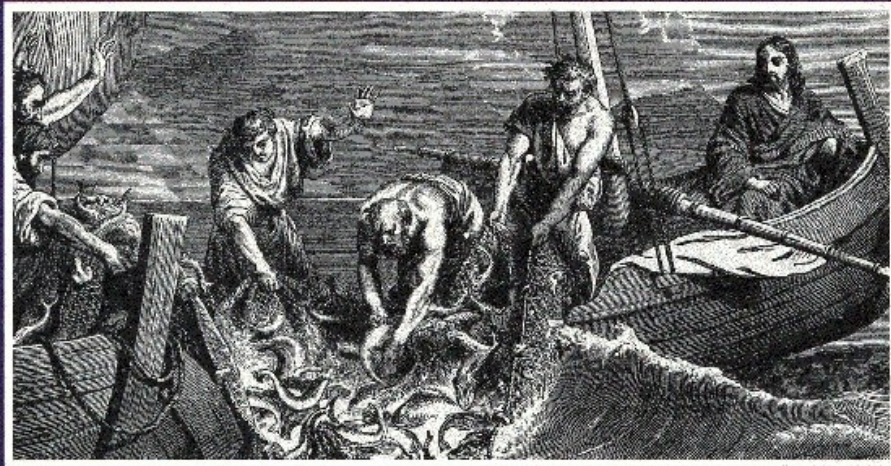


— REVEREND —
SUN MYUNG MOON



The Life and Mission of
JESUS CHRIST

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The Life and Mission of Jesus Christ

Sun Myung Moon

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Preface

Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon came to America in 1971, according to God's calling. As the culmination of their 30 years of public ministry in America, they successfully completed their 50-state speaking tour from February 25 to April 16, 2001. During the 51-day tour, despite his age of 81, Reverend Moon delivered God's message with every ounce of his energy and heart.

During the visit to each state, many American clergymen and women welcomed Reverend and Mrs. Moon warmly. On behalf of Reverend and Mrs. Moon, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of them. At the same time, Reverend Moon earnestly requested America, the second Israel, to carry a torch in building the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in spirit world. I wish and pray that America will fulfill this holy mission.

Rev. Sun Myung Moon had his first encounter with Jesus at the age of 16, while praying early on the morning of Easter Sunday. He tells us that he was commissioned by Jesus to carry out the task of

building the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Thereafter, without resting even one day, he has lived the life of a pioneer, spreading God's message throughout the world. His life can simply be summarized as a life of carrying the cross while enduring misunderstanding, persecution, and ordeal.

In the early days of his church, Reverend Moon could not help but cry out whenever he talked about Jesus. He went beyond simple belief in Jesus, desiring to comfort him with tears, tears that welled up with grief from deeply understanding Jesus' inner situation and heart.

This book consists of a collection of excerpts on Jesus from Reverend Moon's speeches which were taken from the more than 400 volumes of his speeches. In some areas, such as the stories of Jesus' miracles, Reverend Moon has said little. In other areas, such as Jesus' birth, his self-disclosure as bridegroom, his relationship with his family, his relation to John the Baptist, his ethical teachings and his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, Reverend Moon has said so much that we could only include a mere fraction.

Readers unfamiliar with the teachings of Reverend Moon will find that some of his explanations differ from the traditional view. "I did not come to tell you what you already know," Reverend Moon has said, "but to give a new revelation from God." Whether or not one accepts this assertion, I am confident that the selections included in this volume will both challenge and inspire the reader.

The editors have used the New International Version of the Bible for the scriptural quotations presented at the beginning of each section. However, in the body of his talks, Reverend Moon often quotes other versions such as the King James or Revised Standard. These quotations stand as originally rendered. I am grateful to the team who assembled this book, especially to Michael Inglis who conceived and directed the work, to Dan Fefferman and Andrew Wilson for their excellent editing, to Jonathan Gallery for his beautiful design, to Alex Colvin and Steve Honey for choosing and editing the selections, and to Louise Perlowitz for her careful proofreading.

In anticipation of the day when the entire set of speeches of Reverend Moon will be published in English, this book is offered in commemoration of the completion of his historic 50-state speaking tour.

Easter Sunday, April 15, 2001

Dr. Chang Shik Yang
Continental Director of North America
Family Federation for World Peace and Unification

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Jesus' Birth And Youth

Then Simeon blessed them and said to Man; his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Luke 2:34-35

The Beginning

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made...

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory; the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:1-14

The pattern of creation that God wanted to enjoy centering on human beings was not realized on this earth due to the fall of Adam and Eve, our progenitors. God created all existence in six days through the Word. All created beings ... hoped for one mediator, one center that would enable all of creation to move if God moves and rest if God rests. If human beings had become such a center, the chaotic history that has unfolded on this earth would not have taken place.

God's hope was to see one existence emerge who could represent him and who would be able to take action on his behalf. God not only wished for this in the course of providential history after the human Fall; it was the center of God's hope from the time of the creation.

Jesus came as the incarnation of the Word. At the same time, centering on God's love, he must become the embodiment of life ... In the Bible, there is a verse that reads, "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6) Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. This signifies that, although due to the fall of Adam and Eve, God's word went back unchanged to God's spirit without being attained on earth; God again bestowed this word upon humanity through one man living on this earth... With the appearance of Jesus, the Word that had been buried in God's mind could be transferred to Jesus' heart. This is the most joyful good news for humankind.

What must Jesus have felt when, after appealing as the substantial being of this historical Word, he announced the Word? What was in his heart? Jesus knew that his words represented the will of the historical providence. What's more, he felt the deep heart of his words, which represented, what was hidden in God's mind. He understood that his words were the words that would begin Gods history of re-creation which would continue until God's will was attained on earth for the whole of eternity

Jesus, the incarnation of the truth, said, "I am the way and the truth." What was the purpose of these words of Jesus? Jesus spoke in order for human beings to become incarnations of the Word like him. This would be attained only if people came to believe in Jesus' words.

Let Us Be the People Who Attend God

February 2, 1958

The Only Begotten Son

In the Bible, Jesus is described as the "only begotten Son." What does this mean? Jesus was the only person who inherited the total love and total lineage of God, and the only person who could represent it. For that reason, he had the power of God's lineage flowing through him. That is why he is the Savior.

We know that God is the Father of mankind; furthermore, Jesus is the only begotten Son of that God. Therefore, it is only through Jesus that we can be connected to the lineage of God; otherwise, God's lineage cannot flow through mankind.

True Parents and I

June 15, 1986

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but shall have eternal life." The most important part of that verse is that God loved the world. However, many Christians put the greatest emphasis upon the second part of the verse, forgetting the most important thing: that God so loved the world. God did not love the church or the individual so much that he sent his only begotten Son. It was because God loved the world, the universe, so much. Thus Jesus is the one who was meant to save the world. When we believe in Jesus, the world is very much in our minds. God is in Jesus and Jesus is in God.

Perfection of Restoration by Indemnity through Human Responsibility

March 1, 1983

"I am the way and the truth and the light. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6

Jesus was born without sin. Jesus came without having anything to do with satanic blood. It had been completely separated from him -- God had prepared this line for a long, long time, so that Jesus could come as a sinless child. Therefore, he was indeed able to claim: "I am the only begotten Son, the only Son of God."

In human history; this was the first time a sinless child was born on earth. "I am one with God," Jesus said. "The person who has seen me has seen the Father," he said. In the 14th chapter of the Book of John, Jesus says, "I am in my Father and you in me: and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." So Jesus came to restore the sinless position of love, the love that had been lost since the time of Adam. This fact has not been known until now.

There is a reason, a most important reason, why no one could come to the Father except by going through Jesus. He is our only bridge, our only hope, our only channel for reaching God. Therefore, Jesus proclaimed, "I am The Way. The Truth, and The Life. and without going through me, no one reaches the Father."

There have been in human history many saints, many religious geniuses, and many wise men. But no one else could play the role of Jesus, who alone brings us to the Father. This is because he came in a stainless, sinless position which no one else has. He is the only channel to reach God. Though Buddha, Confucius, and Mohammed were all religious saints, they did not have the same

relationship with God that Jesus had. Therefore, the birth of Jesus as the Messiah was the day of hope for all humankind.

The New Messiah and the Formula of God in History

February 21, 1972

The Genealogy Of Jesus

A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar: Perez the father of Herron, Herron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadah, Amminadah the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Anton, Anton the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, Solomon the. After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, Abiud the father of Eliahim. Eliahim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elias, Elias the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the

father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ.

Matthew 1:1-17

Why was Jesus' family tree described in such detail in the Bible? It reveals God's effort to create an unstained lineage out of which Jesus could be born. The struggle of Esau and Jacob, the special situation of Joseph's mother Rachel, and [the story of] Tamar are all significant. The Bible records some things that seem to be irregular, but it was necessary so that the satanic lineage could be liquidated, allowing a new ancestor to emerge.

Parents, Children and (he World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983

For a Son to be born on earth with this seed of God's love and life, there first must exist a mother. And the mother cannot give birth to this child in a conventional way Conception must happen through the formula of restoration. All the cooperation between mothers and sons in the Providence of Restoration is a preparation and a condition for the Son of God to be born with the seed of new life, free from satanic accusation. By making conditions to avoid Satan's attacks, and by subordinating the firstborn son who represents evil, mother and son restore the love, life, and lineage that were taken over by Satan.

For example, Rebecca deceived her husband Isaac and her first son Esau, and helped her second son Jacob receive the blessing. (Genesis 27) God took the side of that mother and son, and although they used methods that at first glance seem unjust, God still blessed them for their actions.

In Adam's family Cain and Abel fought outside the womb. Their struggle resulted in the death of Abel, the second son. Then came Jacob. On the merits of the sacrifices of many godly people since the time of Abel, Jacob at last caught up to the level at which Satan first dominated humankind. Then Jacob dealt with his twin brother, Esau. At the ford of Jabbok, Jacob set up the condition of spiritual victory over the angel. (Genesis 32:28) And through winning over Esau (Genesis 33), who was in the position of the substantial body of the Archangel, Jacob consequently was blessed as the first victor in history; and was given the name "Israel." But by then he was already in his fortieth year.

Satan sowed the seed of false love within the womb of Eve, which gave birth to evil life. Therefore, God needed to purify a mother's womb from which the heavenly Son could be born. That purification period of separation from Satan had to begin at the time of conception and continue to age forty, so even though Jacob was victorious he did not meet that criteria. The great mother who assumed the responsibility to meet this condition was Tamar.

Tamar had married Er, the eldest son of Judah. (Genesis 38) But Er displeased God and he died. According to the custom of that time, Judah gave Tamar his second son, Onan, that they might bear a child for Er. But Onan, knowing that Tamar's child would not be his own, spilled his semen on the ground. This was a sin in the eyes of God, for which Onan died. Then Tamar wanted Shelah, the third son of Judah, for a husband, but Judah did not give him to her. Judah thought that his two sons had died because of Tamar, so he was afraid that Shelah would die and end the family lineage. But Tamar had the conviction that she was to carry on the lineage of the chosen people.

View of the Principle of the Providential History of Salvation

April 16, 1996

Tamar disguised herself as a prostitute and slept with Judah, her father-in-law. In doing this she prevailed in faith over her father-in-law and husband in order to pass on the lineage of God. It was a revolutionary, life-risking act on her part. From her womb, the elder and younger brother relationship was restored.

Total Calculation or Accounting of God's Historical Providence

December 25, 1994

Two brothers, Perez and Zerah, were struggling inside Tamar's womb. At the time of delivery the brother who was later named Zerah reached his hand out of his mother's womb. In order to clearly mark who was first born, the midwife tied a red thread around his wrist... After the red thread was tied on, however, a great struggle took place in Tamar's womb, in which Perez fiercely pulled Zerah back in and was born first himself! Thus, the name Perez means "he who pushed aside."

The victory won by Jacob [younger] over Esau [elder] was consummated to the mother's womb through Perez and Zerah. Now restoration was complete in that lineage and there was no room for Satan to exert any claim, even from the time of conception in the womb. That family tree continued uninterrupted for 2,000 years down through the birth of Jesus. As you can see, God prepared a foundation that was totally cleansed from the root, so that at an opportune time God could have a sinless Son out of that lineage, over whom Satan could have no claim...

After 4,000 years of biblical history since the fall of Adam and Eve, the time finally arrived for the birth of the Messiah. It was Mary who was chosen to fulfill that most extraordinary dispensation in the sight of God. She was a culmination of all God's work through 4,000 biblical years of history

and the pinnacle of this dispensation.

The Day of the Victory of Heaven
October 4, 1979

The Annunciation

Mary when she was engaged to Joseph, received from the Archangel Gabriel the surprising message that the Messiah would be born through her. (Luke 1:31) In those days, if an unmarried woman became pregnant, she could be killed. But Mary accepted the will of God with absolute faith, saying, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

Mary immediately left her home and journeyed to consult with the priest Zechariah, who was her relative and was highly respected. Zechariah's wife Elizabeth, with the help of God, was pregnant with John the Baptist. She said to Mary, "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43) With these words she testified to the coming birth of Jesus. In this way, God let Mary, Zechariah, and Elizabeth know about the birth of the Messiah before anybody else. All of them had the absolutely crucial mission of following the will of God and sewing Jesus. Zechariah's family let Mary stay in their house. Jesus was conceived in the house of Zechariah.

Elizabeth and Mary were cousins on their mothers' side. But according to God's providence, they were considered sisters, with Elizabeth as the elder (Cain) and Mary as the younger (Abel). Mary received Elizabeth's help in the presence of Zechariah. Through this cooperation, Zechariah's family, on the national level, indemnified the lack of unity between mother and son with Leah and Rachel in Jacob's family. (Genesis 29-30) This allowed Jesus to be conceived. For the first time in history, there could be born on earth, free of satanic accusation and through a prepared womb, the seed of the Son of God. In this way, the only begotten

"How will this be." Mary' asked the angel, "Since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I aint the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her:

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is

from the Holy

Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:18-21

The Son of God, the owner of the first love of God, was born for the first time in history.

Mary had to achieve something that could not be understood by common sense, nor easily tolerated under the law of those times. Mary, Elizabeth, and Zechariah had been spiritually moved. They followed the revelation that came from God, and unconditionally believed that it was the will and desire of God.

Although the Son of God could be born on earth, he needed a wall of protection to grow up safely in the satanic world and fulfill the will of God. God had hoped that these three people in the family of Zechariah would establish that protective foundation. There are many points to consider with regard to how seriously the three had to dedicate themselves to protecting and serving the Son of God, and how long they should have been united with each other.

In the Bible it is recorded, "And Mary remained with her [Elizabeth] about three months, and returned to her home." (Luke 1:56) After that, there is no biblical record of any further communication between Mary; Elizabeth, and Zechariah. From the time Mary left Zechariah's house, difficulties began for Mary and Jesus. The family of Zechariah should have been the wall of protection for Jesus until the very end...

Because Mary made up her mind to give her life for the mission of God, God cooperated to help her. An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, telling him not to fear taking Mary as his wife. Joseph was also a man of God, and where another man might have dismissed this as but an absurd dream, he took it seriously. He turned his back on the external appearance of the situation and accepted it as God's will. He took Mary as his wife, knowing that she was carrying a child that was not his. Do you think that as a matter of course he asked her whose baby it was, since after all he had saved her life? Could she reply that she conceived through the Holy Spirit and expect Joseph to accept it?

But Joseph was a righteous man. He believed in the revelation of God and defended Mary, saying the pregnancy was his responsibility. Mary may have been ridiculed for becoming pregnant during her engagement, but she had avoided death by stoning. Joseph, who loved Mary, protected her this way in the beginning. However, there was a great deal of anguish deep in his heart.

View of the Principle of the Providential History of Salvation

April 16, 1996

Christ

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went (here to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:4-7

The Christian world honors Christmas by setting up nativity scenes of Jesus in a manger. Actually a manger is a very lowly place. They celebrate Jesus' being placed in a manger, but is this the kind of place God's Son, the King of kings, should be born? Do you think God truly wanted his Son to be born in a stable?

What about Jesus' mother, who knew through revelation what kind of son she was bearing? Do you think she was happy that her son, the Messiah, was born in a stable? I'm sure Mary would have thought that the Son of God would deserve more than the most elegant palace. The appropriate way for the Son of God to arrive would be with announcements of hour-by-hour bulletins and a proclamation throughout the land when he arrived.

If the priests, scribes, and rulers of Israel had known of Jesus' coming, I'm sure that during the months before his birth everyone would have been eagerly awaiting his arrival, and would have come to worship even before he was born. Mary would have been treated like a queen wherever she went. A record would have been kept of everything she did -- if she ate a snack, how many times she went to the bathroom, how long she slept. If people had truly known that the Son of God was in Mary's womb, the twelve tribes of Israel would all have competed in trying to serve him before his birth.

If that had been the case, do you think the people would ever have allowed him to be born in a stable? A great fanfare would have been prepared, great bells readied to ring and bands to play. Should the birth of the Son of God be an event greater than America's Independence Day? America preserves her cracked Liberty Bell, but a small bell that rang to herald the day of Jesus' birth would be preserved in a shrine as a priceless item. If there were a record of people fighting each other to be the first to offer the new baby some gift at his birth, would that make Jesus unhappy?

Day of the Victory of Heaven

October 4, 1979

Jesus came after God had worked for 4,000 years in preparation. After all that preparation the greatest event was the coming of God's Son to this earth. Is the fact that he then came in such a humble way to a lowly place the pride or shame of history? Ultimately Jesus was crucified, but if Jesus had begun his life in the recognition that he was the Son of God, would the history of his life have been different? Truly he would have been treated as the king of Israel. Furthermore, if he had been embraced by the chosen people, then he should have received more glory as God's representative than the emperor of Rome.

God wanted to see all the great priests of the day gather to hold the holy child. If Jesus had been recognized from the moment of his birth as the Son of God and the long-awaited Messiah, then all the chiefs of the 12 tribes would have competed to serve him as he was growing up... From the early days Jesus would have known he was born as the Son of God and his mission was to be the King of Kings, who would initiate God's kingdom here on earth. Would history have been different then? Then wouldn't the entire world celebrate Jesus' birth, generation after generation?

Will fruitcake and ice cream make a merry Christmas? Christmas is truly the celebration of the birth of God's Son, but without knowing God's purpose for sending him there cannot truly be a celebration of Christmas... After hearing me speak, "Merry Christmas" becomes "Concerned Christmas." The true content of Christmas is the amount of love you gave during the year. That is far more dazzling than any amount of decorations.

The True Meaning of Christmas

December 25, 1979

The Boy Jesus

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

Luke 2:41-51

More children were born to Mary and Joseph, and they all knew that somehow Jesus was different. The Bible does not speak directly about this, but the fact is that when Jesus was a boy there was a great deal of tension, and even Mary was distant with him at times because she was a victim of the everyday situation. Jesus was lonely as a child and often left the house to be alone. Once his parents even left him behind in Jerusalem, only coming back to find him after three days. How could parents leave a young boy behind that way? There were not many happy days in his family.

I'm sure many of you have grown up with a stepparent, and even in an open society like America's today there is tension between a stepparent and stepchildren, so imagine how much more difficult it was 2,000 years ago. In this sense Americans are in a position to be sympathetic with Jesus' position; many young people are experiencing the same kind of suffering Jesus went through.

Day of the Victory of Heaven

October 4, 1979

Jesus grew up in the midst of a complicated relationship between Mary and Joseph. Even as a child, Jesus sensed that there was something tangled between them. Between Joseph and Jesus there was no blood relationship, so they were like strangers to each other. On Mary's part, even though she may have wanted to do things for her son, like make clothes for him, she had to find out if on that day Joseph was in a good or bad mood. Jesus could sense clearly that his parents had an inner quarrel because of him...

What about Jesus' brothers? His brothers could sense that there was some untold, entangled story centered on Jesus. That's why even they could not trust or believe in what Jesus was doing. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Furthermore, not only Joseph but also all of Jesus' relatives came to know that.

Jesus worked as an assistant to his carpenter father while inwardly preparing for his mission. He knew that he was going to do a great mission under God's guidance. Sometimes Jesus felt like asking his mother, "Why, why am I treated like this? Who is my father? What is your problem and how does it fit in?" Mary could never answer Jesus. There was an emotional distance between Mary and the child.

As time went by, Jesus came to know what to do and what direction he was headed. God told him about his mission. To carry out his mission, he had to pass through a period of preparation and to prepare a good environment to help him. He could not expect people to receive him without that foundation. Jesus always wished that his own parents, brothers, and relatives could help him in the mission. If his parents would not help him, then who else would?

Jesus came as the master of love, the prince of love, and the center of love. He should have received more love -- from his parents, from his brothers and sisters, and from his relatives and neighbors -- than anyone else in the world. But we cannot say that he received such love from anyone... How full of grief must Jesus' heart have been! The kingdom of God is supposed to be the kingdom of love. Jesus, who came as the center of love, should have established that kind of family first of all. But it seemed hopeless to him, so he had to flee from his home. He was then 30 years old.

On Jesus' Family

December 25, 1971

Jesus resolved during his 30 years of preparation to carry out a successful battle in the future through a life of practice. He determined that even if he would have to become a sacrifice due to the ostracism of the Jews, he would take this or that kind of path and establish such and such kinds of methods. He had many such ideas that no one else even imagined. He planned that, if the people believed in him, he would take such and such measures; if they did not believe, then he would do this and that. While no one else was concerned about heaven, Jesus was deep in prayer.

During the 30 years that he spent in the family of Joseph, he could not express joy when his brothers and sisters were joyful. When his relatives and the congregation in the synagogue rejoiced, he could not rejoice. Although Jesus had many things to say, he had to remain silent. We need to understand the sorrow that Jesus experienced during those 30 years of preparation. Even though he desperately wanted to witness to the truth by going from place to place throughout Israel, he had to help with his family affairs. Since Jesus was about to pioneer the kingdom of heaven, there was not a day when he in his heart did not visit the realm of God's ideals at least several times. We need to understand that Jesus was this kind of person.

No one on earth recognized Jesus' internal suffering, yet God was on his side. When Jesus was shaving wood with a plane or was cutting a piece of wood with an ax, he wanted to experience the heart and situation of God and build the kingdom of heaven that God desired. Even when he was taking a break after a meal, this desire of his heart did not fade away. There was not a moment when he did not have these thoughts.

Picture Jesus and his heart as he was making preparations. Even if the clothes that he wore were poor and the expression on his face pitiful, his gaze was unmatched by any conqueror or pioneer of the earth. His gaze could connect with the heart of God and see through the universe. Accordingly, as he looked at the world with this heart and perspective, he could not help feeling miserable and tortured. He could not avoid sorrow.

His gaze was for the sake of the Jewish people; his heart was for the sake of the nation of Israel and the entire world. This is why Jesus shed endless tears. When he heard the rumor that someone was about to pass away; he felt that it was he himself. If there was someone who was unjustly persecuted or wronged, he felt that it was he who was undergoing the privations. In his heart, Jesus looked at all the tragic affairs of his community as if they were unfolding in his life.

The Incarnation of Jesus, a Pioneer
February 1, 1959

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Jesus' Early Ministry

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor:

Luke 4:18-19

John The Baptist

When Zechariah saw the sign, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah: your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John..."

He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth. Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God.

And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous -- to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Luke 1:12-17

I am sure that many people who read the Bible must have wondered about John, "If he were such a great man, why did he not become the chief disciple of the Son of God?"

Jesus himself indicated the mission that John the Baptist came to fulfill: "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come." (Matt. 11:13) John the Baptist represented the consummation of the Old Testament, the law, and the prophets. He was the prince of the old age. Jesus Christ came as the prince of the new age. Had he been supported by John the Baptist, he could have stood upon the firm foundation of the Old Testament Age. Then the new age could have blossomed in the fertile soil of the accomplishments of the old age. The Son of God could have established his glorious kingdom at once. And John the Baptist would have been the cornerstone of that kingdom.

Had John the Baptist followed Jesus, the distinguished leaders of that society would have been the first to accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God. Then who would have crucified the Lord of glory?

When God sent his only Son to this world to establish his kingdom on earth, don't you think he wanted to be followed by the most able people of his age? Do you think that God wanted only the outcasts of society to follow Jesus? Not at all! The simple failure of John the Baptist broke the link between the Son of God and the people. As a result, only fishermen, tax collectors, harlots, and lepers followed Jesus Christ. This brought great grief to the heart of God.

The book of Malachi in the Old Testament had a parallel purpose to the Book of Revelation in the New Testament. It shows clearly the timetable and the last-minute description of how the Messiah

would come. In Malachi, you will find these words: "I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes." (Mal. 4:5) Elijah had ascended into heaven in a chariot of fire in a whirlwind, according to the Old Testament. So people believed that Elijah would literally return from the blue sky in a chariot of fire and announce the Son of God. This is what the people expected.

But did Elijah come? The problem was, Elijah did not return in the manner people expected. The people never heard anything about his miraculous return. However, one day a young man from Nazareth, whose name was Jesus, was being proclaimed by his followers as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Now this was John's testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ."

They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No."

John 1:19-21

What was the people's reaction? "Impossible!" they said. "How could Jesus of Nazareth be the Son of God? We have not heard anything about Elijah." No Elijah, no Messiah. In order to accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God, they would have had to disregard their 4,000-year-old tradition and throw their Bible away. But no one was willing to do that.

