting and more important a tribute by one of lesser (Gabriel) authority giving tribute to one of greater authority (Mary). This was the first manifestation of the good angels submission to Mary. Gabriel confirmed that he

indeed passed the test by his humble submission to Mary as proven in his tribute that hailed her and called her blessed. With this understood one can see the great evil of those who seek to change the word "Hail Mary" to "Rejoice Mary." If the "hail" is dropped, there is no tribute or even greeting given Mary rather it is Mary who is told to perform an action, to rejoice. Gone is the "Hail Mary," the greeting and submission of Gabriel to Mary. Without it there is no submission of Gabriel to Mary whose tribute exalts her. Thus Lucifer's purpose is served, in that by substituting a good word (rejoice) in-and-of itself, he has deceptively done away with submission to, tribute to, and exaltation of Mary.

Lucifer wanted to be God's primary thought (creature)

God did not Create Evil

God created all things perfect, without the least defect or fault. "The works of God are perfect..." (Deut. 32:4) Paradise, the Garden of Eden, was made perfect and it was God's will that it should remain that way and eventually be united to his heavenly Kingdom. Creatures, angels and men, abusing their freewill rebelled against God, which brought evil and death into God's created universe:

"God made man right, and he hath entangled himself..." (Ecltes. 7: 30) "What is more wicked than that which flesh and blood hath invented?" (Eclcus. 17:30) "For God created man incorruptible, and to the image of his own likeness he made him. But by the envy of the devil, death came into the world: And they follow him that are of his side." (Wis. 2:23-25) "For God made not death, neither hath he pleasure in the destruction of the living. For he created all things that they might be: and he made the nations of the earth for health: and there is no poison of destruction in them, nor kingdom of hell upon the earth... But the wicked with works and words have called it to them: and esteeming it a friend, have fallen away and have made a covenant with it: because they are worthy to be of the part thereof." (Wis. 1:13-16)

The holy prophet Ezechiel tells of the great gifts God had given Lucifer, making him perfect, a cherub, which is of the highest choir of angels, and not just that, but also the highest of all the angels. We will read of Lucifer's original greatness and then his pride that caused him to think he could be like God, which led to his fall. "The beginning of the pride of man [or angel], is to fall off from God." (Eclcus. 10:14)

"Thus saith the Lord God: Thou wast the seal of resemblance, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou wast in the pleasures of the paradise of God: every precious stone was thy covering: the sardius, the topaz, and the jasper, the chrysolite, and the onyx, and the beryl, the sapphire, and the carbuncle, and the emerald: gold the work of thy beauty: and thy pipes were prepared in the day that thou wast created. Thou a cherub stretched out, and protecting, and I set thee in the holy mountain of God, thou hast walked in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day of thy creation, until iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise, thy inner parts were filled with iniquity, and thou hast sinned: and I cast thee out from the mountain of God, and destroyed thee, O covering cherub, out of the midst of the stones of fire. And thy heart was lifted up with thy beauty: thou hast lost thy wisdom in thy beauty, I have cast thee to the ground." (Ez. 28:12-17)

Lucifer abused the gifts God gave him, thinking himself more than he was. Lucifer, upon his creation, knew that God was God, as did all the angels. Lucifer believed in God,

but that alone was not enough. "Thou believest that there is one God. Thou dost well: the devils also believe and tremble." (Ja. 2:19) There was a work to be done by the angels, a test to prove if they were worthy to remain in heaven. "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" (Ja. 2:26) The angels had to love and obey God. A child believes his father is his father and his mother is his mother, but that does not mean he will love and obey them. Lucifer's sin, then, was disobedience to God by not submitting to and obeying Mary, God's masterpiece. Mary was to be placed over Lucifer and all the angels as the crowning glory of all God's creation. This Lucifer did not accept. He wanted to be number one instead of Mary. The root cause of his disobedience to God was the sin of pride that caused him to covet and envy Mary. Lucifer abused his free will and thought himself more than he actually was.

Lucifer disobeyed God by not obeying Mary, due to his sin of pride. Immediately after he committed this sin God took away grace from Lucifer and his intellect became darkened. A veil of darkness fell upon him. "Because that, when they knew God, they have not glorified him as God or given thanks: but became vain in their thoughts. And their foolish heart was darkened." (Rom. 1:21) Now in darkness, Lucifer questioned if God is really God. His darkened thought was that if God was truly God why would He choose a lowly human as His crowning glory, and worse, why would he submit Himself to a human and take on her flesh. We will read that angels were placed above humans, but nevertheless God the Son would humbly become a human and submit Himself to humans, to the surprise of even humans.

