

Question: Mary was immaculate from conception. Why then was Mary *asked* to become Jesus' mother, as she was already without sin and probably living in the will of God already?

Answer: Because God had predestined Mary to become the Mother of God, he kept her exempt from Original Sin. From the moment of her Immaculate Conception she lived in the Divine Will. God did not reveal to Mary that she would become the mother of God until the Annunciation. Although he had predestined her to become the Mother of God, he did not impose upon her this role (nor does he ever force our free human will to do anything), but he asked her through the angel Gabriel to freely consent in faith to his plan for mankind. Mary reveals as much on Day 20 of the book entitled, *The Virgin Mary in the Kingdom of the Divine Will*:

"My child, from the moment I was conceived, I loved you as a mother; I felt you within my Heart; I was on fire with love for you, but I did not yet understand the purpose of these feelings. The Divine Fiat empowered me to carry out these acts [of loving you], while keeping hidden from me the purpose [of these acts].¹ It was only when Jesus incarnated himself [in me] that God revealed to me the purpose, whereby I understood the fruition of my maternity: I was to become not only the Mother of Jesus, but the Mother of all [the living]. This maternity of mine was to be forged on the anvil of suffering and love. My child, how much I loved you, and still love you!"

While the Church has not made any definitive pronouncement on what would have happened if Mary had said no to God's redemptive plan for mankind at the Annunciation, it is likely she would not have become the mother of God, whence God would have chosen another virgin through whom the Word (Jesus) would become incarnate.

Question: Why did God find it necessary for Mary to agree with his plan for mankind if she was already living in his will?

Answer: God does not grant eternal life to anyone without them first having merited it. We must individually merit heaven through faith in God and through our loyalty in the tests he sends us. That we must merit heaven by passing a test is evident in Mary's words to Luisa where she speaks of her own test in Day 4 of the aforementioned work:

"Now, my child, as soon as I was conceived I made the divinity rejoice along with heaven and earth which recognized me as their Queen. I was so united with my Creator that within the divine dominions I felt as if I possessed all. I knew no separation from my Creator, and the same Divine Will that reigned in me, reigned in the divine Persons and rendered us inseparable.

¹ This sentence is pivotal to the proper understanding of the actualization of God's gifts. Oftentimes, God grants a soul a gift *without* having first revealed to it its knowledge. Such was the case with the Blessed Virgin Mary who, while experiencing a unique love for all souls whom God had entrusted to her by virtue of her divine maternity, was not yet aware that she was the chosen Mother of God *and* of all souls. Indeed, God can actualize the gift of Living in the Divine Will in souls who have not had the explicit knowledge of Luisa's writings. Such was the case with Ss. Faustina Kowalska, Maxamillian Kolbe, Blessed Dina Belanger, Venerable Concepcion de Armida; Vera Grita, etc.

While there was complete rejoicing and festivity between us, I saw that they could not trust me if they hadn't proof of my fidelity [through a test]. My child, the test is the flag of victory; the test [disposes for the soul] all the blessings that God wants to give us [and holds for us] in safekeeping; the test matures and disposes the soul to obtain the greatest conquests. I too saw the necessity of a test – in exchange for the many seas of grace God had given me, I wanted to offer proof [of my love] to my Creator with an act of loyalty that would cost me the sacrifice of my entire life. How beautiful it is to be able to say: "You have loved me, and I have loved You!" But without a test, this can never be said.

My child, the Divine Fiat revealed to me [the Fiat of] the creation of man who was made innocent and holy. For Adam too there was complete rejoicing and festivity between him and God. He had command over all creation and all the elements were obedient to his every nod. By virtue of the Divine Will reigning in him, he too was inseparable from his Creator. After God had bestowed upon him so many blessings in exchange for one act of his fidelity, He commanded him not to touch only one fruit of the many fruits in the terrestrial Eden. This was the proof God had asked of Adam to confirm him in his state of innocence, holiness and happiness, and to give him the right of command over all creation. But Adam was not faithful in the test and, as a result, God could not trust him. So Adam lost his right of command [over himself and creation], and lost his innocence and happiness, whereby one may say that he turned the work of creation upside down.

Know, child of my Heart, that upon beholding the grave evils produced by the human will in Adam that were transmitted to all of his offspring, I, your Heavenly Mother, though barely conceived, wept hot and bitter tears over the fall of man. In seeing me cry, the Divine Will asked me to surrender my human will to the Divine Will as a sign and as proof [of my loyalty]. The Divine Fiat said to me: "I do not ask of you a fruit as I did with Adam, but your will. I ask you to engage your will as if it were not your own, [by cooperating with and] under the dominion of My Divine Will, so that it may establish within you its life and accomplish within you and with certainty whatever it desires. So in asking a proof [of my loyalty through a test] of my will, the Supreme Fiat took its fourth step in my soul; it waited for me to accept such a test and it awaited my Fiat".

Question: Was it that Mary still needed to suppress her human will to agree? When she said yes, was she able to live in God's Will continuously?

Answer: While Mary lived in *the state* of the gift of the Divine Will from the moment of her Immaculate Conception, she advanced in *degrees* in that same state with her ongoing loyalty to God in the tests she was faced with, and in her continuing acceptance of God's plan for mankind.