Malachi's prophecy of the coming of Elijah was indeed an obstacle to Jesus' successful ministry. When Jesus' disciples went out all over Israel teaching the gospel and proclaiming Jesus as the Son of God, the people repudiated their words, saying, "If your master is the Son of God, where is Elijah? The book says Elijah must come first." Jesus' disciples were not well prepared to answer this question... So the embarrassed disciples one day decided to go to Jesus to ask for his help in the matter. An account appears in Matthew:

The disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" He replied, "Elijah does come, and he is to restore all things; but I tell you Elijah has already come."... Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Matt. 17:10-13

Let us imagine we could transpose these events to our time. John the Baptist of 2,000 years ago was a person of tremendous influence, enjoying great prestige all over Israel as a great man of God -- just like Billy Graham of today, a great Christian leader. Let us say that some unknown young man suddenly appeared and began proclaiming himself to the world as the Son of God...and saying that Billy Graham was Elijah. You would undoubtedly say, "Impossible! How could Billy Graham be Elijah? He did not come out of the blue sky. We all know he came from North Carolina!" Precisely this same kind of unbelief confronted our Lord Jesus Christ... Yet Jesus continued to preach with power and authority in spite of scornful public opinion. The people could not dismiss such a man lightly, so they decided to go ask John the Baptist himself and settle their questions once and for all. They asked John, "Who are you?"...

John the Baptist denied everything. He said, "I am not Elijah." He even denied the title of prophet. Everyone knew and recognized him as a prophet of God, but he said, "I'm no prophet." Why? He evaluated the situation and knew that Jesus Christ was treated by his own society as an outcast. Jesus seemed to be a loser, and John decided not to side with Jesus. He thought it would be much better to deny everything.

By doing so, John the Baptist pushed Jesus into a corner, making him seem a great impostor without

defense. After John's denial, Jesus had no further recourse on this point. We can read in Matthew that John the Baptist, waiting in prison to be beheaded, sent two of his own disciples to Jesus to ask the following question: "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" (Mat. 11:3) Is this the question of a man who has faith in Jesus as the Son of God? John the Baptist had earlier testified to Jesus at the Jordan River: "I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." (John 1:34) Yet this very same person, with the very same tongue, was now confronting Jesus by asking, "Are you really the Messiah, or shall we go and look for somebody else?" How disheartening that question must have been to Jesus!
The New Future of Christianity September 18, 1974

Temptation In The Wilderness

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Matthew 4:1-12

Jesus defeated Satan by overcoming three temptations in the wilderness, the last of them on a mountaintop. Yet we should realize that when Jesus journeyed to the wilderness, after being rejected by the chosen one, John the Baptist -- a situation that made likely his rejection by the Jewish nation as well -- he carried a heart of sorrow the like of which no one on the earth had ever experienced.

Jesus appeared as the only Son of God, who came to resolve the 4,000-year history of God's providence. He came as the seal of victory that God could boast about before that generation and countless generations to come. Yet Jesus walked into the wilderness alone with a sad heart, without a friend, leaving behind the people, the chosen John the Baptist, and Joseph's family.

Jesus was filled with the determination and sense of mission to pay the debts of history. What did he think about during his 40 days of fasting? He felt an acute sense of responsibility to restore through indemnity by himself, the rueful course of his forbearers. As he walked through the wilderness, Jesus must have thought about how all humankind, the descendants of Adam and Eve ever since their expulsion from the Garden of Eden, have been roaming about a wilderness of sorrows in search of the Garden.

What did Jesus think about as Satan led him to the top of the mountain? He climbed the mountain with a serious heart, under pressure to subjugate Satan by holding up the shield of victory knowing that on that outcome would hang the entire historical course of 4,000 years. He also recalled the history of the mountain he was climbing. He must have remembered the loyalty of Noah, who built his ark on a mountain, enduring hardships for 120 years... Jesus thought about how it was for the sake of the Messiah, Jesus himself, that Noah labored...

Jesus reflected on Abraham, who journeyed to a mountain after he was commanded to sacrifice Isaac. He thought of Abraham's heartbreak as he led his son up Mount Moriah. For whom did Abraham have to offer his only son Isaac as a sacrifice? Jesus must have reflected upon the fact that it was for Heavenly Father, and ultimately for the Messiah, for him.

Jesus then recalled Moses. He imagined the scene in which God appeared to the sorrow-stricken

Moses in the burning bush, by the foot of Mount Horeb, and formed an unchanging bond with him... When God ordered Moses to lead the Israelites from Egypt to the blessed land of Canaan, he was an old man of eighty years, exhausted from his life in the wilderness of Midian. Yet his gaze and figure were consumed with the heart of heaven... On the top of that mountain, Moses fasted and prayed for 40 days, and he came down with God's Word. For whom did Moses pray and fast for 40 days? Jesus reflected that it was only for the sake of Heavenly Father, only for the sake of establishing a restored nation through the chosen people and of paving the road for the Messiah.

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, 'throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

For whom did Elijah confront the satanic priests of Baal on Mount Carmel, standing on the mountaintop and praying before heaven in that dramatic showdown? Jesus reflected that it was for the sake of God and himself. Reflecting on such historical connections with mountains, Jesus felt a serious heart.

No one ever had a more serious heart toward God's will than Jesus Christ. He went to the wilderness with a burning heart to capture and subjugate Satan. He stood alone on that mountaintop with a firmer determination than any ancestor in history.

The Sorrowful Heart of Jesus as He Went to the Mountain

January 25, 1959

It is written that after forty days, Satan tested Jesus three times... What was Satan's purpose in giving Jesus the three temptations? In the beginning, God created human beings and gave them three great blessings, perfection of individual character, multiplication of children, and dominion over the natural world, by which they might accomplish the purpose of creation. By inducing the first human ancestors to fall, Satan deprived humankind of the three great blessings and thus prevented the fulfillment of the purpose of creation. Jesus came into the world to accomplish the purpose of creation by restoring these blessings. Therefore, Satan tempted Jesus three times in an attempt to pre-vent him from restoring the three blessings and accomplishing the purpose of creation...

After Jesus completed the 40-day fast in the wilderness, Satan appeared before him and tempted him, saying, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."... Jesus' answer to this temptation was, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Originally, human beings were created to live on two kinds of nourishment. The body lives on the nourishment obtained from the physical world, while the spirit lives by receiving the love and truth of God... Jesus defeated Satan because he spoke and acted in full accordance with God's Principle. By his victory over this temptation, Jesus fulfilled the condition to restore the individual nature to perfection and thereby established the basis for the restoration of God's first blessing.

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor "All this I will give you," he said, "If you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only'"

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Next, Satan brought Jesus to the pinnacle of the Temple and challenged him, saying, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down." Jesus referred to himself as the Temple, and it is written that Christians are temples of God and members of the body of Christ... When Satan dared Jesus to throw himself down, it meant that he wanted to usurp Jesus' position as the Lord of the Temple by enticing Jesus to fall from that position to the lowly state of a fallen person...

By overcoming the second temptation, Jesus, the main temple, the bridegroom, and the True Parent of humanity, opened the way for all people of faith to be restored to the positions of branch temples, brides, and true children. Jesus thus established the basis upon which to restore God's second blessing.

Finally, Satan took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all things under heaven and all their glory, saying, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."...

Jesus replied, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" Angels were created as ministering spirits to revere and serve God, their Creator. By his answer, Jesus indicated that according to the Principle, even a fallen angel like Satan should worship God; by the same token, he should honor and attend Jesus, who came as the body of the Creator... By prevailing in the third temptation, Jesus set up the condition to restore dominion over the natural world, God's third blessing.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Moses and Jesus 3.2.1.2

Repent For The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 4:17

When you say you believe in Jesus, do you only believe in those things that make you feel good? Do you reject those things about Jesus that make you feel painful? We should accept what Jesus taught and do those things that Jesus himself would want us to do. We should not take part in things that Jesus would not like. What are those things, which Jesus would not like? They are, simply, Satan and sin.

We should separate ourselves from Satan and sin and believe in Jesus from that position, rather than from a position in which sin, Satan, and Jesus are all mixed together in our lives. This is why Jesus said, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For what should we repent? We should repent of the fact that we have been living together with Satan and sin throughout our lives.

Once we have repented and separated ourselves from Satan, Jesus urges us to believe in God and serve God. Jesus wanted to rule over a world from which Satan and sin were eradicated, not a world in which Satan was mixed together with everything and in which people had just a vague belief in Jesus. Jesus' mission was to separate individuals completely from Satan and sin and separate families and countries from Satan and sin...

Even the most faithful believer in Jesus or the most righteous church on earth cannot proclaim proudly that they are absolutely separated from Satan and sin and that they are following Jesus exactly as he would have them do. No one can say they are living in perfect love in an ideal world

with no suffering and tears.

This means that Satan exists as much within churches as he exists everywhere else. Furthermore, there is almost as much sin there as in the rest of the world. If this is true and if what church people love and hate is no different from what the rest of the world loves and hates, then there is very little difference between the world and the church. Which would Satan find more pleasure in, the church or the world? Why would he like the sins of the church more than those of society in general? Satan likes the sins of the church more because then he can protest to God, "Look at those people in the church. They don't love others; they even hate others! They are not faithful, either. This must be my church."

Perfection Of Restoration By Indemnity Through Human Responsibility
March 1, 1983

You Must Be Born Again

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him." In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

John 3:1-10

The Bible records the visit to Jesus of a Pharisee named Nicodemus, who asked how people can be saved. Jesus' answer was very clear: "Unless a man be born anew he cannot see the Kingdom of God." Nicodemus was totally puzzled and inquired, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter his mother's womb and be born again?" Then Jesus said, "Are you a teacher of Israel and yet you don't understand this?"

Everyone has been born in the fallen Adamic lineage; in the position of an enemy of God. How can mankind become even servants who are not of satanic origin? Is there any way that you could be born as a servant on the side of God? You don't know even how to do that much. Then how could you be born again as God's children? Reaching the servant level on God's side is just the initial state of restoration, but a servant cannot inherit the master's fortune. A servant has no right of inheritance; therefore, each person needs to be elevated at least to the adopted son's position... or better, as direct sons and daughters.

Do you want to be direct children of God? Naturally, fallen mankind could not know the whole process of salvation. That's why God promised the Messiah to guide the way God knows that no one has any way of knowing the truth without meeting the true Son of God as an example and model.

God's Day

January 1, 1978

Jesus Early Ministry

What is it to be restored at the origin -- at the root? Because of the fall, from our very origin we are

in a different place from where we are supposed to be. To be restored at the origin means to be born again. In other words, because we were born of fallen parents, we must be born again from the parents who have not fallen. Is that absolutely necessary, or just sort of necessary?

"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "If I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."

John 3:4-5

How can you prove that humankind is fallen? Many people do not believe it; they think, "This is the way humankind has always been. This is the way God meant the world and humans to be. In fact, only Christians have a strong belief that humankind is fallen. Other religions do not. In Christianity the fall is a primary teaching, while other religions don't pay it much attention. Nevertheless, it is a matter of paramount importance...

What is the cause of the Fall? The Bible teaches that our first ancestors ate the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The Bible is absolutely necessary and we have to abide by its words. What does the Bible mean by eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil? What serious wrong did Adam and Eve commit that made God, their loving Parent, chase his son and daughter away from his own home? The magnitude of the problem it created means it must have been a very, very valuable fruit -- more than an apple, more than an orange.

If they ate a literal fruit, they would have eaten it with their hands and mouths. The hand and mouth would be the only parts of the body that were used to commit the sin. But what does the Bible say they covered after they ate? They covered up the lower parts of their bodies. Look at what children do. Whenever a child does something wrong, they express it. They are naturally honest. If their mother says, "Don't eat that," but the child eats it anyway and then the mother comes and confronts the child, what does the child do automatically? He hides his hands, doesn't he? He doesn't hide his lower parts. Have you ever seen a child, by reflex, hide his lower parts when he has eaten something he shouldn't? People don't do that. That is simple enough and easy to understand.

Here is another proof that the lineage must have been involved. God has yearned and suffered for thousands of years to correct the lineage. If the problem were caused merely by the eating of a certain substance, God could have found a remedy for that easily. Yet, no matter how much you try to correct yourself, no matter how hard you work to correct this and that weakness and stop doing certain sins, or even correct flaws in your character, you can never change your blood lineage. You cannot do anything about the blood that flows inside you. It just cannot be denied. You could cut off your arm, but so long as that evil blood is flowing in your body, another part of you will commit sin.

So we can quickly come to the conclusion that the origin of evil comes from had lineage, wrong blood lineage. The blood flowing in all mankind, all individuals, is had blood. We cannot say it is God's perfect blood. The fallen lineage is Satan's blood, in other words. We inherited Satan's blood. That means your body is Satan's.

We can imagine that if the ancestors of mankind did not fall, God's blood would be flowing through you and through everyone who is around us today. If that had happened, then everything would belong to God. There would be no such thing as "evil," and there would be no Satan. God originally

owned that center root, center truth, and center bud. Those contents are what connect every human being. You are each like one branch. Branches automatically connect with the trunk, which is God. The fruit is not the same size as the branch, but all are equalized in the one tree. You are fruit of God -- that is the natural, original conclusion.

We are all branches of a tree, but it is not God's tree. It is Satan's tree. What kind of fruit is borne by Satan's tree? Satan's fruit. We should clearly understand this. This is why we all agree that mankind needs to be saved. What does it mean to be saved? To be saved means to go backward from the root of having done something wrong, and being brought back to the position where man didn't fall. We come back to the point before the Fall.

Restoration from the Origin and Rebirth Are for Myself

September 20, 1992

The baby Jesus was conceived in Mary without sin, but in all other cases Satan can claim ownership of a baby, even before the baby is born. This was not so in the case of Jesus because God had prepared a new genealogy whereby he was conceived in a sinless state. Jesus was the only one in history whose birth was prepared in this way. He was conceived in the lineage of God and born as a Son of God and he could proclaim, "I am the only begotten Son of God." No saint or prophet was born in that manner. It is more than logical that he declared, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me." Once you know this, is there any other route by which to reach God?

Jesus also said, "I am in the Father and the Father is in me." Jesus is in the father's position, but...in order to go back to the very origin of life, the process of our rebirth should be assisted by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit with the Spirit of Jesus brings rebirth. Since we are born in a wrong way through satanic parents, we have to go through this new channel to become a new creature. From this standpoint, the Holy Spirit is a mother spirit. That is why in the Bible it says that we cannot be reborn until we receive the Holy Spirit. At the point of convergence of the love of the spiritual father, Jesus, and the spiritual mother, the Holy Spirit, rebirth occurs.

Untitled

March 19, 1972

Summoning The Fishermen

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me." Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Matthew 4:18-24

When God sent his only Son to this world to establish his kingdom on earth, don't you think he wanted to be followed by the most able people of his age? Do you think that God wanted only the outcasts of society to follow Jesus? Not at all! The failure of John the Baptist broke the link between the Son of God and the people. As a result, only fishermen, tax collectors, harlots, and lepers followed Jesus Christ. This brought great grief to the heart of God.

If the Lord is returning to the world today, is it not most log-teal that all the leadership of Christianity -- the bishops, the cardinals, the pope, and all the evangelists and great ministers of the world -- should become the first group to welcome the Christ? If they followed the Lord and

became his first disciples, the establishment of his kingdom would be infinitely easier.

You may say "Reverend Moon, by what authority are you speaking? What makes you so sure?" I do have the authority to say these things. God showed me the truth. I met Jesus. Jesus himself showed me these truths. And I met John the Baptist, too, in the spirit world. He himself bore witness to the truth of this testimony. After these extraordinary spiritual experiences, when I returned to the reality of this world, the same Bible I had been reading took on a whole new meaning.

The Future of Christianity

October 28, 1973

Even today in Korea, fishermen are poor and lowly people and not well respected. You can imagine how Jesus may have felt when he had to seek out ignorant fishermen 2,000 years ago.

Rejected by the prepared people, Jesus came as a laborer and as a friend of the fishermen. He shared his life, heart, and desires with them. He fought on with the determination that he would help satisfy their hearts' desires, even at the cost of his life. The reason fishermen such as Peter could follow him was because Jesus testified and fought with this kind of heart and mindset. What did Jesus do for three years after picking these uneducated disciples? In the same way that God had served and toiled for 4,000 years to raise the Israelites, Jesus chose them and served them.

Jesus had great hopes for the twelve disciples he had chosen. It was Jesus whom God had sent to influence Judaism and guide the priests and officials. His ideology was grand, his hopes were great, and his heartistic level was high. What did Jesus do while looking at these people? Through the three years of his ministry, Jesus passed through the same course as God, who had walked the path of sacrifice and service for the sake of raising the people.

Therefore, Jesus searched for disciples, forgetting food and drink. When he had something to wear, he gave it to his disciples, disregarding his rags. If there was some comfortable place to sleep, he let his disciples sleep there and sat in an uncomfortable place.

The Incarnation of Jesus, a Pioneer

February 1, 1959

Good News To The Poor

The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me. because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor"

Luke 4:17-19

It is in true love that humanity is able to meet God and enjoy eternal life. For this reason, true love is capable of over-coming all the world's problems. Through true love, by which we sacrifice ourselves in order to live for others, we can find the solutions to such problems as interracial conflict, violence, the conflict between rich and poor, and the various environmental issues. Families in which the individual members are united centered on true love can successfully combat the corruption of morals that has contributed to the downfall of so many of our youth.

When the individual, family, society, nation, and world become one through true love, then mankind can expect a very bright future.

Fifth Summit Council for World Peace Founder's Address

August 22, 1992

What do you think I was doing when I was 17? Even before I was given my life's mission, I always had the heart that I wanted to be a friend to the suffering people in my village. When I was a boy, there was a rich, arrogant boy who always received a hard time from me. But those who were unfortunate and suffering were always my friends. If I heard that some household had no money to buy groceries, I considered it an emergency and I did everything possible to obtain some money for those people. Until I had done that I could not sleep. I wanted to be more than a friend. I wanted to be someone who could serve and help others. Between the ages of twenty and thirty which is considered the prime of youth, people normally want to dress well, and have pleasant experiences in life. But I lived in exactly the opposite way I never wore a new suit. I always bought surplus clothing in thrift shops. My hair never looked neat and attractive.

During the prime of my youth I spent every day experiencing the most desperate, suffering situations in human life: working in labor camps, mines, poor farms, docks, and even begging. I looked at every aspect of human life, even the world of prostitutes. I studied all the miseries of human life... I always thought to myself, "What if this man were my elder brother or my father and he was suffering on my account, what could I do for him?"

The Harvest Season of Gods Providence

September 19, 1982

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The Sermon On The Mount

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

Matthew 5:1-2

The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you...

Matthew 5:3-12

I would like for you and me to spend this time together in open mindedness so that the spirit of God can speak directly into our hearts. Jesus taught in his Sermon on the Mount:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven...

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

(Matt. 5:3-6)

Tonight I humbly ask you to be the poor in spirit. I ask you to be the meek, and I ask you to become those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Then we will all see the kingdom of heaven, and we shall all be satisfied.

The Future of Christianity

October 28, 1973

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Being sons of God means being loved by God. When two fingers want to grasp something, they must come together. If two hands are clasped, the very deepest places in both are opened and joined together. When any two people love each other, they want to embrace, not turn their backs on each other. Remaining united is also the expression of love, so when you love each other, you will not separate from each other. If there is no love between you, you may come together anyway but you will be easily drawn apart. But where there is love, its magnetic power will keep you together. To be united means to be

perfected in function.

Between nations, too, if any two nations are united, God's love will be there, and they will be blessed with good fortune in their partnership. There is an Oriental saying that where there is harmony in the family, everything can be done. Where there is unity and harmony, the love of God is present, and the ideal can be realized there. In the ideal family, the husband and wife should be one. The children should become united with each other, brothers and sisters, and all together they will be in harmony like a symphony orchestra or a beautiful painting. With love there, no other power can intervene.

So we can come to the conclusion that if and when you want to receive God's love, you must be united. If that is done, you are already living in the kingdom of God on earth. From there, the straight path to God is reached.

New Hope: Twelve Talks by Sun Myung Moon

In the Sermon on the Mount there is an important phrase -- the peacemakers shall be called the sons and daughters of God. The Bible didn't say that only those who obey commands will enter heaven. With how many people have you made harmony? ... Those who can harmonize with other people will rise higher and higher, and ultimately become great leaders.

The Cain-Abel theory in the Unification Church is very strong, and sometimes I worry that it is understood incorrectly. Leaders who are given responsibility sometimes have the mistaken idea that they have sole authority, but I tell you that Abel is only Abel when he saves Cain. Divine Principle teaches that you should love and embrace Cain, and then bring him to the mother. If you sometimes don't get along with your leader but you take care of brothers and sisters, that leader will still look for you because without you he cannot be successful.

This is why the Bible says that when two or more gather to pray, then God will be in their midst. Your prayer is not as powerful when you pray singly as when you pray together. Brothers and sisters should truly unite so they can share life together.

Historical Children's Day

October 28, 1981

If individuals oppose you but you overcome and win a victory then you are restored on the individual level. If you are opposed and persecuted by families but you overcome that, then you are restored on that level. If the whole nation comes against you but you remain dedicated for the sake of the family and nation, then the law of indemnity is accomplished on that level and national salvation comes to you. Likewise, if the whole world opposes you, you can ... in that level of salvation by being victorious. Perhaps even the spirit world will oppose you.

The Age of New Dispensation May 14, 1978

Righteousness

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law; you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:20

If you have a lot of ambition or greed in prayer, it is wrong. "My church, my this, my that" has no

place in prayer to God, only his love. In Matthew, Jesus clearly told us, "Don't worry about what you eat or wear, that is what the gentiles desire. Just seek for the kingdom and its righteousness." Unification Church members happen to have lots of blessings, but how many received their Blessing through this formula way?

Blessing and Resurrection

March 31, 1991

I have always walked the road of public righteousness throughout my life, so I never feel lonely I can exhibit great courage because God is with me and the universe is supporting me as I walk according to the Principle. Nothing can stop me from moving forward. Even my physical death will not be able to stop my work on this earth. However, those who oppose righteousness will truly be stopped by death.

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, he spoke to the women weeping beneath him, "Do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children." Even the crucifixion could not stop the power of Jesus' righteousness; it continued to move forward. Jesus was only concerned for the future of the children of Israel. What is the purpose of public righteousness, then? It is to leave behind something better than oneself.

Pure Way of Truth and Public Righteousness

July 18, 1982

So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:31-34

What did Jesus mean when he exclaimed that we should first seek God's kingdom and its righteousness? It would be lamentable if the minds of God and man diverged over mere material things. Being in a state of unity with God's mind, Jesus wished the minds of men were united with his mind.

Let Us Restore God's Kingdom and His Righteousness

October 13, 1957

Righteousness refers to that quality in a person that leads him to pursue goodness and further its purpose. Unrighteousness refers to that quality in a person that leads him to pursue evil and further its satanic purpose. A righteous life is absolutely necessary for the attainment of goodness.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Creation 4.3.3

Paying The Last Penny

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar: First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and

the judge may hand you over to the officer; and you may be thrown into prison. I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

Matthew 5:23-26

Have you ever wondered how a world filled with such evil and corruption could come from a God of love and goodness? If you read the Bible carefully you will see that the fall of man involved the loss of Adam's entire family. First, the position of parents was lost through the fall of Adam and Eve. Second, the position of children was lost as Cain murdered Abel. God's blueprint for an ideal family and world perfection was lost. Therefore, to restore the original family God works in reverse to reclaim the positions of Cain and Abel, and then the positions of True Father and True Mother.

This pattern of reconciliation of Cain and Abel as the foundation for restoring the parents has been God's consistent formula throughout the history of restoration. The separation of fallen mankind into a Cain-Abel division occurs over and over again in Judeo-Christian history. God first of all separated fallen mankind into two "brotherly" sides of Cain, symbolizing Satan, and Abel, symbolizing God, to work out the hatreds resulting from the fall.

God used the method of having Abel be hit first and sacrificed. As a result, Abel could stand on that very foundation to embrace Cain and recover the blessing given to the elder son. For example, the religion that most advances the purpose of salvation always receives Satan's most severe persecution. It walks the path of constant opposition yet continues its sacrificial effort to save the sinful world. Likewise, good people always stand in the position to be struck first and sacrificed.

Looking almost anywhere in our fallen world, it is easy to notice struggles between good and evil, similar to the struggle between Abel and Cain. These struggles start in the conflict between each individual's mind and body. The mind, which represents the Abel side, struggles to overcome the body, which represents the Cain side. The struggle within individuals has expanded to the family, nation, and world. As a result, humankind at every level has always been divided into two opposing camps, one good, or Abel-like, and the other evil, or Cain-like, locked in struggle. It has always been God's intention, however, that both sides be restored and reunited, not that one triumphs over and destroys the other.

