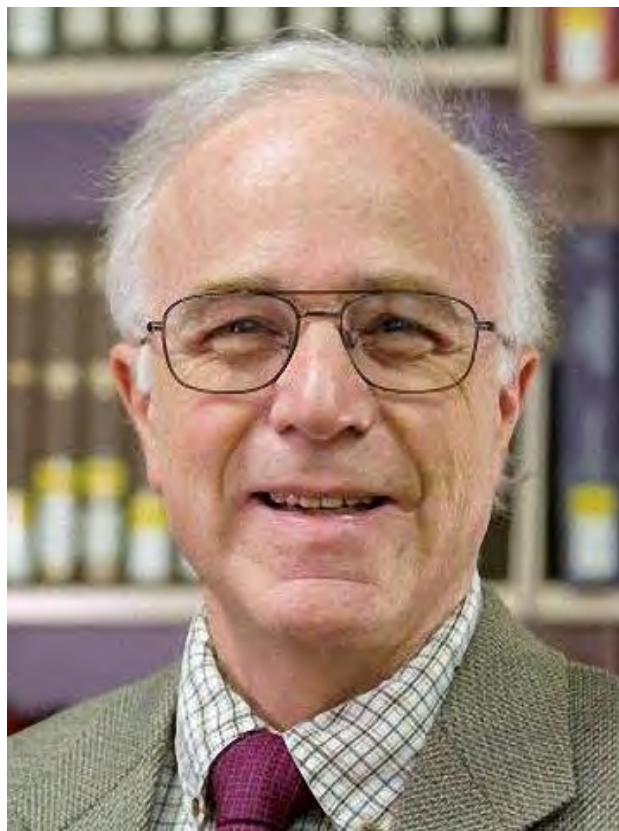


## FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Science In Rev. Moon's Early Writings

Knut Holdhus  
May 12, 2024



*Andrew Wilson*

### American academic reveals Sun Myung Moon's focus on science in his early writings from 1952

Part 1 of "Rev. Moon's Early Writings on Science", a presentation by Dr. Andrew Wilson, Professor of Scriptural Studies at [HJ International Graduate School for Peace and Public Leadership \(HJI\)](#), New York, USA, given on a special online program 7th May 2024 hosted by [HJI](#) and the [Higher Purpose Forum \(HPF\)](#).



*Five sections of Wolli Wonbon, in [Father Moon's](#) own handwriting*

I have been really blessed to be able to work for many years together with my colleague Hee-hun Standard on translating Wolli Wonbon. HJI has a manuscript of Wolli Wonbon, which was written in [Rev. Moon's](#) own handwriting - a Xerox copy of about 700 pages, which we could work from.

It is a substantial document. It has chapters on creation, the Fall, the mission of Jesus, and so on. But 100 pages or more are on topics relating to science, including gravitation, astronomy, electromagnetism, evolution, animal behavior, and human psychology.

Everything in [Reverend Moon's](#) thought about science is based upon the [Principle](#), and specifically what he in that manuscript called "the Principle of Object Partners".

Object partners are entities that unite by engaging in [give and receive action](#), or [give and take action](#). This is different than the meaning of [object partner](#) in [Exposition of the Divine Principle](#), which is a position in relationship to a subject partner. Rather "object partners" in *Wolli Wonbon* are beings that have achieved unity in their relationship. The contrastive term to object partners is "counterparts," which are entities that are still at a distance.



*Where most of *Wolli Wonbon* was written: The shack in Busan, South Korea that [Sun Myung Moon](#) built, lived and taught in 1951-1952, as a penniless refugee during the Korean War. It was built with rocks, dirt and cardboard boxes in 1951*

There are countless object partner relationships throughout the cosmos, from celestial bodies to human beings and even to [God](#).

[Reverend Moon](#)'s interest in science stems from his background. He studied electrical engineering in Japan when he was in high school, at a school connected to Waseda university.

And then while doing his ministry in North Korea, he encountered Marxism-Leninism. He even spent almost three years in a labor camp where they had continual brainwashing lectures on Marxist-Leninist theory, that he had to endure. One of the things that Marxism-Leninism claims is to be "scientific". He saw that communism's claim to be a modern scientific truth advantaged it over religions, which are based on texts from ancient times like the Bible. And this was one of communism's appeals.

