

What Remains Forever?

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Throughout the history of mankind, many people appeared and disappeared and very few remained forever. Many ideas appeared and disappeared, but very few remained forever. Many historical events happened, and appeared and disappeared, and very few remained forever.

Even in our life of faith, from the beginning of our life in the Unification Church many things happened, many things appeared but disappeared. The Madison Square Garden campaign appeared and disappeared; and the Yankee Stadium campaign came and went; and the Washington Monument campaign will come and will go. Then what remains? After Yankee Stadium, many members are feeling empty. We worked so hard from morning till night and when the campaign is over, we feel empty. Even though you study hard, when the test is over you feel some emptiness.

Why? I worked hard, but even if the campaign was successful, still I cannot feel bubbling joy. I accomplished my mission but that's all, nothing special. We have some hole in our heart, a big hollow in our bosoms. Why?

What comes and goes, and what remains are different. What can remain? It's not the campaign itself. It's not external responsibility itself. It's not the result of the test itself, or the result of the study itself. Not knowledge itself, but a vivid relationship with God, vivid relationships with brothers and sisters, will remain.

Through the intense campaign, however hard you may work from morning till night, even if you gave out thousands of tickets and hundreds of people came from you, still, when the campaign is over, everything is over. Through this intense campaign, if you can't create the vivid relationship with God, vivid relationships with brothers and sisters, you can't feel that something precious remains in your bosom.

We know the true meaning of value. Our original mind knows what is most essential to our lives, what is most precious in our lives. Many people were born and worked in the past. If they had no living experience with God, however much they might have worked, their lives were in vain. When they died, their value also died. There were many ideas without God in the past, many ideas that came from man's mind. Without the deepest relationship with God and God's truth, it cannot remain and it disappears.

Our Seminary students must have studied lots of past thoughts, but I think they realize that even though they know lots of people and many ideas, out of so many ideas, how many can be evaluated to be precious and to be eternal? The fact remains, but its value cannot remain. He had this idea. You can memorize it to take a test, but its value doesn't remain.

If you are given some great responsibility and if you accomplish your responsibility, still, if you yourself are not directly connected with God, with the vivid, living God, and if you don't have a living experience with God, even though you work so hard and the result was so nice, still in your heart, in your bosom there's a big hollow. If your responsibility isn't so big, but through the fulfillment of your responsibility, if you have a living, skin-touch experience with God or with the heart of your brothers and sisters, then this

experience will teach you that your life is valuable.

There have been many thoughts, many events, many heroes in the past, without God. Even though the facts remain, their value disappears. Even in the Unification Church if there is activity without God, even though the fact remains, the value doesn't remain forever. Even though we participated in the Madison Square Garden and Yankee Stadium campaigns, if we didn't have vivid experiences with God and with brothers and sisters, even though the fact remains, the value doesn't last. This is the reason many brothers and sisters are feeling empty after Yankee Stadium.

It is not because the campaign itself wasn't a total victory, but because that person didn't have a vivid experience with God, vivid experiences with brothers and sisters, that his heart is empty.

If we study without God, are active but without God, this is the reason we feel empty. Many might think that because we are members of the Unification Church we are automatically one with God. I don't think so. There are many atheistic lives in the true meaning.

We must understand that facts are not the foundation of value. The fact that we are living here is not the foundation of our value. The fact that we are members of the Unification Church has nothing to do with the value of our life. Fact is fact. Value is different from the fact. Great facts can be equivalent to great value; even small facts can have great value. But big facts cannot have any value. Fact is fact and value is value. Fact cannot be the foundation of value.

The value will be decided by God, our relationship with the living God. When we stand in the same point of view as God, our point of view will be precious. If we see as God sees, our eyes will be precious, and our insight will be as precious as God's. The question is if we can see as God does. If we can feel as God feels, our feeling will be valuable. If our action is the same action as God has, then our action will be precious. But if our action is different from God's, distant from God's, then that action won't be precious at all.

The value of facts will be decided by God, by the distance from God. If there is no distance from God, then everything will be precious. Your word will be precious, your acts will be precious, your heart will be precious, your life will be precious, your smile will be precious, your anger will be precious, your every behavior will be precious. But if you are distant from God, your every behavior won't be precious. Shedding tears cannot be precious. Your effort will be in vain; your works will be in vain; and even your blood will be in vain. How many people died in vain in the past only because their life or their death had nothing to do with God -- God's point of view and God's desire.

I remember one story. I was born on the hillside of a small mountain. Adjacent to our village there was a small river. In the summer sometimes logs would come. One summer a big log jam came and our village was almost covered by a flood. Many houses were taken away.

