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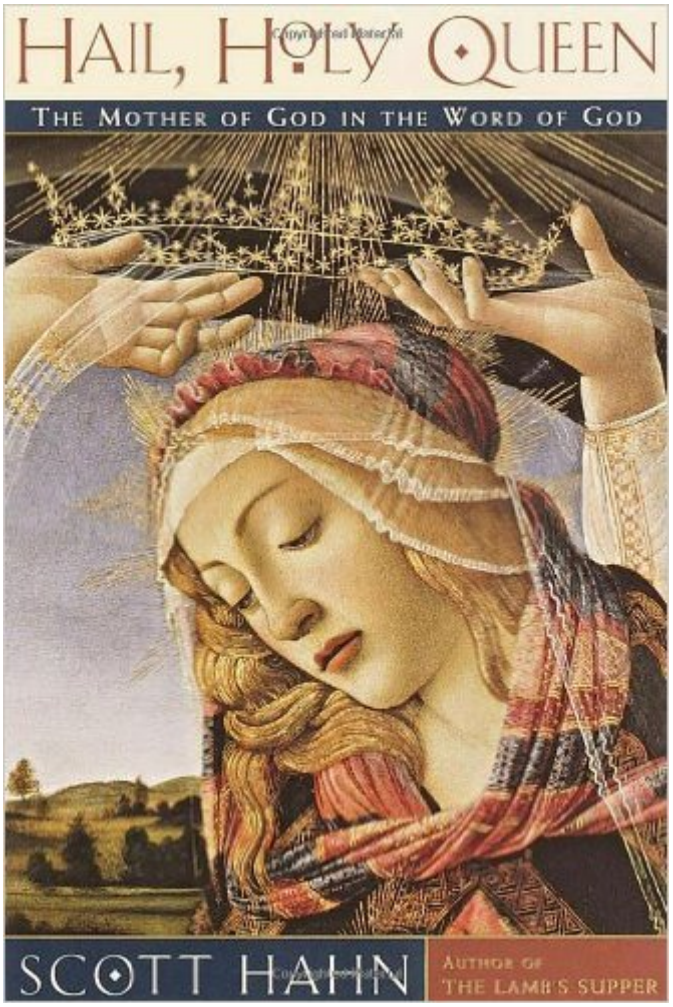
Hail, Holy Queen



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Synopsis

A fresh and enlightening new perspective on Mary, Mother of God, and her central importance in the Christian faith, from the author of the highly successful The Lamb’s Supper.In The Lamb’s Supper, Catholic scholar and apologist Scott Hahn explored the relationship between the Book of Revelation and the Roman Catholic Mass, deftly clarifying the most subtle of theological points with analogies and anecdotes from everyday life. In Hail, Holy Queen, he employs the same accessible, entertaining style to demonstrate Mary’s essential role in Christianity’s redemptive message.Most Christians know that the life of Jesus is foreshadowed throughout the Old Testament. Through a close examination of the Bible, as well as the work of both Catholic and Protestant scholars and clergy, Hahn brings to light the small but significant details showing that just as Jesus is the "New Adam," so Mary is the "New Eve." He unveils the Marian mystery at the heart of the Book of Revelation and reveals how it is foretold in the very first pages of the Book of Genesis and in the story of King David’s monarchy, which speaks of a privileged place for the mother of the king. Building on these scriptural and historical foundations, Hahn presents a new look at the Marian doctrines: Her Immaculate Conception, Perpetual Virginity, Assumption, and Coronation. As he guides modern-day readers through passages filled with mysteries and poetry, Hahn helps them rediscover the ancient art and science of reading the Scriptures and gain a more profound understanding of their truthfulness and relevance to faith and the practice of religion in the contemporary world.

