

6 Heavenly Parent's Ideal World and Cheon Il Guk – The Theory and Reality of Cheon Il Guk

True Parents' Words

God's vision of the ideal of creation included the kingdom of heaven in the spirit world, but He created all things because He wished for a concrete kingdom of heaven in the physical world, where He personally could reside. In other words, God created the world and everything in it to experience the glory of both the spiritual and the physical kingdom of heaven, with Himself and Adam and Eve as the center. He did not plan on establishing the kingdom of heaven in heaven and on earth just for Himself; He created them for humankind as well. God's purpose for creating heaven and earth was so that human beings could live in the kingdom of heaven on earth and afterward in the eternal world of the kingdom of heaven in heaven, centering on Adam and Eve. [CSG 7.1.4:15]

The Chinese character for heaven, cheon (天), is formed by combining the characters for two (二) and people (人). Thus, Cheon Il Guk (天一國) means the nation where two people, Adam and Eve, become one with each other horizontally and become one with God vertically. From that point sons and daughters appear. [CSG 12.2.1:1]

Cheon Il Guk is a place where parents and children, husbands and wives, and brothers and sisters become one. God dwells in each family where two become one. Hence, two people in a parent-child relationship, which is a vertical relationship, have to completely become one; the same is true for two people in a husband-wife relationship, which is a right-left relationship, and in a relationship between older and younger siblings, which is a front-back relationship. Those who live for the sake of others bring such unity, whereas those who ask others to live for them will fall by the wayside. [CSG 12.2.1:5]

Sharing Thoughts

A certain woman prayed fervently, "Heavenly Parent, please bring me to the kingdom of heaven, where You are." Soon after, an angel appeared and declared before vanishing, "Heavenly Parent has heard your prayer and said, 'I will gladly answer your prayer, but I would just like to see you neatly organize your garden where you are living.'" The woman diligently cut the grass and trimmed the bushes before praying again, "Heavenly Parent, will You call me now?" This time an angel replied, "Plant trees in your village to create shade, and have people rest in the shade." The woman then planted trees along the road of the village and began planting beautiful flowers around them. Once again, the woman desperately pleaded to Heavenly Parent. Her plea, "Now will You call me?" was met with "Yes, you have worked hard. But there is a beggar standing at your door. And look at your family members." So, the woman fed the beggar a hearty meal and worked hard to serve and love her family until they were thoroughly satisfied. Then once again she prayed, "Heavenly Parent, is this enough?" Just then an angel took her by the hand, and they went up a hill. The angel said, "Here, look down this hill. How does your village look?" The village that the woman saw was heaven itself. The trees the woman had planted had become a beautiful forest; the poor people passing by praised her, and her family did not want to leave her embrace. There were lovable people and a beautiful garden before her.

You have heard the word “heaven” many times, haven’t you? You probably have heard the phrase “died and gone to heaven” many times, too. What should one do to be able to get into such a place as heaven? Is heaven a place to go only after death? No, it is not. Unless heaven is attained on earth, it does not exist in the spirit world either.

If Adam and Eve, who were created in the image of Heavenly Parent, had not fallen but instead had attained oneness with Heavenly Parent through love, the kingdom of heaven would have been established upon the earth. Heaven is not a conceptual land of clouds that exists in a far-off place. When the love of Heavenly Parent is put into practice on earth, that moment of experiencing joy is the very moment that one experiences heaven. You probably have experienced true joy welling up from deep within when you have given love for the sake of others. That joy is not experienced by you alone but rather the joy is experienced together with Heavenly Parent. Have you ever experienced loving Heavenly Parent with all your heart, jeongseong and will, and showing love to your neighbors? Such actions transcend the realm of material things and include every aspect of your very being, time, talent, everything. If you experience enough moments of giving and receiving love, you can experience heaven while living on earth.

People who have experienced heaven on earth by living this way can live naturally in the kingdom of heaven when they go to the spirit world. The kingdom of heaven in spirit world is a world that connects to eternity by transcending time and space and the experience of heaven on earth. After shedding our earthly body and entering the spirit world, we will find that it is a world where we live and breathe in the air of true love. Those who have thoroughly felt the joy of true love by experiencing the heart of Heavenly Parent while on earth will be able to savor the air of true love in the spirit world and, intoxicated by such an aroma, will be able to enjoy eternal happiness and joy.

As you can see, the essence of Heaven is love. However, love cannot be achieved alone. Only when a subject partner and an object partner engage in give and take for the sake of the other can love be experienced for the first time. People live lives that consist of forming various types of relationships. In the family they form parent–child relationships, the husband–wife relationship, sibling relationships and, based on that, they form relationships in work, school and church. When we plant the love of Heavenly Parent in all relationships, and share that love and joy with others, Heaven slowly will reveal itself to us.

The meaning of the term “Cheon Il Guk” is right here; it means “a nation where two people have become one.” Starting with the mineral, plant and animal kingdoms, the entire human world consists of pairs to sing the language of love of Heavenly Parent. The world where all such pairs become one through love is Cheon Il Guk. The source of love, Heavenly Parent, hopes to arrive safely in that kind of world of Cheon Il Guk and live together with us.

*** Points for contemplation**

- 1) If Cheon Il Guk is a world where two people become one, think about the meaning of “the two people.” Then think about the meaning of “become one.” Finally, contemplate the ways in which “two people can truly become one.”
- 2) Let’s think about what the following means: One must experience heaven on earth to be able to experience heaven in the spirit world.