



**Mary,
The Ark of
the NEW
Covenant**

St. Augustine, speaking with the wisdom of the Early Church Fathers, wrote, *“The New Testament lies hidden in the Old and the Old Testament is revealed in the New”*.

This statement means that unless one understands the Old Testament, one **cannot** understand the New Testament.

To fully understand our Blessed Mother's role in salvation history, we must first address the Old Testament Types and Prophecies about her. A good place to start is the idea that she is the **fulfillment** of the Old Testament *type* that is the Ark of the Covenant.

A “type” is a foreshadowing or precursor to the real thing. **ALL** NT fulfillments are *always* more glorious and perfect than their OT types – without exception.

Ark of the NEW Covenant

Some types and fulfillments include:

Adam/Jesus

Eve/Mary

David/Jesus

Moses/ Jesus

Jonah/Jesus

Eliakim/Peter

Paschal Lamb/Jesus

Ark of the NEW Covenant

The following comparison chart illustrates the Old Testament *type*, the **Ark of the Covenant** with the New Testament fulfillments of that type, **Mary**.

COMPARISON CHART:

Ark of the Covenant and Mary

OT - The Word was written by God on Tablets of Stone (**Ex. 25:10**) placed inside the Ark (**Deut. 10:1**)

NT - The Word of God became **Flesh** (**John 1**) conceived inside Mary (**Luke 2:38**) Mary carried the Word of God.

OT - "Who am I that the **Ark of my Lord should come to me?" (2 Sam. 6:9)**

NT - "Who am I that the **mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:43)**

OT - The When the Ark carrying the Word of God returned “David was **leaping and dancing** before the Lord” **(2 Sam. 6:14)**

NT - When Mary came into Elizabeth's presence carrying the word of God, the baby “**leaped for joy**” in Elizabeth's womb **(Luke 2:38)**

OT - The Ark carrying the Word of God is brought to the house of Obed-Edom for 3 months, where it was a blessing. (2 Sam. 6:11)

NT - Mary (the new Ark) carrying the Word of God goes to Elizabeth's house for 3 months, where she is a blessing (Luke 1:56)

OT - The Ark is captured (**1 Sam 4:11**) and brought to a foreign land and later returns (**1 Sam 6:13**)

NT - Mary (the new Ark) is exiled to a foreign land (Egypt) and later returns (**Matt. 2:14**)

OT - The On the **Day of the Dedication of the Temple** which Solomon built, there were 120 **priests** present (**2 Chron. 5:11**). The **Ark of the Covenant** was carried into the Temple (**2 Chron. 5:7**) and **fire came down** from Heaven to consume the burnt offering (**2 Chron. 7:7**).

NT - The On the **Day of Pentecost**, there were 120 **disciples** of Jesus (*priests*) present in the Upper Room (**Acts 1:15**). Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the **Ark of the NEW Covenant** was also present while the **Holy Spirit came down** as tongues of **fire** (**Acts 2:3**).

Contrary to popular opinion - the Bible was ***not*** written in Chapter and Verse. Every Book of the Bible was written as a long, continuous letter. Chapter and verse weren't added by the Church until the **Middle Ages**.

In the **Book of Revelation**, we see the **Ark of the New Covenant** in Heaven being spoken of at the very end of **Chapter 11, verse 19**:

*Then God's temple in heaven was opened, **and the Ark of his Covenant could be seen in the temple.***

There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder, an earthquake, and a violent hailstorm.

The very next verse is in **Chapter 12 (Rev 12:1)**:
A great sign appeared in the sky, a WOMAN clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Verse 2 says:

She was with child and wailed aloud in pain as she labored to give birth.

We know that this child is **Jesus** because in **verse 4**, we read:

She gave birth to a son, a male child, destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod.

Why would the Old Ark be represented here if Jesus completely fulfilled the Law (**Matt. 5:17-20**)? The **Old Ark** contained mere *symbols* of God's power, whereas the **New Ark** carried **GOD** Himself.

St. Paul wrote that the things of the Law were just **shadows** of what was to come. The reality was **CHRIST (Col. 2:16-17)**. The Ark in Heaven must therefore be the **NEW** Ark, as we see in the *next* verse . . .

There is simply no getting around the fact that the Woman here in **Revelation 12** is Mary. However, this symbol is *polyvalent*. A Polyvalent symbol can have multiple meanings.

The Woman also represents **Israel**, from which came the **12 Tribes** that produced the Messiah. The crown of 12 stars represents the 12 Tribes of Israel.

The 12 Stars also represent the **12 Apostles** who established the Church, from which we receive Christ, the Savior.

With the symbolism of this Heavenly Crown – we delve even deeper into the type and fulfillment of Mary as the **Queen Mother** – the **Queen of Heaven**.

But, that is another lesson and another class . . .