# How We Should Think About Foundation Day

James B. Edgerly January 27, 2013 Boston, MA



Rev. James B. Edgerly

First, I would like to welcome our guests. Thank you for coming to today's Sunday Service.

Today, we are going to talk about preparing for an upcoming Holy Day called Foundation Day which takes place on February 22nd. We have been talking about and preparing for this day since 2001. According to Rev. [Michael] Balcomb's message on the Foundation Day website, that is when Father first mentioned it. Foundation Day is a day of profound significance in the history of our church.

This content may be difficult to understand if you are not familiar with the teachings of Sun Myung Moon, and specifically with what we call "The Original Substance of Divine Principle" or OSDP.

Even for our Blessed Families and members, it is hard for us to prepare for Foundation Day, if we are not clear on what it is. This message today is my understanding of what this upcoming Holy Day is about, based upon what I have read and listened to, and most importantly based upon my understanding of OSDP and the messages of Absolute Good Sex given by Rev. Hyung-Jin Moon, our National President.

Foundation Day is primarily focused on married couples, as well as those preparing to be married. In listening to this message today, our guests will realize that we assign central providential authority to Rev. and Mrs. Moon, who we call our "True Parents".

If you have studied the Bible, you can understand that the relationship between Jesus Christ and Rev Moon is parallel to the relationship between Moses and Joshua. That is the specific explanation provided in the Divine Principle.

#### The Purpose of a Human Being Compared to the Purpose of an Automobile

We are dim, damaged goods, alienated from God and therefore are ignorant about the most *basic* issues of our life. We do not even know who we are, why we were created, what our purpose is, and therefore even how to behave. This is a remarkable and sad understanding shared by all monotheistic faiths.

It is as if God has given us a shiny, good looking car that we have never seen before. Let's say it is a Mazda 3 Hatchback. We look at it in our total ignorance and wonder:

"What the heck is this?" "What are we supposed to do with it?"

Hey, look at all the room in the back! It's obviously for storage. I can put all my stuff back there and it won't get wet or stolen. That's the *storage* philosophy of the car. Is it wrong? Well, I guess not really. You can store your stuff in the back of a Mazda hatchback. Better than not using the car at all ....

Wow, look at those comfy seats! They even fold all the way back! The purpose of the car is obviously to sit and sleep in. I can get in there, sit down, read, eat and even sleep. There are even seats for three of my friends! Now we're talkin'. That's the *car seat* philosophy of the car. Is it wrong? Well, not really. Mazda has done an excellent job at ergonomically designing car seats that are certainly good to sit and eat and sleep in, right. So, I guess that will work...

Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Look at those headlights! If I turn the lights on, I can see at night. That is so cool. This Mazda even has high beams! They are so bright. Using the car's headlights certainly makes it easier to see at night. That is the *headlight* philosophy of the car.

That's the way we are about our life and even about our religion.

We may have the "fulfil my mission" philosophy of life.

We may have the "dedicate my life to the church" philosophy of life.

The "total denial and self sacrifice" philosophy of life.

The "prepare for the afterlife" philosophy of life.

I recall when I was fundraising in the early days of the Unification Church, I really believed that fundraising was the highest calling...so much self-denial, and mind-body discipline bringing one close to God, what could be a *more* important purpose than that? That is what I really believed!

Or, if we are not church goers, we may have other philosophies:

- The "wealth and pleasure" philosophy of life.
- The "power and influence" philosophy of life.
- Or the "adventure" philosophy of live,
- The "do no evil" philosophy of life.

There is nothing necessarily bad with any of these, other than the fact that they may be big distractions.

But, what is the real intention of God, the creator of life?

#### We are Incarnational Beings

So how and why did God design us?

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in His own image In the image of God He created him Male and female He created them

Wow, now *that* is profound. God created humans in His image, both *male* and *female*? But why? We are created to resemble God, to be just like God, because He wants to dwell within us and love through us, through our very bodies. Our body is meant to become His body.

Paul explains this in 1 Corinthians 3:16

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?"

We are designed by our creator as "incarnational beings" whose purpose is fully realized when "God's dwelling is with men."

II Corinthians 6:16 explains "*We are the temple of the living God.*" God is completed when he speaks and creates and loves through us. We are designed by God to fulfill this sacred purpose.

The most vivid New Testament expression of this understanding comes from Jesus Christ who explained very clearly in the book of John (John 14:10) :

"Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work."

John 10:38

"Even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."

