

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: 3 Blessings And The Process To Fulfil Them

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May 8, 2024

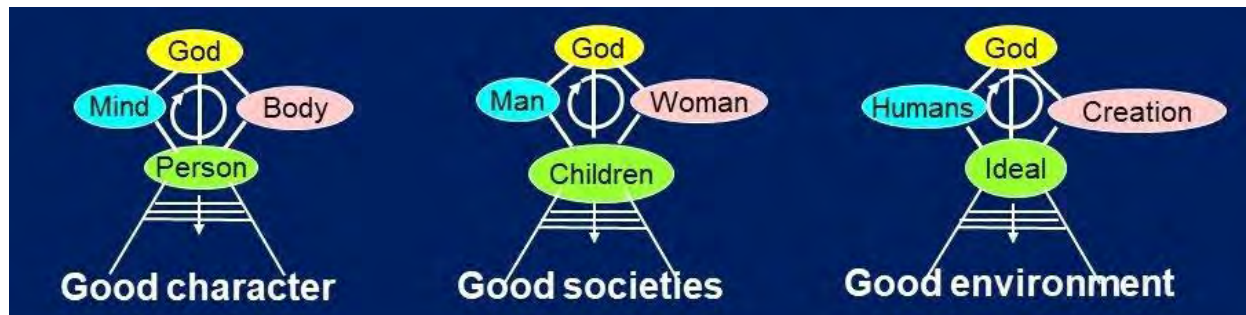


Illustration of the 3 blessings



Michael Balcomb

The process to realize the 3 blessings and God's ideal

Part 2 of a lecture given by Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of the [Family Federation](#) for Europe and the Middle East, given at an international prayer meeting by Zoom on 1st May 2024.

See [part 1](#)

I'm now going to briefly cover some of the highlights of Dr. Jin-choon Kim's lecture, which he entitled "[Heavenly Parent's Ideal](#) and [True Parents' Lives](#)".



Jin-choon Kim

What are the main points of this lecture, which is actually a very complex one with enormously complicated slides? It's really very simple.



[God](#) has had a dream since the Garden of Eden. It's based on the fulfillment of the three blessings.

"[God](#) blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and over the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:28)

That was the first commandment that [God](#) gave to Adam and Eve in the garden.

The fulfillment of the three blessings and [that ideal](#) takes time. And finally, that [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) together, and only together, can fulfill the [ideal](#).



The life course of the [True Parents](#) can really be understood through three stages until now. And there's one more to come.

There's the early life of both [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) separately before the [Holy Blessing](#).

Then there's their victorious life together on earth after the [Holy Blessing](#) - a period of 52 years, which as we know, [Mother Moon](#) recently described in many ways as a wilderness course. Why?

Because even throughout that time, there was so little support from Christianity, from the nation of South Korea, and - let's be honest - sometimes insufficient support and understanding from us members.

Then the third stage, which [Mother Moon](#) calls life belonging to the [Kingdom of Heaven](#) ("Cheonil-guk" in Korean), which really began with Foundation Day in 2013, with [Father Moon](#) ascended in heaven and [Mother Moon](#) still on earth.

And then in the future, there will be that time when both [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) are ascended in heaven. But of course, we're not there yet, and so more understanding may come later.

And finally, Dr. Jin-choon Kim closes with a focus on,

"So what? What should our responsibility be? What should our focus be in this time, to keep going?"

And I am particularly going to share about the type of person Heaven needs us to be. Heavenly Parent's dream back in the beginning, and forever will be the fulfillment of the three great blessings - we know it well - which will lead to, in due course, ideal couple, ideal children and family, and an ideal world.



Father and Mother Moon in Gapyeong, South Korea in the late 1960s

This is the fundamental truth underlying everything else that we study in the [Divine Principle](#).

But it is a continuous process

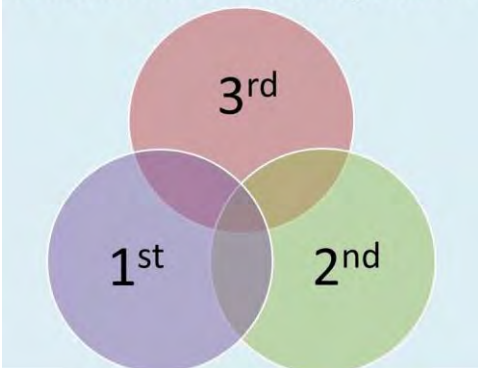


Illustration from Dr. Balcomb's presentation 1st May 2024

But usually, at least for myself, I've always thought of the three blessings as some kind of series. You do the first one and then the second one, and then the third one.