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Customer Reviews

I didn’t want to read this book. I became a born-again believer fifteen years ago, and left the catholic church to join a local independent Reformed Baptist Fellowship. I found Jesus and the Bible. My wife did too. And then she started "backsliding," as Pastor White put it.It started when our catholic neighbors got us to listen to some of Scott Hahn’s tapes. They called themselves bible-believing catholics! That didn’t make sense to us. So we made a deal. We would listen to Hahn if they agreed to listen to our pastor’s sermons on tape. I thought they would see the light for sure. Then a funny thing happened on the way to Cape Cod last summer. That’s when we listened to Hahn’s "Answering Common Objections", five tapes all the way through. The next morning I found her on the beach reading the Hahn’s book, "Rome Sweet Home". I also found a copy of Hahn’s other book, "The Lamb’s Supper" in her beach bag. It turns out that our catholic neighbors were more generous than I thought, not just with tapes but books too. She finished them both in less than four days. Some vacation.That’s when I tried to call a halt to all the catholic nonsense. By then it was too late. My wife enrolled in RCIA in the fall and joined the catholic church last month at Easter... but not before she agreed to one more deal, this time with me.I gave her my well-worn copy of Dave Hunt’s book, "A Woman Rides the Beast", which tries to prove that the catholic church is the "Whore of Babylon" in Revelation. In exchange, I agreed to read Hahn’s new book, "Hail, Holy Queen", as soon as it came out.A slam dunk, right? Wrong.For one thing, she had no trouble ripping Hunt’s case to shreds, with the help of Karl Keating and Catholic Answers. On the other hand, I had no trouble seeing how the catholic church’s teaching about Mary comes straight from the Bible, the WHOLE Bible, not just the New Testament, but the Old. As Baptists, we had always used the New Testament alone. Hahn shows convincingly that the only way to really understand what Jesus says and does in the New Testament, is by rooting it in the Old Testament. Then he applies it to Mary, to show why the early church fathers all saw her as the New Eve, the Ark of the new covenant, and the Queen Mother of the son of David. The bottom line, Mary really is Christ’s masterpiece. Mary takes nothing away from her Son and Savior, since all her glory is His gift. It makes so much sense, and it is both true and beautiful.The story has a happy ending. After much prayer and study, I’ve decided to join my wife by rejoining the catholic church next month at pentecost. Thank you Lord, and Dr Hahn too.

There is no issue that tends to divide Catholics and Protestants more than the veneration of Our Blessed Mother Mary. Protestants just can’t understand this devotion to Mary, while Catholics can’t understand it’s absence. Scott Hahn, one of the leading defenders of the Catholic faith has taken on the subject in this book and has tried to explain in simple terms why Catholics venerate the Virgin

Mary.Hahn comes at this subject in a different way than most Catholic authors because he is a former Presbyterian minister. As such, he is able to grasp Protestant objections to Marian devotions and is able to present his information in a way that counters all possible objections. Furthermore, even though Hahn is a seminary graduate, he presents his information in a manner that will allow anyone to grasp what he is saying.This book will be especially valuable to new Catholics, those thinking about conversion, or any non-Catholic who wants to know more about the Catholic Church. It will also be valuable however to the so-called cradle Catholics who will find much information about Mary that they may have never been exposed to and any Catholic will be moved toward a greater devotion to Mary after reading this book.Anyone who is not familiar with the dogma of the Catholic Church will find one problem however. Hahn defends the Assumption of Mary in a very understandable way but it is never explained. Those unfamiliar with the Faith will come away convinced that the Assumption happened but still will not know the story of this event. The author does suggest a book on the subject in sort of an afterthought, but the book he suggests is by his own admission, out of print.This oversight, while important, still does not detract from the overall effectiveness of this book. The evidence is presented in a clear and well-written manner and will not be over most people’s head. It will however, be best understood if the reader keeps a Bible handy to further investigate the author’s references. For Catholic readers, this book is imprinted with a Nihil Obstat and an Imprimatur and therefore does not express any opinion contrary to Church doctrine. This book, although short, is bursting at the seams with information and should be on the reading list of all Catholics, possible converts, and any serious student of theology.

This book really hit me hard, and that came as big shock, especially for a Baptist like me. For one thing, I never thought that so much deep insight could come from such a relatively short and easy-to-read book. For another, I never realized before how the Catholic Church’s teachings about Mary were actually deeply rooted in Scripture. That is because I have been reading the Bible like most other Protestants, simply looking for proof-texts to shore-up what I was already taught. But now that I have discovered how to read the Bible typologically, I do not plan on ever going back to that.Does this mean becoming Catholic? I still don’t know for sure. However, it sure means that I can no longer use Mary as my excuse for staying out. As a lifelong Baptist, it feels very strange even to write those words. "Hail, Holy Queen" was not at all what I expected. I was ready for another set of apologetics arguments for Mary, like the ones I had heard from other Catholic apologists. I still do not know how to describe it, but this book is so different, in approach and tone and insight. It spoke both to my head and my heart. It made Mary more than convincing, it made the

truth of her divine motherhood compelling. Not just true but beautiful. Do not misunderstand what I am saying. This is not mystical babble or emotionalism. It is deep scriptural wisdom. It is also not Scott Hahn's clever way with words, it is the ancient teaching and living tradition of Catholicism.I still have a long way to go. Lots of other questions about purgatory and relics and the Mass. I have a funny feeling though that those teachings are probably as biblical as Mary. It is exciting and scary. Pray for me, and for my bewildered wife.

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