"For God hath not subjected unto angels the world to come, whereof we speak. But one in a certain place hath testified, saying: What is man, that thou art mindful of him? Or the son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels: thou hast crowned him with glory and honour and hast set him over the works of thy hands. ... But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels... For nowhere doth he take hold of the angels: but of the seed of Abraham he taketh hold." (Heb. 2:5-9, 16)

In his darkness, Lucifer perceived God's plan to take on human nature in the womb of Mary, and exalt her over all the angels as a weakness. His jealously was primarily against Mary, and then against all humans, because God was to become human. Lucifer then thought either God was not God and there was a God above Him that he did not know about, or, he thought God was God but was losing His power, was devolving, while he, Lucifer, was evolving and can become if not God, at least like God, having full power over all creatures and creation. The Word of God tells us Lucifer's sin of pride led him to believe he could become like God.

"Thy pride is brought down to hell, thy carcass is fallen down: under thee shall the moth be strewed, and worms shall be thy covering. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, who didst rise in the morning? And thou saidst in thy heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God, I will sit in the mountain of the covenant. In the sides of the north. I will ascend above the height of the clouds, I will be like the most High. But yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, into the depth of the pit." (Isa. 14:11-15)

In his darkened state, Lucifer actually thought he was better and stronger than God, either because he thought God was not really God, or God was not all-powerful (Almighty). St. Michael the Archangel's battle cry and rebuke against Lucifer was, "Who is like unto God?" countering Lucifer's darkened thought that he can become like God. In

other words St. Michael said, "How dare you think you are like unto God, you a mere creature like the rest of us. How dare you rebel against God who gave us all these wonderful gifts, yea, He gave us life itself. How dare you, who were but nothing before God created you, rebel against the almighty, all-knowing, all-loving, all-good, all-generous, and all kind God."

The evil King Antiochus, who greatly persecuted the faithful Jews in the time of the Machabees, was a type of Lucifer. As Lucifer was a proud angel beyond measure, leaving the station God has assigned him, so also Antiochus was a proud man beyond measure who left his station, both acting as if they were God.

"Thus he [Antiochus] that seemed to himself to command even the waves of the sea, being proud above the condition of man, and to weigh the heights of the mountains in a balance, now being cast down to the ground, was carried in a litter, bearing witness to the manifest power of God in himself: So that worms swarmed out of the body of this man, and whilst he lived in sorrow and pain, his flesh fell off, and the filthiness of his smell was noisome to the army. And the man that thought a little before he could reach to the stars of heaven, no man could endure to carry, for the intolerable stench. And by this means, being brought from his great pride, he began to come to the knowledge of himself, being admonished by the scourge of God, his pains increasing every moment. And when he himself could not now abide his own stench, he spoke thus: It is just to be subject to God, and that a mortal man should not equal himself to God. Then this wicked man prayed to the Lord, of whom he was not like to obtain mercy." (2 Mac. 9:8-13)

Lucifer's root sin was pride that caused him to disobey God, while knowing God is God. This caused him to lose grace and thus his mind became darkened so that he now doubted if God really is God. This led Lucifer to his next step to directly challenge God. Lucifer, in ignorance due to his sin, plotted to conquer God. He had not yet experienced God's full power, because until then God had never punished nor chastised any of His creatures. God had no reason to be wrathful. God, by His very nature, is loving and kind and does not punish unless there is a just reason. "For God made not death, neither hath he pleasure in the destruction of the living. For he created all things that they might be." (Wis. 1:13-14)

"Chastisement is not what the nature of God inclines Him to. God, because by His nature He is infinite goodness, says St. Leo, has no other desire than to bless us, and to see us happy. When He punishes, He is obliged to do so in order to satisfy his justice not to gratify His inclination."

