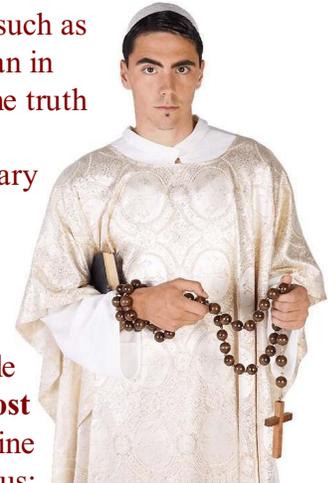


Is The Rosary The “Epitome of the Whole Gospel”?

A Rosary is a set of connecting beads used to count off various Catholic prayers such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be To The Father and Hail Holy Queen. It began in approximately 1090 AD and is considered by Catholicism to be a sacramental. The truth is, it dangerously exalts Mary’s importance to *salvation* and connects that to the “gospel.” Many extreme things have been stated about the importance of the Rosary by faithful Catholics, including the following.



The official position of present-day Catholicism declares:

“The liturgical feasts dedicated to the Mother of God and Marian prayer, such as the rosary, an ‘**epitome of the whole Gospel,**’ express this devotion to the Virgin Mary” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Liguori Publications, 1994 ed., p. 253, emphasis ours.)

“Your contemplative religious life is incomplete without a **love for Mary. This love for Mary is especially manifested by praying the Rosary.** The Rosary is suitable, beautiful and efficacious, according to present-day Catholicism” (*Vatican Council II*, Vol. 2, p. 251)!

“An example of a ‘practice of piety’ is the Rosary. This means **all Catholics show their ‘authentic devotion to Mary’ by reciting the Rosary.** Also, the Rosary is supposed to be ‘one of the best and most efficacious prayers’” (*Ibid.*, pp. 865, 866).

“The Rosary is begun and terminated in various ways. In the U.S., it commences with the recitation of an Our Father, three Hail Marys, and a Glory Be to the Father, and ends with the recitation of the **Hail Holy Queen** and the prayer from the Feast of the Rosary” (*The New Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. 12, 1967, p. 667).

The following is the Hail Holy Queen prayer, that is, the ending of the Rosary:

“Hail, Holy **Queen**, Mother of **Mercy**, hail, **our life, our sweetness, and our hope!** To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve! To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning

and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, **most gracious advocate**, thine eyes of **mercy** toward us; and after this, our exile, **show us** the blessed fruit of thy womb, **Jesus**. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!”

The Hail Holy Queen prayer—which proclaims Mary as **our life, sweetness, hope** and **most gracious advocate**—has an official endorsement from Vatican II. By calling Mary *our life*, present-day Catholicism is saying indirectly, through the Rosary, that she has a role in our salvation! According to the Bible, this is *another gospel* (Gal. 1:8,9) and if anyone believes statements like these regarding Mary, he will not get saved or stay saved! Please know, unlike the Hail Holy Queen prayer, Mary is **NOT** the Queen of Heaven, the one to whom we go to obtain mercy, our life, sweetness, hope or advocate. Neither can she bring us to Jesus.

Salvation Truths For Catholics

True salvation, according to the Bible, has nothing to do with the Rosary, Mary or Catholicism. True Biblical salvation centers around Jesus, without Mary. Jesus taught people to come directly to himself (with no mention of Mary) and people always found salvation when they did what he said. Various salvation sermons and examples of the *gospel* are stated in the New Testament, but never are Mary, the sacraments or being a Catholic ever included. For salvation, turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus 100% for your soul’s salvation as you follow and obey him. God bless you. †