True Parents and the Completed Testament Age

May 1993

What, then, is the meaning of restoration through indemnity? When someone has lost his original position or state, he has to make some condition to be restored to it. The making of such conditions of restitution is called indemnity. For example, to recover lost reputation, position, or health, one has to make the necessary effort or pay the due price. Suppose two people who once loved each other come to be on bad terms; they need to make some condition of reconciliation before the love they previously enjoyed can be revived. In like manner, it is necessary for human beings who have fallen from God's grace into corruption to fulfill some condition before they can be restored to their true standing.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Restoration 1.1

The U.S. government's intention in indicting me [on tax charges] was not so much to wage a court battle, but to scare me out of this country. The indictment was issued while I was out of the country and the Department of Justice hoped that I would not return. But their expectations were totally wrong. To avoid that battle would have meant acknowledging defeat without putting up a fight. They didn't know that I have always taken the path of restoration through indemnity.

I will never shy away from paying the price. Therefore, I willingly returned to America to face the battle. Furthermore, many outstanding people in history have been wrongly condemned through a court decision. I didn't try to escape because I knew that I could not avoid any battle, small or large, if I expected to turn around the destiny of history.

Jesus Christ was condemned and crucified by the government of his time. Many saints were persecuted and condemned by evil governments. History has been stained as evil continually tries to stop righteous people. Thus, some champion must finally come forward and win the victory not only for himself but to vindicate providential history and all the saints who were victimized by the evil political systems of their time.

Victory Celebration

August 21, 1985

Temptation

You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Matthew 5:27-30

Do you realize deeply that Satan's foundation is within your own flesh? Can you say, "Satan's blood is alive in my own body"? How can you cut that satanic element out of your life? The purpose of religion is to control Satan's influence upon your life. Until you can do that, you cannot move to a higher level toward God. For that reason, true religion requires each individual to battle his own fallen self.

Jesus taught people to go a sacrificial course, and now you can understand why: it was to enable each person to separate himself from Satan's foundation. Even sinless Jesus did a 40-day fast, and then Satan tempted him. Why? God allowed Satan to test Jesus, to determine whether Jesus had any fleshly ambition within himself. Satan was looking for some hook, some way to anchor himself within Jesus' body.

What kind of love do you experience? Is your love centered on God or on Satan? What about the person who says, "I like to be kissed every night by a different person"? Is he or she showing satanic or God-centered love? That kind of kiss is thoroughly within Satan's realm.

The Age of Heavenly Parentism

September 3, 1989

Your eyes are literally your enemies, and you need to learn to protect yourself from them. You may notice a handsome man passing by and compare him to your husband. If he beckons and you follow him, Satan can snatch you away at that very moment. You may feel horrified that your own eyes can be your enemy, but it is true.

Since your mission is the liberation of God and mankind, your rightful eyes and ears will affirm that mission. When someone speaks to you in an unprincipled way, saying, "Forget about God! Listen to me and you can have everything you want: nice clothes, nice food. Your life is too short to waste," the words may sound sweet and the ideas tempting. Then cover your ears, because you know Satan

can invade you through them.

Sometimes your mouth can be your enemy urging you to eat your favorite foods or to speak words of complaint. Your nose, your hands, the various parts of your body -- all may be your enemies. You must be able to maintain tight control over them. This task is never easy. Many great men have fallen when tempted by the appearance of a beautiful woman.

Now that you know your enemy, how do you guard against it? The enemy can infiltrate through your live senses. When you realize why you should safeguard yourself, you will know to control your eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and hands. The sixth area is the mind, and the sexual organs are the seventh area of vulnerability. A small point of vulnerability in any of these seven areas may eventually bring your downfall. Satan is very confident that you cannot overcome these seven vulnerable areas of sense and thought during your lifetime.

Now we have clearly defined our enemy. Is it outside you or inside you? The enemy is very much inside. You must be able to protect yourself from the enemy within you. If you don't know how to protect yourself, you will become a victim and lose your value. Without the confidence that you can control yourself, it is nonsense to think about the liberation of God and mankind. You never know when Satan may show up. When everything is going wrong and your determination is shaky, Satan will most likely start talking to you...

Mission and Prayer

June 12, 1983

People may think that Jesus was a rock who never moved, but Jesus was a human being. As a man, was he totally indifferent to the attraction between men and women? There is always the force of electricity pulling plus and minus toward each other. Don't you think Jesus felt some sensation when he looked at a woman? Jesus' feet were firmly anchored, but I'm sure his body was turning toward that attraction! However, he was never affected so much that he moved his feet from their right foundation. When an ordinary person feels temptation he usually just jumps into it, but the saints are different. Although a saint may be pulled around somewhat, his feet never budge.

However holy a person may be, he is always hound by his human character and vulnerability. All the saints and even Jesus himself began with certain principles. During their own period of instability they learned to deal with temptation and reasoned out their standards, until finally they had rock-like foundations within themselves. A saint knows he is a human being, but he shapes his human character inside the palace of the universe.

Parents, Children and the World Centered on Oneself

June 5, 1983

Love Your Enemy

Thou have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

Matthew 5:43-48

If God were to adopt a philosophy of looking on Satan as his enemy and seeking revenge against

him, then God would never be able to stand on the summit of victory. Thus, God has said, "love your enemy," and has carried out a strategy of love. The words "love your enemy" also represent the pinnacle of Jesus' teaching.

It is remarkable that Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, stood before Satan and prayed for him despite the fact that Satan was trying to kill him. If Jesus, as he hung dying on the cross, had held any feelings of malice toward his enemy, God's providence would have been turned completely upside-down. Satan surrendered because Jesus overcame death with a heart of loving his enemies and of praying that his enemies might be blessed.

World Unification and North-South Will Be Accomplished by True Love
February 10, 2000

In our history we have had many saints, many holy people, many wise people and philosophers. From among those great men we should be able to pick one who could give his life for his enemies, who even at the moment of his own death could still have room in his heart to bless his enemies, one who could be concerned with his enemies' welfare rather than his own.

In history there are many teachings. One is that if someone mistreats you, repay him in the same way: an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a life for a life. However, the most revolutionary teaching was given by the saint who said, "Love your enemy and pray for those who persecute you." Needless to say, that was Jesus Christ.

Did Jesus make up his own proclamations, or was he teaching according to someone else's will, denying his own ego? What do you think? Jesus was not proclaiming his own message. Above him was someone else: God. Jesus' teaching was God's teaching; his emotional reaction to things was not his own. This means that the proclamations that Jesus made were God's, and God can be trusted 100 percent.

In this universe there is only one being you can fully trust: God; and his characteristics were manifested through Jesus Christ. God's words are always truth. He cannot tell any lies, and his actions or his instructions are always for your benefit, not his. He will never take advantage of you for his own benefit. He is the one who can always be trusted. I found God to be the one subject who can be absolutely trusted. That's why I believe in God.

Let Us Meet Opportunity Well
January 2, 1977

Let's look at the standard of love established by God. How much did God love his own enemy? God loves his enemy so much that he sacrificed his own Son in order to save his enemy. If you can pour out such unlimited, unconditional love for your enemy, then Satan will give up and say, "I could never do that. I could never be in the position to receive such love." At that point Satan will surrender and retreat.

The Road of God's Will
May 30, 1982

If we do not love our enemy, there is no way we can achieve peace. Also, the concept of enemy has to be a temporary thing. Eventually it must cease to exist. If the enemy relationship continued eternally, it would mean that God consisted of both good and evil, that there were two Gods, in essence. But that is not the case. God is not two, God is only one. He didn't create any enemy.

There is no stronger indemnity than that of loving one's enemy. God sacrificed his own child, Jesus,

in order to save the children of his enemy, Satan. What an impossible situation God found himself in.

Liberation and My Ownership

March 14, 1993

Be Perfect As Your Heavenly Father is Perfect

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 5:48

The entire purpose of Jesus' coming can be summarized in one sentence: Jesus came to bring the resurrection needed to perfect man's love to the point where men can come into the direct dominion of God's love.

True Parents and I

June 15, 1986

Jesus is a Son of God simply because he was perfectly united with God in will and in heart. Because of that oneness Jesus Christ could willingly die for the rest of the world. How can you become the true sons and daughters of Christ? By becoming perfectly one with Christ, one with his spirit and one with his heart. If you are perfectly united with Jesus Christ, you can be a willing sacrifice for the salvation of the rest of the world. The true Christians are those who are willing to sacrifice themselves, their own church, and their denomination for the fulfillment of the will of God for world salvation.

God's Will and Christmas

December 25, 1976

Do you know how Jesus Christ subjugated Satan? There was a sharp contrast between the desires of Jesus and those of Satan. Satan wanted to have the center position of the world. He wanted to be the Lord. He wanted everyone to focus upon him, but Jesus would not. Jesus offered an alternative. Jesus focused upon God and taught others to do the same. This difference gave Jesus the weapon to subjugate Satan. Jesus' battle was tough and rugged, a suffering one, leading him up the hill of Calvary bearing the cross. Jesus nailed himself upon the cross as a sacrifice.

Jesus wanted Peter's undying love. Jesus wanted the disciple, not as a follower, but to be as Jesus himself. Jesus wanted his disciple to be another Jesus. Jesus wanted his disciple to be not merely a follower but to become as perfect and as great as he was himself. I discovered that this is the real way to serve God. Do not just be a follower, merely, a receiver of the command, but be one with God, be one with Christ.

Untitled

March 12, 1965

Prayer

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father; who is unseen. Then your Father; who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray; do not

keep on babbling like pagan, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him
Matthew 6:5-13

If you pray unconsciously in everyday life, then undoubtedly you are becoming sons and daughters of prayer. If you give your last ounce of energy but it is not enough, then ask God for assistance and your prayer will be answered. If that were not the case, how could we ever subjugate Satan? Satan has given unending anguish and heartbreak to God for 6,000 years; and if there were no way we could finally subjugate him then there would be no end to it.

Prayer is like a covenant between you and God, a promise. Once you make a contract, you follow through and then it will undoubtedly, be fulfilled.

You should not be disappointed when prayer is not answered immediately. Some answers come late. At other times you should not be overjoyed when prayer is answered quickly. That is not necessarily the best thing.

Because you are surrounded by the world, there are many stages to go through horizontally and vertically. The answer to prayer does not come from you but down from heaven and it takes time to reach you. There have been many foolish people who received answers to their prayers up to a point but who didn't go the final inch, and when they weren't satisfied they betrayed God. When you pray for the world you may not see things changing immediately around you, but far away the communist world starts to crumble. The impact of prayer can be felt in a faraway place.

When Jesus prayed in Gethsemane he was deadly serious, shedding tears, sweat, and blood. All day long you should be in a prayer mood, not just one hour, but 24 hours. What prayer position do you prefer? The best is to kneel and lower your head. You have to restrict your body's freedom, as though it were bound. You will feel pain, but overcome it because you should be serious.

Then God will know your attitude. That is a necessity for prayer. Without prayer Jesus and the saints could not have done the great things that had an impact on the world. When you resort to the power of prayer, you can have hope because you never know when the fulfillment will come.

The Importance of Prayer

April 15, 1979

When we pray, for whom do we pray? What would be more appealing to God, to pray for the sake of oneself or for the sake of God? If we pray for the sake of God, "I" come on the scene only secondarily. First it is God, then me as God wishes me to be. My preference is always to be on the side that God is on. If God is on the east side, that's the side I want to be on. But if I pray and find out that God wants me on the west side, I should say, "Yes, I want to go to the west side." If we think, "No, I want to be on the east side no matter what you think" then our prayer cannot succeed.

God has a purpose for us and God is the main theme of prayer. You don't have to pray too much about yourself. Those who pray for themselves will decline and those who pray for God and the rest of the world will rise.

Most Unification Church members know that the restoration of the world is the ultimate objective of prayer. All day long you think about the world and maybe for a few minutes you verbalize it and pray, "Heavenly Father, please help me work today for the sake of the whole world and for you!" That prayer is more powerful than a prayer for small things. Small prayers are like leaves and twigs on a tree, whereas the other kind of prayer is like the trunk.

The Sermon On The Mount

This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one...'

Matthew 6:9-10

When you pray, your heart should be as earnest as a baby who cries for his mother's milk. You should pray with the pure heart of a child asking his own father.

Before you pray for God's will, separate the good and evil in your mind and body. Pray to God, being aware of your own sin. First attain peace in your mind and then pray. First inspire your mind so that through it you may open the way to be able to pray. On this foundation the divinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit can be connected with your mind.

We have so far prayed that God may give us blessing, but now is the time to pray: "I will give my blessings to you, God, so please take them." As you walk, pray that you may be able to live according to God's words, and that they may be transformed into flesh and blood and move within you. Pray, "Father, I would like to give to all people, so please enable me to do so." The time of prayer is not the time when we become proud, but the time when we offer a sacrifice.

Prayer is to be accompanied by sacrifice and sincerity. God loves to hear the confident prayer of a brave man praying in the most lonely and adventurous situation.

A husband and wife should pray in tears early in the morning, holding the hands of their children. When the children experience this, it becomes their tradition.

Excerpted from *The Way of God's Will*

On Earth As In Heaven

This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:9-10

If there had been no fall, the situation on earth and in heaven would have been perfectly parallel. On earth there would be the individual, family, society, nation, and world under God and the same would be seen in the spirit world. It would be one united world. It is God's will to see perfection come first here on earth; God never intended to have his kingdom established in spirit world and then copied here on earth. Christians commonly think that the heavenly kingdom in spirit world is the perfected kingdom, but that is not true. Without perfection here on earth, no perfection can be obtained there.

There was always a blueprint in the mind of God, an original plan that always has been and will always remain perfect, even though the physical realization of these plans has never yet been seen. Jesus prayed, "Thy will be done here on earth as it is in heaven." Jesus knew the perfection of God's will in heaven and he brought that will to earth, coming to establish perfection here so that mankind would bring the kingdom into heaven.

God's Will and Christmas
December 25, 1976

When Jesus said, "Thy will be done," he also said, "on earth as it is in heaven." This is not to say that the restoration is completed in the spiritual world, but it does mean that there is one central figure, a hierarchy, and a completely, organized chain of command in spirit world. In the physical world, there is no central figure, no hierarchy no chain of command. This is what Jesus was speaking about.

Another way to describe the goal of restoration is that the physical world needs a system parallel with the spirit world. God has been trying to establish a channel of command and a centralized system here on earth -- as it is in heaven -- by erecting religions and encouraging spiritual works. That is the goal of restoration.

A life of Attendance and the Heavenly Kingdom
February 15, 1987

Forgiveness

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 6:14-15

Today's human society is corrupt, and philosophies are becoming self-centered. To sweep away these philosophies, only God's love -- true love -- can suffice. True love is the love to give and give without expecting any return: Give and forget.

True Love and the Unified World
November 28, 1986

As human beings, we want to see our love partner become thousands of times greater than ourselves. Where did we learn that? From God. God wants to see human beings, as his love partners, become this way. That's why we should give and forget, give and forget and live our life for the sake of others. God has been investing himself and forgetting throughout human history. Isn't that right? Logically, this is the principle; even God has no choice but to follow it.

It even applies to the conjugal relationship. If as a wife you want to see your husband become ten, hundred, thousand times greater than yourself, what you have to do is invest yourself, living your life for the sake of your husband over and over again, forgetting what you have done for your husband. Then naturally it will happen. Step by step, you and your husband will develop a mutual relationship of living for the sake of each other. Together you will go up toward the summit.

Everybody Wants True Love
March 14, 1999

My attitude is to forgive and forget... As long as I follow God's way my worst critics will eventually apologize, and in the future their families will respect me, and my children. I have been in prison many times, particularly in communist prisons. I was called a prisoner but I was never ashamed; I always walked with dignity. Although I never committed a crime, after I was released I never desired to return to gain revenge. Rather, I prayed to God, "Father, forgive them so that these people

can open their hearts and be united with me." With that heart I walked out of the prison camp. This is the path God has been walking for thousands of years.

Where Do We Go?

September 17, 1978

When I was persecuted by the communist regime in North Korea, the police arrested me and tortured me until they thought I was dead. Don't you think that I could have felt resentment toward my situation at such times? I could have demanded of God, "Why are you allowing me to suffer like this? Why can't you do something to protect me, since you are so great and powerful?" This would have been the common reaction. But even though my hands were bruised and bleeding, I clasped them in prayer for those who tortured me. I know that those who beat me were only acting on orders; they could not reject me completely. I longed to embrace them and forgive them. I refused to write them off. You likewise should not give up when you encounter opposition or difficulties.

True Parents and Our Responsibility

December 27, 1981

Church leaders here, when you take care of your people and see someone with a shortcoming, don't directly criticize his faults simply as his. Rather, observe how you can forgive him. See if you can find something praise worthy in his wife. If the wife is worse than the husband, then look at his children. If even the children are worse, then look at his mother and father. A man's parents must have some good points. If I thus treat him with the heart of parent's love, the blessings that have been accumulated within his family emerge and make a relationship with me. This is the way to engraft blessings. Do you understand?

With Jungsung and Love

January 5, 1999

Have you African-American members carried some kind of hidden grudge against white people? You can have two thoughts -- one, that some day you will get revenge for injustice done, or two, that you sincerely love them, becoming one with them in true love. For hundreds of years you have been oppressed and enslaved, but can you forgive and forget that, and tell God you want to love others regardless?

Let Us Think

May 6, 1979

Judge Not, Lest You Ye Judged

Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? Thou hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

Matthew 7:1-5

The Crown of Glory

When I doubt people, I feel pain.

When I judge people, it is unbearable.

When I hate people, there is no value to my existence.

Yet if I believe, I am deceived.

If I love, I am betrayed.

Suffering and grieving tonight, my head in my hands

Am I wrong?

Yes, I am wrong.

Even though we are deceived, still believe.

Though we are betrayed, still forgive.

Love completely even those who hate you.

Wipe your tears away and welcome with a smile.

Those who know nothing but deceit.

And those who betray without regret.

Oh Master! The pain of loving!

Look at my hands.

Place your hand on my chest.

My heart is bursting, such agony!

But when I loved those who acted against me I brought victory.

If you have done the same thing,

I will give you the crown of glory.

(Written when Rev. Moon was 16 years old)

The grace you received from God is not only for your sake. It is grace for the sake of society, people, the world, God's will, and heaven. Despite this, most people cling to this grace and secure their seat in their own sphere of life, and try to enjoy it only as their own. However, this grace will leave you because it can no longer remain in that place.

Therefore, if you have received some divine favor from heaven, then with the heart of righteous indignation you can fight with Satan on behalf of heaven. You should not act in judgment centering on yourself. Similarly, if you try to take advantage of the granted divine favor, centering on yourself, or try to judge others, centering on yourself, then, because this is not the right attitude of faith, you will not be able to walk the correct path of God's will.

Let the Sleeping World Awaken May 19, 1957

Now that we know the correct way to live, we need not criticize others; the only thing we need to do is go the right way.

The Deep Desire of Our Original Nature February 14, 1982

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Chapter Four

With The Disciples

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore to send out workers into his harvest field."

Matthew 9:35-38

Miracles And Healing

Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else -- to the nearby villages -- so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

Math 1:38-39

Jesus accomplished healing by chasing out evil spirits or demons. Jesus' great spiritual force caused the evil spirit to depart and this allowed the victim to immediately become normal. The evil influencing factor had been removed.

Reverend Moon Speaks on Satan, the Fall, and Evil Undated

As he walked the course of restoration, Jesus did not delight in performing miracles. If you think he performed miracles in peace and joy you are wrong. His actual situation was that he did not have a place to rest his body on the earth or a place to rely on in the universe, so he had to appeal to heaven. We need to comprehend the desperate situation of Jesus who was in such a miserable state. When he was in a sad state wherein he felt compelled to display some compassion toward the people, he raised his hands and said, "Father!" This is when the miracles happened. We have to understand that these miracles took place when Jesus shouted out in excruciating sadness. Do not think that Jesus performed miracles because he liked them.

The Incarnation of Jesus, a Pioneer - February 1, 1959

Jesus had one purpose throughout the three years of his public ministry: acceptance. He could not fulfill his mission otherwise. From the very first day, he preached the gospel without equivocation, so that the people could hear the truth and accept him as the Son of God. The word of God should have led them to accept him. However, when Jesus saw that the people were not likely to receive him by the words of God alone, he began to perform mighty works. He hoped that people could recognize him through his miracles.

"Even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father" - John 10:38

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30-31

Jesus gave sight to the blind and made the lepers clean. He healed the lame and blessed the deaf with hearing. Jesus raised the dead. He did these things only because he wanted to be accepted. Yet the people said of him, It is only by Beelzebub, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons. (Matt. 12:24)

"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes."

Matt. 11:21

The Future of Christianity

October 28, 1973

The Wedding At Cana

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied, "My time has not yet come."

John 2:1-4

Jesus was the only begotten Son of God, and therefore he possessed the entire love of God. When you have your first child, he is the center of a tremendous outflow of your love. Those who are not yet married can expect that to happen to them. If human beings feel such ecstatic joy with their first child, what about God? God sees his own image in his first Son and through him can manifest his image to the entire world. How critical that person is!

Then, what should that Son do? Does God need a Son only? God knew ahead of time that he needed a pair, which would include a daughter... A man living by himself is like a person with one foot. Jesus knew that God was looking forward to having his only begotten Daughter, so he looked forward to restoring a woman in that position. This is why a central theme in the New Testament is that of bride and bridegroom.

The Sound of the Bell of the Mind

January 28, 1979

Mary did not help Jesus with the wedding he desired. She even opposed it... Jesus' words to Mary during the wedding at Cana, "Oh woman, what have you to do with me?" (John 2:4) reveal a reproachful heart to a mother who helped in the weddings of others but neglected to help Jesus receive his bride, the most important requirement of the providence. With this perspective, now we can understand why Jesus asked, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" (Matt. 12.48)

View of the Principle of the Providential History of Salvation

April 16, 1996

Suppose Jesus had found his bride and married; then the history would have totally been changed from that point on. In those days it was customary for males to marry at around 18 years of age. Why didn't Jesus marry at the age of 18? Because he could not find his bride. There were many brides, but he was unable to find the bride who could fit God's providence.

The human Fall took place around the age of 16 years. At the age of 17 Jesus honestly told his mother Mary all the providential details that were needed in order for him to marry. Three times he spoke to his mother in all: at 17. then again at the age of 27 and then again at age 30. But the family

could not accept his proposal...

Total Calculation or Accounting of God's Historical Providence

December 25, 1994

Everyone in Jesus' family thought him to be an illegitimate child. In those days, no one believed he was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Jesus was in a miserable situation. He was a target of derision. Even the children mocked him. His relatives despised him. Everyone gets married, but Jesus could not even though he was 30. No one wanted to willingly give a bride to an illegitimate child. This was the position of Jesus, who came as the bridegroom.

New Family and the Completed Testament

January 17, 1993

In the Last Days many people have more than one wife. We see a lot of confusion in our world, even incest taking place. Had Jesus been able to establish his family and tribe, everything would have gone well.

Total Calculation or Accounting of God's Historical Providence

December 25, 1994

Jesus' Family Opposes Him

Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

Mark 3:20-21

As we can see from these words, Jesus did not have parents and brothers who could sincerely comfort him. Because he did not have true parents and brothers, Jesus found himself in a sad, lonely, and miserable situation; and was forsaken by his clan. When John the Baptist, who should have prepared the way of the Lord, betrayed him, he felt enormous grief and bitterness. We need to become connected to the situation of Jesus by feeling his heart, and, going one step further, we can inherit all of his teachings.

Although Jesus' family and clan were amazed by the miracles surrounding Jesus' birth, because they were ignorant about the dispensation of God, they could not receive him as the Messiah. Originally they should have understood Jesus' heavenly mission and prepared his future path and environment; they should have become the steppingstones for Jesus on his path to fulfill the dispensation of God. Had they done that, Jesus would not have needed to find his own disciples.

Why Does the Lord Have to Return?

May 26, 1957

Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

"Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother"

Mark 3:31-35

Jesus' mother and brothers did not become his true family members. Instead, they became his enemies on the path he was walking. Furthermore, even Jesus' three disciples, whom he educated with all of his heart and life, who walked with him through the three years of his public ministry,

did not become his true family members...

What kind of person would be a true member of Jesus' family? He or she would be a person who resembled Jesus in wanting to spread the word to everyone. He or she would have experienced all of God's anxious and grieving heart as he watched Jesus fighting Satan. Therefore, Jesus' true family member would not be someone who just followed Jesus when he was walking the way of the cross, but would be someone who understood the heart of Jesus throughout his life, up to the time when he had to walk a path toward the cross.

When Jesus came to the earth, the fact that he could not find a true family member was his greatest sorrow and pain. He could not find a true member of his family who would testify on his behalf, fight alongside him when he was battling Satan, and carry the cross on his behalf as he walked toward Golgotha -- a person whom he could be proud of before heaven and earth.

What, then, should we do? As Jesus was desperate to testify to God's will of 2,000 years ago, we who are living today should also do our best to testify to his will, with all of our heart and mind. We should become the kind of person who can fulfill the wishes of Jesus, in the same situation as Jesus who fought against Satan, and with the heart of Jesus who was concerned about the fulfillment of God's will despite the opposition of the Jewish authorities and the nation of Israel. Further, to eliminate all the obstructions to fulfilling the will of heaven, we should become the kind of person who can feel the grim resolution of Jesus, who was determined to offer even his life. We should also have the spirit to become a willing sacrificial offering, to carry a cross on behalf of the people.

