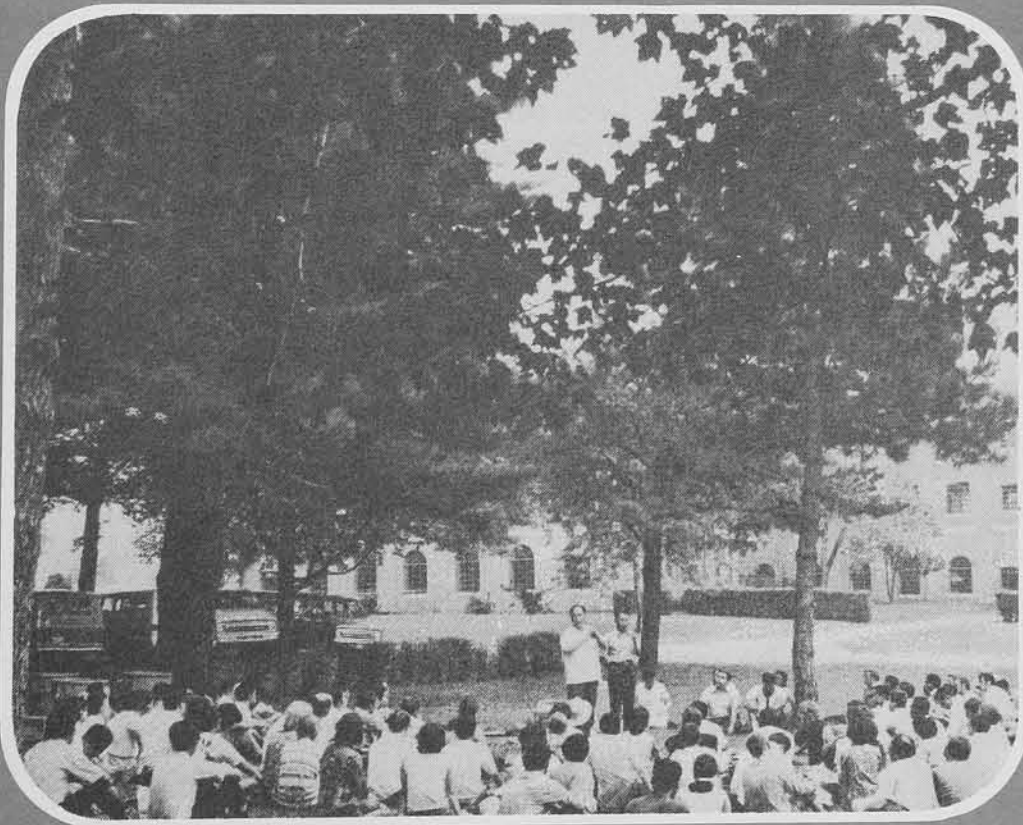


New Hope for the Future



HSA-UWC

THE HOLY SPIRIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF WORLD CHRISTIANITY

UNITED STATES HEADQUARTERS

I am writing to you on behalf of the Unification Church, which has an active group in your area. Perhaps you have become familiar with our work during the 50-state Day of Hope speaking tour of our founder, Reverend Sun Myung Moon. Or you may have joined with his earlier effort, the National Prayer and Fast for the Watergate Crisis. I am writing because you may be one of those who received some spurious information that has widely circulated by a few people recently; in some cases it has been accepted as credible information and resulted in prejudice and intolerance.

One such document originated in Louisville, Kentucky, and purports to be from a group of interdenominational ministers and laymen known as the "Concerned Christians." The return address is shown as the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, one of the most reputable of that denomination in the country. Mr. Wesley Patillo, Public Relations Director for the Seminary told us that the Concerned Christians' post office box was obtained under false pretenses by a Mr. Tom Riner, the young leader of a local sixteen-member church, whom the clerk thought was a student. Mr. Riner is the author of the cover letter accompanying the statement. Being informed of the use of the post box, the Seminary revoked the privilege and was returning all mail. Mr. Patillo said:

"The Seminary never takes any position on any other church, as it considers its purpose, rather, the training of ministers. Tom Riner is not a student here and does not represent the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in any way."

