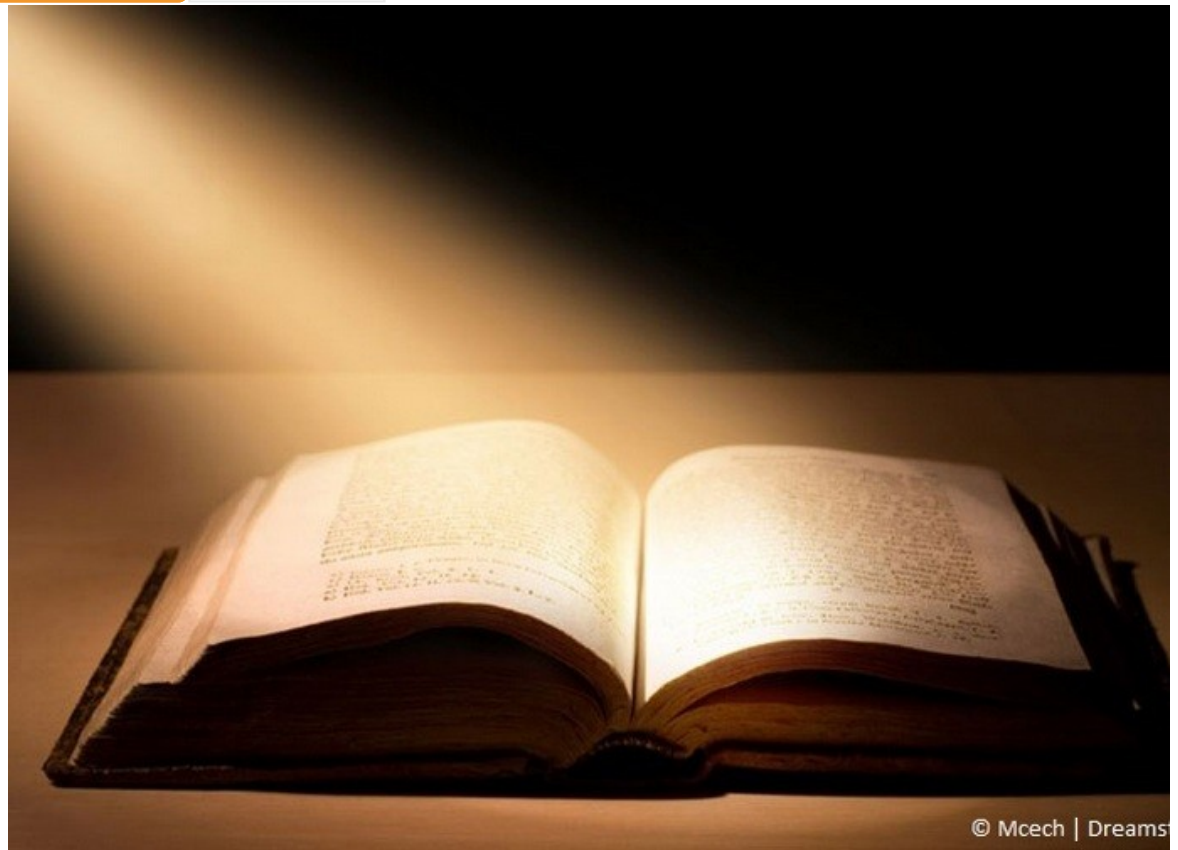


GOSPEL PEARLS

Putting God before ourselves

FRAGMENTOS DEL EVANGELIO

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While he was still speaking to the people, behold, his mother and his brothers stood outside, asking to speak to him. But he replied to the man who told him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother. (Matthew 12: 46-50)

It is not enough to be related to Jesus in order for us to please Him. What counts most is submitting our own will to His Father's divine Will, that is, to be disposed to love God even when one is not able to understand His plans for us. So Mary is not blessed just because she is the mother of Jesus. She became blessed because she did God's will as soon as it was revealed to her. May we always put God before our own desires.