If you have the character of Jesus, you can communicate with the heart of Jesus, who 2,000 years ago offered himself as a sacrifice on behalf of the Israelites. You should not become a dead offering, someone who surrenders to Satan. If you are imbued with the heart of Jesus, you do not need to be afraid to testify to the will of Jesus, nor will you be defeated in fighting against Satan. Therefore, we in the Last Days should possess a heroic resolution and have the heart to climb over the hill of death, guiding even our enemies to God's loving bosom. Then we can finally become true members of Jesus' family.

Let Us Become a True Member of Jesus' Family

October 18, 1957

Nowhere To Lay His Head

Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

Matthew 8:20

Before you speak of any person as being great, think about the meaning of greatness. Of all the people throughout history, we can speak of only four as the greatest saints: Jesus, Mohammed, Confucius, and Buddha. Did they have big, fancy houses and lots of possessions? No, all of them were persecuted and despised in their own time. Jesus said, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have their nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Is that characteristic of a great man?

During his time Confucius was like a "nameless dog," as he put it, the way people pushed him around. He didn't have a regular job, but chose to beg for his food and to travel teaching and learning. Buddha was born into a palace as a great prince, but he gave up all that and embraced hardship instead. He went to the mountains to pray, and discover spiritual truth. No one really wants

to live a difficult life, but these four men chose such a life, and today everyone considers them great.

The Things We Want to Be Proud Of
October 25, 1981

With your own parents even trying to kidnap you and persecution coming on all sides, you are writing the greatest poem and creating the greatest masterpiece of art. We are becoming the creators of great things. Expensive trees are the ones that have developed unusual shapes or symmetry in the course of their rugged lives.

Suffering creates the strongest spiritual link among us, and without it we have no deep emotion of being together. If we have been pushed down together and have been hungry together and tried to take care of each other, then a deep heart-to-heart relationship is formed, regardless of whether we are Korean or Japanese or American. The way you can find a heartistic relation-ship with Jesus is to accept suffering. There is no other way.

The Ones Who Can Receive Gods Love - October 1, 1977

Authority On Earth To Forgive Sins

Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."

At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!"

Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." Then he said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home." And the man got up and went home. When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to men.

Matthew 9:2-8

Today in reverence for the death of Jesus, we believe that the power of redemption lies in the cross, but this is not the whole picture. What we have to understand is that while redemption is, of course, available through one's faith in the cross, if people had believed in and lived according to the words Jesus spoke while he was alive, salvation would have taken place there and then.

What can Jesus first take pride in after coming to this earth? Adam and Eve could not substantiate the words of God because of the Fall. They failed to believe in his words. Although man fell and the dispensational history was prolonged for 4,000 years because they did not believe in God's words, Jesus established faith over against Satan as the one center. In other words, Jesus emerged as the king of faith on this earth.

Jesus Christ, the Pride of God

May 16, 1956

Appointing The Twelve

He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the gentiles or enter

any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'
Matthew 10:1-7

First Jesus had to gather three disciples, representing Adam's family, Noah's family, and Abraham's family. Centered on those three he could gather 12 disciples representing Jacob's 12 sons and also the 12 generations from Noah to Abraham. Without fulfilling those numbers he could not form a foundation to work with the diverse races of the world. After gathering the 72 apostles Jesus had to begin his substantial work, just as Jacob needed 72 before he could accomplish his condition. Then he would have connected that foundation to the religion of Judaism, the Jewish people, nation, and eventually the world. He tried desperately to do this in three years but he could not make his apostles unite in harmony
Victory of Home Church
January 1, 1982

If you have 12 children, you will experience different types of love from all 12. The Bible refers to 12 pearly gates to the heavenly city God is the center of all humanity including your children. If you have raised your children properly, in front of God, that is your ticket of love. Even though there are 12 different gates, even though you have to go around several times, you will still be able to pass with this love ticket. Without raising many different children you may end up one dimensional, and you will be limited in heaven.

Because Jesus was unable to teach his 12 disciples to go through these 12 different gates, he was sold out by Judas and crucified. By the same token, if we want to be truly welcomed in the spiritual world and pass all 12 gates, we should be able to go and work in 12 different nations from the bottom to the top and restore them. Only by having that kind of experience will we truly be able to pass through all the different gates. This covers the entire kingdom. Are you interested?
The True Foundation Day of the Unified World
October 3, 1995

Are the 12 gates of pearl kept open or are they kept closed? They are open in such a manner that you can go in through any gate and go out through any gate. There is no set rule that you have to come in this way and go out that way. However, in order to travel through you have to reach the hub or center where the 12 gates connect. If you don't reach that, the only way you can exit is the same way you came in. As long as you reach the center, you are free to leave from any exit. That means that once you reach God's palace you are very free to travel anywhere in Heaven.

The key question of history is how to effectively take down the walls of every type. Who is anxious to take the walls down and who is anxious to keep them up? Satan doesn't want the walls to come down. He wants to build them higher and make them more sophisticated. We know why God and the people on his side should be the ones who are anxious to take the walls down. We also know why. In order for all the walls to come down, somebody has to pay the price, which is indemnity. The conclusion is, all the high-level religious people should pay indemnity because their life's goal is to take the walls down. The Bible mentions this many times: "Blessed are the peacemakers."

Why did Jesus have 12 disciples? It is simple. So he could make 12 disciples into one. With Jesus sitting in the center, any person could go through one of the 12 disciples and reach into his realm and then travel out through any gate. They could then come in any gate again and go back out any gate, over and over.
Historical Debt and the Liberation of Ourselves

December 29. 1991

Witnessing

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: '...Do not take along any gold or silver or copper in your belts; take no bag for the journey, or extra tunic, or sandals or a staff.

Matthew 10:5-10

Jesus must have sounded almost crazy when he taught his disciples to go out witnessing without even a penny in their pocket. In other words, he was telling them to go out on the streets like beggars. Why? This is the core spirit of traditional Christianity. It is the most dramatic way to embark on the road of sacrificial service. You have to start at the worst level and serve as beggars. A servant's position is much higher than that of a beggar. Actually, you start the providential course at a position even lower than a beggar. As a beggar's servant, you will be persecuted even by beggars.

Why do we do things this way? Why don't we act a little more wisely? Why does God permit such persecution to continue? It is not to enable you to eventually achieve the level of human authority, which is automatically yours when you pass the criterion of sacrificial service.

The Road of God's Will

May 30, 1982

The greatest error occurs when people think that they can "just believe" in God and Jesus and they will receive more and more blessings from God. Such people feel they can have everything they want without doing anything in return. That is similar to the attitude of a thief, who just takes things without working. Did Jesus believe in God in that way? Did he think that because God sent him as his only begotten Son it meant he had all power? Did he feel that all he had to do was to keep on believing and claiming his faith in God, and then he could subjugate all the Roman Empire automatically? ...

If everything could have come to Jesus automatically, why did he witness? Why did Jesus gather and train the 12 apostles, the 70 disciples, and the 120 elders? Why did he have to do all that and endure so much persecution along the way? Jesus did what he had to do according to God's dispensation; he had no other way to go. We can clearly see that Jesus had to go the way of persecution and bloodshed. Jesus knew the suffering that lay ahead of him, but he also knew he had to go that way in order to accomplish God's will.

Do you think I am placing unnecessary stress on this, or do you understand that this point is the most crucial one of belief? Jesus had to go the way he did because he knew what God wanted him to do, namely to save the world and all mankind by loving them. Therefore, it stands to reason that everyone else who loves Jesus should also do God's will -- to love the people of the world and save them.

Perfection of Restoration by Indemnity through Human Responsibility

March 1. 1983

Let The Dead Bury The Dead

He said to another man, "Follow me."

But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead. but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:59-60

Jesus' teaching was crystal clear on the standard of loving God. When one of his disciples asked him if he could go and assist in the funeral of his father, Jesus told him to stay with his mission and "Let the dead bury the dead."

Standing in the Presence of God

November 7, 1982

When a follower asked Jesus if he could go home to bury his deceased father, Jesus said, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead." From these words of Jesus, it is clear that the Bible contains two different concepts of life and death. The first concept of life and death concerns physical life. Here, "death" means the end of physical life, as was the case of the disciple's deceased father who was to be buried.

The second concept of life and death concerns those living people who had gathered to bury the deceased man, those whom Jesus called "the dead." Why did Jesus refer to people whose bodies were alive and active as the dead? He meant that since they had not accepted Jesus, they were far removed from the love of God and were dwelling in the realm of Satan's dominion. This second concept of death does not refer to the expiration of physical life. It means leaving the bosom of God's love and falling under the dominion of Satan. The corresponding concept of life refers to the state of living in accordance with God's will, within the dominion of God's infinite love. Therefore, even if a person's physical self is alive, if he dwells apart from God's dominion and is in servitude to Satan, he is dead as judged by the original standard of value. A similar conclusion can be drawn from the Lord's words of judgment upon the faithless people of the church in Sardis: "You have the name of being alive, and you are dead." (Rev. 3:1)

On the other hand, even though a person's physical life may have expired, he remains alive in the true sense if his spirit abides in the kingdom of heaven in heaven, a realm in the spirit world where God governs through love. When Jesus said, "...he who believes in me, though he dies, yet shall he live" (John 11:25), he meant that those who believe in him and live within the realm of God's dominion have life. Even after their physical bodies have returned to the soil, their spirits enjoy life in God's dominion. Jesus also said, "...whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:26) In saying that believers will never die, he meant that those who believe in Jesus during their earthly life will obtain eternal life not in this world, but in spirit, within the bosom of God's love. They will be alive, both in this life and the next. Jesus' words assure us that death, in the sense of the end of physical life, has no effect on our eternal life.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Resurrection 1.1

Loving Jesus First

"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn a man against his father; a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law -- a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.

"Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me."

Matthew 10:34-38

Did Jesus tell his followers to cherish everything and be nice to everyone? On the contrary he said, "Do not think I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword." Even John the Baptist said, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Why didn't he say

"Rejoice, for the kingdom of Heaven is coming?" True repentance is not easy. First you have to repent for the historical mistakes made during the dispensation, and then do what was left undone.

The strict requirements of Jesus' teaching are contrary to what we want to hear and in opposition to what we want to do. Compared to today 2,000 years ago was a very spiritually dark and closed age; yet even under those circumstances Jesus said, "He who loves father and mother more than me is not worthy of me." Do you think the people of that unenlightened time would have welcomed Jesus?

If Jesus came today; he might proclaim that people should love him more than the President. He would walk into a wedding and say that it is better to live singly and forget about marriage in order to love Jesus. What if he said, "I don't want you to wait for marriage for eternity, just until I say that it is possible?" Do you think that the pastor who was presiding over the ceremony would say 'Jesus, you are right. This couple should wait to marry'? No! They all would say he was crazy and want to toss him out of the church. It is not surprising that the people of Jesus' time thought he was a crazy man who was unfit to live in society.

Eternal Happiness
February 25, 1979

When you are cold, you put on warmer clothes; when you are hungry, you feed yourself. You take really good care of yourself, but do you do the same for God? This is a very important matter for your life. We all have only one lifetime; at the end of your life, the serious question you must answer will be how well did you actually love God. The question has already been raised by Jesus, as recorded in the Bible. He demanded of people that they love him more than their own spouses or children or anyone else.

Love is of all different qualities. What is the standard for loving that we need to meet before we are actually qualified to say to someone, "I love you"? We need to know where we are in relation to that standard. Jesus' standard of loving included everything in a person's life: his loved ones and his precious belongings -- everything. Each person has a claim on his own environment, his family his country; and his world. All of that had to be abandoned, if necessary; in order to love Jesus; this was the clear-cut standard which the Bible records...

Suppose you went to heaven and God asked you, "How much did you love me while you were on earth?" Could you answer him, "Well, Heavenly Father, I wanted to love you but my wife prevented me"? Such an answer is not acceptable. You need to be sure while you are living that you are not only willing, but able to love God.

Standing in the Presence of God
November 7, 1982

The role of religion is to teach people to set their standard of love higher than the satanic world's standard. The religious man is one who demonstrates higher love than anyone in the world claimed by Satan. For the sake of God he can then deny the value of anything in the satanic world and thus recreate the value of everything in relation to God. As religious people, we should be triumphant to this way of love.

God's love will begin after we demonstrate our love, which is the very reason that Jesus said, "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." This is the true heart of God's Principle. We should become people who can demonstrate a greater love toward God and toward Christ than toward anybody else

in the world, because at that point God's love will begin. By loving the Lord, men and women can surpass the point at which man fell and reach the level of perfection.

The Desire of All Things

June 17, 1977

Original love is far greater than worldly love. In this world, one man has stood up and said, "Love me more than you love anyone in the world." Anyone who could make such a statement must be the most extraordinary man in history. What that man is actually saying is that you should remove yourself from this world and find God's viewpoint in order to make a new beginning. If you tell God that you want to make a new start from the original point and make a new world, then he will say "Welcome, my child! I have been waiting for you. I need that kind of solution for this world." If God did not respond in that way, then God would be responsible for the problems. God will have to respond to such a person.

Jesus knew God as a personal God of heart, and he represented that love to the world, saying, "Love me more than anyone or anything else." Jesus' position was absolutely extraordinary. God welcomed Jesus' entry into the world, but Satan held him back.

Parents, Children and the World Centered upon Oneself

June 5, 1983

Whoever Loses His Life Will Preserve It

"Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it."

Luke 17:33

Biblical teachings are full of seeming contradictions. As Jesus said, "He who seeks to gain his life will lose it, while he who seeks to lose his life for my sake will find it." That means that those who are willing to die and be miserable will find glory. The woman who is willing to accept the worst possible husband will get the best husband. The men who are willing to accept the worst possible women will get the best wives. Those who want to be rich will live in poverty, while those who really want to suffer in poverty will become rich. Those seem like contradictions, but that is the way God works.

Let Us Restore Our Homeland

January 14, 1979

Most religions began on a good path, but as they continued they lost sight of this very important principle. Then they stopped serving others. We see that Jesus consistently and clearly taught people to go through difficulties, be persecuted, and to be grateful for that. He told his followers to serve others and to love their enemies. Ordinary human beings don't want to do any of these things, yet these are exactly the things Jesus stressed that people should do. It is because of the need for paying the price. No one can be elevated spiritually without paying the price.

The most extreme example of Jesus' teaching on this subject was, "Those who want to die for my sake will live, while those who want to live will die." How paradoxical this has seemed to many people. What has Satan been doing to fallen people? He has taken possession of their lives and unless they are ready to give up their satanic life, they cannot be claimed by God.

Parents' Day -- True Parents and Blessed Couples

March 23, 1993

Looking into the history of Christian missionary activities, we can discover that theirs was a path of

persecution and martyrdom. On such a way during the course of a 2,000-year history, the lives offered on this trail of blood became the fertilizer in the foundation for democracy.

The Path for America and Humanity in the Last Days

January 22, 2000

When you pursue an invisible goal, however, you may look defeated and even die on a cross, but your death is not defeat. Instead it is a victorious new beginning. Because you gave everything, everything is resurrected. The supreme example of this is Jesus Christ, who was crucified and died in an excruciating manner, branded as a criminal. He seemed to be hopelessly defeated, but his death actually began a new victory.

Territory of Goodness

October 14, 1979

The Sabbath Control Controversy

At that time Jesus went through the grain fields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath." He answered, "Haven't you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread -- which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests. Or haven't you read in the Law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple desecrate the day and yet are innocent? I tell you that one greater than the temple is here. If you had known what these words mean, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the innocent. For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.'"

Matthew 12:1-8

Many people in the process of restoration may have tasted the heavenly kingdom while still in the domain of Satan's accusations. Yet there is no one who has truly experienced the taste of the fatherland of eternal peace, the heavenly kingdom, having eliminated Satan. He who has experienced the taste of the true heavenly kingdom and felt the love of God will receive the impetus to fight with Satan. Once a person experiences that taste and receives that love, he will never leave God again. A man who has experienced the love of God must appear on this earth.

What should belong to God? It begins from a clump of grass, from an acre of land, from an individual person, and includes everything up to the heavenly kingdom; going further, it includes the world of God's heart. That ownership should not be relative or conceptual. It should be substantial. Only if such a world is built will God rest for the first time. Human beings cannot help liking what God likes. For that reason, God decided upon the seventh day as the Sabbath and told man to rest. Did you know that God has not been able to rest on a Sabbath day even now, after 6,000 years of history?

Jesus emphasized the Word of God and came forth inheriting the vicissitudes of 2,000 years of providential history, during which the Sabbath was upheld as most important. However, has the day of triumphant glory come when Jesus could approach the Father and invite him to take a rest along with humankind? No, there has not. Since God and Jesus are not in a situation where they can rest, neither can we.

God's Possession and Our Possession

November 9, 1958

any take Sunday as a day of rest, but I work even harder on Sunday so I can teach as many of you as possible about your true self and your mission of liberating God and mankind. When God looks

down, does he complain and say, "Oh, this is a holy day, they, should take a day off and think about the coming week..." No, God would definitely approve and say; "You are the people working for me and mankind."

Mission and Prayer

June 12. 1983

Take Up Your Cross And Follow Me

If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Mark 8:34

If you sacrifice yourself, many people will come to your side. If Jesus were crucified due to his own crime, would all humanity be sympathetic with him? But because Jesus was crucified for the sake of the sin of all mankind, he won the hearts of all mankind. Many saints and prophets went through difficulties, but we cannot imagine anything more difficult than to be crucified on the cross. How valuable was his patience in the face of opposition and betrayal, as well as his love for other people at the sacrifice of himself! When we practice these two elements, there will be peace, love, happiness, and all ideals.

Human beings have been separated from God due to the Fall, but that kind of love, service, and sacrifice can restore the link between man and God, between Fallen man and Jesus Christ. This is the principle that Jesus taught us with his own deeds: patience and living for others. You face both inner and outer struggles. You must win the inner struggle. Whenever enemies come against you, you must be able to win over them by being patient and serving them.

The Opportunity for Happiness or Unhappiness

March 2. 1975

Father, Your will to raise up Jesus Christ and to be proud of him was passed down in history through the disciples and connected to us today. Please let us understand that You are hoping for Your Will to bear fruit through us.

Now please let us become sacrifices to resolve the bitterness of heaven and earth, the bitterness of all things of creation, and the bitterness of Jesus Christ. We earnestly hope and desire, Father, that You will allow us to become children with filial hearts who devote themselves heart and soul.

Father! Let us realize that today each one of us, and all of us together, have the responsibility to resolve the grief of heaven. Let us understand that it is we ourselves who must bring to an end the battle to resolve heaven's bitterness. Since we have realized this, please let us have the mind to accomplish more than anyone else, and to be grateful to You alone, Father.

May we be grateful, even though we are carrying a cross. Even though we fight with billions of satans, do not permit us to become unmanly people in front of You, Father. Even though we are carrying a cross and standing in a difficult position, lead us to become children who can say, "Father, I'm here, so don't worry" Earnestly we pray that You will mold us into children who offer comfort to our Father, who is in sorrow over seeing his children in difficult situations. We pray all these things in the name of the Lord.

Prayer - May 16, 1956

John The Baptist Has Doubts

After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach

in the towns of Galilee. When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."

As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. Then what did you go out to see?"

A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' I tell you that among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. He who has ears, let him hear:"

Matthew 11:1-15

Jesus relied very much upon the success of the mission of John the Baptist. When this very John the Baptist sent his disciples to Jesus to ask them, "Are you really the messiah?" it was more painful for Jesus than if he had stabbed him with a knife. Anger overwhelmed him. Jesus refused to answer yes or no to that impossible question. Instead Jesus said, "Blessed is he who takes no offense at me." (Matt. 11:6 RSV)

This was Jesus' sympathy for John when he saw that John was failing. Jesus was really saying, "Poor John, man of failure. You no longer have faith in me. You are taking offense at the Son of God. I am sorry for you, John." And then Jesus spoke to the crowd about John in indignation, saying,

What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? Why then did you go out? To see a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in kings' houses. Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. (Matt. 11:7-9)

John was more than a prophet, because he came to bear witness directly to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He was born for this extraordinary mission. God entrusted that glorious responsibility to John. What an honor for a man to be called "more than a prophet" by Jesus! Yet John failed to live up to this honor. Therefore, Jesus said in Matthew,

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.

Matt. 11:11

John had fallen to the point where even the least in the kingdom of heaven was greater than he. The meaning of Jesus' statement has remained mysterious. Christians have not understood its true significance because they have not realized that John the Baptist was a man who failed his mission. Tonight we know the true meaning.

John the Baptist was finally beheaded. He could have been a glorious martyr, had he been beheaded for performing his ordained mission: witnessing and proclaiming to the world that Jesus Christ was the Son of God! But he was beheaded merely for becoming involved in the sex scandal in King Herod's family. That affair was none of John's business. Attending the Son of God was his sole

responsibility. But John deserted this divine mission and suffered a meaningless, even shameful death. This truth must be told, however painful.

Therefore. Jesus said of John,
„From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it“.
Matt. 11:12 NIVM

This means that because of the failure of the mission of John the Baptist, the kingdom heralded by Jesus Christ suffered and was left open for competition. When a champion of God fails in his mission, someone else must take up that mission and put forth great effort to accomplish it. Thus, men of forceful faith -- like Peter -- took John's position by the power of their own merit...
The New Future of Christianity
September 18, 1974

Sin is the failure to believe. It is sin to not believe in the person whom God has sent. It is sin not to believe his words. Therefore, you must accept the universal ideology of God. You must march forward with unswerving conviction and faith. When you try to go out with such faith, there will arise doubts in your minds that will counter the faith. This is because the forces of evil are at work in your mind. These forces of evil cause you to feel fear and anxiety. Therefore, you must not conduct a life of faith that gets engulfed by those forces of evil. You have to have the magnanimity that can digest and overcome those things. Because Jesus stood in that position, he did not even try to avoid the burden of the cross. How can anyone criticize Jesus? If someone genuinely believes in God, there is no way he can reproach Jesus.
When Will We Stand before God?
September 8, 1957

The Miracle Of The Loaves And Fishes

Jesus... withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.
Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."
"We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish." they answered.
"Bring them here to me," he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.
The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.
Matthew 14:13-21

In front of his God, Jesus could forget himself without any pretense or excuse. He was willing to do anything for the sake of the Father's will. We should become sons and daughters who inherit the footsteps of Jesus. Jesus gave us the words of the gospels during the 30-odd years of his life. When he met starving people as he was going around with his disciples, he fed 5,000 with five loaves and

two fishes. He gave everything he could. He introduced faith, life, and love. He introduced all that humanity could demand.

Have you ever received the words of Jesus as his substantial body? Have you ever felt through the words of Jesus that he is the embodiment of God's eternal faith? Have you ever felt through the words of Jesus that he is the embodiment of eternal life? Have you ever felt through the words of Jesus that he is the embodiment of eternal love? If you cannot feel this even after you have heard Jesus' words, then Jesus' heart will be torn.

Oh Father; We Welcome You!

March 9, 1959

The countless people who were following Jesus believed he was the Messiah and the Savior of the people when he showed them the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Yet when Jesus was killed, all the people abandoned him and went away. If the people who were following Jesus had understood the internal heart of Jesus toward heaven, if they had understood that he possessed a deeply penetrating heart toward God and that he came to take responsibility for the whole history of the dispensation, they would have realized his situation and followed him. Furthermore, following them, the whole nation of Israel also would have followed Jesus.

Let Us Climb Over the Hill of Historical Misfortune

January 19, 1958

Jesus Prays Alone On The Mountain

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Mark 1:35

We know well that Jesus visited high mountains whenever he was laced with serious matters...

Jesus went to the Israelites and the synagogues with the victorious pattern established in his 40-day wilderness course, yet they did not welcome him. Instead of welcoming him, they persecuted him wherever he went. He met with opposition and ridicule. Having to go the wilderness course after being rejected the first time [by John the Baptist] was already enough to provoke hard feelings and anger. When Jesus saw the Jewish religion and the Israelite nation opposing him, having returned to them with a victory over Satan, his heart was consumed with inexpressible pain and sorrow. We need to think about the position and situation of Jesus. In difficult circumstances of persecution, to return the nation and religion to God, Jesus prayed on the mountaintops and fought against Satan throughout his three years of public life.

Jesus' heart was such that rather than feeling sorrow for his lonely position, he regretted that the result of God's efforts for humanity during the 4,000 years was so meager, and he felt sorry to express his heart to heaven. To Jesus, consumed with such a heart, it was out of the question to express resentment toward the nation, the synagogues, or fallen humanity. We should know that Jesus did not have the leisure to bear a grudge against anyone.

Father, we know well that the great religious figures of history had relationships with mountains, sharing their situations with mountains and determining the standards of life and death and victory and defeat on mountains. We have learned that Jesus, as the representative of humankind, visited the top of a mountain and there pleaded with God from the depths of his heart.

As we have realized the historical connections with mountains, please allow many sons and daughters of God to appear on the mountain tops of this peninsula. Guide them to be proud people who can return the glory of victory to you and indemnify the historical grounds of resentment over what took place on the mountains.

To be such people, we know that besides our individual selves, our families, our societies, our religions, nations, and world must all go to the mountaintop. Please guide us to resemble the heart of Jesus, walking up and down the mountains for the sake of heaven and earth, and to follow in his footsteps. Allow us to become the children who can fight with fidelity until the day we set up a victorious altar on the mountaintop and sing "Hosanna" Let us fight without exhaustion or retreat.