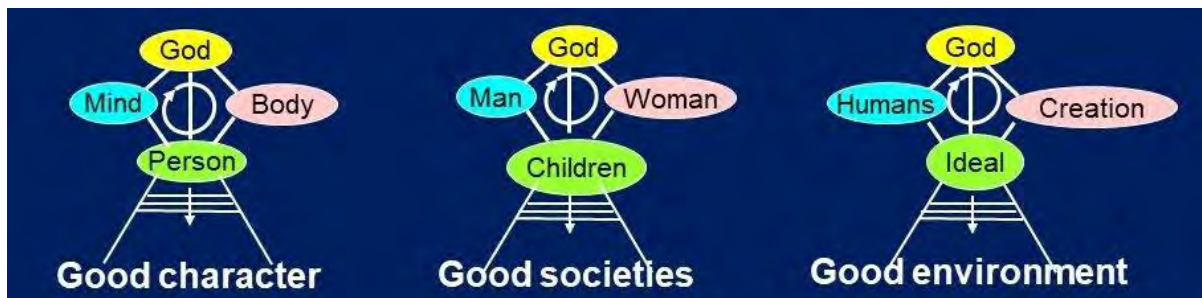


Illustration of the 3 blessings (not from Dr. Balcomb's presentation)

The first blessing is to become an ideal individual, the second blessing to reach family perfection and create an ideal family - which, of course [Mother Moon](#) did - that is to spread throughout the world.

And then finally to have perfection and dominion over all things, both the things of creation, but also creating a society that is comfortable and secure.

But, you know, it doesn't really happen that way. I think any spouse who's honest will admit,

"I'm not a perfect spouse. I'm still working on it, even though I now have a family."

I think a truer look is that these things are continuous and interlinked. And in the beginning, maybe when we receive the [marriage blessing](#), the overlap between our own state of spiritual growth and the reality of our family life is quite small. And as for the third blessing, well, I know a lot of young couples who are really struggling to make ends meet.



Illustration from Dr. Balcomb's presentation 1st May 2024

But over time, these areas coalesce until that central area of overlap becomes very large.

So it takes time to fulfill the blessings - for the [True Parents](#) as well. It isn't something that happens one, two, three. It's a constant process. And this is what Dr. Kim wanted to emphasize.

When we think about the course of [Father Moon](#), [...] it involves a period of growth. [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) weren't born perfect. They weren't born with all knowledge, like the Buddha was supposed to have been, so that at birth he was already teaching. No, [Mother Moon](#) constantly emphasizes the need for growth.

And then came the day of the [Holy Wedding](#), the [anniversary](#) of which we just celebrated, followed by the holy works of [True Parents](#) over 52 years and beyond.

So it's important, then again, to recognize that - even when analyzing the lives of the [True Parents](#) - or our own lives, we're gentle on ourselves and realize that it's okay as long as we are moving forward.

To be continued. Part 3 coming soon.

See [part 1](#)

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Unchanging Truth And Its Changing Expression

May 5, 2024 • Knut Holdhus

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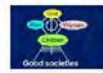


Father and Mother Moon teach unchanging truth, but its expression is going through a change

Part 1 of a lecture given by Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of the Family Federation for Europe and the Middle East, given at an international prayer meeting by Zoom on 1st May 2024.

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I will present the 7th lecture in the series that we've been following on the *Theology of True Parents*, or the *Christology of True Parents*. And I'm adding a subtitle, "*The Importance of a New Understanding in the Era of the Heavenly Kingdom ('Cheonilguk era' in Korean)*". This is adapted from a lecture by Jin-choon Kim entitled "*Heavenly Parent's Ideal and True Parents' Lives*".

But first I will give an introduction to it.

The unchanging truth of God and its changing expression

The first part of it, is to understand **Mother Moon's** heart about the unchanging truth of **God**, while the reality is that the expression of that truth changes.

We're very familiar with this from the introduction to the **Divine Principle**, *2020. Photo: FFWPU* which speaks a lot about the need for a new expression of truth, whilst at the same time pointing out that the scriptures that we have so far are but a textbook.