Our conversation disclosed that although 3,000 statements had been mailed to ministers on Reverend Moon's tour itinerary (and many had reprinted and distributed them) not one minister checked to see if, in fact, the literature was the product of the Seminary, or a group known and

approved of by the Seminary. Yet from a random sampling that I took in many states, hundreds of ministers acted under the assumption that the document came with at least the tacit approval of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. **This is absolutely not true.** Mr. Patillo said he could be quoted; he stands ready to verify the above information and clarify any inquiries. His number is (502) 897-4011; the Seminary is located at 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

Because of the length of the documents circulating and the variety of points raised, I cannot go into each one here. Rather, I urge you to contact our local Church representative for further information and a first hand perspective on this very vital movement. He will be glad to clearly refute all points raised in any documents; e.g., "The Satanic (sic) Beliefs of Sun Myung Moon".

A few articles by reporter Chuck Offenburger of the Des Moines Register appeared, in which the opinions of two ex-members of the Church were greatly dramatized and printed without making any substantial effort at unbiased investigation. The result was a piece of truly shoddy journalism that gave an unrecognizable profile of our organization. As of this writing, we have retained legal counsel in Des Moines and intend to seek correction of this injustice. Here again, the most painful experience was not so much the article itself, but the trusting, somewhat gullible response from so many readers.

Religious persecution and intolerance have visited the greatest of our Christian saints, not to overlook Jesus himself. It is very awkward to explain why, in a country of religious freedom, the most powerful Christian nation on earth, a Korean evangelist would be judged so harshly and unfairly without even being heard.

In most of the Day of Hope tour

cities, Reverend Moon has been warmly greeted and treated with the utmost respect. He has taught standing-room-only crowds in city after city. The benefits of his work are felt nationwide, and he has only just begun. As an editorial in Laramie, Wyoming, commented, "A Mini-Lesson in Tolerance: You must let a weaver weave before you can judge the quality of his cloth."

Put another way, Jesus said that you could tell the people of God by their fruits, and asked to be accepted on the foundation of his work as proof that God was in him.

"If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in Him." John 10:37-38

"Ye shall know them by their fruits . . . Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Matthew 7:16-20

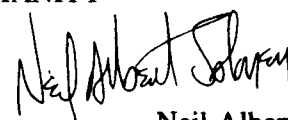
Hundreds of thousands of people have had the love of God rekindled in their hearts and their service to Christ and their fellow man by inspiration from the life and ministry of Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

Enclosed are some brief descriptions of programs that have been developed by Reverend Moon and responses from people who have benefited by them or recognize their merit.

It is my sincere prayer that you will judge us by our fruits, meet and reason together with us. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to write to the above address or call (202) 296-7145 in Washington, D.C. Even as I travel with the tour, I will receive the message and will be happy to respond.

In Christian love and fellowship,

THE HOLY SPIRIT ASSOCIATION
FOR THE UNIFICATION OF WORLD
CHRISTIANITY



Neil Albert Salonen
President

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This letter was mailed to 2,000 ministers in 19 cities, from Louisville on in the 32-City Tour, whom were believed to have received Tom Riner's mailing entitled "The Satanic Beliefs of 'Rev.' Moon."

HAVE CHRISTIANS FORSAKEN THE WORDS OF JESUS?

Recently there has been a great deal of attention paid to the nationwide Day of Hope speaking tour of Reverend Sun Myung Moon. While the actual lecture halls have been jam-packed, and the general response quite favorable, some apparently misinformed Christian leaders have raised questions with serious implications. Matthew 7:15 warns us of false prophets, but goes on to say "You will know them by their fruits."



WHO IS REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON?

In 1936, Jesus Christ appeared to Sun Myung Moon, a devout young Christian from Korea. Christ told him that God had called him to a special mission to bring a sadly-divided Christian world into unity—to prepare for the Second Advent.

Over a long course of prayer, revelation and study, the boy discovered a series of principles which yielded great insight into the deep questions of human life and faith: the nature of God, the origin of suffering and evil, and the purpose of life. He has brought great enlightenment to the meaning of the symbols and parables of the Bible and has shown a pattern in the Bible according to which God has been conducting His providence through history and even in the present-day world. Rev. Moon was imprisoned several times in North Communist Korea and severely tortured. Finally, he endured nearly three years in a prison camp before United Nations forces released him. God has tested whether his faith could endure even under the most terrible conditions—and he was triumphant. In 1954, Rev. Sun Myung Moon was inspired by God to establish the Unification Church.