Father, we know that if we have such a determination, you will help us. Lead us to go through any complications with single-mindedness. We pray all this in the name of the Lord. Amen.

The Sorrowful Heart of Jesus as He Went to the Mountain

January 25, 1959

How pitiful a person was Jesus? His mind could not help but lament when he looked at the people, and there was nothing for his heart to do but weep aloud when he looked at the religious bodies. Humankind could not understand the situation of Jesus, who carried the responsibility of heaven's providence and destiny. There was no one who understood his heart as he wandered in the mountains alone at night.

Prayer

October 18, 1959

Jesus Wept

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

John 11:32-36

The Son of God, Jesus Christ, abandoned the crown and lowered himself to the bottom of the misery of humanity. The Bible explains very little about Jesus' life, but he was the one who wept the most; he poured out tears. Jesus came with the mind of a parent and the heart of the True Parent. He examined everything from the viewpoint of a parent.

Men Are Destined to Go the Road of Restoration

March 14, 1965

God's true love means one of two things: either that he only loves himself and is working for his own glory, or that he forgets himself completely and only works for the well-being of the entire creation. Which is true love? Visualize God going after this fallen world. Is he coming with joy, laughing every day and calling: "Here is true love. All my fallen children, please come"? Or is he grieving, going after fallen man with tears? Why is the true God the one who is seeking his children with tears?

Then in what circumstances does God want to meet his loved ones? God will meet his loved ones in

a tearful place, in a tearful way If you are absolutely sorrowful and are shaking with sobs then you are not only shedding tears, but water is coming from your nose and mouth as well. Have you ever cried in that fashion? If you have never experienced such tears, you have not yet tasted true love.

Crossroads of Life and Death

December 17, 1978

Peter's Confession

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Matthew 16:13-20

We should attain the love of God, to say nothing of the love of the Holy Spirit and Jesus. If we express the nature of the Trinity from this perspective, then we can say that the Holy Father is love, the Holy Son is life, and the Holy Spirit is truth.

So, to the question of Jesus, "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matt. 16:16) This answer of Peter's refers to the true and existing quality of the nature of Jesus. In other words, it means that Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One, the Son of the living God, and that he is the one existing human being who perfected the mind and body. Similarly, looking at the fact that Peter testified to Jesus as the Son of the living God, we can observe that Peter understood the internal heart of Jesus, and that he was able to stand on the level that can be linked to the one principle.

Then, what should we, who are seeking the truth, do now? More than anything, we should possess the key of truth that can fit inside the heart of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and God the Father. If you do not possess this key, then you cannot perfect your physical self. Moreover, you cannot create a bond with the Holy Spirit, the divine spirit of truth...

Beloved Father, please allow this to be a time when the words of the Lord can be heard through the ears of our hearts and minds. Please allow us to understand that the words Jesus spoke were relevant, not only for his time but also for us at present; they are words that transcend history.

Please allow us to fathom the anguishing heart of Jesus toward Peter. Allow us to fathom as Peter understood the thoughts of Jesus and gave such a reply that he could inherit the whole will of heaven.

Beloved Father, we earnestly wish and desire that you will allow the words given to us today to make a deep connection with us. Just as Peter testified, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God," allow us to look upon the Lord and rejoice and to testify to the Lord. As the people who can become harmonized with the eternal words of the Father, please guide us always to reflect upon ourselves while we are on the path until the moment when we can appear spotless before the Father, the Holy Spirit, and all created things... Amen.

We Are the Ones Who Should Possess the Keys to Open the Kingdom of Heaven

March 17, 1957

Jesus never won the chosen people of Israel, and he never gained the support he needed from them. He came to erect the kingdom of God on earth, but instead he had to caution his disciples even to

keep his identity a secret because people did not accept his legitimacy as the Messiah.
The Future of Christianity
October 28, 1973

What Is Bound On Earth Is Bound In Heaven

"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 16:19

In Matthew 16:19 and 18:18 Jesus says, "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." When he left this earth, he gave the keys to the kingdom of heaven to Peter, who was on earth. Because the kingdom of heaven was lost on earth, it must be found on earth.

One God, One World Religion

February 11, 1972

In Matthew 16:19 Jesus teaches that even though this world is now completely decadent, these problems have to be solved in this realm. God has to restore his family, nation, and world here in this physical world to begin with. Where did God lose his family, his tribe, his nation, and his world? Up in heaven? No. Right here on this earth! Disease erupted right here in the physical world. So it has to be cured here. We have to untie the knot here in this physical world.

True Parents' Birthday

February 13, 1997

What happened after Jesus' crucifixion? God's dispensation was divided, with one side a physical dispensation and the other a spiritual dispensation. Jesus fulfilled the position of the True Parent of mankind spiritually. His body was killed, so he was in a position to be the Bridegroom spiritually. The Holy Spirit is in the Bride's position, but it never had a physical form as Jesus once did.

The Bible teaches that the kingdom will come first on earth and then be opened in heaven: "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

The Day of the Victory of Heaven

October 4, 1979

The Mount Of Transfiguration

"I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God."

About eight days after Jesus said this he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor; talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem.

Luke 9:27-31

In Luke 9:30 there is a description of the Mount of Transfiguration: "Behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem." In other words, this is the occasion in which God sent Moses and Elijah as messengers, informing Jesus about his crucifixion at Jerusalem. The crucifixion was decided upon at that particular moment.

Christmas in Heart
December 25, 1973

In difficult circumstances of persecution, to return the nation and religion to God, Jesus prayed on the mountaintop and fought against Satan throughout his three years of public life. Yet he saw no fruit. Consequently, he finally went up to the Mount of Transfiguration with the heart to awaken the ignorant people, even if he had to undertake his death. After realizing that no human effort would bring about the result, he came forward with an ardent heart to save the people, who had the ties of history and the age and who were linked to the heart of God. He was determined, even if he had to die as a sacrifice and shed his blood.

The place he visited with such a heart was not a great palace. It was neither the house of a disciple who received him, nor the house of the people of the state, nor the house of a leader of the Jewish religion. It was a mountain, the Mount of Transfiguration...

When Jesus went to the Mount of Transfiguration, he discarded all previous resolutions and set out to give his body to the nation, determined to face death. If someone can imagine the figure and heart of Jesus as he climbed the mountain then, if someone can experience that sorrow as his own and behold Jesus with such a heart, he will be able to experience the sorrow of Jesus toward heaven, the nation, and his religion...

Since that figure and situation were full of pathos, God sent Elijah and Moses to discuss Jesus' death in Jerusalem with him. Jesus knew that heaven and his disciples would be stricken with grief upon his death. Worried about the people and their descendants, he grieved for the sake of the past, the present, and the future. Wanting to save the Jewish people even through his death, Jesus appeared before God with a prayerful heart similar to that of Elijah's when he cried out, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." (1 Kings 19:14) Jesus' heart was truly mournful...

After he was notified of his coming death in Jerusalem, Jesus prepared for the day of death. He felt the day of death coming closer and closer, and the situation becoming increasingly chaotic. Seeing that one of his beloved disciples would betray him, Jesus seriously felt the need to conclude all his affairs on earth before going to the cross. Knowing that he had the responsibility as the Savior to follow the path to death, Jesus worried that even after his death the sorrows of the past, present, and future would not disappear, but would remain. His mind and body were immersed in such feelings.

The Sorrowful Heart Of Jesus As He Went To The Mountain
January 25, 1959

Jesus Rebukes Peter

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he should go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law and that he should be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter "Get behind me, Satan! Thou are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Matthew 16:21-23

God instructed Jesus to alter his mission. Peter's reaction to this news was to reply, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you." Do you know what Jesus said to him? He said, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men." In general, Christians, including theologians and ministers, interpreted this thusly: "Look, even Peter was scolded by God. Why? Because Peter was in a position to oppose the crucifixion, which was the will of God." This is their interpretation: the crucifixion was a predestined course of Jesus. But people do not know that this was after God informed Jesus of his altered mission toward the crucifixion. This is why Jesus now pursued this altered course and Simon Peter did not know the true heart of God.

Christmas in Heart

December 25, 1973

God gave two kinds of prophecies concerning the accomplishment of his will through Jesus. One foretold that Jesus would die due to the disbelief of the people. (Isaiah 53) Another foretold that the people would believe in and honor Jesus as the Messiah and help him to accomplish God's will in glory. (Isaiah 9)

Why did Jesus chastise Peter so harshly? In truth, when Jesus spoke these words, the disbelief of the chosen people had already frustrated Jesus efforts to complete the providence of salvation both physically and spiritually. By that time, Jesus had resolutely determined to accept the fate of the cross (Luke 9:31) as a condition of indemnity to open the way for the spiritual salvation of humankind. Peter's dissuasion could have hindered Jesus from paving the way for spiritual salvation through the cross. For this reason, Jesus rebuked him.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Messiah 1.5-6

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Ethics Of The Kingdom

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

The Mustard Seed

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32

If Judaism had united with Jesus, world Christianity would not have come into being. Instead, a Jesus-centered nation of Israel would have begun. It would have grown in stature, influencing the Cain-type nation of the Roman Empire. It would not have been a Christian country, but would have been Jesus' own country. It would have formed the kingdom of Jesus, rather than forming the religion known as Christianity. If that had happened, the country would have inherited the kingship and would have inherited the world. It would have grown and expanded to the point where today it would be one nation encompassing the world. Other countries would have inherited perfectly the tradition of that kingdom of Jesus. It would have become like a big tree with many different branches. Jesus' country would have been the trunk and each nation of the world would have been another branch, connecting to one trunk and one root. The leaves of that tree would have been individual men and women.

That huge, gigantic tree would have been one nation of God. The flowers and blossoms that bloomed would have been of one root, one tree. Even if you took the smallest leaf, it would contain all the elements of the huge trunk. The root, trunk, each branch, and every little leaf would all contain the same elements. It would have been full of the spirit of the kingdom. The spirit of the root, spirit of the trunk -- everything would have been contained within this tiny leaf, which means each individual.

The 38th Anniversary of the Unification Church

May 1st, 1992

If the Jews had become one with Jesus, they could have overcome the great Roman Empire within 40 years. Jesus could have become literally the King of kings and could have ruled the world with truth and love. With this great hope and great providence, Jesus came. But he could not disclose his innermost intention to his countrymen. Jesus had come with the purpose of uniting the spiritual and physical worlds, and establishing the kingdom of heaven both spiritually and physically.

Untitled

February 20, 1965

The Kingdom Of Heaven Is Within You

Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within you."

Luke 17:20-21

Where is God within us? God lies within the mind of the mind. How deep is that mind of the mind? Where is heaven? Wherever God is, there is the kingdom of heaven. If God is in the mind of mind, then we know what Jesus meant when he said that the kingdom of God is in the midst of you. More clearly, we can say that the kingdom lies within the mind of the mind, or the center of the mind.

Let Us Set the Record

October 12, 1980

Are you able to see or touch your conscience? Are you able to touch and see God? We cannot touch or see him, so where is he? Up in the air some place? The earth itself is rotating, so heaven up here may become heaven down below tomorrow in terms of space. If we look at the planet earth from far way, people at the bottom are standing upside down. For Chinese people, heaven is America because they are standing in China. In reality, heaven describes the state of holiness, the highest and most glorious place. Where is heaven then? Where does God dwell? In the conscience.

God is the root of love, life, lineage, and conscience. Therefore, I come to the conclusion that God dwells in the innermost depth of your conscience. If you pray really seriously and reach a state of real spirituality you will be able to communicate with God directly. In this state when you say, "God, where are you?" Heavenly Father will respond from the center of your being, "I am here. Why do you call me?"

Find Your True Self

November 23, 1994

Your conscience was born from your vertical [heavenly] parents, your body from your horizontal [earthly] parents. Therefore, your conscience is the closest mind to heaven within yourself. When your vertical and horizontal self unite, then you create a perfect man.

Victorious True Parents

January 28, 1993

The Prodigal Son

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father: 'Father give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living

When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' So he got up and went to his father

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him...'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'

Luke 15:11-32

God wants to have his day of victory, and once he has it he will never release it. God has suffered so much that on that one day his joy will be endless; on that day God will become crazy! Then he can forget all his past suffering. Think of being loved by that crazy God in that precious moment.

Lovers today try to show their love by hugging and kissing, but that cannot be compared to God's elation when he has his one day of victory. When his own children achieve that goal and bring comfort and liberation to God, he will be crazy in joy and the world will be crazy in joy.

Jesus' parable of the prodigal son demonstrates this. There was a son who wanted to take his inheritance and leave home. He went far away and squandered everything he had and became so destitute that he had to feed pigs to survive. Finally with a repentant heart he decided to return home. His father had compassion and ran to embrace him. His elder brother, however, condemned him and complained at their father's generosity, but the father's joy at his son's return had no limit. If even a prodigal son was welcomed that much by his father, how much more will God welcome you, not as a prodigal son but as a loyal, faithful son who has given his life for the restoration of God's kingdom? When on the day of homecoming you walk to God's throne, how much more will God welcome you? My only desire is to see God feeling that joyful.

God's Day

January 1, 1978

Who could receive the love of God, who had been patient for 4,000 years to give his infinite love? There was no one but Jesus. Jesus knew this, and he could be grateful for the love of God even when he felt lonely.

Then where was there a person of character who understood that God had been sad for 4,000 years and that he had been patiently fighting Satan during that time? Again, it was Jesus alone. Thus, Jesus, who had to walk the path of heaven's principles on behalf of God's patience, carrying the hope of God, who wished that he could lead humans the right way, was sunk in grief.

Therefore, you should also feel God's loyal heart as Jesus did. Thus, you should realize that you should not remain in the position of the prodigal son, but come to represent the full value of God's principles as the ideals of creation. We should take after Jesus, who felt the love, patience, and loyalty of God. He understood that he was found through God's 4,000 years of toil and patience and that he was the hope of God. We should inherit his love, loyalty, and patience.

Jesus' True Heart for God

August 4, 1957

[Among you] there should never be racial discrimination. White people find that it is hard to throw away their old habit of discriminating against blacks, even after the Blessing. But if you do not correct that quickly enough, you will surely go to hell in spirit world. You will perish. That sense of belittling another and feeling superior to them is like a cancerous growth within your spirit. We see in the Bible the story of the prodigal son. He comes back and repents and receives all the blessings of the father. So his position becomes even better than the elder brother. That elder brother was saying, "My younger brother was a bad person but I was good. Why did you give all the blessing to him?"

The Responsibility of Authority of the Unification Family

March 1, 1992

The Good Samaritan

In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.

He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper: 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Luke 10:30-37

Which people are most likely to go to heaven -- those who are at the top of human society, such as the rulers and people in power, or those at the bottom, who are at the lowest rung of society? Which group is more likely to go to heaven, the first or the second? Do you like the bottom of society? You have to go through the bottom of hell in order to reach heaven.

Living in the Highest Historical Age

April 9, 1989

Evil is self-centeredness. The person who makes himself the center of everything is an evil person. What is good? A good person exists solely for the sake of others. A good man is always trying to give of himself to make others happy, trying to bring benefit to them.

I want you to know that there is a universal law and principle created by God that declares that anyone who builds his life on absolute love and the absolute ideal of service to others will have the rest of creation respond to him as his object. This is a universal law that no one can bend. It is true simply because God is such a person. God exists in that ideology and it is God's own way of life. God controls this world through the philosophy of giving himself for the sake of others.

Our Family in Light of the Dispensation, Part II

March 6, 1977

Jesus went beyond the limited concept of law when he lived love; he went beyond the concept of race because he wanted to belong to the world. He also went beyond his own religion, transcending the detailed tenets of Jewish law because he was faithful to broader principles. He loved not only the Jews but also even the enemies of his people, as well as the rest of the world. Jesus could even embrace the people who crucified him.

If Jesus lived in today's America, would he advocate segregation of white and black people? White people may feel most comfortable with their own kind because they can digest that situation, but God would warn them that as long as they had to follow their Christian ideals by failing to accommodate black people and bring unity, then white people themselves risk their own survival.

The Way of Prosperity and Defeat

March 11, 1979

Our homeland is the earth as God originally intended it to be -- a place where parents, siblings, and children who did not commit the Fall would live together. This was to be a place where black people, yellow people, and white people could live together in harmony. Who is the parent of all these different races? There is only one parent. The God who is with us wherever we go in the universe is the Father of humankind. Thus, it would be a mistake for anyone to think that white

people, black people, or yellow people are the masters of America. God is the master of America.

Differences in skin color are nothing more than the result of our ancestors having had to adapt to different climates and environments in different parts of the globe. In areas with large amounts of snowfall, we find mainly white people living. In places such as Africa where the rays of the sun are particularly bright, we find mainly black people. Fundamentally, though, people are the same. The color of our blood is the same. Our flesh and bones look the same. We all have the capacity to love.

Thus, there should be no discrimination based on race

The Cosmos Is Our Hometown and Our Fatherland

February 2, 2000

Jesus said, "Love your enemies" -- but Jesus also said, "Love your neighbor." Who is a Christian's nearest neighbor? Certainly, it is another Christian. But are they doing it? Do Catholics love Mormons? Do Jehovah's Witnesses love Methodists? It doesn't matter who calls us heretics, whoever practices this principle of loving one's enemy is closer to God and is the true orthodox Christian. That is my belief. Love can unite. If Christians practice true love, then Christians can unite among themselves, and Christians can unite all the religions of the world.

Jesus' Standard of Goodness

January 1985

The Adulterous Woman

The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

John 8:3-7

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger: When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her:"

You know the story in the Bible where Jesus spoke to the people who almost stoned the woman who had committed adultery. Do you know on whose side God stood? God stood on the side of the sinful woman. Jesus felt toward her as he would feel toward his own sister or his own aunt. To Jesus, all women were related to him as sisters, mothers, or aunts. This spirit, this ideology was what God wanted Jesus to bring to this world so that everyone could live in the center. God did not intend to have Jesus be a pastor or religious leader who only spoke in glowing terms from a big pulpit. The true religious leader is crying out to the multitudes of people who are miserably defeated in this world.

Men Are Destined to Go the Road of Restoration

March 14, 1965

Marriage

"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator `made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together; let man not separate."

Matthew 19:4-6

Have you thought about absolute love? Do you think about it all by yourself or with your ideal spouse? Is your ideal spouse eternal or temporal? When you refer to your ideal spouse, are you referring to the one who can freely touch you and embrace you anytime of the day or night without a time limit? Is that what you mean? Or, do you mean that this ideal spouse can only embrace you between certain hours and when you are eating they should not even talk to you? What kind of ideal spouse are you talking about here? You don't have confidence in your answer; that is why you are all laughing too much. But this is a serious issue.

We can only receive love from our partner. Therefore, if you want to find absolute love, you need an absolute partner. Then you can give your absolute faith, absolute love, absolute trust, and absolute life to your spouse. Otherwise you cannot receive absolute love from your spouse. Do you imagine that your eyes would prefer absoluteness or changeability? Your five senses like absolute love.

Have you ever turned your five senses against your spouse? Only when you have an absolute relationship between husband and wife can you expect to receive absolute love. This is the prerequisite. Do you understand me?

Where can we find absolute love? In kissing? Where then? Our absolute sexual love organ, which brings man and woman into unity, is the place where absolute love can be found. The place of sexual intercourse. People do not know this truth. Those of you who are without sexual organs, raise your hands. Your sexual organ exists for the sake of absolute love. This is your unique, eternal purpose.

Eternal love is found through your spouse. People have been unaware that the owner of the woman's sexual organ is her spouse. Likewise, the owner of the man's sexual organ is his ideal spouse. When this ideal husband and wife become one through their sexual organs, then the owner of their unity is God. We need to know that our sexual organ does not belong to our self but rather to our partner. And our combined sexual organs belong to God. We need our sexual organs in an absolute way because we have to find absolute love. They are that valuable, that important. They cannot be exchanged for anything in this world.

The Time of Liberation for the Family of World Peace
September 8, 1996

What is the most important thing? It is not money, power, or knowledge. It is true love. True love is more precious than life itself and more important to us than air or water. Why is it so precious and important? It is because it is the means by which we can meet God. Just as human beings desire to meet God, God also wants to meet true human beings because of love. The love by which God can see, touch, and share with men and women at the same time is the love by which men and women love each other.

Everybody Wants True Love
November 20, 1999

Now, let us discover the dividing line between heaven and hell. Is it up in the air? Where is it? It is in your sexual organ. This is a serious matter. When the sexual organ is used as a blind person wandering aimlessly and without direction, it will, undoubtedly, lead you as its owner to hell. By the same token, you will be led high up into heaven when you use the sexual organ according to the standard of God's absolute love.

Today we face a serious youth problem, because in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve in their youth planted the seed of free sex in the shade through the fall. In the Last Days, the time of harvest, there is thus the worldwide phenomenon of rampant free sex among youth. Through free sex, Satan wants to stop every last person from returning to God; he wants to destroy all humanity and create hell on earth. Is not the world in which we live today hell on earth?

The family sets the cornerstone on the road to peace. The family can also destroy that road. It was Adam's family in which the destruction of the foundation of human hope and happiness took place. Therefore, when we establish the road going 180 degrees opposite from the direction of the satanic world, giving thanks to God, we can find freedom, happiness, and the ideal.

If all men and women admit that their sexual organs belong to their spouse, we would all bow our heads and become humble when we receive our spouse's love. Love comes to you only from your partner. There is no love other than love for the sake of others.

In Search of the Origin of the Universe
August I, 1996

Divorce

Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery"

Matthew 19:8-9

If you consider getting a divorce, you should feel shocked and faint. In the future, the word "divorce" will be erased from the dictionary. God will never compromise one inch on this. If you can discuss the possibility of divorce without feeling stunned, then you know how far from God you are. This is an absolute criterion. We have to live according to that standard before we can say we have gained absolute love.

True Man, True Church, True Country
January 9, 1983

Should a woman discard her husband if, for some reason, she feels he doesn't suit her? Should you divorce? No. Mankind never knew this before, but divorce is similar to the act of abortion. Staying married creates the possibility for the fulfillment of all these goals, but divorce breaks down every possibility destroying the parents, the children, and the ideal.

Ask your original mind: Should you divorce your spouse? Ask your children whether they want you to divorce. What about your parents? Ask them if they would like you to divorce. Nobody wants to go through divorce. The one who is pursuing a divorce will feel sad, but if he doesn't realize the seriousness of the issue, he will go ahead and sign the paper.

Thank You For Protecting Us
November 22, 1987

In this world, parents do not have absolute unity. They are inclined to struggle and fight with one another and even think about divorce. Is such a world heaven or hell? Do you imagine that your two eyes desire to divorce? These eyes always have harmony and unity one with another. They follow each other. Do you think that your left nostril desires to divorce your right nostril? They always work in harmony with each other. Your upper and lower lips always operate in oneness and remain

eternally together. Do you think that your right ear will decide not to hear anymore and let the left ear do it all? Actually our five senses do not have any concept of divorce. However, our body's desire is the problem. Our bodily desire demands that our mind follow.

Within my family there are children from two different mothers. When I lost my first wife through divorce, I had to go through a wilderness course; I lost everything, in a way now the entire world is experiencing the same thing through the breakdown of families. The world has completely lost God's true love family center. It has lost God's value system.

Our Responsibility in Becoming Children of True Parents

February 16, 1997

From all the usual standards of appearance and education, your husband may seem impossible, but the important question is whether he is genuinely living for the will of God. However ugly that person may be, he can be refined by dressing him up and educating him and teaching him manners. The handsome man, on the other hand, would more likely think it is foolish to live for God and not for himself. Which type of husband would you want?

I experienced this very thing in my own life. My first wife was outstanding as an individual, but she only thought of her own welfare and that of our family. But I was looking for a woman who would take care of everyone else first. I wanted our home to be open for public service and a place of God's love, but she could not live like that. If I had listened to her, would I be here today teaching you this message? I knew that my wife had a very difficult task to truly live for the sake of others, while to follow her direction would have led to permanent death. I could not possibly live that way. When she knew she could not change my mind, she left.

New Family Given by God

September 5, 1982

The Rich Young Man

Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

"Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."

"Which ones?" the man inquired

Jesus replied, "Do not murder; do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother and love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew 19:16-25

Everyone is seeking happiness. People do what they do in search of happiness, but we know painfully well that they do not find it. On the other hand, we are a group of people who are agonizing and suffering almost to the maximum extent of misery. But we can find true love, lofty ideals, and all the positive things. Now we can reach a conclusion based on common sense. In the secular life of physical enjoyment, almost no enduring love can be found. As a general rule, you have more chance of finding love among those who lead a suffering life than among well-to-do people. That is exactly what Jesus pointed out when he said it is more difficult for a rich man to go to the kingdom of heaven than it is for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.

Who is the most patriotic person in a country? Is it a person who has everything at his disposal and can do whatever he desires? Who has love? Is it this well-to-do person, or is it more likely someone who lives in miserable conditions but is ready to give whatever he has for the sake of the nation? Which of these people has a better chance of finding happiness? The sacrificial person. Nobody

envies him, but he is in a better position.

