

Mary, Ark of the New Covenant: Bearing the Savior of the World

By Melkisedeck Leon Shine · August 5, 2023

All you need to Know About Virgin Mary Mother of God Jesus Christ, By Melkisedeck Leon Shine

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Introduction:

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As Christians, we hold a deep reverence for the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her role in salvation history is one of great significance and her unwavering faith is an inspiration to us all. In this article, we will explore the beautiful title bestowed upon her - Mary, Ark of the New Covenant. Let's delve into why she is called such and how her unique role as the bearer of the Savior of the world fulfills the divine plan.

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From the Annunciation to her acceptance of God's will, Mary played a pivotal role in God's plan for the salvation of humanity. Just as the Ark of the Old Covenant held the tablets of the Ten Commandments, Mary carried within her womb the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ.

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In the Old Testament, the Ark of the Covenant was considered holy and revered by the Israelites. It symbolized the presence of God among His people. Similarly, Mary, as the Ark of the New Covenant, carried within her the presence of God made flesh.

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In the Book of Luke, we find the account of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, she exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" (Luke 1:42) This echoes the words of King David in 2 Samuel 6:9, when he exclaimed, "How can the ark of the Lord come to me?" These parallels serve to highlight Mary's unique role as the Ark of the New Covenant.

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Mary, in her immaculate conception, preserved from all sin, provided the perfect dwelling place for Jesus. Just as the Ark of the Old Covenant was crafted with pure gold, Mary's purity made her a fitting vessel to carry the Son of God.

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From the earliest days of Christianity, the Catholic Church has held Mary in the highest regard. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The Church's devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian worship." (CCC 971) Mary's role as the Ark of the New Covenant is central to this devotion.

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Throughout history, numerous saints have expressed their devotion to Mary as the Ark of the New Covenant. Saint Ambrose wrote, "You are the vessel and tabernacle containing all mysteries." Saint Thomas Aquinas proclaimed, "Mary is the true Ark, because the flesh of Christ, the Bread of Life, has been contained in her."

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By embracing her role as the Ark of the New Covenant, Mary willingly carried the Savior of the world within her. She became the bridge between heaven and earth, bringing hope and salvation to all humanity.

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As the Mother of God, Mary's love and tender care for Jesus were unparalleled. Just as the Ark of the Old Covenant provided protection and shelter for the tablets of the Law, Mary protected and nurtured Jesus throughout His earthly life.

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The Catholic Church teaches that Mary remained a perpetual virgin, even after giving birth to Jesus. This belief is based on biblical evidence, such as the angel's greeting to Mary, "Hail, full of grace!" (Luke 1:28) and Joseph's decision to take Mary as his wife without knowing her intimately (Matthew 1:18-25).

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Mary's unwavering faith and obedience to God's will serve as an example for all believers. Her "Fiat" (Luke 1:38), her "Yes" to God's plan, teaches us the importance of surrendering ourselves to God's divine will.

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The Catholic Church recognizes Mary as our powerful intercessor before God. Just as the Ark of the Old Covenant was a means of communicating with God, Mary's prayers and intercession bring us closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.

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Just as the Ark of the Old Covenant was carried into the Promised Land, Mary, as the Ark of the New Covenant, continues to accompany us on our spiritual journey. She is the Mother of the Church, guiding and protecting us along the way.

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Devotion to Mary brings immense joy, comfort, and spiritual graces. Our blessed Mother's love is a constant source of solace and inspiration. Through her intercession, we are drawn closer to the heart of her Son, Jesus.

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Mary's obedient "Yes" to God's plan played a vital role in our salvation. Through her cooperation, Jesus, the Savior of the world, was born into our midst, offering eternal life and redemption to all who believe.

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Mary, Ark of the New Covenant, holds a special place in our hearts and in the teachings of the Catholic Church. Her unique role as the bearer of the Savior of the world is a testament to her unwavering faith and love for God. Let us turn to her in prayer, seeking her intercession and guidance, as we strive to follow her example of trust and surrender to God's will.

What are your thoughts on the significance of Mary as the Ark of the New Covenant? How has devotion to her impacted your spiritual journey?