Lucifer perceived this as a weakness. His darkened thought, that God is weak, increased his boldness provoking him to attempt the rebellion. In this rebellion one third of the angels contaminated themselves with pride and followed Lucifer. In so doing they also lost God's grace and their thoughts became darkened. "Pride goeth before destruction: and the spirit is lifted up before a fall. It is better to be humbled with the meek, than to divide spoils with the proud." (Prv. 16:18-19) The rebellious (evil) angels worshipped the creature instead of the Creator, by following Lucifer instead of God. "For, professing themselves to be wise, they became fools... Who changed the truth of God into a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator." (Rom. 1:22, 25) The fallen-angels followed Lucifer and rallied around him in his rebellion against God. Upon Lucifer's open rebellion he was about to learn the hard way, that God indeed is God, and that He is also an almighty and invincible God. Alas, the wrath of God is first felt by Lucifer and the fallen-angels. "For thou shewest thy power, when men will

not believe thee to be absolute in power, and thou convincest the boldness of them." (Wis. 12:17) No creature previous to this had ever experienced or felt the wrath of God. God invested the humble and faithful St. Michael the Archangel with power to cast the prideful and unfaithful Lucifer and his rebellious angels out of Heaven.

And there was a great battle in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon, and the dragon fought, and his angels. And they prevailed not: neither was their place found any more in heaven. And that great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, who seduceth the whole world. And he was cast unto the earth: and his angels were thrown down with him. (Apoc. 12:7-9)

Upon his fall, Lucifer was transformed into a hideous beast and became known as the Devil, as Satan. "I saw Satan like lightning falling from heaven." (Lk. 10:18) Satan was banished from heaven forever to eternal punishment and torment for daring to test God. The fallen-angels share the same punishment and became known as devils. St. Peter warns rebellious men that they will suffer the same fate as the fallen angels if they do not repent and convert. "For... God spared not the angels that sinned, but delivered them, drawn down by infernal ropes to the lower hell, unto torments, to be reserved unto judgment..." (2 Pt. 2:4)

To summarize, Lucifer's root sin was pride that caused him to disobey God. "Pride is the beginning of all sin." (Eclcus. 10:15) When he first sinned against God, he had believed and did not even doubt that God is God. Immediately after this sin he lost God's grace and his mind became darkened and now doubted if God was really God or if He was all-powerful. This led him to open rebellion against God. To Lucifer's great surprise, God's wrathful power was felt, never previously experienced by any creature. A lower angel who remained faithful, St. Michael the Archangel, who was invested with power from God, defeated Lucifer and cast him out of Heaven. This also served to humiliate Lucifer, who from one minute thinking he is like God, is defeated by an inferior angel. Immediately upon Lucifer's defeat he then knew again that God truly is God and almighty. He then believed, without any doubts, that God is God, just as he did before he sinned, but now to his great consternation and eternal pain. Lucifer and the fallen-angels, against their wills that hate God with an all consuming and burning passion, must bow down before God. "That in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth." (Phil. 2:10) Being the object of Lucifer's fall was Mary—his lack of submission to her in obedience to God—his greatest pain is that he must also bow down before a creature, the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is more painful and odious to him then bowing before God. Lucifer would not willfully bow down to Mary in heaven, so now he must bow down to her against his will, which is his greatest pain. For it was given to Mary to crush Satan's head (Gen. 3:15). Yes, Jesus demands that all creatures must also bow down to His mother, to His masterpiece, the Blessed Immaculate and Ever Virgin Mary and acknowledge her as His number one Masterpiece. Oh prideful Protestants, sons of Lucifer, how long will you remain in rebellion against the God of the Catholic Church due to your root sin of pride that has darkened your mind. You say you believe in Jesus, "The devils also believe and tremble." (Ja. 2:19) And like the devils you refuse to obey, honor, and venerate the Blessed Immaculate and Ever Virgin Mary, Mother of God—God's Masterpiece. What man would let another man in his house if he did not honor his mother? A man gets angrier when his mother is insulted

than when his father is insulted, or he himself is insulted. It is the same with God and His mother, Mary. Not only is Mary God's mother, but also His daughter, and spouse.