And sometimes you need to upgrade your textbook and learn something new. And **Mother Moon**, in almost every speech, says something like this,

"Our almighty and all-knowing **God** is the same at the beginning and at the end." (**Mother Moon** Nov. 2023)

What she means by this is that **God** will definitely fulfill His dream, Her dream, the dream that was there at the very beginning of creation, when Adam and Eve were young and in the Garden.

Yes, history has been a miserable and long deviation from that. However, in the end **God** will prevail. And because that's the case, no matter what we do, or what happens, eventually **God's** will shall be fulfilled.

But as we know, it does depend on human responsibility as well, if it's to happen in the shortest possible time.

Another way of saying this, of course, comes from the Book of Revelation 22:13, where **God** says,

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

So, **Mother Moon** is simply articulating a well-known Biblical principle.

The truth, which maybe you could consider as the sun – the truth of **God** – is constant, but how we receive it depends on the stage of our spiritual growth.



Plant growing at different stages illustration. Illustration: Vecteezy.com Scene Vectors by Vecteezy

It's planted as a seed, as Jesus said in one parable, and then if we nurture that seed, our spiritual life grows and

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progresses. But if it falls on dry ground, stony ground, then it will never mature within us, which is the goal.

By the same token, **God's** revelation progresses according to our own spiritual growth, humanity as a whole. And as we heard [...] this evening, we've come to a time when it's time for all religions, including our own, to get off and move together to the final destination.

In the introduction to *Divine Principle* there's a somewhat challenging space I excerpt here.

"It may be displeasing to religious believers, especially to Christians, to learn that a new expression of truth must appear. They believe that the scriptures they have are already perfect and flawless. Certainly, truth itself is unique, eternal, immutable and absolute. Scriptures, however, are not the truth itself, but are textbooks teaching the truth." (*Exposition of the Divine Principle*, p7)

And later on, in the chapter on the *Consummation of human history*, there's guidance for people who are faced in a time of change with new insights and new truths,

"Those who can perceive spiritual things, however, will understand the providence of the new age spiritually, and come to respond to it, even though they may face discrepancies between the new view of truth and that of the old age." (*Divine Principle*, 1973 translation, p135)



The Divine Principle, 2nd edition, 1973.

It continues on the next page,

"We should not be attached to conventional ideas, but should at all costs find the new truth, leading us to the providence of the new age." (Ibid. p136)

And believers in the Last Days

"must try to perceive spiritual things through humble prayer." (Ibid. p136)

This is why **Mother Moon** is so keen on emphasizing the importance of devotion, of prayer. This is also why we do these long vigil prayers and many other conditions like the one we're doing now, because we need help from **God** to perceive spiritual things. And humble prayer is the way.

Father Moon said this back in the 1970s when I joined the movement,

"We must understand that the **Divine Principle** which you study is not all of the truth. It is just a small part of the total truth. There is a tremendous amount which you don't understand yet." (Unofficial notes from a speech by **Father Moon** titled "The Unification Theological Seminary", 24th April 1992.)

Of course, **Mother Moon** has recently been saying similar things.

"In the future, the **Divine Principle** will need many updates. It covers the time only until the 1960s. **True Parents'** teachings cover the time after the 1960s. So therefore the **True Parents'** scriptures must emerge."

I guess it's a matter of time. And particularly **Mother Moon** said,

"The section on the Second Coming in the second part of the



on the Second Coming in the second part of the [Divine Principle](#) has to be about the [True Parents](#). Life is not born from man alone. [God](#) created both man and woman."

And this theme, of course, underlies a lot of what [Mother Moon](#) is saying today.

We need to look again even at the [Divine Principle](#), from a more balanced perspective. We are informed by the [True Parents](#) that only a couple, man and woman together, can provide salvation. [God's ideal](#) is a couple together. [God's](#) very nature, as explained in Genesis 1:29, is male and female.

So let's take another look at this statement from the [Divine Principle](#). We'll read it again.

"It may be displeasing to religious believers, especially to Christians, to learn that a new expression of truth must appear. They believe the scriptures they have are already perfect and flawless."

And I've taken the liberty of updating this,

"It may be displeasing to religious believers, including Unificationists, to learn that a new expression of truth must appear. We believe that the scriptures we have are already perfect and flawless."

And of course, [Mother Moon](#) is saying that they're incomplete. There's more to come.

And that's why we've been studying for the last seven weeks, this new understanding of the [True Parents' Theology](#).

Continued in [part 2](#).

Featured image above: *Dr. Michael Balcomb. Photo: [FFWPU](#)*

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