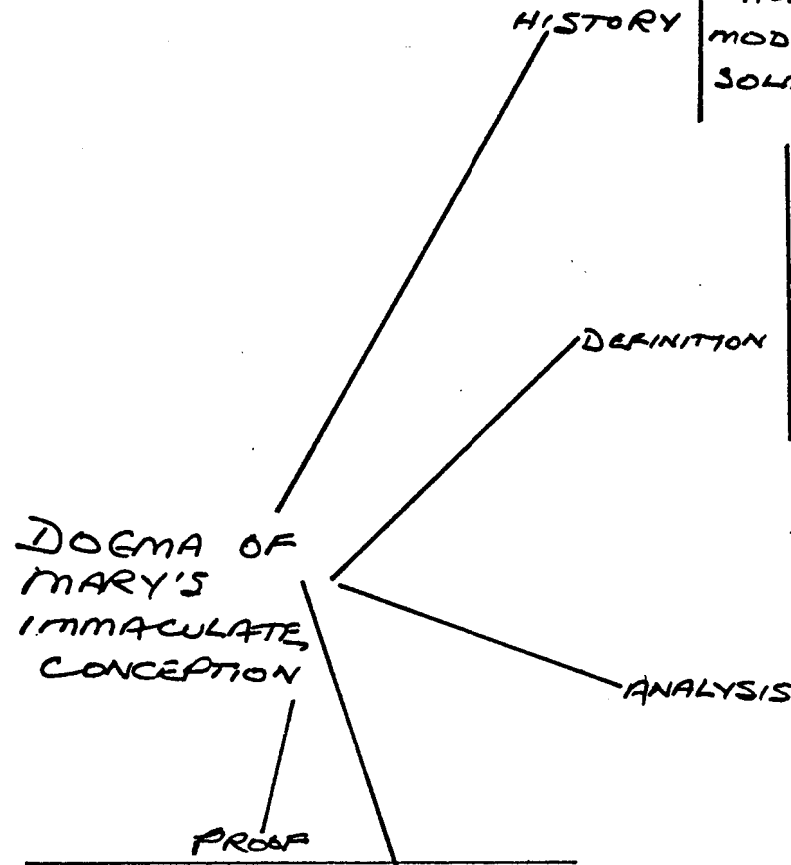


# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION I



EARLY CHURCH: IMPLICIT FAITH  
 PATRISTIC AGE: DEVELOPMENT OF DOCTRINE  
 SCHOLASTIC PERIOD: CONTROVERSY  
 MODERN TIMES: UNIVERSAL CATHOLIC ACCEPTANCE  
 SOLEMN DEFINITION: PIUS IX, DEC. 8, 1854.

TEXT: "The Most Holy Virgin Mary was, in the first moment of her conception, by a unique gift of grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of mankind, preserved free from all stain of original sin."

- ① Conception a moment of time in which Mary's soul was created by God and infused into the bodily matter prepared by Joachim and Anna.
- ② Essence of original sin consists in the lack of sanctifying grace. Mary was preserved from this defect. Therefore she came into existence
  - with sanctifying grace
  - with the infused virtues of faith, hope & charity
  - with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit
- ③ The Immaculate Conception is an absolutely unique gift, never before or after.
- ④ Christ's merits pre-redemmed His Mother.
- ⑤ Because Mary had no stain of original sin, she
  - Had no merely passions
  - Was not required to die
  - Would not have had to suffer

I. SCRIPTURE  
 - "I will put enmity between you & the woman, between her seed and yours, and" (GEN. 3:15)  
 - "Hail, full of grace" (LK. 1:28).  
 (KECHARITOMENE).

II. TRADITION  
 Earliest thinking of Mary's sinlessness

IMPLICATIONS

1. Mary was impeccable. She was preserved from all actual sin through life.
2. Mary was spared from concupiscence, or all merely passions.
3. Mary was not subject because she was subject to the debt of sin, namely bodily sin - mortality and suffering. Yet she endured pain in conformity with her Son.