Imprimatured Book: "It is principally of these cruel persecutions of the devil, which shall go on increasing daily till the reign of the Antichrist, that we ought to understand that first and celebrated prediction and curse of God, pronounced in the terrestrial paradise against the serpent. It is to our purpose to explain this here, for the glory of the most holy Virgin, for the salvation of her children and for the confusion of the devil: 'I will put enmities between thee and the woman and thy seed and her seed; she shall crush thy head, and thou shall lie in wait for her heel.' (Gen. 3:15) God has made and formed an enmity, which shall endure and grow even to the end. It is between Mary, His worthy Mother, and the devil—between the children of God, who are also the children of Mary, and the children and tools of Lucifer. The most terrible of all the enemies which God has set up against the devil is His holy Mother Mary. He has inspired her, even since the days of the earthly paradise, though she existed then only in His idea, with so much hatred against that cursed enemy of God, with so much ingenuity in unveiling the malice of that ancient serpent, with so much power to conquer, to overthrow and to crush that proud, impious rebel, that he fears her not only more than all angels and men, but in a sense more than God Himself. Not that the anger, the hatred and power of God are not infinitely greater than those of the Blessed Virgin, for the perfections of Mary are limited; but, first, because Satan, being proud, suffers infinitely more from being beaten and punished by a little and humble handmaid of God, and her humility humbles him more than the divine power; and secondly, because God has given Mary such great power against the devils, that as they have often been obliged to confess, in spite of themselves, by the mouths of the possessed, they fear one of her sighs for a soul more than the prayers of all the saints, and one of her threats against them more than all other torments. What Lucifer has lost by pride, Mary has gained by humility."

Satan Prowls the Earth

Satan Temps Eve

Lucifer, now called Satan, fell from grace after the earth was created and before he tempted Eve. The angels observed God create the earth and Adam and Eve. It was then that God tested the angels by revealing His future plan to take on the flesh and nature of a human in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary and dwell upon the earth in intimate communion with humans. It was then that God told the angels they must obey and submit to His future Mother, Mary, His greatest masterpiece. Satan, and the angels that followed him, failed the test and were cast out of heaven to earth and into hell. Jesus "saw Satan like lightning falling from heaven." (Lk. 10:18) "For... God spared not the angels that sinned, but delivered them, drawn down by infernal ropes to the lower hell, unto torments..." (2 Pt. 2:4) Hell, which is in the center of the earth, is the eternal prison for fallen angels and damned humans. God permits fallen-angels, also known as devils, and damned humans to leave hell, prowl the earth, and tempt, obsess and possess men. "Woe to the earth and to the sea, because the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, knowing that he hath but a short time." (Apoc. 12:12) God punished King Saul's

disobedience by permitting devils to harass him. "But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." (1Ki. 16:14)

Catholic Commentary: "**From the Lord:** An evil spirit, by divine permission, and for his punishment, either possessed or obsessed him." At first hell was only inhabited by the fallen-angels."

God created Paradise, a place on earth also known as the Garden of Eden, and then created the first humans, Adam and Eve. Adam was made from the slime of the earth, and Eve was made from Adam's rib.

"And the Lord God formed man of the slime of the earth: and breathed into his face the breath of life, and man became a living soul. And the Lord God had planted a paradise of pleasure from the beginning: wherein he placed man whom he had formed. ... Then the Lord God cast a deep sleep upon Adam: and when he was fast asleep, he took one of his ribs, and filled up flesh for it. And the Lord God built the rib which he took from Adam into a woman: and brought her to Adam. And Adam said: This now is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man." (Gen. 2:7-8, 21-23)

God commanded Adam and Eve to populate the earth with pure, innocent, and godly children and gave them (humans) dominion over the earth and all its creatures. "And God blessed them, saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and rule over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and all living creatures that move upon the earth." (Gen. 1:28) Adam and Eve were created never to die. God gave them the fruit of the "Tree of Life" in Paradise to eat of, which sustained their life. "And the Lord God brought forth of the ground all manner of trees, fair to behold, and pleasant to eat of: the tree of life also in the midst of paradise." (Gen. 2:9) As long as God allowed Adam and Eve to eat of the "Tree of Life" death could not come upon them.

