

This Week in History: December 22 to 28

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December 23, 2013

December 22, 1983 Tragic Car Crash Puts Heung Jin Moon into Ten-day Coma

Heung Jin Moon, the second son of Rev. and Mrs. Moon and described by his father as “the most exemplary, obedient son, with the greatest piety...the most comforting son to Mother and me,” sustained massive head injuries when the car he drove was struck by a tractor trailer, which had jack-knifed on an icy stretch of road north of Poughkeepsie, New York on December 22, 1983. Heung Jin lingered in a coma for ten days before expiring at 1:18 a.m. on January 2, 1984.

December 22, 2003 Jesus Coronated as “King of Peace”

The movement conducted six major “Peace King” coronations, also referred to as “crown of peace” ceremonies, from 2003-05. These were undertaken as sequels to the January 13, 2001 “Coronation of God’s Kingship” and held for the purpose of substantiating “heavenly kingship” on earth. The first of these was a coronation of Jesus as “King of Peace” in Jerusalem as part of the Middle East Peace Initiative on December 22, 2003.

December 24, 2011 Rev. Hyung Jin Moon Visits to North Korea



Rev. Hyung Jin Moon is greeted as he arrives in Pyongyang, North Korea on Saturday Dec. 24, 2011. Moon met with North Koreans and laid a wreath at Pyongyang's Kim Il Sung square five days after the announcement of the death of Kim Jong Il. (Photo credit: AP Photo)

Rev. Hyung Jin Moon, the International President of the Unification Church and Chairman of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) International, traveled back to Pyongyang on December 24, 2011 to pay his respects to the late Kim Jong Il.

December 25 Christmas



The Adoration of the Shepherds was painted Dec. 25, 1622 by Dutch Golden Age painter, Gerard van Honthorst.

Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus to the Virgin Mary as a fulfillment of the Old Testament's Messianic prophecy. The Bible contains two accounts which describe the events surrounding Jesus' birth.

Depending on one's perspective, these accounts either differ from each other or tell two versions of the same story. These biblical accounts are found in the Gospel of Matthew, namely Matthew 1:18, and the Gospel of Luke, specifically Luke 1:26 and 2:40. According to these accounts, Jesus was born to Mary, assisted by her husband Joseph, in the city of Bethlehem.

Prior to Christmas Day, the Eastern Orthodox Church practices the 40-day Nativity Fast in anticipation of the birth of Jesus, while much of Western Christianity celebrates four weeks of Advent. The final preparations for Christmas are made on Christmas Eve, and many families' major observation of Christmas actually falls in the evening of this day.

December 26, 2004

9th Anniversary of the Special 4th Year of Cheon Il Guk Blessing (123 Second-Generation couples)

On December 26, 2004, True Father conducted a blessing for second generation at East Garden, New York. At 10:00 a.m., True Father came down to check on the preparations. He walked carefully up and down the aisles, smiling at the couples, checking the red carpet on the central aisle where the blessing procession would take place. The blessing ceremony began with the entrance of the True Family. Welcoming remarks were given by Rev. Michael Jenkins as the emcee.