The Unification Church does not seek to be just another denomination. On the contrary, it seeks to deepen faith and commitment among all Christians. Christian unity can only come about when we all clearly understand what God has said in the Bible. We need a new revelation to give our faith a new hope and new future.

WHAT ARE HIS FRUITS?

The Unification Church
It makes Christ relevant to modern life. Now active in over 50 countries, in America every state and over 120 cities, the Church has grown to over 2 million members in a short 20 years. The fellowship centers sponsor worship, Bible study, training in witnessing, teaching, counseling and prayer.

"The fastest growing faith in the world."
The Washington Star
William Willoughby
Religion Editor

"I learned more about Christianity in a few minutes than I learned in a whole year of Bible college."
Michael Herbst,
Philadelphia

One World Crusade

An international, evangelical movement. Young mobile teams work together, transcending cultural barriers and making a reality of the hope for international brotherhood. They travel to all states appearing on the media, holding rallies and giving lectures to reawaken Christian values and to combat the increasing influence of Marxist ideologies—especially among young people.

"A miniature Christian United Nations."
"We continually receive letters at our Washington Headquarters from ministers throughout the United States thanking us for rekindling the zeal for God and Christ in the hearts of their young people."

Neil Albert Salonen
President
The Unification Church

The Freedom Leadership Foundation, Inc.

Formed in 1969 in answer to the rising influence of Marxist thought in America, particularly on college campuses, FLF sponsors seminars on campuses throughout America. THE RISING TIDE, its biweekly newspaper, was granted the 1973 Freedom Award by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Association.

"In the important battles now taking place on our college campuses, THE RISING TIDE has been an eloquent spokesman..."

Hon. Philip M. Crane (Illinois)
Member of Congress

"I compliment you for your work on THE RISING TIDE. The preservation of freedom is a noble goal to be sure and often talked about...Too many people do just that—talk about it. You, at FLF, through the TIDE, work at it, day after day..."

Hon. Barry Goldwater, Jr.
(California)
Member of Congress

D.C. Striders Track Club

Founded in 1969, Miss Glenda Moody, coach of the D.C. Striders, has obtained over \$2 million in college scholarships for more than 200 inner-city black athletes.

"I think that the greatest testimony to Rev. Moon's message is the development of the D.C. Striders Track Club. It would be impossible, I thought, to bring blacks and whites together. I am a white woman and the track team is all black men. But Rev. Moon's philosophy of unconditional love and belief that God can create a miracle brought results."

Glenda Moody
Head Track Coach
D.C. Striders Track Club



As Rev. Moon said recently:
"Up to the present time, people have been inclined to think that religious life belonged to some airy plane far above human life, and imagined that God would just sweep them away to heaven with His power. But the way to heaven is to broaden the scope of our love by loving the people in our time, by loving our neighbors, by loving our friends, relatives, and the population of the whole world."

WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID...

"I commend you for the work you and your great church are performing in our community, and urge you to continue your important efforts to further the cause of bringing about a harmonious world, and to the work for the general well being and welfare of our community. The growth and steady progress of the Unification Church and your significant future plans continue to constitute a source of inspiration for all of us."

Walter E. Washington
Mayor
District of Columbia

"Los Angeles County Assessor Philip E. Watson and his entire staff take this opportunity to salute and commend Reverend Sun Myung Moon in recognition of his high standards of strength and sacrifice. May the flame of truth which has been ignited by Rev. Moon continue to grow and light the world."

Philip E. Watson
Assessor
Los Angeles County

"Congratulations on the auspicious inauguration of your Day of Hope tour. I admire your efforts as a Christian in an increasingly secular society and I wish you every success in the weeks ahead."

Senator Jesse Helms
North Carolina

"I want to extend a warm welcome from North Dakota to the Reverend Sun Myung Moon of Korea. He is one of the greatest Christian leaders in the world, and one of the best respected. It is an honor to have him in my state and I send my regrets that I am unable to welcome him personally."