Just as the angels in heaven, so also the humans on earth must undergo a test to see if they would remain faithful to God. Being created perfect, pure, and innocent, Adam and Eve had no knowledge of evil or the high good things of God that they could not bear and did not need to know. God set aside the "Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil" in the midst of Paradise and forbade Adam and Eve to eat its fruit under pain of death. They could eat the fruit of every other tree. "And he commanded him, saying: Of every tree of paradise thou shalt eat: But of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat. For in what day soever thou shalt eat of it, thou shalt die the death." (Gen. 2:16-17) This was a test of obedience for Adam and Eve. Will they obey God, proving their faith and trust in Him? Or, will they abuse their free will, become infected with pride, and disobey God by eating the forbidden fruit? They did not need to eat the fruit, for they had all they needed. If they disobeyed it would only be due to the sin of pride that would compel them to covet what they cannot have and to be more than what they are. Eve was the first to disobey. The instant she began to covet the fruit of the forbidden tree by a simple curiosity, wondering what it would taste like and what would be its effects, God then allowed Satan to leave hell and tempt her. Eve's curiosity invited the temptation of Satan. If Eve were not curious about the forbidden fruit, God would not have allowed Satan to temp her. Satan, taking possession of the body of a serpent and speaking through it, tempted Eve.

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any of the beasts of the earth which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman: Why hath God commanded you, that

you should not eat of every tree of paradise? And the woman answered him, saying: Of the fruit of the trees that are in paradise we do eat: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of paradise, God hath commanded us that we should not eat; and that we should not touch it, lest perhaps we die. And the serpent said to the woman: No, you shall not die the death. For God doth know that in what day soever you shall eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened: and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And the woman saw that the tree was good to eat, and fair to the eyes, and delightful to behold: and she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave to her husband, who did eat." (Gen. 3:1-6)

Eve's answer to Satan proves she was already infected with pride that led her to covet the forbidden fruit before Satan tempted her. She answered, "God hath commanded us that we should not eat... lest perhaps we die." (Gen. 3: 3) God did not say "perhaps" they would die. He said they would definitely die. "For in what day soever thou shalt eat of it, thou shalt die the death." (Gen. 2:17) Before Satan tempted Eve, she was preparing an excuse that would allow her to eat of the forbidden fruit without dying by pretending God did not actually say she would die. She was preparing to disobey God before Satan tempted her.

Catholic commentary on Gen. 3:1: "Why hath God?: As if the serpent had overheard Eve arguing with herself about God's prohibition with a sort of displeasure and presumption. St. Augustine thinks she had given some entrance to these passions and the *love of her own power* and hence gave credit to the words of the serpent."

Curiosity in itself is not sinful. If it is abused it can be sinful or lead to sin. God wants his creatures to be curious about the many things He created, to discover and investigate them, to learn of their nature and qualities, and to see the great beauty, power and intricate perfections of His creations, all of which redound to His glory. "For by the greatness of the beauty, and of the creature, the creator of them may be seen, so as to be known thereby. ... For being conversant among his works, they search: and they are persuaded that the things are good which are seen." (Wis. 13:5, 7) "I remembered the works of the Lord: for I will be mindful of thy wonders from the beginning. And I will meditate on all thy works: and will be employed in thy inventions. Thy way, O God, is in the holy place: who is the great God like our God? Thou art the God that dost wonders." (Ps. 76:12-15)

Unbelievers could never find God if they were not first curious about who is the true God, causing them to seek and find Him. But creatures are not to be curious about things forbidden by God. There are things God does not want men to know or do, either because they are beyond his station or capacity to know or do, or because they are evil. "Seek not the things that are too high for thee, and search not into things above thy ability: but the things that God hath commanded thee, think on them always, and in many of his works be not curious. ...In unnecessary matters be not over curious, and in many of his works thou shalt not be inquisitive." (Eclcus. 3: 22, 24) Only chosen Levitical priests were allowed to look upon certain items of the sanctuary. These were undoubtedly very good things, but God did not allow others to look upon them. "Let not others by any curiosity see the things that are in the sanctuary before they be wrapped up, otherwise they shall die." (Num. 4:20)

Eve's original sin began as a fault that placed her in the near occasion of sin. At first she did not contemplate eating the fruit herself, but wondered what would happen if

someone else ate it, and this was a fault. Her unlawful curious contemplation of what would happen if someone else ate the forbidden fruit, while not thinking of eating it, was the fault, the near occasion of sin that was the seed of her future original sin. No good could come from such contemplation because God had already spoken. "For in what day soever thou shalt eat of it, thou shalt die the death." (Gen. 2:17) Eve progressed from contemplating what the effects would be if someone else ate the forbidden fruit to contemplate possibly eating it herself. Eve sinned in her heart the instant she thought of possibly eating the forbidden fruit, and that is when Satan stepped in and tempted her. He confirmed her forbidden and erroneous thoughts by lying to her in a hope to move her from possibly eating the fruit to eating it.