[Reverend Moon](#) saw the need for a scientific principle centering on [God](#) that would overcome Marxist-Leninist theory by rooting religion in science. That is one reason that from the very beginning of his ministry, [Reverend Moon](#) was interested in bringing together [science and religion](#).

Among the many topics in the hundred pages or so of *Wolli Wonbon* that are devoted to science, I'm going to discuss four of them:

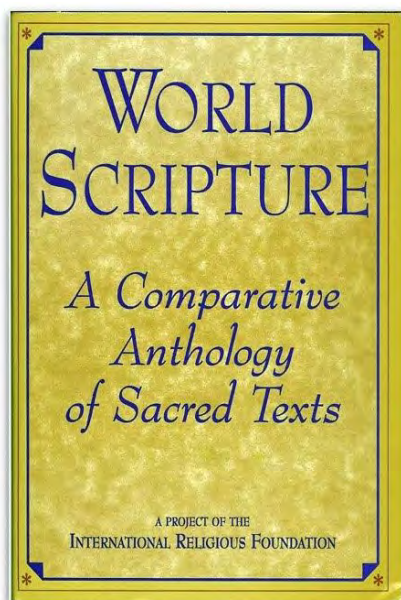
1. Gravitation and planetary motion,
2. Electrical induction in the activity of [God](#) in creation,
3. Diversity in nature as seen in the colors of light, and
4. The [Principle](#) in psychology.

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To be continued. Part 2 coming soon.

"Science in Rev. Moon's Early Writings" - text: Dr. Andrew Wilson

Dr. Andrew Wilson's scholarly books and papers cover diverse topics ranging from religion and peace to character education to a theory of the spirit world. His efforts on behalf of inter-religious harmony led [Father Moon](#) to commission him to write *World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts* (published 1991), which has become a standard work of interfaith scholarship and a resource for interfaith worship. He also wrote a second volume of *World Scripture* (*World Scripture and the Teachings of Sun Myung Moon*, published 2007) that includes a broad selection of Rev. [Sun Myung Moon](#)'s words, adopted as one of the eight official textbooks of [Unificationism](#).



*World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts* (published 1991)

Dr. Wilson joined the faculty of HJI in 1985. He is professor of Scriptural Studies and Director of Scriptural Research. He earned his bachelor's degree from Harvard University (majoring in biochemistry), a master's in theology from Harvard Divinity School, and a PhD from Harvard University.

Related to early writings: [Unification Principles](#)

Also related to early writings: [Exposition of the Divine Principle](#)

More, related to early writings: [The Teachings in a Nutshell](#)

Yet more, related to early writings: [Brief about the Teachings](#)

Still more, related to early writings: [Encounter with Jesus](#)

Even more, related to early writings: [Great Vision](#)



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## The Unification Principles



The key to understanding [Sun Myung Moon](#) and [Hak Ja Han](#) and their movement is the Unification Principles (The Divine Principle), an important part of their teachings and the name of the revelations [Father Moon](#) received from [God](#) and [Jesus](#) during the period 1935-1944.

The Unification Principles explain [God's original ideal](#), how and why the ideal was not realized, and the long and complicated process [God](#) and we humans have had to go through in order to return to a world that is as [God](#) originally wanted it to be. In addition to describing the most important events and people in this process, the Unification Principles explain its ultimate goal.

The teaching gives you answers to each of life's big questions and also gives you a comprehensive understanding not only of your own life, but of the great physical and [spiritual reality](#) of which we are all a part.

We see the Bible and the holy writings of other religions as important contributions to clarifying the path each individual must follow in order to live in harmony with [God](#) and their fellow human beings. A unique part of [Father Moon's](#) teaching is how [God](#) has worked for the past 2000 years, and how [God](#) works today.

There is no published edition of the Unification Principles written by [Sun Myung Moon](#) himself.

