

MARY MOTHER OF GOD, ICON OF FEMININITY

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Theology of Home

In an age of tremendous confusion about what it means to be a woman, Christian women have long had the Virgin Mary as a model of authentic womanhood. Contemporary trends, which have specifically targeted both motherhood and virginity, have rendered the Virgin Mary's influence "sterile" or negligible. I will look specifically at the trends that have attacked the key elements of the Virgin Mary – her virginity and motherhood – but also how these trends have spread throughout the broader culture, rendering us civilizationally sterile. I will then look at what Our Lady says in Scripture and how she embodies the three attributes that all women desire – to be loved, do the good, and be beautiful – which can reintroduce her as the ever-relevant woman. Mary continues to be a fresh role model that all women – whether we know it or not – need right now.