Was Eve curious for the good or the evil knowledge she might gain if she ate the fruit of the "Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil"? Eve was not curious to know evil, because she had no concept of evil at that time. Rather she was curious to know the good things that were beyond her capacity and right to know. Simply, she wanted to know and be more than what God had given her to know and be.

Imprimatured Book: "Pride...is a vice by which man seeks to exalt himself beyond right reason above what he is; it is based on error and illusion. On the contrary, humility is founded upon truth. It is a virtue which tempers and restrains the soul, so that it does not pretend to be more than it really is. The humble soul accepts with complete submission the actual station which falls to it, and which is that assigned to it by God the supreme and infallible Truth."

Only God knows all things so logically no creature can know all things. All creatures have limitations and boundaries. "Pass not beyond the ancient bounds which thy fathers have set." (Prv. 22:28) God sets boundaries for men speaking through the fathers, the religious leaders and prophets, who under the New Covenant are the popes when they teach infallibly and the unanimous consensus of the apostles and other Church Fathers. Even in heaven God's creatures, the angels and saints, have boundaries and limitations. They cannot have and know all the good things there are to have and know. They gaze upon the supremely best sight of all, the most fair to the eyes, the most delightful to behold, the Beatific Vision of God. They see God face to face—as Adam and Eve gazed upon the beautiful "Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil" in the midst of Paradise. Yet the angels and saints cannot sit on God's throne nor possess all the knowledge and power He has, because they are not God. "Thy knowledge is become wonderful to me: it is high, and I cannot reach to it." (Ps. 138:6) There are places the angels and saints cannot go and things they cannot know or do. If they had any covetousness in them they would covet God, His throne, His power, and His all-knowing knowledge, just as Lucifer did, and rebel against God. Being the angels and saints in heaven already passed their tests, proving their perfection in humility, faith, love, and total submission to God, they will not fall from heaven. Adam and Eve were allowed to gaze upon the "Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil" and rightly admire its beauty, but they were not allowed to eat of its fruit. God was testing them to see if they were prepared to gaze upon Him, the Beatific Vision, the supremely delightful sight, without coveting Him, which would lead them to covet His Throne, power, all-knowing knowledge, and rebel against Him.

Satan tempted an already weakened and doubtful Eve, who already sinned in her heart, with the same prideful thought he had in heaven that led to his fall. He encouraged

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² St. Andrew Daily Missal, 1953, reading from the Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost, p. 811.

Eve's sinful thought of possibly eating the forbidden fruit by telling her she can be more than what God made her to be.³ Not only that, Satan promised her even more, which is where her sinful thought was leading anyway. Satan told her if she ate the forbidden fruit she can be like God, in the sense of possessing all the knowledge and power God has, and thus be, if not greater than God at least His equal.

"For God doth know that in what day soever you shall eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened: and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." (Gen. 3:5)

Catholic Commentary: "It appears, that our first parents had flattered themselves with the hopes of attaining divine knowledge of all things."

Satan, lying to Eve, led her to believe that God envied and coveted humans, thus implying God has a weakness. If God is afraid of His own creatures gaining too much power and knowledge, He must not be strong enough to prevent it, thus His power and authority can be usurped. Of course, that would either make God not God or make Him a weak God who is not all-powerful, who can be equaled or conquered. Eve was the first but not the last human to challenge God in this way. God, speaking through the prophet Isaias, addresses these perverse thoughts of rebellious men who either think there is another God who came before or after the God they no longer agree with, or that God is becoming weak, not being the same and thus losing His wisdom and power.

"Is there a God besides me, a maker, whom I have not known? I am the first, and I am the last, and besides me there is no God." (Isa. 44:8, 6) "You are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that you may know, and believe me, and understand that I myself am. Before me there was no God formed, and after me there shall be none. I am, I am the Lord: and there is no saviour besides me. ...And from the beginning I am the same, and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall turn it away?" (Isa. 43:10-11, 13)

Satan, knowing Eve had already contemplated disobeying God by coveting the forbidden fruit, and knowing Eve had not experienced God's wrath and thus his full power, knew she could believe his lie. Eve, whose understanding was already darkened before Satan tempted her, succumbed to Satan's lie. She began to think that God may not be God at all, or He may have a weakness. This is evident because she believed, trusted, and obeyed Satan instead of God, placing Satan over God, the creature over the Creator.