We are not meant to fulfil our purpose through attaining power and influence or working hard on our mission, or living a life of self-denial but by following the path of Jesus Christ and our True Parents and becoming an incarnation of God.

#### God's Incarnation through Man and Woman Becoming One Flesh

The OSDP explains how that incarnation takes place. When God created man in His image, He separated Himself into two beings – man and woman, Adam and Eve.

God can only be fully incarnated and dwell on this earth when man and woman become one flesh, which He has most clearly designed us to do. This is what the music and movies and poetry is all about!

OSDP explains that this is the very *purpose of marriage*, we need to marry to fulfill our purpose – to resemble God, so that God can take a substantial body, and love and create through us. Therefore, the oneness of man and woman is the very source of what is *most* precious to us: love, life and lineage.

The vertical, incorporeal God wants to be incarnated by dwelling in the perfect intimacy of Adam and Eve – spiritual and physical oneness.

#### The Key of Life is Lost



Adam and Eve beneath the Tree of Knowledge

Genesis Chapter 3 explains that there was a human fall. The result of this was the loss of the ability to fulfil our role for God as His incarnational beings.

Then the eyes of both of them (that is our first human ancestors, so called Adam and Eve) were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Adam covered his penis, Eve covered her vagina. These are the beautiful and precious sexual organs, created by God. Why the heck did they cover themselves?

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

God's children hid from Him? Something must have gone terribly wrong

But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

Adam was feeling shame and guilt before God. He was feeling separated from God. He *lost* his potential for intimacy, for becoming an incarnation of God!

11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

God has lost trust in Adam. Adam has become alienated from his creator.

Now we all understand that the Bible is written in symbols and parables, but it is evident what this story is really all about. This is a symbolic story about the defiling of intimacy between man and woman.

And this intimacy is the essential core of what is *most* important for *both* God and mankind, for perfect intimacy between man and woman is the <u>source of true love</u>, true life and true lineage.

17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. Yep, that's the story of our life brothers and sisters, right. That's all we do: working 'all the days of our life'. And I am so sick of it. But that is <u>the new commandment from God</u>: "to work all the days of your life."

It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

So, we work hard, and all we produce is "thorns and thistles." That sounds about right.

Our original ancestors clearly lost their ability to be incarnations of God. They were separated from the life and role that was intended for them. Instead, they have to "toil all the days of their life" and only "produce thorns and thistles."

By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; or dust you are and to dust you will return."

So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Kicked out, and blocked from returning to what God originally intended. It is like God has taken away the keys to the Mazda. How can you possibly understand the purpose of the car if you have been blocked from ever knowing that there are keys? Without ever receiving the keys, you can't possibly understand the purpose for which the car was created.

So, the confusion about the very purpose of life begins.

This is not about not working hard enough, or not attending church, or not being sacrificial enough, or not making enough money.

The original ancestors were given the potential to be incarnations of God upon becoming one in marriage. But they destroyed that potential and were kicked out of the Garden. This happened because their ability to have a sacred, holy husband-wife relationship was defiled. When Eve became one with Lucifer in the Garden, this was completely outside of the Principle, was never to have been experienced by a sacred daughter of God.

It is like man and woman were designed to be a perfect mirror of God, but that mirror became warped and tarnished and corroded, completely loosing ability to reflect the image of God. This destroyed the value and purpose of their love, life and lineage. <u>They lost the key to life</u>.

And sure enough, life for them and all of their human ancestors has been defiled and filled with thistles and thorns and confusion.

## Foundation Day is a Wedding



So, based on this understanding, what is Foundation Day? Foundation Day is the *last* -- repeat the *last* -- and culminating event of Rev. Moon's ministry on this earth. We began preparing for Foundation Day years ago.

172 days before Foundation Day, on September 3rd, Moon passed into the Spirit World. He was 93 years of age at the time. And interestingly, we know that before Rev Moon left, he said, "It is complete,

everything is accomplished." Perhaps this was because the culminating event of Foundation Day was right around the corner.

Foundation Day is a marriage day, a re-Blessing day. Foundation Day is about re-establishing the holy, sacred relationship between a man and a woman, through which God can be incarnated.

In fact, what is the most glorious, culminating event in the Bible? It is found in the last book of the Bible: The Book of "Revelation". It is the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Foundation Day is the third or "completion level" marriage blessing of Rev & Mrs. Moon: 1960,2000 and 2013. For a full theological understanding of this Marriage Blessing, please watch the video of the message from Rev. Hyung-Jin Moon from Wednesday, January 9, 2013.