Of course, there are two kinds of humble people. One is forced to live this kind of life simply because he is poor. That may be a different story. But the man who could lead a first-rate, rich life but gives it up to live in a more humble fashion is the one who has the chance of finding love and happiness. You know the rules of the Principle very clearly. By the same token, a citizen in the greatest and most affluent country of America, who gives everything up and chooses to go to Africa and suffer with the people there, helping them to improve and raising them up above misery and sickness, is a great man. If Americans chose to trade their affluence for that way of life, they would be respected all over the world and they would find happiness. They would find the love and respect of other people. Does this sound farfetched or reasonable? This is reality.

The Realm of Heavenly Liberation

December 15, 1991

Would you prefer having true love or cheap love? Would you rather submit to the demands of true love from the very beginning, or only the last 20 percent of your life? A person who thinks he is clever might prefer taking the easy way. That is why Jesus said that it is more difficult for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle. In the Orient we say "the ear of the needle." Jesus meant that it would be practically impossible, even if the rich man lost all his wealth and sank into poverty. If a poor man could easily enter heaven, why would a rich man never be likely to make it? Once a person becomes self-centered and arrogant, even though he may falter and become penniless he will usually remain self-centered. That quality will not quickly vanish. Poor people, however, have flexibility. Because they have nothing, they are more willing to go anywhere and do anything.

Crossroads of Life and Death

December 17, 1978

The Great Commandment

One of them, an expert in the law; tested him with this question: "Teacher: which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:35-40

These verses contain the ideal of love that is the vital logic of the universe, the ideal ideology of the universe, and the center of life of the universe. In this way we can make a love connection with God, loving God by offering all things as said in these words.

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." The cosmic representative who loved God with all of his soul and with all of his heart and with all of his mind was none other than Jesus. To receive recognition as the man who came forth with a will like this, Jesus frankly revealed his situation to his beloved disciples. Jesus was a man who employed his utmost for the benefit of heaven. He was a man who exerted all of his heart, his power, and his mind.

We should emulate Jesus' virtues, such as the loyalty and sincerity he showed in his service toward heaven, standing all alone in a swirl of things and holding onto the great mission of the heavenly way. He demonstrated the heart that exerted all, the mind that represented God's will, and the

character to make every effort to substantiate the ideal of love.
Jesus Who Is to Establish Heaven's Love
February 24, 1957

The movement that we should ultimately begin is the "New Love Movement." The focus of the "New Love Movement" is to love God as our Father and to love our neighbors as ourselves. The crown of love is sacrifice. The "New Love Movement" should develop into a movement that knows how to sacrifice for God, for the world, for the nation, and for all fellow countrymen.

This is Jesus' ultimate teaching, but in history Christianity always failed to accomplish this "New Love Movement." Any movement that lives only for itself will necessarily fail, while any movement that is willing to die to let others live will remain eternally. When Rome which enjoyed the greatest prosperity became self-centered, even that great empire collapsed.
May the Fatherland Shine Forth
October 19, 1978

What if you do your church work just to get a salary or some recognition? Is that the correct motivation? The first commandment of Christ was to love God with all your heart, mind, and soul. Giving your heart, mind, and soul means that you are ready to stick your neck out, even ready to die for the love of God. Are you doing that?
The End of the World and Our Age
March 19, 1989

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Jesus' Last Week In Jerusalem

"We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise."

Mark 10:33-34

Not To Be Served, But To Serve

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to

serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:25-28

When you become a God-centered person through giving sacrificial service, you receive glory and service. The Bible even records that Jesus said, "The Son of man came not to be served but to serve." (Matt. 20:28) Is sacrificial service good? Is it easy to do? It is inevitable, almost like a test at school. No one likes tests, but at exam time students work hard, burning the midnight oil in order to prepare for the exam the following day. Even though they dislike it, people go through it because there is no choice. In a similar way, you have to go through sacrificial service. It is not easy.

The Road of God's Will

May 30, 1982

One thing Satan cannot do is become humble, for then he would no longer be Satan. Instead he is boastful and arrogant, trying to put himself up higher. Satan's barriers are those of self-centeredness, but going down low, in the other direction, requires the opposite qualities. Where a person puts himself in the humble position, Satan cannot defeat him. In the world of self-centeredness you cannot find the truth or true things. Truth comes from the other direction, where Satan has no defense, and that is where we go.

The Bible always taught this truth. This is why Jesus said that those who try to make themselves higher will go lower, and why he who loses his life for Jesus' sake will find it. It shows there are two ways of achieving the goal. The powers and principalities of the secular world lie in one direction, and because you cannot penetrate them, you have to go the other way. Once you know the secret, however, going down low is actually the easiest way.

Let Us Set the Record - October 12, 1980

Cleansing The Temple

Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the moneychangers and the benches of those selling doves. "It is written," he said to them, "My house will be called a house of prayer but you are making it a den of robbers."

Matthew 21:12-13

In the city of Jerusalem, Jesus was sometimes angered at the immoral behavior of the people. He even overturned the moneychangers' tables in a moment of violence. By normal standards he should have been arrested, and no civil court would have vindicated him. But under the law of God Jesus

had not committed any sin. Civil law is not heavenly law.

Do you want to become a person who will be judged in God's court, or become a person who can even rise above the court of God? What kind of person should you become to rise above God's judgment? Become a savior by adopting the savior's way of life as your way of life. You can be a person who can give salvation to the world and who can say, "I will be responsible for the world and all of humanity; I will give my entire life and soul and energy for that purpose." Then you are indeed walking side by side with the Messiah.

The Age of Judgment and Ourselves

November 21, 1976

If a soldier kills many of the enemy on the battlefield, he may be given the Medal of Honor. However, if that same soldier even accidentally kills someone during peacetime, then he is called a criminal. Both are acts of murder. Why do people applaud one act but punish the other? Only one thing makes his actions different: the soldier is not motivated by personal benefit to kill in combat. When his action is a public one for the defense of his nation then he is honored, but if he kills at home for his own selfish reasons then he is condemned.

In light of this, how can we define what law is? Law is a regulation or criterion to control or contain the actions of selfish people. Laws are a necessity if selfish people are to live together. Whether for an individual, group, or nation, the law sets limits and prohibits people from violating their minimal social responsibility. On the other hand, no laws are needed between people who naturally live their lives for the sake of others in a totally unselfish and devoted way. Have you ever heard of a law regulating people who are sincerely devoted to service? Humanity is supposed to be liberated from the law eventually. You must become people who do not require laws on the levels of the individual, group, nation, and even the world.

To live above the law you must become an unselfish person; then your outlook is not limited by your own selfish purpose. When you become a person who is determined to live for the highest cause, for the sake of the world, then you will be liberated from the need for all levels of law below that cause. When you become the type of person about whom people can say, "He does not live for himself. He lives for God," then you are indeed a great and fearless person.

Let Us Think Once More

June 12, 1977

Prophecies Of The Second Coming

"At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.

And he will send

his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens

to the other"

Matthew 24:30-31

"However; when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Luke 18:8

What will Jesus do when he comes? Will he come to wipe out the world? The word "judgment" is frequently misunderstood to mean that God will wipe out everything in anger. That is not the purpose of the Messiah's coming a second time. The whole purpose is to fulfill the mission that was

left undone 2,000 years ago, to work for individual, family, social, national, and world perfection. Judgment is the constructive work of God to see the fulfillment of the kingdom of God here on earth.

Because the work of God is realistic and physical, the Messiah's coming on literal clouds in the sky does not make sense. By interpreting the Bible literally many Christians anticipate Jesus appearance in the sky, but that could not be so. People perceive God as being supernatural, someone who could perform even the miracle of bringing Jesus on the clouds. In that case, why would Christianity be necessary? Why would faith be necessary? Why didn't God use supernatural power to build up the kingdom of God in the first place? Why has he waited for 6,000 years to accomplish it?

Gods Will and Christmas

December 25, 1976

Another reason why Jesus was not believed was that the people expected the Messiah to arrive on the clouds of heaven. Daniel 7:13 reads, "I saw in the night visions, and behold, on the clouds of heaven...the son of man." In other words, Daniel is saying that the coming of Jesus, the Son of God, will take place on the clouds of heaven. The people expected his arrival on the clouds of heaven; so when Jesus appeared in the flesh, it was very difficult to accept him. So at that time, there were arguments among Jesus' disciples and the faithful of Israel: "Well, if your master, Jesus, is the Son of God, how could he appear as a man, in the flesh? Impossible! How could he be the Son of God? We know him. He is the son of Joseph, the son of Mary; the Son of God is supposed to come on the clouds of heaven."

Two thousand years ago, the situation was such that the people expected Elijah first; but Elijah did not come. They expected Elijah to come from the blue sky, but he did not appear in that manner. Again they expected the Son of God to come on the clouds of heaven; this also was not fulfilled. So how could they accept Jesus? On what grounds? Those who believed the letter of the Old Testament, not the spirit, missed the whole thing. They said, "He is a heretic," and to this day the Jewish faith hasn't recognized Christianity. Today, we need to know the truth, and the truth will make us free.

Then how will the Lord reappear in the Last Days? We are in a situation exactly parallel to that of the time of Jesus Christ. If we become slaves to the letter of the New Testament, instead of living by the spirit of the New Testament, we could commit the same transgression that the elders, scribes, and Pharisees committed 2,000 years ago. Two thousand years ago, God promised Elijah but God did not send him in a miraculous way. He sent him as John the Baptist. Two thousand years ago, God promised the Messiah but the Messiah did not come on the clouds of heaven. Today Christians are expecting the Second Advent to appear on the clouds of heaven. If we are slaves to the letter of the New Testament, we will be in a position to commit the same transgression as the Israelites.

Christmas in Heart

December 25, 1973

Contrary to the expectations of many faithful Jews who believed on biblical grounds that the Messiah would come on the clouds with signs and portents in the heavens, Jesus was born on the earth as a child in a lowly family. Hence, we should reexamine the Bible from the perspective that the Second Advent of Christ may not take place in a miraculous way. It may, in fact, take place in the same manner as the First Advent.

Jesus made a number of predictions foretelling what would happen to the Lord at his return. He said, "But first he must suffer many things and he rejected by this generation." (Luke 17:25) If Jesus

were to return literally on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory and with the trumpets of angels, would he not readily be accepted and honored, even by this sin-ridden world? Returning in such a manner, there is no way he would ever suffer persecution or rejection...

Jesus said, "I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Luke 18:8) As the world enters the Last Days, increasing numbers of Christians are striving to develop stronger faith. How can they all fall into faithlessness at the Second Advent of the Lord if he literally comes on the clouds of heaven amidst the sounds of angels' trumpets and the glory of God? This prophecy also cannot be fulfilled if Christ returns in a supernatural manner...

What do the clouds actually symbolize? Clouds are formed by the evaporation of impure water from the earth. In the Bible, water often symbolizes fallen people. (Rev. 17:15; Ps. 144:7) We may deduce that clouds symbolize devout Christians whose hearts dwell in heaven and not on the earth because they have been reborn and raised from their fallen state. The Bible and other sacred scriptures also use the symbolism of clouds to indicate the multitudes. (Heb. 12:1)... We can conclude that Jesus' coming on the clouds signifies that he will emerge from among a group of reborn believers to become the leader of Christians, the Second Israel. Recall that when Jesus was asked about the place of his return, he replied, "Where the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together." (Luke 17:37) Jesus meant by this that he will return to the place where faithful believers have gathered, which basically signifies the same thing as the biblical prophecy that Christ will return on the clouds.

When we interpret the clouds metaphorically in this way, it is evident that at his First Coming Jesus himself symbolically came down from heaven on the clouds. It is written, "The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven" (1 Cor. 15:47), and "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man." (John 3:13) Even though Jesus was born on the earth, from the standpoint of the providence and with regard to his true value, he indeed came from heaven. This is also the true meaning of the prophecy in Daniel 7:13 which foretold that Jesus would come on the clouds.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Second Advent 2

A Woman Anoints Jesus' Feet With Oil

While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper; a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table. When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. "Why this waste?" they asked. "This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor"

Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

Matthew 26:6-13

Why is Mary remembered in Christianity? Why is it that her name has been passed down through many generations in memory? Jesus said it should be so. At that time, who would have tolerated a lowly woman pouring 300 denarii worth of aromatic oil on the feet of a bachelor and wiping it with her hair? Why did Jesus say that the name of Mary would be remembered wherever the Gospel was

taught? The disciples laughed at him, Judas Iscariot protested, and everyone opposed him on this. He spoke these words because, more than his beloved disciples or countless other people, the actions of Mary in that hour set the condition of having offered all of her heart and effort.

To Whom Do You Belong?

March 16, 1958

Judas Iscariot chastised Mary... as she knelt and poured three hundred denarii worth of oil on the feet of Jesus and washed them with her hair. When Judas chastised her, Jesus defended her. Mary was not acting unreasonably because she was concerned for the heart of Jesus, who was to be killed; an aspect of God's pained and indignant heart was reflected through her. Therefore Jesus predicted that her name would remain wherever the words of the Gospel spread.

The Father and I

July 12, 1959

Judas' Betrayal

Then one of the Twelve -- the one called Judas Iscariot -- went to the chief priests and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over

Matthew 26:14-16

Jesus came as the True Parent or True Father, but Judas betrayed him. In his act of betrayal, all mankind was represented. Through him, all human beings, as the offspring of traitors, betrayed their True Parent... For 30 pieces of silver, one man banished the True Parent from this earth and completely frustrated God's providence of 4,000 years. At that moment, Satan prevailed on the earth.

Restoration and Blessing

February 2, 1969

The twelve months comprise one circle of seasons. There is always balance there, with six months up and six months down, six months left and six months right. One place is hot and the other cold. Each season reaches a peak and then changes. You cannot say you want only spring or only enjoy hot weather. Most people don't like winter, but you have to live through it. Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus, and at least three disciples collaborated with him; their betrayal was equivalent to the three months of winter. You must pass through winter to welcome spring. Winter is essential, because without it nothing can be prepared for the spring.

Heaven and Us

March 25, 1979

The Last Supper

When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you, do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my

blood, which is poured out for you."

Luke 22:14-20

Then to what degree should we be like Jesus? We have to reach the point where we are one with Jesus in flesh and blood. That's why he set up the condition of the sacrament: We should feel that we are actually eating Jesus' flesh and blood. We should actually feel Jesus' life and love for us more than anything else when we are eating the bread; and when drinking the wine, we should really feel that we are drinking his blood. Without such actual sense experience, salvation cannot be affected. This was Jesus' method to bring mankind out of Satan's world into God's world. Through this communion Satan is cut off and mankind is engrafted into Jesus -- a communion with him resulting in one flesh, one blood, in other words: one mankind.

How Can We Become One with God?

January 15, 1972

What is the meaning of Jesus' words to his disciples, "You must drink my blood and eat my flesh"? Implied in those words is Jesus' earnest heart that pleads to you, "Even though I leave you, you have to become the owners of all the tasks that fall within the sphere of the dispensation and accomplish my unfulfilled wishes."

The blood that the disciples received from Jesus symbolized the spiritual aspect. The flesh symbolizes the physical aspect and also signifies the Holy Spirit... Therefore, through partaking of the flesh and blood, the communion of Jesus and the Holy Spirit established them as central figures who would head single-mindedly for God's purpose. What is more, the blood of Jesus symbolizes heaven while his flesh symbolizes the earth. Accordingly, the hope and aspirations of Jesus are so great as to fill the cosmos.

Now, after having been sanctified through the Holy Spirit, your minds should be linked to the holy body of Jesus. This is a type of historical restoration. When God created Adam and Eve, he first created the body and then created the spirit. He created their physical body, and then he blew life into their nostrils. Just as the two principles are combined to create one man, similarly in the course of restoration until now, the works of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, which combine heaven and earth, are being carried on in conjunction.

When you think about this, you have to realize how important is the responsibility we bear. We insignificant apostles actually determine the fate of heaven and earth. You represent the apostles! You have been born with the holy body of Jesus, and you must manifest the power of Jesus' life as you work on behalf of God. Inspirational works of the Holy Spirit, which act on behalf of heaven, must emerge from you. When you move as one to do the will of Jesus Christ, who seeks to restore the whole world of creation, heaven will move according to the direction you move.

...What did Jesus command as he was giving out his flesh and blood to the disciples? He said, "Take this and divide it among you." Since we have received the flesh and blood of Jesus, as long as we take responsibility for the problems in heaven on behalf of Jesus, then the will of God will be fulfilled. This is the wish of heaven.

The Pledge that Must Be Fulfilled

July 8, 1956

As he distributed the bread and wine, Jesus told the twelve disciples whom he loved; "I will not

drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." He meant that until the sorrows of all human beings are resolved on the earth, he also cannot rest in peace. Understanding this situation, we should never cause Jesus to feel more lonely, painful, or constrained.

We should experience all these situations with our mind and body to understand the situation of Jesus, and on his behalf fight with Satan and win over him to put God's worries to rest. If we cannot become the ones who can take care of the people of this earth in Jesus' place, then we will not be able to receive Jesus who is coming to this earth in the Last Days.

The Lord Is My Good Shepherd

March 25, 1957

I am in the Father and the Father is in me

John 14:10-20

Don't you believe that I am in the Father; and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father: You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father; and he will give you another counselor to be with you forever -- the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you."

Jesus said that he and God were one body. Furthermore, he said that he was the Son of God -- specifically, the only begotten Son. Going one step further, he said that he was the bridegroom of humanity. You have to understand that Jesus was the True Parent of humanity... Therefore, Jesus was the King of all kings. In regard to life, Jesus spoke of being the bridegroom, and we are the brides. The purpose of these words is to implant the idea of a united couple in the living realm. Accordingly, even when he was passing away, Jesus pledged to do the work of True Parents through himself and the Holy Spirit. Since God who created the earth is invisible, it can be said that the purpose of Jesus' coming to this earth was to represent the invisible God, to testify to humankind of the invisible God.

Let Us Join in Pursuit of the Homeland

September 22, 1957

Among God, parents, and children, there must be some unifying concept. Unity and harmony among all three is vitally important. None of these components can be removed; we cannot eliminate God from the package, we cannot delete parents, and we cannot leave out the children. Within true parents exist elements of God and children. Within children are elements of God and the parents. In other words, every component contains an expression of the whole.

John 14 records a deep message which Jesus gave to his disciples, preparing them for his impending crucifixion. In that talk Jesus said, "Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in

me?" and "In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you." What did Jesus mean? What is the essence and implication of his words? Based upon the family concept, Jesus stated that he was in the Father and the father in him, and that he was in his disciples and they in him. These are amazing assertions.

The Way God Is Pursuing

January 23, 1983

Why do we want everlasting love and life? It is because God has them and we want to be like him. What's so good about becoming one with God and his love? It is simple; once you become like that, God and the universe belong to you. That's a big ambition, isn't it? Judge for yourself, is this truly possible or not? I have talked about truth, life, and love this morning. Once you possess these three, you don't have to follow God. Even if you try to go a different way or escape from God, you will find yourself in God already. Jesus said he was in God and God in him, and he called himself the way, the truth, and the life. If you are in me and I in you, then we are like each other. This is the one genuine, public way.

The Age of New Dispensation

May 14, 1978

Peace I Leave With You

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

John 14:27

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city; he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace -- but now it is hidden from your eyes."

Luke 19:41-42

All people in the world long for peace and for a unified world. But where does such a world of peace and unification begin? This is the critical question. We know that had mankind and God become one in the beginning, then a world of peace and unification would have come into being. Then why was this world of peace and unification lost? Because of the Fall. The center of the world of peace and unification is God Himself. Therefore, by following the same direction as God, the world of peace and unification would have been established automatically...

There is a war between the mind and body going on within you continually. Whoever speaks of peace without recognizing this doesn't really know what he is talking about. When God looks at humankind, longing for peace and unification, He sighs. Without finding the base of peace and unification within ourselves, how can peace and unification dwell with us?

How can a human being, born out of the absolute holy God, be so imperfect? Something must have happened between God and man, some separation must have occurred, something went out of order. We can suppose something went wrong within the relationship. Satan came in between, causing us to inherit false love and lineage.

In the Bible, Jesus explained by saying that those who want to die will live, and those who want to live will die. How is it that when I want to die, I can live? Now we understand that to die means to suppress all the satanic attributes and raise up even the faint and small godly attributes within me -- and then I will live. If there is anyone who truly wishes for godly attributes and peace, there is no other way to go except to let the satanic part of oneself die and be reborn to the life of God.

The Ideal Family is the Base for Peace and Unification

July 24, 1994

Before the unification of the world can be achieved, the unification of the country, the unification of the family, and the unification of the individual must precede. The unification of the individual means the unity between the mind and body in love. On this foundation husband and wife can achieve unity in love, and unification of the country and the world will follow. This is the only way to realize world peace and a new civilization.

Absolute Values and the New Cultural Revolution

November 28, 1986

Originally human beings were meant to live with their mind and body united, responding to the complete love of God. It is because human beings were created to be God's sons and daughters, resembling Him that their mind and body should not fight. Instead, they should create true unity. God's mind and body are not in conflict: Almighty God could never have any conflict within himself.

The human ideal of unified mind and body is realized when a person is fully possessed of the true love of God. The words, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Matt. 5:9) also promise that the ideal of unity of mind and body is to be attained on the basis of our relationship with our Heavenly Father.

It was due to the human Fall that people lost the standard of unity and harmony of their mind and body, and have thus been living in self-contradiction and conflict. Moreover, the battle of the mind and body within the individual has expanded to the level of the family, society, nation, and world. Cain's killing of his younger brother Abel originated from this. All the conflicts and wars that the world has witnessed since the beginning of history have been, in essence, the battle between the Cain side, which is relatively on the side of evil, and the Abel side, more on the side of goodness. The struggle between the Cain and Abel sides should be terminated and everything restored to its original state.

Likewise, the confrontation between our mind and body should be brought to an end, and harmony and unity regained.

We have to apply the principle of individual mind-body unity to the global level. Since the root of human problems is not merely, political, social and political solutions alone will always be insufficient. While most societies are politically governed, religion lies at the root of most national and cultural identities. In fact, religious loyalties far outweigh political loyalties in the hearts of most people.

It is now the time for religion to exert genuine leadership in the world. I believe that religious people should feel responsible for the situation of humankind, and for resolving the various inequities of this age. Profound self-reflection is surely prerequisite to this.

Inaugural Address of the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace

February 6, 1999

I Am The Vine; You Are The Branches

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is

to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:5-12

Jesus came as the Tree of Life, the true olive tree, to graft fallen mankind onto him, and to give them true life. Through him, all mankind had a way to become direct heirs of God.

God's Day

January 1977

Everyone, including God and all mankind, wants to be under the dominion of love. When true love is at the center of the universe, all beings want to come to the center. Grandparents, parents, children, as well as God and the rest of the universe, want to dwell at the center with love. Everyone would like to get as close as possible to each other there. Like potatoes connected to the same vine, everybody is connected to the universal center.

Original Family and the Family of Today

March 8, 1987

Because of the Fall, humankind did not start out with the true seed of true life, but rather with the seed of false life. Since we are all wild olive trees, we need the bud of the true olive tree. We need to be cut off and engrafted into the true olive tree. This is the only way to go back to God. If you accept the fact of the human Fall, then you have to admit this conclusion.

If the Fall had not occurred, beginning from Adam's children and grandchildren, generation after generation would have lived a true way of life and automatically dwell in the Kingdom of God on earth as well as in heaven. There would have been no wild olive trees. Every single tree would have been a true olive tree. But due to the Fall, every single tree became a wild olive tree. This meant the central bud, trunk, and root all became false, directly connected to Satan's lineage rather than God's lineage. The purpose of God's history of salvation is to show clearly how to cut out Satan's involvement in human life. In other words, it shows how to get rid of the wild olive tree root, cut off the wild olive tree bud and trunk, and engraft into the true olive tree's bud, trunk and root. That has been the history of salvation.

Total Calculation of Gods Historical Providence

December 25, 1994

I Have Much More To Say To You

"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you who is yet to come."

John 16:12-13

When the day that he was to die on the cross was near, after having lived thirty years or so, Jesus gathered his beloved disciples and said, "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear." This tells us that the disciples did not comprehend what Jesus meant. Therefore, each of us should become the bride, not the disciple who does not understand what Jesus means. We should become the one who comprehends the meaning of Jesus' sayings. Establishing the standard of

character with which she can step further to reach the wife's position, a bride holds herself accountable for the mission Jesus left unfulfilled and becomes the person who can let Jesus rest.

Let Us Be the Ones That Jesus Wants

February 17, 1957

Why didn't Jesus tell us the whole, unvarnished truth? He knew the whole truth and he was in the position to tell the world, but he couldn't tell the world. Why? It is because there was no model for him to present, no substance. He was not able to give the formula. That is why. Jesus knew the truth but he could not fulfill it, so he could not speak it. He could not leave behind him the tradition of true men and women. He had to fulfill certain stages, certain steps of that truth.

That is why the only alternative for Jesus was to come again. By the fact that he said, "I must return," it shows that he knew the truth but he could not fulfill it in his own time.

True Parents' Birthday

February 25, 1985

The Church

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father; just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 17:20-23

Why has Christianity spread all over the world? Because Jesus' sacrificial spirit is the mind of the providence, and that is the basic spirit of God's providence -- that is, to make oneself a sacrifice for other people. Christianity has received much persecution, but the more it received persecution, the more it prospered. Jesus did not leave any ideology like Marxism, but by the spirit alone he made such great effects in the world.

