



WHAT
CHILD
IS THIS?



WHAT
WOMAN
IS THIS?

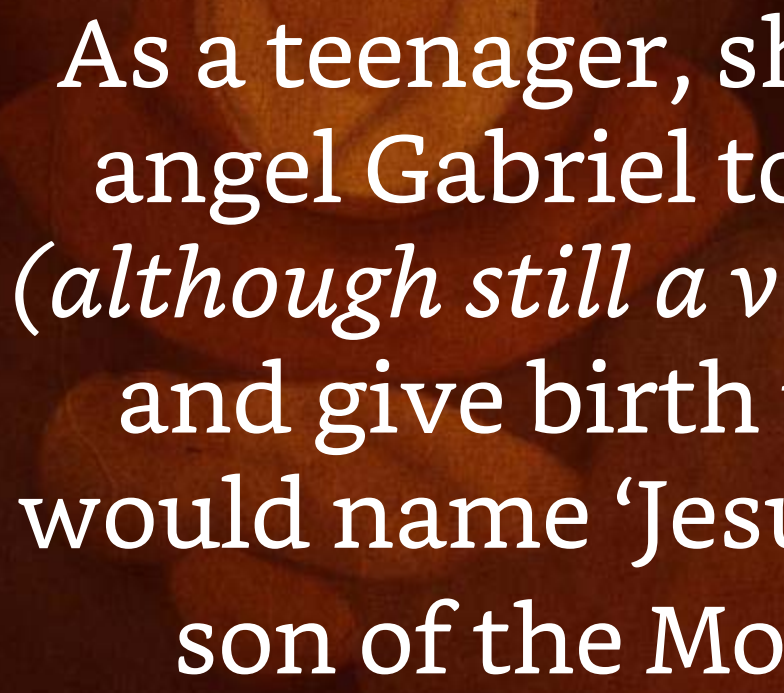
*How can she be called
the mother of God?*

Mary – woman & mother

Mary was conceived in the ordinary way, but without the stain of original sin.

She lived a life of dedication to God.

Mary – woman & mother



As a teenager, she was visited by the angel Gabriel to announce that she (*although still a virgin*) would conceive and give birth to a son, whom she would name 'Jesus', who would be the son of the Most High. (*Lk 1:31-32*)

Mary, mother of God?

*Mary was the only
human parent of Jesus,
for the child is conceived
by the Holy Spirit*





Mary, mother of God?

Mary is the mother of Jesus

Yet Jesus is the son of God and Lord

Jesus has two natures (*human and divine*) that are united in one person so that he is truly God and truly man, 'begotten, not made, of the same substance (*homoousios*) as the Father.'

“Following the holy Fathers, we unanimously teach and confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: the same perfect in divinity and perfect in humanity, the same truly God and truly man, composed of rational soul and body; consubstantial with the Father as to his divinity and consubstantial with us as to his humanity; “like us in all things but sin.” He was begotten from the Father before all ages as to his divinity and in these last days, for us and for our salvation, was born as to his humanity of the virgin Mary, the Mother of God.”

Council of Chalcedon, 451: DS 301

Quoted in Catechism Catholic Church, 467

“We confess that one and the same Christ, Lord, and only-begotten Son, is to be acknowledged in two natures without confusion, change, division, or separation. The distinction between the natures was never abolished by their union, but rather the character proper to each of the two natures was preserved as they came together in one person (*prosopon*) and one hypostasis.”*

Council of Chalcedon, 451: DS 302

Quoted in Catechism Catholic Church, 467

* Objective reality, as opposed to illusion.

Mary, mother of God

Gk: Theotokos
(*L:* Dei Genitrix)

‘the one who gave birth to God’

The humility of Mary

the one who said

'yes' to God

- *whose whole life
was about Jesus*