Senator Milton Young
North Dakota

Pastor William H. Luke of the Western Avenue Church of God in Los Angeles, California, who went to Washington, D.C. to speak on Christian unity, said:

"Never have I seen so much of the fruit of the Spirit—long-suffering, gentleness, meekness, temperance, faith, goodness, joy. I was made to realize that truly we are kindred souls of a common cause. I feel very much identified with him."

Jesus asked to be accepted on the foundation of his work as proof that God was in him. John 10:37.

"IF I AM NOT DOING THE WORKS OF MY FATHER, THEN DO NOT BELIEVE ME; BUT IF I DO THEM, EVEN THOUGH YOU DO NOT BELIEVE ME, BELIEVE THE WORKS, THAT YOU MAY KNOW AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE FATHER IS IN ME AND I AM IN THE FATHER."

Rev. Moon's fruits of accomplishments for the benefit of mankind are already enough to judge him. His Excellency, the Ambassador of the Khmer Republic (Cambodia) Um Sim, said,
"I would like to say a few words to all those (of Rev. Moon's followers) whose simple but plentiful daily life has inspired my esteem and respect. I am firmly convinced that someday they will succeed in their efforts to lead their fellow Americans in an effort to rebuild the moral and spiritual fiber of their nation to a deeper devotion to God and humanity."

We appeal to all Christians to come and meet us and see for yourselves who we are and what we are doing. When you have experienced the spiritual zeal which empowers these young people, when you see the love of Christ blazing in their eyes—then you will know the hope we have for America and for the future of Christianity.



THE UNIFICATION CHURCH

THE IDAHO STATESMAN, Boise, Sunday, May 5, 1974

You Will Know Them by Their Fruits

and

Why I, a Christian Fundamentalist Minister, Have Fully Identified with this Unification Movement

by Pastor William H. Luke

from the desk of

WESTERN AVENUE CHURCH OF GOD
Western at 27th street
Los Angeles Ca 90018
(213) 731-8921

May 7, 1974

PASTOR WILLIAM H. LUKE
3927 Hepburn avenue
Los Angeles, Ca. 90008
(213) 294-4366
P.O. Box 8
Tarrytown, N.Y.
10591

Beloved Fellow Christians:

Because I believe God is directing me in the center of His will, after much impassioned prayer, I must share with you the enclosed testimony and revelations from God.

I feel just as Saul of Tarsus did after meeting Jesus. Please prayerfully put yourself in 'our' place; and try to remember his attitude toward love and forbearance in the face of doctrinal conflict.

God save us from the ravages of Satanic strife.

In the Name of our Lord,



Pastor William H. Luke

You Will Know Them by Their Fruits

If there is any one thing that frustrates a would-be newcomer to Christianity, it's the division in Christendom. Which way is Christ? the prospective Christian must justifiably ask. Which way is the Church? What is the Church?

Beloved, we will bury ourselves with divisive attitudes. Something ought to be done about the crisis confronting Christendom today. The one thing that aggravates this crisis is sowing tactics of discord. The least thing that Christians are obligated to do is to seriously, prayerfully recognize the crucial plight of Christendom today because of its degeneration to the level of not only carnal division, but, if you please, materialism, politics, flirtation with Communism, hypocrisy, and merely a form of godliness. These are the things that largely contribute toward the crucial condition of Christendom today. And I think that this is foolproof obvious.

Some people see no better way to climb to the heights of human acceptance and public approval than on the backs of those whose prestige they degrade. This is tragic. This is the sort of thing some Uncle Toms did in the time of American slavery — pursuing special favors of their masters, they brought degradation upon the slave society.

If there was one thing that Jesus taught, it was love for God and for our fellow man...love proven with one's life. Jesus also taught faith with works, spiritual fruit borne on the branches that were united with the true vine, which was Jesus Christ. He taught the good news of the Kingdom of God, which means the family of God.

This is what the Unification Church is. It teaches, preaches, and tries to exemplify the family of God. The members love one another, serving one another and humbling themselves to the other person. They live highly disciplined lives in the interest of the whole. They share with one other and have all things in common, as was the case of the early Church before carnality brought divisions.

"Is Christ divided?" The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church, which was plagued with divisions, "...for while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving like ordinary men? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely men?" (I Cor. 3:3-4). Another time he asked, "Is Christ divided?" (I Cor. 1:13). Beloved, Satan divides men. Satan has divided God's so-called people in the past and continues to do so.