People of the world are dying and desperately suffering. If they are your brothers and sisters, then you have to reach out to them and cry out for them. True Christians should be willing to sacrifice their own lives for the salvation of the world and all humankind. Many Christians are seeking for their own personal salvation; they are crying out for "my salvation" and "my heaven." This is contrary to God's truth and contrary to God's ideal. We should steadfastly give, love, sacrifice, and live for the sake of others.

Jesus' Standard of Goodness

January, 1985

Why is Christianity today divided into numerous denominations? It is because people have impeded the Christian spirit that teaches us to love our enemies. The Christian spirit that teaches us to love our brethren has been forgotten.

From a perspective centering on Jesus, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Holiness Church, and all other denominations are brothers to each other.

God's Fatherland

September 19, 1999

We frequently hear that the church is the body of Christ. Does this mean that those buildings of wood or stone are the body of Jesus? What is the body of Jesus? Not the building but the people of the congregation are the body of Christ. When Jesus was crucified 2,000 years ago, Jesus' body was in the position of the people. Ever since the crucifixion, Jesus body has been represented by the people who have united spiritually with Jesus. All through the New Testament Age believers in Jesus have served in the position of the body of Christ.

If the believers are the body of Christ, then could there be more than one church? There are many different denominations and kinds of Christianity, which indicates that Jesus' body has been divided up. This is not acceptable in the sight of God. When we see the current situation from the viewpoint of God and Jesus Christ, the existence of so many denominations in the name of Christ is heartbreaking. It is just as though Jesus' body itself had been torn apart. The heart of Jesus Christ is grieved when he sees that his own body has been so shamefully divided. Christianity today is in the position of Jesus' body, but when there is one mind, how can there be 1,000 bodies? There should be one mind and one body....

Jesus wanted to give his inheritance to the Christian world, to his brethren. He wanted to give each Christian the conviction, "God is my God, and mankind are my brothers. This land belongs to me and I am responsible to God to re-create it in God's way" Those people who are denominational and sectarian leaders and only interested in promoting their own sectarian purposes are outrageous. We should inherit Jesus' philosophy and ideology instead. Denominationalism is just a roadblock for God. We need to break away all the barriers of sectarianism if we are to really reach the people.

Living Sacrifice

May 8, 1977

The Holy Spirit

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

John 20:21-22

By what means can we unite Christianity throughout the world? By the Holy Spirit -- hence the name "Holy Spirit Association." Not by fists or bayonets, but by the Holy Spirit. We cannot unite by human power, but by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity

May 1, 1981

Without receiving the Holy Spirit, we cannot understand or receive salvation. Why should we need the Holy Spirit to come upon us? The Holy Spirit moves our mind to a relationship with Christ and eventually God, but why specifically do we need the Holy Spirit? What steps should take place as she helps to bring us to heaven and God? The first thing the Holy Spirit helps us to do is repent.

The Age of Repentance

September 1, 1978

The Holy Spirit is in charge of obtaining pardon from heaven for our sinfulness. This is because humankind does not have a direct relationship with either God or Jesus, who are in heaven. Therefore, we need to receive the cooperation of the Holy Spirit who is working on the earth. The way to redemption has been opened because of the crucifixion of Jesus, but the one who actually toils to take charge of our sins is the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit stands in the position of a mediator for our sake, representing us miserable sinners.

What kinds of ordeals is the Holy Spirit going through? The exertion of Jesus, who passed away on the cross while responsible for our sins, and the ordeals of the Holy Spirit, crying with us when we cry and are hung on the cross, are very much with us.

Even today, Jesus is undergoing the crisis of crucifixion for your sake. You should understand this deeply. When the toils of Jesus and the exertion of the Holy Spirit are joined as one with us in the center, and we reach the standard that God requires, then all the sins that we have committed on the earth will be redeemed...

Consequently when we face evil and go forward, we should recognize that because of our sins, the Holy Spirit has labored on the earth on our behalf, and Jesus died on the cross on our behalf. Wherever we go, we should realize that we are sinners who cannot be unshackled from the grievances of heaven. Therefore, by offering all of our minds and bodies to take the burden of heaven's toil, we should rely on the Holy Spirit and assist Jesus in his work.

Why Did Jesus Become the Lamb Who Bore All the Sins of This World?

July 11, 1956

When Jesus came, the male element or essence was given to him as the male Word of God. But there was no woman on earth to whom the female element could be given. So when Jesus was working in spirit after his crucifixion, this female element of God worked with him as the Holy Spirit.

On Prayer and the Spirit World

March and April 1965

We study about the Holy Trinity -- God, the Holy Son, and Holy Ghost. What exactly does that mean? We say God, Holy Son, and Holy Ghost, but there is something lacking -- the holy Christian, making the family. So the Holy Ghost must be the spouse to the Holy Son, and with those two united in divine love, multiplication can come about, giving birth to children in the Holy Family.

Our Present Mission

August 4, 1974

In The Garden Of Gethsemane

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." Going a little farther; he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father; if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter: Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father; if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near; and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Matthew 26:36-46

Jesus prayed at Gethsemane: "Father, let this cup pass from me. Not as I will, but as thou wilt." When he prayed that, his attitude was that of a Son who loved only his Father. On the cross he loved even his enemy and prayed for him. There had never been such a man in all history previous to him and there has never been such a man after him. That is the sign of his having loved the whole of mankind. That is what made Jesus the greatest.

The Formula for God's Providence

December 14, 1971

We should be aware of the lonely situation in which Jesus prayed alone at Gethsemane, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." (Matt. 26:39) This situation is not confined to Jesus. Furthermore, the situation in which Jesus was crucified, embracing sorrow, also is not restricted to Jesus alone. His situation is our situation and one in which humankind has to participate today.

The reason Jesus prayed and felt sorrowful was not because he was to die; nor was it because of his fate of having to cross the hill of lamentation. Worried about his responsibility to successfully achieve the destiny of history he embraced the heartbreak of heavenly love. Jesus looked at his followers, who were to usher in God's love upon the earth, and considered: how could he, who was sent representing God's love, transform them into the substantial beings of God's love? He also knew the fact that should he die, humankind would be fated to cross a hill of grief. We should understand that Jesus was not a man who felt sorrowful only for his own sake or experienced heartbreak only on his own behalf.

Jesus Who Is to Establish Heaven's Love

February 24, 1977

The deepest sorrow in God's heart in all of history was Adam's becoming a fallen man. Next to it was the death of Jesus. Jesus' subsequent resurrection made it possible for the Christian faith to bring salvation, but even this was in the spiritual area only. Jesus prayed three times in the deepest anguish, almost on the verge of death. He said, "Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; but not as I will but as thou wilt." Many theologians explain this by saying that this was an expression of human weakness because, though he was predestined to die on the cross, Jesus was still a human being. If that is true, he should have courageously and joyfully faced the situation.

The New Messiah and You

March 20, 1972

Jesus appealed alone before God in tears in the Garden of Gethsemane, without being accompanied by even his own disciples. He was totally sinless, without any wrongfulness, and he only hoped to live as the Son of God. We should feel the heart of Jesus, who walked the path of bloody tears.

Today at the point when we hasten to bring a victory to heaven, we should reflect upon whether we are truly ready to climb the same hill of universal tears with Jesus, which he has already climbed. Ever since humans left the bosom of God due to the Fall, human history continued in tears. To be freed from this, we should walk a path of tears. This does not apply only to the course of God's providence, but also to a people or a nation.

We call someone who sheds tears for a nation or its people a prophet. A nation does not come about automatically. It comes about through a history of tearful, trouble-filled stories made by such prophets. Similarly, unless you too climb the historical hill of tears, you can never receive a day of

victory. Jesus shed bloody tears while walking on the path of Golgotha, the path of a pioneer, after having climbed hills of tears for 30 years. Today, if you are to be the ones who would take responsibility to fulfill the will of God and liberate Jesus, you should shed bloody tears that no one recognizes, springing from the bottom of your heart.

If there are disciples who are shedding tears for brothers and sisters and the world, and further, if they are unceasingly shedding tears for heaven without being able to stop, a condition for victory will be made. Once Jesus looked down at Jerusalem and could not help but shed tears, yet no one understood his heart. Because he did not have even one friend who could cry with him when he wept in sadness, Jesus had to die on the cross...

Do you love your family? If so, you should sweat for the family. If you love your people, you should sweat for the people. If you love the world, you should sweat for the world. We should also take after the example of Jesus, who prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane for all of humankind, building an altar alone while others did not know about it. We should become a second Jesus who can shed sweat and tears for all of humankind.

Let Us Be a Victor for God

June 30, 1957

Arrest And Betrayal

Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.

Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. The men seized Jesus and arrested him. Then everyone deserted him and fled.

Matt. 14:41-50

Had Peter or any of the twelve disciples been a friend of Golgotha, Jesus would not have died. God would not have had any grudges. If the twelve disciples had united and resolved to die with Jesus, a miracle would have occurred and Jesus would not have died. Jesus agonized for 33 years looking at the chosen people, and he shed tears for the three years of his public life for the sake of the people of the earth. Yet where did the people go who had put their hopes in Jesus? Where did the religious leaders go who had been observing him? Where did his disciples go, who had shared joy and sorrow as they followed Jesus during his three public years? Whenever they saw advantages to it, and in joyful times, they said that they were friends and disciples of Jesus and tried more than anyone to stand with him. At the end, their path had nothing to do with Jesus.

Who Will Become the Friend of Golgotha?

October 19, 1958

If Jesus' three chief disciples had banded together and offered to die in his place, he would not have gone to the cross. Even if Jesus had not been released, if his three chief disciples had died on the cross with him, then all four could have been resurrected, and at that very moment Jesus could have ascended into heaven. Through those four being resurrected on earth, all the spirit world could have descended from that moment on, working through the hearts of the people and making it easy to restore the whole world.

Because that foundation was not laid at the time of Jesus, there has been a great gap between this

world and the spirit world. Up to the present only those who excelled the three disciples of Jesus and were ready to be martyred for the sake of God's will could be contacted by the heavenly realms of the spirit world. Because of the failure of Jesus' disciples, those people had to be martyred, shedding blood to restore what the disciples failed to accomplish.

Self Reflection

December 1, 1976

Peter's Denial

Peter followed at a distance. But when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him." But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.

A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." "Man, I am not!" Peter replied. About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed.

Luke 22:54-62

I want you to know that even Peter, who supposedly was Jesus' chief disciple, denied Jesus at the end of three years. This test of loyalty is the formula of faith that all men have had to pass through... You may wonder why you do this, but remember that this is the way I went.

The Tradition of the Unification Church

December 11, 1977

While Jesus was going the path of the crucifixion, the lonesome path to the summit of Golgotha, he looked back at Peter, who was the representative of the beloved twelve apostles. That was because Jesus feared that Peter, who should be the first one following him, might change his mind. You need to become the ones who experience again the sense of being gazed at by Jesus, who looked back at Peter with a loving heart despite having bitter grief in his heart over the fullness of his concern about God's will.

Yet three times Peter denied he knew Jesus. Therefore, he ended up standing in a situation where he was completely separate from the will of heaven and had nothing to do with Jesus. Although Jesus knew all of this, he wanted to find just one person on this earth who could defend him to the last and could deeply sympathize with him as he walked the path to death. So he turned and looked back at Peter, who was the best, most beloved disciple. You of today should understand that Jesus' intention to find one true person was buried deep in the gaze that he sent in the direction of the beloved disciple, Peter.

There cannot be any more grievous situation than this for Jesus, who came with the responsibility of carrying out the whole dispensation of God. Not even one person could understand his feelings of longing and lamentation, as he looked to find even one person who could inherit his mission as he headed for the path of Golgotha, the path of death, owing to the distrust of humankind. Jesus' heartrending feelings were beyond description. Only God understood Jesus' sorrowful heart and worried about his lamentable situation.

When Jesus reflected on the course of toilsome effort he had walked representing heaven, alone in bitter sorrow for his lifetime, the indignation with which he wanted to curse humanity and to call down scorn on the earth pierced him to the very marrow. But Jesus restrained himself and stopped to look back at Peter, who was following behind. You should know that unless you can understand such inner feelings of Jesus' heart, you cannot proudly stand in front of all humankind after inheriting Jesus' work for the dispensation of God.

What then would be the heart of Peter, who was watching Jesus finish his life by walking the course of tribulation alone? He must have been in awful misery, pining in desolation, not being able to forget the original nature of the love relationship he had with Jesus in the past. How Peter's heart must have ached, as he watched the grieving and innocent Jesus being insulted and rebuked and dragged in bonds. However, because Peter did not fully realize Jesus was the Messiah who came with the mission to save the whole of humankind, he ended in a situation where he could not step forward. Instead he thought only of himself. When servant girls came out to ask Peter whether he was one of the fellows who were with Jesus, he replied, "I do not know him" three times. You should know this clearly -- that aspect of Peter was the representative attitude of humankind on the earth. When we look back upon the circumstances of Jesus and Peter again, the fact that Jesus turned to look back at Peter, who had denied him three times, did not take place only between Peter and Jesus, but is revealed to have happened throughout the course of the whole of history.

When all humanity steps forward before Satan as true Christians on behalf of the will of Christ, they will definitely meet ungrounded accusations three times....

The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter: Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today; you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

In what kind of situation should we stand when such a time of fierce battle comes upon the earth? We should not be standing in a situation similar to Peter's when he said he did not know Jesus. What should become those triumphant sons and daughters who can defend the course of blood, sweat, and tears that Jesus walked to the end? We should stand with Jesus, having repented of all of our excuses, circumstances, sinfulness, and inadequacy. Unless we can stand in such a position, we cannot take part in the glory of receiving the returning Lord.

Although Peter denied Jesus three times, Jesus truly turned himself around to look at Peter. Consequently, when Peter saw Jesus forget all about his own difficulties and sorrow to turn around and look at him, a complete revolution took place in his mind. Despite his three dreadful denials of knowing Jesus, when Peter saw that Jesus truly cared about him and worried about his future, he experienced an explosion of emotion within. At that moment he remembered and sensed the old relationship of having shared the joys and sorrows of the Lord. Peter became aware of his own identity on the spot.

Peter saw that Jesus, who determined to risk his own life to accomplish the will of heaven, was making a great effort to proudly cultivate the path of salvation for humankind without letting himself be overly affected by the resentment that he felt as a human being. Peter saw that even as Jesus walked the path toward heaven and death, he was still concerned about his well-being. This made Peter feel insufficient and inadequate internally. In other words, when Peter contrasted the position of Jesus, who represents God, and his own position, which was to represent Jesus as the disciple who had pledged to render him devoted service, he saw that there existed a world of difference between his devotion to Jesus and Jesus' reverence for God.

What is more, although Peter had thought he believed in Jesus, at that moment he found out that his faith was based on self-centeredness rather than on heaven-centeredness, as was the case with the Lord. At the gaze of Jesus Peter received such a great shock as to be deeply ashamed of himself. He lamented over his unbelief.

What did Peter feel next? He felt his own disbelief and simultaneously the disbelief of Jesus' entourage. While watching those wicked ones around him tie Jesus up and enjoy themselves whipping Jesus Christ, who was innocent, and about whom anybody and everybody would say he was guiltless, Peter met the gaze of the persecuted Jesus and saw his sorrowful and lonesome heart. Bathed in Jesus' warm glow being sent in his direction, Peter felt the haughtiness of the surroundings. At that moment Peter made a righteous resolution to fight against the arrogant power of the surroundings until the time when the Lord would return to destroy the wicked.

There was a cosmic difference between the good, immutable attitude of Jesus who was heading toward heaven and the haughtiness of his surroundings. Through Jesus' brief gaze, Peter could liquidate his fatuous life history and determine to establish the standard of goodness by fighting against the environment and devoting himself to God all the more. Through Jesus' dying in silence for the sake of heaven, earth, humankind, and God's will, Peter came to respect the Lord naturally and shed penitential tears, weeping bitterly in the face of such a death.

As Jesus Christ turned to look for the last time, he realized that there was a disciple who understood him. At that moment the link that had been disconnected between God and humankind was being restored. Feeling insufficient and inadequate toward Jesus, who died before the will of God on behalf of heaven and earth, Peter alone shed the tears of contrition representing all humankind and the many disciples. After seeing that Jesus was being put to tribulations before being crucified, only Peter wailed, shedding tears. This created a standard by which Jesus could uphold the dispensation centering on the disciples and a new standard by which Jesus and humankind could connect.

Jesus Who Looks Back on Walking the Path of His Fate

February 10, 1957

Trial Before Pontius Pilate

Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?" But Jesus made no reply; not even to a single charge -- to the great amazement of the governor.

Matthew 27:11-14

Jesus was pushed to walk to the cross and stand before the authorities and Pilate. He was convicted of the crime of "claiming himself to be the king of the Jews." At that time Jesus kept his silence and only after Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" did he finally reveal his identity.

The good and righteous people on the side of God should have considered it their life-long glory to serve and worship Jesus as their king. Instead, Jesus faced a trial before Pilate and was convicted as a criminal. When he faced the trial of Satan that could not be avoided, he broke his silence. Speaking on behalf of the agony of God, he spoke the truth as it was.

From this we can learn that even in the works of heaven, when Satan exposes the truth and inquires

about it to God's side, God's side has no choice but to reveal the hidden heart. Conversely, when the saints on the side of God point out the hidden secrets inside the heart of Satan, he also has no choice but to tell the truth.

Jesus kept within himself the knowledge of restoration that he could not reveal to anyone. In his daily life, he not only propelled forward the dispensation of heaven through silent deeds of service, in the practical aspect of his life, he moved ahead of everyone to reveal the concealed truth about the path of restoration.

Let Us Bring Out the Value of Restoration

July 3, 1956

Barabbas

A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.

Mark 15:7-11

Jesus was killed instead of Barabbas, a man who deserved to die. Perhaps you would not resent it if you were murdered in place of a righteous man, but if he were only a common criminal how would you feel? That's exactly how it happened with Jesus, but Jesus did not blame the man. Could you do such a thing easily? I think you are not confident. Jesus came as the Son of God but he was killed in place of the worst criminal, and not even by righteous men but by Roman soldiers who were only on a distasteful errand.

Would you be willing to die as Jesus did? What kind of value would result? It would mean that anyone on that level could be freed. By Jesus' forgiveness of Barabbas and the Roman soldiers, the lowest hell could be liberated spontaneously.

The Age of Repentance

September 1, 1978

The Crucifixion

And they crucified him.

Mark 15:24

Simon Of Cyrene

As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross.

Matthew 27:32

A black man played an important role at the time of Jesus' crucifixion. When Jesus stumbled while carrying his cross to Calvary, a black person, Simon of Cyrene, took up Jesus' burden. That act was very significant; when the Last Days come, black people will be burdened with an important mission from God and will contribute greatly, to God's overall dispensation.

Corruption has come primarily from white society. Because of this I feel that some dynamic black spiritual leaders will be the hope of America in the future.

The Blessing

February 20, 1977

Jesus hoped to hear of someone who could bear the cross in his place, take the beatings on his behalf, and on the road of death of Golgotha suffer hardships and desperately call out in his place, "God! Father!" Although for 30 years he hoped to hear this kind of voice, when his hopes were dashed, how would he have felt?

We have to understand this heart of Jesus. We have to experience this pain of Jesus and be able to sympathize with his pain. Moreover, we should have the mindset that it is perfectly natural for us to go this path of death on which we will die many thousands of times for the sake of the humanity of the world.

When Jesus became fatigued while carrying the cross to Golgotha, there was none among his disciples who, like Simon of Cyrene, shouldered the cross in his place. There was not even one person like this among the people of Israel. This foreigner, Simon of Cyrene, participated in the tribulation of Jesus. Eventually Christianity emerged not as the religion of the Israelites. It became a religion of foreigners.

Today, we who have determined to believe in Jesus and go in search of God should be determined to carry out the same actions as Simon of Cyrene, even in our dreams. Although Simon of Cyrene could have made an excuse or rebelled, he silently obeyed and bore the cross in Jesus' place. We have to become this kind of person today

How did Jesus feel when he was looking at him? When the apostles with whom he had shared all his joys and sorrows had all disappeared, a foreigner named Simon of Cyrene suffered misery on his behalf. Looking at the situation, Jesus must have felt deeply embarrassed and sorrowful.

If among the twelve apostles there was just one person who had shouldered the cross in his place, then by looking at him, Jesus could have forgotten the hardships of death. He would have overcome his own agony by feeling sympathy for him. Nevertheless, because this did not take place, Jesus felt greater sorrow. You should understand this situation.

In the Christian world of today, there should emerge a denomination in the position of Simon of Cyrene. Yet, which denomination will take on that responsibility? Christians today should realize that Jesus could not become the Messiah of the apostles who had followed. He became the Messiah of a foreigner, Simon of Cyrene. They should build a church in honor of the position of Simon of Cyrene.

Let Us Become People Who Participate in the Glory of the Lord
June 16, 1957

The Two Thieves

Two robbers were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.
Matthew 27:38

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."
Luke 23:39-43

Who received the blessing of Jesus? It was not the twelve disciples who had followed him nor the religious leaders, who had believed in heaven, nor the people of Israel, who had been chosen through blessing. The right-hand thief, who shed blood with Jesus and died on the cross with him, received the historical blessing and went to paradise before the chief disciple.
Who Will Become the Friend of Golgotha?
October 19, 1958

The free world has been referred to as right wing, and the communist world has been referred to as left wing. This terminology has its origins in Jesus. At the time of Jesus' crucifixion, there was one thief on his left and one on his right. The thief on the right represented God's side and the thief on the left represented Satan. From here the world began to fight.
The View of Cosmic History and I
April 28, 1996

The mind is on God's side and the body is on Satan's side. The struggle expands from the individual to the family, clan, nation, and world, and the world will divide into religious and non-religious spheres. This is symbolized by the two thieves at Jesus' crucifixion. They represent the left and right wings, which fight against each other. Also, Barabbas, who escaped crucifixion, represents Islam, which fights against Christianity. Christianity lined up with the right wing and Islam lined up with the left wing; so this great separation takes place in the Last Days. We see the division of left and right wings in Korea and the division between religions in the Middle East. The world-level task is how to solve these divisions and unite the two sides.
Reappearance of the Second Coming and the Completed Testament Age
January 10, 1993

It Is Finished

A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

John 19: 29-30

While he took his last breath on the cross, Jesus said, "It is finished." (John 19:30) Until he could say that, he cast out of his mind all his sorrow and bitter grief and suffered in an attempt to accomplish the will of heaven. Because the mission of claiming back the universal life through his one self was on the verge of total collapse, Jesus forgot even his own agony and affliction and overcame all kinds of ordeals. Therefore, the life of Jesus was not a life lived to save only himself; it was lived for the sake of building the nation and people of God.

Jesus Is the Hero of the Universal Revolution

November 11, 1956

My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?

About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" -- which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Matthew 27:46

Jesus prayed, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) He did not offer this prayer because he was concerned about himself. You should understand that he offered this prayer out of concern for the people and innumerable future generations.

Let Us Climb over the Hill of Historical Misfortune

January 19, 1958

The reason that Jesus died on the cross saying, "My God, why have you forsaken me?" was to indemnify the sin of humankind, who had betrayed and acted against God for 4,000 years from the time of our ancestors, Adam and Eve. Because humankind had abandoned God, based on the principle of indemnity, God had to abandon Jesus 'who represented humankind. However, Jesus did not abandon God.

Those Who Will Possess the Kingdom of Heaven of Hope

December 16, 1956

Similarly, when you try to offer yourself for the task of bearing responsibility for the whole sinful history, at some point God will deny any knowledge of you. If that happens, you have to have the same immutable faith as that of Jesus on the cross. You should have the mindset that you are already a dead person. It is the mission of Christians to advocate this somewhat revolutionary faith.

Behold the Little Lamb of God Who Is Bearing the Sins of the World

November 25, 1956

What should we possess? We should possess the garden of rest, the garden of happiness, the garden of goodness, the garden of love and the ideal. However, before we possess these, we will have to be struck by Satan, as well as by heaven. Jesus was hit by Satan and by heaven. The Pharisees chased Jesus out, and at the same time, the Romans chased him out. From the fact that Jesus desperately prayed at the crucifixion, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) we can see that God had abandoned him too.

Therefore, he who will possess and be possessed by the kingdom of heaven is one who will be put in a most miserable situation in the course of seeking God. Among the races of the world, which will be the one that will own God? The most miserable race will possess God. The closer a race is to such misery the nearer it is to God.

God's Possession and Our Possession

November 9, 1958

In the end, even God said to Jesus who hung on the cross, "I do not know him." At that moment, Jesus cried out, "Father, why have you forsaken me?" but he did not cry out because he feared that the hope would be shattered and all of his life would be in vain. He cried out because he was concerned that, due to his death, he would have to leave without being able to complete the will of the Father. He was not concerned about whether God sent him to heaven or hell, because he fulfilled his personal responsibility Jesus, who had to become a friend of death, tried to be content with his own situation of death and tried to accomplish his mission through his death.