Eve succumbed to Satan's temptation and ate the forbidden fruit, and then offered it to Adam who ate, and alas, humans see and feel God's wrath for the first time. To Adam and Eve's great dismay, the result was not what they expected. Instead of becoming like God, possessing all knowledge and understanding, they became much less than what they were, and worse, they now knew evil and death, which before they did not know. The knowledge they now had of the good things they were not supposed to know was a curse to them instead of a blessing, because they could not comprehend the true meaning of this new forbidden good knowledge. This good knowledge was beyond their understanding that God had given them, which led to their confusion instead of enlightenment. This new

they want to get "married" and raise children.

³ We clearly see this same rebellion today in the extreme. Feminist women want to be men. They want to sit on the husbands' thrones as boss of the family. Effeminate men abdicate the position God gave them and want to be women. Parents want to be children and children want to be parents. Women want to look like men and men want to look like woman. Old people, instead of growing old gracefully, want to look young. Subjects want to be rulers and rulers act like subjects. Homosexuals not only want to be treated as normal

good knowledge that they could not understand confounded them, and even made it difficult for them to understand the truths, the good knowledge, God had given them to understand. Add to that the forbidden knowledge of evil things they now possessed—lust, lying, envy, greed, stealing, cheating, deceiving, hating, etc.—and the confounding becomes even worse, and the way is open to deadly sins that were previously unknown to them. Shame now came upon them because of their disordered passions and knowledge of evil. Their affections and nature were changed for the worse.

God, true to His word, punished Adam and Eve with suffering and death after they ate of the forbidden fruit. Their work would now become laborious and only by sweat could they bring forth fruit, which is now mixed with thorns and thistles. A wife's submission to her husband would no longer be as easy, natural, and pleasurable as it was before the original sin was committed. Husbands must now contend with their wives, whose flesh is inclined to rebel, who may disobey their husbands and not perform their daily chores. Wives must contend with their husbands, whose flesh is also inclined to rebel, who may not provide properly for the family, and/or treat their wives and families poorly. To be good and obedient now became a struggle for both men and women. Women would now bring forth children in pain. In such a condition, Adam and Eve were no longer worthy of residing in the Garden of Eden and eating of the Tree of Life. God cast them out of Paradise and placed good angels guarding the entrances to prevent humans from entering.

"To the woman also he said: I will multiply thy sorrows, and thy conceptions: in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children, and thou shalt be under thy husband's power, and he shall have dominion over thee. And to Adam he said: Because thou hast hearkened to the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee, that thou shouldst not eat, cursed is the earth in thy work: with labour and toil shalt thou eat thereof all the days of thy life. Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee, and thou shalt eat the herbs of the earth. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread till thou return to the earth out of which thou wast taken: for dust thou art, and into dust thou shalt return. ...And the Lord God sent him out of the paradise of pleasure, to till the earth from which he was taken. And he cast out Adam: and placed before the paradise of pleasure Cherubims, and a flaming sword, turning every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." (Gen. 3:16-19, 23-24)

Indeed, after Adam and Eve's fall and punishment by God, they did not doubt, and knew again as they did before they sinned, that God is God, with the added knowledge that He indeed is all-powerful. They, and their children, and their children's children face a life of struggle, suffering, repentance, penance and reparation in obedience to God if they want a hope to be resurrected from the death God cursed them with.

"Great labour is created for all men, and a heavy yoke is upon the children of Adam from the day of their coming out of their mother's womb, until the day of their burial into the mother of all. Their thoughts, and fears of the heart, their imagination of things to come, and the day of their end: From him that sitteth on a glorious throne, unto him that is humbled in earth and ashes: From him that weareth purple, and beareth the crown, even to him that is covered with rough linen: wrath, envy, trouble, unquietness, and the fear of death, continual anger, and strife, And in the time of rest upon his bed, the sleep of the night changeth his knowledge. A little and as nothing is his rest, and afterward in sleep, as in the day of keeping watch. He is troubled in the vision of his heart, as if he had escaped in the day of battle. In the time of his safety he rose up, and wondereth that there is no fear. Such things happen to all flesh, from man even to beast, and upon sinners are sevenfold more." (Eclcus. 40:1-8)