The Bible teaches that whosoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God (I John 5:1). Why, these Unification Church people believe this! Can you discount the totality of the Unification Church just because you are convinced that there are some things that the church teaches that you don't see or that you don't accept? Why, there are several things that I didn't see or accept, but is that essential?

Read Romans 14:10 in the Living Bible:

You have no right to criticize your brother or look down on him. Remember, each one of us will stand before the judgment seat of Christ. So don't criticize each other any more. Try instead to live in such

a way that you will never make your brother stumble by letting him see you are doing something he thinks is wrong.

Beloved, we are told not to criticize each other. That "judge one another" means to appraise one another with a sense of condemnation merely because we don't see everything right about that person. You must be Judgment-Day honest.

This is what is bringing so many divisions among God's people today; they don't see everything eye to eye. Well, one reason they don't see eye to eye is because they come around snooping like a 20th century Pharisee, looking at the surface and only half listening to what people say, in order to see how many things they can refute. They don't come prayerfully; they don't come lovingly or humbly. They come with a certain set idea, and that's the only thing they hear.

Now, once in a while, in spite of a man's set ideas, the truth can penetrate — if that man can just be humble and at least listen, honestly and sincerely listen. Then the truth will penetrate the calloused "set" of some hearts and minds.

"Love is very patient and kind." I used to be suspicious and skeptical of other Christians. But I must be intellectually honest and love people and be optimistic concerning them. I Corinthians 13 reads:

Love is very patient and kind, never jealous, never haughty nor selfish nor rude. Love does not demand its own way; it is not irritable or touchy; it does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do wrong. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever truth wins out. If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost; you will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, always stand your ground in defending him.

This is what the world needs. I know Jesus did not come to judge men, He came to save them. And he was very much given to rebuking any effort of any disciple whom the devil tried to use to sow discord among the brethren.

For instance, when the disciples complained about a man who was casting out demons in the name of Jesus, but was not part of their group, Jesus told them, "Do not forbid him; for he that is not against you is for you" (Luke 9:49). Every time the disciples came up with some carnal attitude, such as division, or bringing judgment on others who didn't happen to be in their group, or see everything as they saw it, Jesus rebuked them for this divisive wile of the devil. Now God help us to be Christ-like enough to accept this attitude. "For any one who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him" (Rom. 8:9).

People have come to hear Reverend Moon's Day of Hope talks out of curiosity. Thank God for inquiring minds. Curiosity caused me to become interested in the Unification Church, check their doctrine and even live with them to observe them. Jesus said, "For each tree is known by its own fruit" (Luke 6:44). In Galatians 5:22, Saint Paul said, "But the fruit of the Spirit is

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

People have been so afraid of false prophets, but Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. *You will know them by their fruits.* Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? So, every sound tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears evil fruit" (Matt. 7:15-17). Jesus goes on to distinguish the difference between a good tree and a bad tree, a good prophet and a false prophet, a true prophet and a phony.

The fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, gentleness, meekness, patience, and so on. And once you live with the people of the Unification Church, this is what you see. I dare you to really make a scientific comparison between conventional Christendom and the Unification Church on the basis of their fruit. Beloved, when men demonstrate by their lives godly spiritual fruit such as mentioned earlier, the least you owe them is patience.

Now, the Unification Church demonstrates Christianity. It tends to do the basic things that God expects of His people. I have made it plain that if there's any one thing that God wants of His people, it is to love Him. That is the first commandment. And the second is like it: Men must love their neighbor as they love themselves. They must love each other. Upon these two commandments rests all the law and the prophets according to Jesus. Now, if you would be Christian, hear that, "A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another even as I have loved you. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (Jn. 13:34,35). Beloved, if you really hope to discern who Christ's disciples are, keep these basic statements of Christ in mind. He didn't say, "By their doctrine you shall know them" but "By their fruits you shall know them... by their love."

God is concerned about the whole world being saved. Jesus said, "And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd" (John 10:16). Also, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son..." (John 3:16). God is so concerned about saving the world. He's concerned about His Kingdom embracing the whole world. So when we hear about a One World Crusade, God help us at least to be patient with it. If we don't see how it can be accomplished, let's just make sure that we're not a stumbling block with our criticism and with our judgmental spirit.