Let Us Become the Ones Who Attend the Lord Who Has Come for the Sake of All Humankind

December 23, 1956

Do you think God is always sweet to me? I knew that God was sweet to everyone except me. Sometimes, he was cold and unappreciative even when I worked hard. I know how God trained me, and that's the way I want to train you. You have to set a record under the most adverse conditions that other people are overwhelmed by. Jesus was the Son of God, but God allowed him to be nailed up on the cross. Even Jesus himself cried out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" But God gave him that suffering so that Jesus could establish the ultimate example. In that moment true love can be born. Under incredible circumstances, Jesus passed the test, and no one can go beyond his record. Satan has no way to accuse Jesus.

Let Us Set the Record

October 12, 1980

Father, Forgive Them

Jesus said, "Father; forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Luke 23:34

Jesus Christ has endured the pain and has walked this path full of grievance and suffering for 6,000 years until now in order to find us, and he has put his life at stake and walked the road of the cross. We should hold onto Jesus! Even when he was facing death on the cross, which put an end to the thirty years of his life, he earnestly appealed to God, "Oh Father, forgive them."

Jesus Is Searching for Us in This Way

May 20, 1956

The path of Jesus suffering on the cross was the same path of tribulations that God himself walked. In such a situation of trial and tribulation Jesus desperately prayed, "Please forgive them for they know not what they do." Even in the place of death, he forgave Rome and the group of people who opposed him, waiting for victory in the future. Therefore, the life of Jesus did not end at the age of 33. With God's help, Christianity inherited his spirit.

The Path for America and Humanity in the Last Days

January 22, 2000

Jesus Christ did not hold grudges against anyone when he stood before the Israelite people, even when he was dying on the cross. The reason is that he knew that by practicing this way the door to the salvation of the world would open, even though it might come after his death.

As he suffered immeasurable agony Jesus could have been resentful towards the Israelite people. Instead, what Jesus felt from the people who opposed him was the toil of God, who had led the dispensation for 4,000 long years. When he was dying on the cross, he could have appealed to heaven, calling judgment upon the Israelite people who had put him to the cross. Instead, he agonized over the history of the dispensation during which God had greatly exerted himself, and seeing how God forgave even the people who opposed those whom he had sent, Jesus had the magnanimity to forgive them. Even though there might have been times in history when those who opposed God avoided judgment and rejoiced, the reason that God did not judge them was not because they themselves were valuable, but because he was able to generate magnanimity by looking at the prophets who had forgiven them. In this way with the heart of sorrow on behalf of heaven, Jesus forgave them as representing all of history and God's dispensation.

Let Us Become People Who Participate in the Glory of the Lord

June 16, 1957

If Jesus, as he hung dying on the cross, had held any feelings of malice toward his enemy, God's providence would have been turned completely upside-down. It is because Jesus overcame death with a heart of praying for and loving his enemies that Satan surrendered in that instance.

World Unification Will Be Accomplished by True Love

February 10, 2000

Last week was an incredible week. I'm sure you heard about it. During this past week, I was dragged into the courtroom under judicial "gun point." and all kinds of fundamental questions were asked of me, including whether I am the Messiah. What is the difference between the situation 2,000 years ago and the one today? The day after Jesus was questioned, he was crucified. However, God has worked for 2,000 years to establish the foundation of democracy grounded, on religious freedom. Therefore, even after my recent interrogation I am able to come to Belvedere this morning and give this sermon to you.

As I sat in that hostile courtroom last week, there were many different attitudes that I could have chosen to adopt. On the one hand I could have been thinking, "God, I wish you would bring down fire and brimstone on this judge's head! And I don't like those lawyers at all; kick them out!" I might have thought in such a fashion, but I certainly did not. On the contrary, I practiced God's principle in that extremely hostile judicial environment, and I had compassion on my enemies and forgave them. Inside, I was thinking, "God, please forgive them because they don't know what they are doing. Eventually the time will come when they will understand who I am."

During the tax trial the prosecutor, Mr. Flumenbaum, was incredibly vicious toward me. It's natural to have an urge to knock down such a person. Imagine Mother's feelings during all this; she was suffering so much for my sake, and here was Mr. Flumenbaum behaving in such a hateful way, not knowing me at all. Mother couldn't restrain her feelings and kept protesting to me. However, I always comforted her and said, "Mother, I understand how you feel, but please forgive him."

The Road of God's Will

May 30, 1982

However, Jesus did not come for his own sake. First, he came for the sake of history for the sake of the Jewish faith and the Israelite people. He came for the sake of the disciples who were to follow

him. On a larger scale, he came for the sake of the people, the nation, the world, and the universe. This is how he lived his life. Even his death was not for his own sake.

...With a heart of compassion, even in the moment of death on the cross, he prayed for the sake of the Jewish people who betrayed him, the disciples, and humanity who betrayed him. Because he was a man of sorrow, he could become their friend. He could pray for the sake of the people who opposed him and the enemies who struck him. Such a thing had never even been heard of in the 4,000 years of human history. This was the work of universal adventure done to dismantle the wall of sin rooted deeply in heaven and earth.

The Providence of God and the Nature of the Adventure that Transcends Reality

December 2, 1956

The Victory Of Jesus On The Cross

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

Matthew 27:50

Ladies and gentlemen: for whom has God been sacrificing himself? It is not for America, nor is it for Christianity. But it is for each of us, for "you" and for "me." Likewise the reason why Jesus was crucified was also not to save himself, but to save us, "you" and "me."

The Path for America and Humanity in the Last Days

January 22, 2000

First and last, Jesus died on the cross as a sacrifice of undefiled matter. This is how he introduced his nature, heart, and mind to human beings on this earth. Jesus was the man whom God could consider worthy, whom God could call righteous, and whom God could be happy with and love as the representative of all people in history and for all things.

Jesus Who Is to Establish Heaven's Love

February 24, 1957

The path of the cross fulfilled eternal faith. The cross enabled Jesus to experience the eternal hope of God. The cross advises us also to possess the eternal life and love of God. You should understand that by virtue of the cross, the history of atonement resulted in opening the way of salvation for us. It became the condition that bequeaths to us the eternal faith, the eternal hope, the eternal life, and the eternal love of Jesus.

Let Us Claim Back the Eternal Ideal of God

October 7, 1956

In the eyes of those around him, Jesus was a miserable failure who was crucified. But God came down to Jesus, saying. "My son, do not worry. I will take over your mission." That promise became God's work of Christianity.

Day of the Victory of Heaven

October 4, 1976

Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

John 1:29

God's highest love is received when one surpasses the point of death. Therefore, in order to receive the love of Jesus, we have to have the mindset to even cross the point of death. At that moment, Satan will surely submit. For 4,000 years, God looked down on the world with sorrow and worry by

himself, but when Jesus stood on the earth, centering on him, a new battle with Satan unfolded. Jesus forgot everything about himself and fought on for the sake of God. Not only that, because he did not have any selfish desire even when he faced death, he could manifest the power of resurrection. Today, we should also pass through the same course of victors' as Jesus....

Based on the victory of the cross that testified to his love, Jesus could forge an immutable link with God who had been carrying on the dispensation for 4,000 years. Jesus became the embodiment of unchanging victory and love. Jesus representing heaven, earth, and humankind, became one with God; and since God remains unchanging, he also will not change.

Like Jesus, Let Us Return the Glory of Resurrection to God

May 27, 1956

Satan... has a certain conscience, and he realizes that he cannot be loved to the same degree as God. He knows he does not deserve such love, yet that is the love that Jesus Christ demonstrated on the cross. Even wounded and dying, Jesus forgot about himself and loved his enemies and asked forgiveness for them. Under such circumstances, however vicious the enemy may be, as long as even one ounce of conscience remains in his heart he cannot help but bow down and surrender.

By practicing this same love you can completely separate yourself from your enemy -- and you will discover that you have no enemy. When you reach that level of perfection of love, you can enter a new era, the age of ideal love.

The Road of God's Will

May 30, 1982

He humbled himself and became obedient to death -- even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.

Philippians 2:8-9

Jesus died for the liberation of God and mankind, not his own salvation. If today's Christians are thinking people, should they believe in Jesus and God for their own salvation, or for mankind and the liberation of Jesus and God? Many prayers offered today by Christians are self-centered, full of requests for money and health and comfort. Compared to Jesus' tradition, these people have the mind of a thief or robber; they don't think at all about giving but only about taking. There is no way for such people to avoid declining.

If Jesus, knowing he had to die on the cross, had tried to get out of it, would he have been the Messiah? Would he have been fulfilling his part of the mission courageously? He would have been a betrayer of God, and when he eventually died it would have been a dishonorable death. If that had happened it would have been the greatest tragedy, for mankind would have had to pay the indemnity for it. There would have been no Christianity then.

The road of God's dispensation always involves going beyond death. Jesus truly proved he was the Son of God because he willingly accepted the role of death honorably. He died in such a way that Satan had to surrender to him. Satan could make no accusation that Jesus did not deserve to be called the Son of God. Satan had to bow down and say that Jesus loved God more than Satan could ever do. Like a lamb, Jesus became a sacrifice on the altar so that others might live.

Children's Day and Tradition

November 20, 1979

Think about it: even though Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross 2,000 years ago, his power and

influence have spread all over the world. But suppose Jesus had not died. Suppose he had [found sufficient foundation to] establish his family; and his children had started multiplying from that time. How long do you think it would have taken to restore the entire world? Not more than 600 years. Jesus' descendants would have formed the mainstream family for all the families of the world, the true olive tree into which all the wild olive trees of the fallen world would have been grafted. The spreading influence of that true olive tree would have transformed the world into an orchard of true olive trees. In that true olive orchard God would be able to unify all humankind completely and take dominion.

The 43rd Anniversary of Foundation Day

May 1, 1997

The Curtain Of The Temple Is Split

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split.

Matthew 27:51

The Tabernacle was divided into two parts: the holy place (sanctuary) and the most holy place (holy of holies). Only the high priest could enter the most holy place, and only once a year when making the sacrifice on the Day of Atonement. The most holy place was where the Ark of the Covenant was kept. Here was the place where God made himself present. It symbolized the spirit of Jesus. The holy place contained a lamp stand, an incense altar, and a table for the bread of the Presence, which were tended daily by the priests. It symbolized the body of Jesus.

Furthermore, the most holy place symbolized the spiritual world, while the holy place symbolized the physical world. When Jesus was crucified, the curtain between the holy place and the most holy place was torn in two, from top to bottom. This meant that Jesus' crucifixion laid the basis for spiritual salvation, when the gate was opened between spirit and flesh, or between heaven and earth.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Moses and Jesus 2.2.2.3.1

The Saints Rise Out Of The Tombs

The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

Matthew 27:52-53

It is written in the Bible that in the last Days the dead will rise from their graves:

With the archangel's call and with the sound of the trumpet of God ... the dead in Christ will rise first.

2 Thess. 4:16

We can understand the meaning of this prophecy by examining a similar event, when the dead rose from their tombs at the time of Jesus' death.

Matthew 27:52-53 does not mean that the decomposed bodies of the saints literally rose up from their graves. If the physical bodies of the saints of the Old Testament Age had actually risen from their tombs and appeared before many people in Jerusalem, they would certainly have testified to

the people about Jesus, since they already knew that he was the Messiah. After hearing such testimony, who among the inhabitants of Jerusalem would not have believed in the crucified Jesus? Additionally, if the saints really had risen from their tombs in the flesh, then surely their deeds would have been recorded in the Bible. However, we find no such records.

What does the Scripture mean when it says that the bodies of the saints rose from their tombs? This record was made by people who could perceive the spirits of the past saints being resurrected spiritually and appearing on the earth. This is much like Moses and Elijah who, as spirits, briefly appeared before Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration. (Matt. 17:3)

Exposition of the Divine Principle
Eschatology 3.2.3

Descent Into Hell

He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day...."

Luke 24:46

In the world of love there is no boundary because love is the most powerful force in the universe. It can go beyond any boundary. Even hell has no boundary that can withstand the power of love. According to Scripture, after the Crucifixion, Jesus Christ spent three days in darkness. Where did he go? He went to the dungeons of hell and preached the gospel for three days.

Satan, the master of men, might have said, "Jesus, you strayed into our cage. I'm going to lock the door; you are my prisoner." But that is impossible: Satan had no power to bind Jesus there. Jesus Christ, the complete manifestation of the love of God, said, "Love your enemy." Therefore, he can even turn hell into heaven, so going in and out of hell is no problem for him. Let's say there is a boundary in the kingdom of God. If there is a person who truly loves God with his heart and mind and soul, would God say to him, "You cannot come in here; you have to have a passport, or you must bring a gift. You cannot come to the throne of God"? Would he be stopped at that point? No.

Boundary Line

December 5, 1976

How could Jesus take charge of hell? If Jesus had assumed the responsibility for the will of God only in its good aspect and died for the sake of God only in its good aspect, then he would have been able to manage the heavenly kingdom, but not hell. Therefore, because Jesus established the heavenly standard by keeping his integrity even in hell, he set the standard of being able to manage hell too.

God's Possession and Our Possession

November 9, 1958

A good man may go to the dungeons of hell for God's purpose, but his quality and value will not be changed by doing so. The important thing is whether he goes down there to bring the people up. He may look the same as people in the evil world, but his motivation is to influence the world of evil to come back to God.

The Bible says that after the Crucifixion, Jesus spent three days in hell before he ascended into heaven. Was he still the Savior during those three days? Yes. Did he go there because he was attracted by life there? No. He went there to bring hell into his realm, which is heaven.

Our Present Position

October 7, 1979

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The Resurrection

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies."
John 11:25

Appearance To Mary Magdalene

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him. Now I have told you."

Matthew 28:1-7

Jesus was a true man because he perfectly lived the life of God. He was a walking God. There was no separation between God and Jesus, and because no one can destroy God no one can destroy Jesus Christ. The crucifixion was not his destruction; God manifested the power of resurrection so that the world could see that Jesus was never destroyed.

God's Will and Christmas
December 25, 1976

When Jesus was resurrected, there was not even one disciple who stood guard next to his tomb. Only enemies, the Roman soldiers, were guarding the place. How could this be! Today there are many instances wherein Christianity is not guarding the tomb of Jesus. Enemies, like the Roman soldiers, are guarding it. Is there no group on earth who can encircle the Roman soldiers and long to attend the tomb of Jesus? Even though there were no such people then, among us, the believers, there should emerge many such people.

Who are the ones who could meet the resurrected Jesus? Those who let Jesus die, those who abandoned Jesus and scattered everywhere to wander according to their will could not meet Jesus. After his death, who was the person who went in search for Jesus without eating for three days? Who was groping in darkness not knowing where his body was? The disciples of Jesus should have become this kind of people more than anyone else. However, the three disciples that Jesus loved the most, Peter, James, and John, all returned home. The ones who met Jesus first were the women who searched for Jesus' tomb before dawn. They were Mary Magdalene; Mary the mother of James; and Salome.

They were longing for Jesus, who had been executed as a traitor. Shedding tears for three days and unable to bear it any longer, they came searching for him. They were the first ones to meet the resurrected Jesus. This shows in what direction and how the believers of the last days should act.

We should understand that now is the last days when we should go in desperate search for the tomb

of Jesus. The women who were desperately searching for the tomb met the resurrected Lord in place of the Israelite people, who should have met the resurrected Lord first. Today when the resurrected Lord comes on the world level, the ones who can meet the Lord first are those who do not sleep and rest in spite of their desire, which shed tears for heaven while wandering through the mountains and hills with an unsettled heart that cannot be expressed.

If you transcend your life and live a life of anxiety, unrest, and lack of sleep for the sake of the lives of your people and humanity, then the Lord of glory who is coming to this world again will surely come after you. You will be entitled to the glory of receiving the Lord when you are not even aware of it. You have to understand that such a time is approaching.

Let Us Become People Who Participate in the Glory of the Lord

June 16, 1957

Mary Cries Out To Jesus

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her; "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father: Go instead to my brothers and tell them, I am returning to my Father and your Father; to my God and our God." - John 20:12-17

When Mary Magdalene went to look for Jesus right after his resurrection, Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father." (John 20:17) Nevertheless, Jesus appeared before Mary Magdalene because she had the heart that could console him. Similarly, only when you comprehend the ideal and will of heavenly principle transcending yourselves will Jesus manifest himself to your comprehending heart. If you listen to the words of God and can convey them on his behalf, the Lord will come toward you even if you do not ask him. You should understand that the Lord is motioning with his arms spread out for you to come. God also is doing that.

Let Us Be the Ones Jesus Wants

February 17, 1957

Now we are facing Jesus with the cross standing in between. Someone should resolve the grief and suffering caused by the cross; it is we of today who should do it. Without resolving it, we cannot graft onto Jesus and call him our Bridegroom. This is the reason when Mary Magdalene called out, "Oh Lord!" right after the resurrection, Jesus stopped her. For the simple reason, although Mary wanted to begin life in the kingdom of heaven from the day she met the Lord, life in the kingdom was prohibited for 2,000 years. We should understand this grief from the background of the cross, and we who have faith should bring the solution.

Jesus Is Searching for Us in This Way

May 20, 1956

Jesus Appears To The Disciples

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they' saw him, and worshiped him; but some doubted.

Matthew 28:16-17

Even after his death, Jesus was concerned about the disciples who had scattered, and even during the three days in the tomb he was determined to protect them for eternity. Consequently he went to the shores of Galilee after his resurrection and searched for them.

We might wonder from a humanistic perspective today how he could treat them like that when they had no sense of responsibility. Although they had betrayed him when they faced difficulty right after the resurrection, he went to Galilee and started to fulfill his responsibility. The character of Jesus, who raised them up to be unchanging disciples even when he was going over the hill of death, is an admirable character we should learn from today.

That is not all. We should understand that in addition to his disciples at that time, he was taking responsibility for the countless saints who came after him, and for us, 2,000 years later. The history of restoration is the history of the whole. Because God's will is saving the whole, Jesus has taken responsibility for the whole of humanity.

Jesus Christ, the Pride of God

May 16, 1956

What is the resurrection of Jesus? It is not merely the issue of whether his body rose out of the tomb. That is but a small part. The most significant aspect is the resurrection of Jesus' heavenly principle and his God-centered love.

God and the Building of the Kingdom of God

April 17, 1977

Jesus' resurrection was the first representation of the glory of heaven and the glory of victory won in the fight with Satan in the 4,000-year history. Because Jesus had demonstrated the standard of victory on the spiritual and substantial level, God raised the deceased Jesus to unfold another dispensation. Through the crucifixion, Jesus took on the responsibility for the 4,000-year history of the dispensation and the responsibility of the ancestors. Representing the glory of heaven, he ascended to heaven. This is what the resurrection and ascension are about. Similarly, Jesus came with the purpose to show substantially the internal glory of God on the earth. In other words, he came to demonstrate fully the glory of God. The complete glory combines the internal and external glory. This is the mission that Jesus came to fulfill.

Like Jesus, Let Us Return the Glory of Resurrection to God

May 27, 1956

Satan exercised his maximum power to crucify Jesus, thereby attaining the goal he had sought throughout the 4,000-year course of history. On the other hand, by delivering Jesus to Satan, God set up as compensation the condition to save sinful humanity. How did God achieve this? Because Satan had already exercised his maximum power in killing Jesus, according to the principle of restoration through indemnity, God was entitled to exercise his maximum power. While Satan uses his power to kill, God uses his power to bring the dead to life. As compensation for Satan's exercise of his maximum power in killing Jesus, God exercised his maximum power and resurrected Jesus. God thus opened the way for all humanity to be engrafted with the resurrected Jesus and thereby receive salvation and rebirth.

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Moses and Jesus 3.3.1.1

Resurrection, .Ascension And Pentecost

After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 1:3-5

Jesus resurrected after he passed away on the cross. After his resurrection, he worked on the earth for forty days before he went back to the spirit world. Similarly, the fact that Jesus passed away and then resurrected, and after that ascended again, symbolically demonstrates God's work of creation.

Jesus Christ Will Come and Go for the Sake of Heaven and Earth

May 26, 1956

John the Baptist, who was in the position of Cain, should have cooperated with Jesus, who was in the position of Abel. Cooperating together, they should have located the Mother, the bride of Jesus. Then Jesus would have been the Father and his bride the Mother. When these two wedded in divine love, they could have given birth to children who would have been Jesus' sons.

Even though Jesus lost his body on the physical level, he could resurrect on the spiritual level to save mankind. Even on the spiritual level, he had to go through a certain course of indemnity in order to save mankind. After the resurrection, Jesus was placed in the position of father and in the position of Abel. There was no one in the position of Cain and that's why he looked for Peter, James, and John. By their becoming entirely one with Jesus, at the cost of their lives and at the cost of everything else, the road could be paved on the spiritual level -- the road of salvation. From then on they would sacrifice themselves, their lives, for the cause of Jesus. With that foundation established, they could meet their mother, the Holy Spirit. This is what happened at the Pentecost.

The True Path of Restoration

January 11, 1972

Upon Jesus' crucifixion, his eleven remaining disciples were demoralized and scattered. After his resurrection, however, Jesus gathered them in one place and commenced a new phase of the providence: the restoration of the spiritual Canaan. The disciples chose Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot and fill the vacancy among the twelve. By believing in Jesus and following him at the cost of their lives, they laid the spiritual foundation of substance and the spiritual foundation for the Messiah. Upon this foundation, Jesus ascended from the position of the spiritual mission-bearer for John the Baptist to the position of the spiritual Messiah and sent the Holy Spirit. Thereupon, Jesus and the Holy Spirit became the spiritual True Parents and began the work of giving rebirth. Ever since the descent of the Holy Spirit at the Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4), the resurrected Jesus as the spiritual True Father and the Holy Spirit as the spiritual True Mother have worked in oneness to grant spiritual rebirth by spiritually engrafting believers with themselves. This is the work of spiritual salvation, which established the realm of resurrection inviolable by Satan...

The resurrected Jesus is the spiritual fulfillment of the Temple... The most holy place and the holy place, representing the spirit and flesh of Jesus, were fulfilled as spiritual realities through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The ideal of the mercy seat has been realized through the works of salvation given by Jesus and the Holy Spirit, enabling God to appear in their works and impart His word. On the mercy seat, where God's word is proclaimed, the cherubim that had blocked our path since the Fall

were parted, opening our way to enter the Ark of the Covenant and receive Jesus, the Tree of Life. There we can partake of the manna provided by God and witness the greatness of God's power that once caused Aaron's staff to bud. (Hebrews 9:4-5)

Exposition of the Divine Principle

Moses and Jesus 3.3.1.3-4

The Great Commission

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

Even at the cost of sacrificing his Son, God wanted to save the world... And God lifted up Christianity for the same purpose -- to save the world. The Bible says in John 3:16, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Remember, the world is God's goal. And just as Jesus willingly gave his life so that the world might live, God wants all Christians to be willing to give themselves for the salvation of the world. However, today Christians of the world are not even close to realizing this heart of God.

God seeks to build one family of man. Therefore, the family, church, and nation that God desires transcend all barriers of race and nationality The people who are a unified blending of all colors of skin, and who transcend race and nationality are most beautiful in the sight of God and most pleasing to him.

God's Hope for America

June 1, 1976

Jesus walked a doleful, lonesome, and painful path for 33 years of his life on earth. After his ascension until today, for 2,000 years, he has also been walking a path of sorrow and loneliness. Yet Jesus has not walked this path for his own sake. He voluntarily walked the path of suffering for the sake of fallen humankind, to restore fallen human beings back to God...

Jesus voluntarily led the life of a wayfarer to find true sons and daughters of God and to establish true life and love among a people who did not welcome him. Ever since his resurrection and ascension, he has been seeking us with the same heart. To put it another way Jesus has not been living in glory or freedom with a joyful heart, but even at this moment he is in great anguish because he sympathizes with the pitiful people of this earth who are suffering hunger and thirst internally and externally. He worries about the believers who are groping to find the path of life. On behalf of the believers who are imprisoned, he is in prison. Please understand the situation of Jesus, who is not in the position to rejoice with God, even though he has left this earth and dwells in the heavenly kingdom.

The Lord Is My Good Shepherd

March 24, 1977

Father of love! I had thought that Jesus came to the earth for the sake of finding me alone, but that was not all; I had thought that he came for the sake of my family, but that was not all; I had thought

that he came for the sake of the chosen people of Israel, but that was not all. Neither did he come for the sake of any one denomination. We now understand that at the same time that Jesus was the hope of the created world, he came representing its entire value.

Father, what are our minds like today compared to the mind of Jesus, who had the mission to restore everything? Let us not be people who say, "I will die clinging to my family." Let us not become people who say, "I will die clinging to my people, my nation, and my world."

We earnestly desire, beloved Father, to become people who are able to live risking our lives for the problems of life and death throughout heaven and earth. That is to say, even if I live, I represent heaven and earth, and even if I die, I die representing heaven and earth.

Today, if there remain cries of lamentation among the things of creation, we earnestly pray, Father, that you let us be able to give Jesus and you rest by eliminating them. Work together with us, Father, and allow us to go forward together with you, in order to resolve all historical enmity and to receive the comfort of that resolution.

Earnestly hoping that you will grant us the power to become true filial sons and filial daughters who can praise heaven while digesting every difficulty, we pray all these things in the name of the Lord. Amen.

March 23, 1958

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