After his life-changing spiritual [encounter with Jesus Christ](#) 17<sup>th</sup> April 1935, the young Korean started to study the Bible intensely for many years. In the margins of his Bible he wrote down notes about insights he arrived at and revelations he received. Those notes are said to have been central when later putting together the texts known as the Unification Principles (The



*Sun Myung Moon's first encounter with Jesus in 1935.*

Divine Principle).

The very first manuscript of his teachings was apparently lost in North Korea during the **Korean War**, while he was a prisoner in a concentration camp. After arriving as a refugee in Busan, South Korea, for one year until May 1952, he wrote Wollu Wonbon (The Original Text of the Principles), an unpublished text.

After the Korean War (1950-1953), and after the **Unification Church** was **founded in 1954**, he asked one of his main disciples, Hyo-won Eu, to write a more systematic version of the teachings.

The first book that was published, only in Korean, was Wollu Haeseol (Explanation of the Principles) in 1957, written as an interpretation of and a new perspective on the 66 books of the Bible.

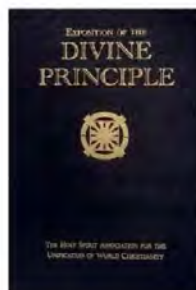


The year after, Eu started the work on the text that became the official version of the Unification Principles, **Wollu Kangron** (Exposition of the Principles).

It was published in Korean in 1966, and in 1973 in English as "Divine Principle", after **Father Moon** had moved to the USA in 1971.



Divine Principle, 1973



A new and better translation appeared in 1996, "Exposition of the Divine Principle".

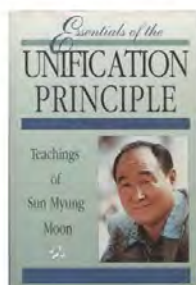
Other versions of the Unification Principles have also appeared in English:

"Divine Principle and Its Application", by Dr. Young Oon Kim, published in 1968 and translated into a number of languages. Republished 2004 as "The Living Code – A New Look at the Bible".



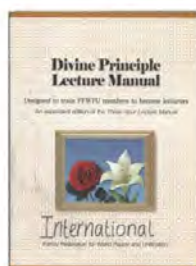
"The Divine Principle Study Guide", by Young Whi Kim (Yeong-hwi Kim), one of the first 3 couples, part 1 first published in 1973, part 2 in 1975.

"Outline of the Principle – Level 4", (Wollu Kangeuian in Korean) by dr. Cheong-hwan Kwak, then International Director of Education of the **Unification Church**, published in 1980 in English and translated into many other languages. This is a lecture manual with hundreds of diagrams beside the text.



"Essentials of the Unification Principle – Teachings of Sun Myung Moon", written primarily by Thomas Cromwell, published in 1994 with the approval of the International Director of Education of the **Unification Church**. The book includes a chapter on Mohammed and Islam as well as one on how we may apply the teachings to our life.

"United Visions – One God, One Truth, and One Human Family", by Abdelmoumin Ahmed, written originally in Arabic, published in English 2009, written primarily for a Muslim audience. Input from senior lecturers of the Unification Principles.



In 2016, "Divine Principle Lecture Manual – An expanded edition of the Three Hour Lecture Manual" appeared, published by the **Family Federation**, Seoul, South Korea. It was designed to train members to become lecturers and contains more than 250 illustrations and lots of explanatory notes.

What we call the Unification Principles (The Divine Principle), is simply wollu – 원리 – in Korean. The



Korean word wollu means principle or principles. Korean nouns are not specific about their number – whether they are singular or plural.

*Unification Principles in Korean. Screenshot from [trueteaching.org](http://trueteaching.org)*

Apparently the singular form “principle” was chosen by the Korean members in 1956, when deciding on an English name for the teachings, in order to emphasize that the content makes up a unitary whole. In order to avoid misunderstandings, we use the term “Unification Principles” here as the teachings certainly refer to more than one principle.

Also, it should be clear that the English expression “Divine Principle” is not intended to mean that everything in the book is about some divine principle. Rather, the teachings reveal that certain fundamental principles play a significant role in shaping historical events and the progress of **God's** work to create the world he planned from the beginning. Also, an understanding of those principles allow yourself to better master your own life and your **relationships**.

[More](#) about the teachings



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