We know that Rev. Moon has passed from this earth, so he now resides in the spiritual world. Therefore, this marriage re-Blessing on Foundation Day will be between Mrs. Moon, a woman in the physical world and Rev Moon, her husband who is residing in the spiritual world. This may seem to be sort of a weird concept, *unless* you are aware of the very natural reality of the Spiritual World.

## Marriage Untainted by the Fall

The significance of this ceremony is to establish a prototype, the DNA, of the correct, God centered marriage relationship between a husband and a wife, as if the fall never took place. A marriage between Adam and Eve, untainted by the fall.

That is why this marriage will be called Foundation Day, it is the beginning of new love, life and lineage. This commences a new and revolutionary understanding of the meaning of our life as incarnational beings and a true understanding of the holiness of marriage, a practical understanding of living life as if the fall never happened.

Are you ready for this?

### **Giving Back the Keys**

This is like God, after the long course of providential history, finally giving us back the keys to the car. Through the grace of the True Parents, he is bestowing keys to His Kingdom on Earth.

The key that God is now bestowing is the complete and eternal oneness of man and woman based on God's holy Blessing of marriage, untainted by anything, as if the putrefying events of the human fall never took place.

It is through the creation of sacred and holy oneness of man and woman that God can actually be incarnated here on earth. Rev. Moon calls this holy, absolute, eternal oneness between one man and one woman through which God can be incarnated: "Absolute Sex."

#### We are Participants - not Observers

What about us? Is our role to sit in the stands as passive observers?

We have been preparing for Foundation Day through various conditions and devotions: book distribution, reading God's Words, *kyung bae* [offering bows]. I hope you are preparing yourself through doing these conditions. These are for our benefit - small conditions so that we have some minimal qualification to register and walk in the door to participate in this day.

However, please understand, we are not being asked to be observers. We are invited to be full participants. In fact, those who participate in Korea will be dressed in wedding clothes. My wife will need to buy a new wedding gown! We are going to be "re-Blessed."

During our God's Day Sunday Service here on February 10th, we will receive special grace by drinking Foundation Day Holy Wine. (I cannot talk about this special grace today. Please learn more about Foundation Day Holy wine by watching the recent video by Dr. Chang Shik Yang is posted on the Foundation Day website.)

The conditions we are doing, filling out the "CIG Resolution Form for a New Beginning" and registration on the Foundation Day website enable us to be participants:

1. first, prior to Foundation Day, to drink holy wine, to receive grace so that we stand as Adam and Eve, in that same position as if the fall never took place, "untainted by the human fall",

2. and then to be fully qualified participants in the Marriage Blessing on Foundation Day.

## **Personal Preparation for Foundation Day**

In other words, God also wants to be incarnated and dwell through the physical and spiritual intimacy of the Blessed Couples. That is how He designed us and what *both* God and man care most about: love, life and lineage.

Are we fully prepared for this?

In preparation for Foundation Day, we need to eliminate all unprincipled elements from our personal life and our relationship with our spouse so we can truly resemble God through total intimacy in our relationship *both* with God and our absolute spouse. Our life needs to be untainted by the fall, as if the fall never happened. Based on this standard, drinking Foundation Day Holy Wine will make our standing and qualification complete in the eyes of God.

None of this is at all new. This is the culmination of a long process of preparation and training.

• This is what the Cheong Pyung Providence is all about.

• This is why Father constantly taught us to live according to high noon settlement – casting no shadows.

• This is why we have been so serious about studying the Original Substance of Divine Principle, which makes all of these principles very clear.

This preparation is very personal for all of us as each of our situations is different.

Remember the consequence of the fall is not just sin. There are four other consequences of the fall:

- Fallen, self-centered nature
- Satanic sovereignty
- Evil influence of spiritual world
- Ignorance

We have to eliminate all of the bad habits, inhibitions, insecurities, selfishness, arrogance that prevents us from achieving a fully natural intimacy *both* with God and our spouse.

We have to eliminate, that's right, eliminate any participation in the swamp of fallen culture that surrounds us if we are serious about living a life untainted by the fall. Do not watch that *garbage* movie or decadent TV show. Choose to live your life untainted.

The guidance on Foundation Day Holy wine seems to be focused primarily on personal sin, but there is *much* more to eliminate and take responsibility for if we are to stand in a position being untainted by the fall!

Therefore, let's not just focus on external conditions, but on finalizing changes within myself and my relationship with my spouse and with God that we have all long been working on; to live an eternal life of absolute sex or absolute sexual morality with my spouse, untainted by the fall.