When the flood began to subside, one man who was famous because he was so greedy jumped in the water to try and get the lumber that came down with the flood. He was killed for the lumber. He died because of greediness. He had only one life. He was never given two lives. Because of this story, even now the people in the village are laughing at him. He is famous because he lost his life because of greediness. He was born once, he lived once and he died once. Because of his greed, his death made him notorious.

Jesus was also given one life. He was born once, he lived once and he died once on the cross. He was scorned; he was ridiculed; he was blamed and accused. And he was killed. But he became the cause of the salvation of mankind. Owing to his death, millions and millions of people have been given life; even though he died, the value of his life remains forever. He died and we are given life. In this meaning, he is alive. He died for the sake of God and mankind and his life became precious. The value of his life is unfathomable because he was one with God; his point of view was one with God's. When he died, in a sense, God was crucified. The most precious death in the history of mankind was the death of Jesus.

The greedy man had one life, Jesus had one life. The same life but the value is different. The fact of death is the same, but the value of their deaths is different. We think of the value of life, but we also have to think of the value of death. How can we live a precious life and die a precious death?

Oneness with God means that only when you yourself have God's precious truth will you be evaluated to be a precious man. If you have God's personality, then you will be considered to be a precious man. When you have God's heart, your heart will be as precious as God's. The value of life will be decided by truth, personality and heart.

However successful the campaign may be or however great an achievement you can gain through your study, if you cannot increase your values of truth, personality and heart, you yourself cannot be great. In the campaigns or other activities, in the depths of prayer, if you have a deep experience with God, if you

have cried for God, to understand His heart, that secret heartistic relationship with God remains forever. When you go to spirit world, you can talk with God about that. Then God will also be inspired.

Even in the Unification Church many young members are ambitious. God-centered ambition is good. But sometimes they are looking for position. When some special responsibility is given, they are happy; but if the responsibility is taken away, they don't feel good. They feel that their value is decided by their position. If someone was director or state leader and the next moment just nothing, he feels he was devalued. Is it true? I don't think so.

Now I am director of education and in charge of many other things. If someone comes today and says: you are now fired. You are no longer director, no more anything at all. Just go and witness or just clean this house. Is there any difference in my value? Can that person take my value away? Even God cannot take my value if I have some value. If I haven't, then from the beginning there is nothing.

What God cannot take, Satan cannot take. Therefore, that value will never be taken away. Therefore, the position itself cannot be the value. We misunderstand so much. Position is not value itself. Value is the value of truth, personality, love or heart. Value is subject and position is object. Value is positivity and position is negativity. When you have value, position comes. Even though you try to run away from a position, it will come and hold onto you.

Be ambitious, not for position but for value. When Jesus died, he had no position at all. He wasn't pope, he wasn't a minister; he had no position in the Christian church. He had no position at all in the society, in the community, in the nation, in the world. Only his death was valuable. He became the most precious person in the world, greater than the president, greater than the pope.

Does Reverend Moon have some position now? He has no position at all. He's not governor. He isn't president. But his value is far greater than the president's. Because he has value, he will be admired in the future. His sacrifice for the sake of mankind, his entire sacrificial life for the sake of mankind, and the value of this fact will give him the honorable position afterwards.

When you are given some responsibility, the source of responsibility doesn't matter at all. But when you create your own value, this value will remain eternally. This is what we are looking for: Value, not position, not fame, and not a reputation. But real value -- the value of truth, the value of personality, the value of heart, the value of sacrifice; the value of shedding tears and blood for the sake of God and mankind -- will remain forever.

I have given a lot of lectures in Japan and in America and I have had many kinds of responsibilities. And when we meet again after five or ten years, everyone remembers my funny lecture or funny story, but no one remembers my position. They forgot and also I forgot my position. At that time I was director or something. But that is gone. Only the cheerful experience with brothers and sisters remains. Sometimes the experience of shedding sweat and tears with brothers and sisters remains. No position remains; facts disappear but value remains.

Unless we can create value in our life of faith, the value of the life of faith will not be there. Only the fact that you shed sweat and tears and even blood for God, and for brothers and sisters, without sleep, without rest, without time to eat, only this inspires brothers and sisters and inspires Heavenly Father, and will remain forever. This is value. The facts that are inscribed in the depths of God's bosom will never be forgotten by God. And what God can't forget, won't be forgotten by anyone. That remains forever.

We don't have to look for position or external responsibility at all. Instead, let's accumulate our own value of truth, personality and heart, and capability, everything. Maybe some sneaky strategy will work to gain some position or something, but it doesn't last. Let's seek for true, eternal value in life through our activities, through our relationships with brothers and sisters, through our relationship with God. This value will remain eternally. Nothing else can remain. Everything will disappear.

The tears, sweat and blood shed for the sake of God and mankind will create the foundation for true value.