The Bible does not explicitly state Mary’s age when the angel Gabriel visited her to announce that she would conceive Jesus by the Holy Spirit. Neither does it provide details about her tribe or family lineage. These details are not emphasized in Scripture because they are not essential for our faith or salvation.

What Scripture reveals is that Mary was betrothed to Joseph (see Luke 1:27), which in Jewish culture typically involved young women in their teenage years—often between 12 and 16 years old. Being betrothed meant she was considered legally pledged for marriage, so she was mature enough to understand the significance of Gabriel’s message. Mary is described as “a virgin” (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27), highlighting her purity and the miraculous nature of Jesus’ conception.

Theologically, Mary’s virginity fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah:

Isaiah 7:14 (ESV):
“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

This prophecy underscores the divine origin of Jesus, emphasizing that He would be born of a virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit,

signifying His unique identity as both fully God and fully man.

It is important to understand that Scripture focuses on Mary’s faith and obedience rather than her age or tribal affiliation. These “secret things” belong to God, as stated in:

Deuteronomy 29:29 (NIV):
“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law.”

Some traditions elevate Mary beyond what Scripture teaches, attributing to her special powers or intercessory roles. However, the Bible presents Mary as a faithful servant of God, chosen for a unique purpose but still fully human and dependent on God’s grace, just like all believers.

Throughout Scripture, many faithful servants of God are honored, but none except Jesus Christ is worthy of worship. For example, Elijah was a man with a nature like ours:

James 5:17 (NIV):
“Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly

that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years."

Even though Elijah was taken up to heaven, the Bible makes clear that he was human. Only Jesus is truly divine and the object of our worship because of His unique redemptive work.

Revelation 5:8-9 (ESV):
"And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying,
'Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.'"

This passage affirms Jesus' worthiness of worship because He sacrificed Himself to redeem humanity.

Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Have you been baptized in obedience to Him?

If not, today is the time to respond. Scripture warns us that these

are the last days, and Jesus is near, ready to come into your life:

Revelation 3:20 (NIV):
“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”

May God richly bless you!

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