Search the Scripture together. Christians differ as to what manner Jesus Christ was God, the manifestation of God, or God in the flesh, or whatever. But is this any reason to stop fellowshiping with one another? Should we not come together if we believe that Christ can save us? Is not this adequate basis for our fellowship? That's the whole point of Romans 14. We have to come together in order to reason together. We have to search the Scriptures together in order to conclude together what the Scriptures

say. We have to love each other in spite of our differences, in spite of our convictions, until we can all come into the unity of the faith. I believe that this is what Paul is saying in his letter to the Ephesians. He begs the believers to live:

With all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit to the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all (Eph. 4:2-6).

The Apostle Paul goes on to speak about the various gifts that have been distributed among God's people, gifts that God is using to edify the Church, to build up the Church (verse 11). There are different approaches that each of the various instruments of God, each with different gifts, are using. Think it not strange, but think that they are basically trying to accomplish the same end, the edification of the saints and the salvation of sinners. Verse 13 says (in the Amplified Bible):

That it might develop (speaking about the Church, the body of Christ) until we all obtain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the full and accurate knowledge of the Son of God. That we might arrive at real mature manhood, the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection, the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in him (Eph. 4:13).

Beloved, do you see what the unity of the Spirit will produce? What lowliness and meekness will produce? Do you see the fruit of putting up with one another's faults and failures and differences, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit with lowliness and meekness, forbearing one another in love? Make allowances because you love one another. It takes that kind of unifying love. Nothing short of this will accomplish the unity of the faith. I have written before:

When I met the Unification Church, I was led by the very Spirit of the living God to examine the fruit that Jesus said would indicate the tree. As Jesus said, you will know the tree by the fruit it bears. Beloved, I have found divine fruit in the personal, 24-hour-a-day observation of these people of God.

I used to be hung up on doctrine, but I feel if God were to choose between people who are to follow doctrine and those who bear divine fruit, I feel convinced that He would choose the fruit-bearing people.

"*The Spirit will guide you.*" Should people think it strange that Reverend Moon claims to have had special conversations with Jesus? Many men claim this — the Apostle Paul, for instance. Even I have had Jesus reveal things to me personally. This is what changed my life from that of an agnostic to a Christian, in a matter of about four hours of meditation, during which Christ talked to me from the cross. The Bible predicts that the Spirit of God will reveal things to God's

people, and that the Holy Spirit will guide men into all truth, taking the things of Christ and showing them unto people (John 16:13-16). The tragic question that should grip the Church today, however, is that when the Holy Spirit begins to speak to the Church, will the Church have an ear with which to hear him?

Some people are upset that Reverend Moon is referred to by some as the Lord of the Second Advent. This I have not read. Neither do I ever remember hearing him make such a statement. I do not believe Reverend Moon is the only manifestation of Jesus to come back to this world in this latter day. Some might; I don't — so what? Two thousand years ago, some regarded John the Baptist as a great prophet. Others believed that he was Elijah come back in the flesh. Jesus himself said this.

The Unification Church members are accused by some of being replete with patriotism. Well, thanks be to God there are Christians today who are patriotic. The Apostle Paul said, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. . . . For rulers are not a terror to good conduct but to bad" (Rom. 13:1, 3). There is nothing wrong with this attitude.

I see nothing wrong with Reverend Moon's effort to unite all political systems into one democratic world, especially if that world is based on the teachings and life of Christ. I'm sure that's what Christ is going to do when he returns. There will be a world based on the precepts and example of Christ, political systems and all. Now, I must admit that one would sometimes wonder how the American system could be presented as the most nearly Christ-exemplifying nation on earth today. But, as you look at the other nations, what other nation would come closer. . . . unless Korea? Despite the differences between America today and the Christian ideal, let's acknowledge that this is a nation, that professes to trust in God and believe in God. It was founded by men who actually believed in God, and as long as it continues to give God the glory, it will survive. But, we must remember that the same basic things that caused Rome to fall can bury us in America.

Be conscious of world redemption. I also believe that unless we have the goal to rectify all the wrongs in the world in one grand sweep, some facet of the world's ills will unfortunately be overlooked. God help us to be world-redemption conscious. The Unification Church is seeking to see that justice and equality of opportunity prevails, not only here in America, but throughout the world.

