

## Scripture Reading

### A Reading from the Book of Genesis (*Genesis 3:13-15*)

The LORD God then asked the woman: What is this you have done? The woman answered, "The snake tricked me, so I ate it." Then the LORD God said to the snake: Because you have done this, cursed are you among all the animals, tame or wild; On your belly you shall crawl, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers. They will strike at your head, while you strike at their heel. The Word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

### Reflection ~ Why Satan hates our Blessed Mother Mary so much

**God the Father made Jesus and Mary the arch enemies of Satan, the Ancient Serpent (cf. Genesis 3:15).** Mary's unique role in the salvation of the human race is enshrined and prophesied in Sacred Scripture from the beginning. Whilst God has absolutely no need of Mary in His plan to save the world, He is pleased to accord to her the role that only the most obedient, the most faithful, the humblest, the purest, the strongest in love of God, of all His creatures can receive. Mary's role from the conception of Jesus to His death on the Cross, and after her Assumption into heaven, is so intimately united and intertwined with that of Christ, she has been aptly and widely called "Co-Redemptrix" by her devoted children. Satan, in his pride, has raged that God has chosen a young simple maiden to be his arch-enemy instead of a powerful, glorious angelic host from the heavenly court. However, God's power is in His grace which He makes available to His children through Mary, earning her the title "Mediatrix of All Graces." Because of her God-given, unique role in our salvation, Mary has been given great power to help her children overcome evil. The closer we are to Mary, the mold of God, the more she can mold us to be like her Son.

**Jesus makes Mary the Mother of all God's children (cf. John 19:26-27).** One of the important things Jesus did before He died on the Cross was to give Mary to St John the Apostle who represented all of God's children. This was done in public so all could witness this gift. Thus, in the order of grace, Mary is truly our Mother. And what a mother! None other than the Mother of God! We are privileged and honored to call her "Mother." The gift of Mary to humanity was more to benefit humanity than to console Mary. A whole world full of sinners can hardly be a good substitute for Her Son, Jesus Christ. However, Jesus knows each and every sinner needs the help of our Blessed Mother on the narrow road to our salvation. In the fourth commandment, God calls us to honor our parents, and that should include our Blessed Mother Mary as well.

**Jesus demonstrates the power of Mary's intercession.** Jesus changed the water into wine at the wedding festival in Cana, His first recorded miracle in the Gospel according to John, only at the request of our Blessed Mother (cf. John 2:1-12). St Louis de Monfort tells us that one word from Mary to her Son is more powerful than the prayers of the whole heavenly court which includes the glorious apostles and the intrepid martyrs! Souls advanced quickly to holiness once they get close to Mary.

**Touching the Heart of Mary through praying the holy rosary.** The holy rosary has been, is and will always be the most loved prayer in the Catholic Church after the Holy Mass. Many of Mary's devoted children have received significant graces through praying the rosary. Every "Hail Mary" prayer is like a blow on Satan's head! The famous exorcist priest, the late Fr Gabriele Amorth wrote: *One day a colleague of mine heard the devil say during an exorcism: "Every Hail Mary is like a blow on my head. If Christians knew how powerful the Rosary was, it would be my end!"* What do the popes and saints say about the rosary? "Among all the devotions approved by the Church none has been so favored by so many miracles as the devotion of the Most Holy Rosary." (Blessed Pope Pius IX). "The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary." (St. Pope Pius X). "The Rosary is the compendium of the entire Gospel" (Blessed Pope Paul VI quoting Pope Pius XII). "Never will anyone who says his Rosary every day be led astray. This is a statement that I would gladly sign with my blood." (St. Louis de Montfort). "Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world." (Blessed Pope Pius IX).

**Conversation with Jesus:** Precious Lord, thank You for the priceless gift of our Blessed Mother. Devotion to her is my most secure, easiest shortcut to Your Sacred Heart. Teach me imitate her sterling virtues especially her obedience, her faith and her purity. Bestow upon us the immense grace of a lively devotion to her. Teach us recourse to Mary like a young child turns to his mother. Solid Catholic prophesy has foretold of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the end of the age. As in Your First Coming, You will again come in Your Second Coming through Mary. Grant that all Your children be molded by Mary so that all can be prepared for God's Kingdom where we will receive our eternal crown of glory. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pray for us. Thank You, Jesus. Praise You, Jesus. [www.twohearts.hk](http://www.twohearts.hk)