The Unification Church in America has been accused of being predominantly white middle class. Well, most of the first Christians were Jews. But the Church didn't stay that way forever. Eventually, the Gentiles had their eyes opened to the fact that a Jew could be their leader. I pray to God that someday all people will stop letting their racial prejudice enter the arena of their honest evaluation of a man's calling and worth. I pray that people will stop allowing a man's race or cultural background to becloud their perception and distort their hearing of what he says. When this happens, they fail to get his meaning.

I thank God that there are some people who are not on the so-called lower economic strata who are inclined to want to live godly lives. You see, Communism and the devil want people to believe that only poor people resort to God, and only as a matter of desperation. Well, some people are not poor and some people are not illiterate who are resorting to godliness. They are willing to assume poverty if necessary. The early Christians did that. But you don't see much of that today. Some people, however, do assume poverty and give up everything, including their social class, to live a godly life. The Unification people tend to do this. Typical Christians who read about this kind of thing may examine themselves in the mirror of God's word. But then, they go away, forgetting what they looked like, as if they thought that God isn't going to judge them by the whole truth.

They said, and did not. Now, I must admit that many things I have heard Reverend Moon say have grieved my soul. So what! I imagine many things he'll hear me say will grieve his soul. There are many things I hear many ministers say that grieve my soul. But there's one thing that tends to grieve my soul more than anything else; and this is the same thing that grieved Christ's soul when he heard religious people expound the teachings of God. They said, and did not. They knew the will of God but did not do it. They were whitewashed sepulchres.

Like Br'er Rabbit fighting the Tar Baby, I had fought Christianity for a long time. But then, like Br'er Rabbit fighting the Tar Baby, I got stuck. But, at least I had one cardinal principle governing my agnosticism, and that was intellectual honesty. I would listen to any man at least once. This automatically will lead any honest-minded man to God.

It takes time for men to investigate anything. Men tend to be conservative. It takes time for people to throw off the old shackles of anything. Men are reluctant to try anything which seems to be new or different. Then, too, sometimes it takes people to draw other people. People tend to be more concerned and identified with their own physical kind before they are inclined to be identified with their moral kind or their spiritual kind. Men are still conscious of kind, you know, and they merely go by the external appraisal of the kind in question before they can begin to feel justified and free to investigate the more hidden and internal differences or similarities.

I am not a member of the Unification Church organization. I am a member of Christ's holy Body, the Church. I have Bible reasons for accepting the members of the Unification Church as members of Christ's holy Body, the Church. I also have reason for justifying my acceptance of members of the First Baptist Church, or the First Methodist Church, or the First Lutheran Church, or the First any other church as being members of Christ's universal Body — the one and only Church that God acknowledges. I think that Satan sows discord among brethren by the use of some zealous, 20th century Sauls of Tarsus who ignorantly, naively persecute the Church, sowing discord and division for personal aggrandizement.

I am a pastor of all who emulate Christ, if they will accept me as such. The Unification

Church knew that I preached unity based on purity of moral and spiritual values, unity based on a holy life. They knew that I preached this and aspired to live it, for some of them have been members of my church. They invited me to preach — the same way that I had always preached in my local church — in New York City, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

When I was on the sound truck traveling through D.C. advertising the Day of Hope campaign there, I told Mr. President not only that a house divided against itself cannot stand, but that when Mr. Krushchev said he was going to bury us, he meant that he could merely watch us bury ourselves with disunity. I said to the black community in Washington, "I glory in black unity; I thank God for it, and I have helped to bring it about, though there is still a tragic lack in many areas." I made it plain that there is a higher caliber of unity, a unity of all people based on godliness.

I've done my very best in the interest of my black people. For a long time while I had a radio broadcast here in Los Angeles called "Man of Color", I interviewed people such as Ralph Bunche when this was quite rare, showing the Los Angeles community what an outstanding contribution the black man has made to our American society and to the world. I did it gratis, without pay. You

would be surprised what I myself have done to clarify the image of the black man. But beloved, the time has come for not only the black man to rise up out of the jungles and stalk through the corridors of Cambridge and Yale and Harvard and the House of Representatives and Parliament, and even the White House, gaining his rightful place, but it's time that people be more concerned about universal unity than black unity — and I say that again.

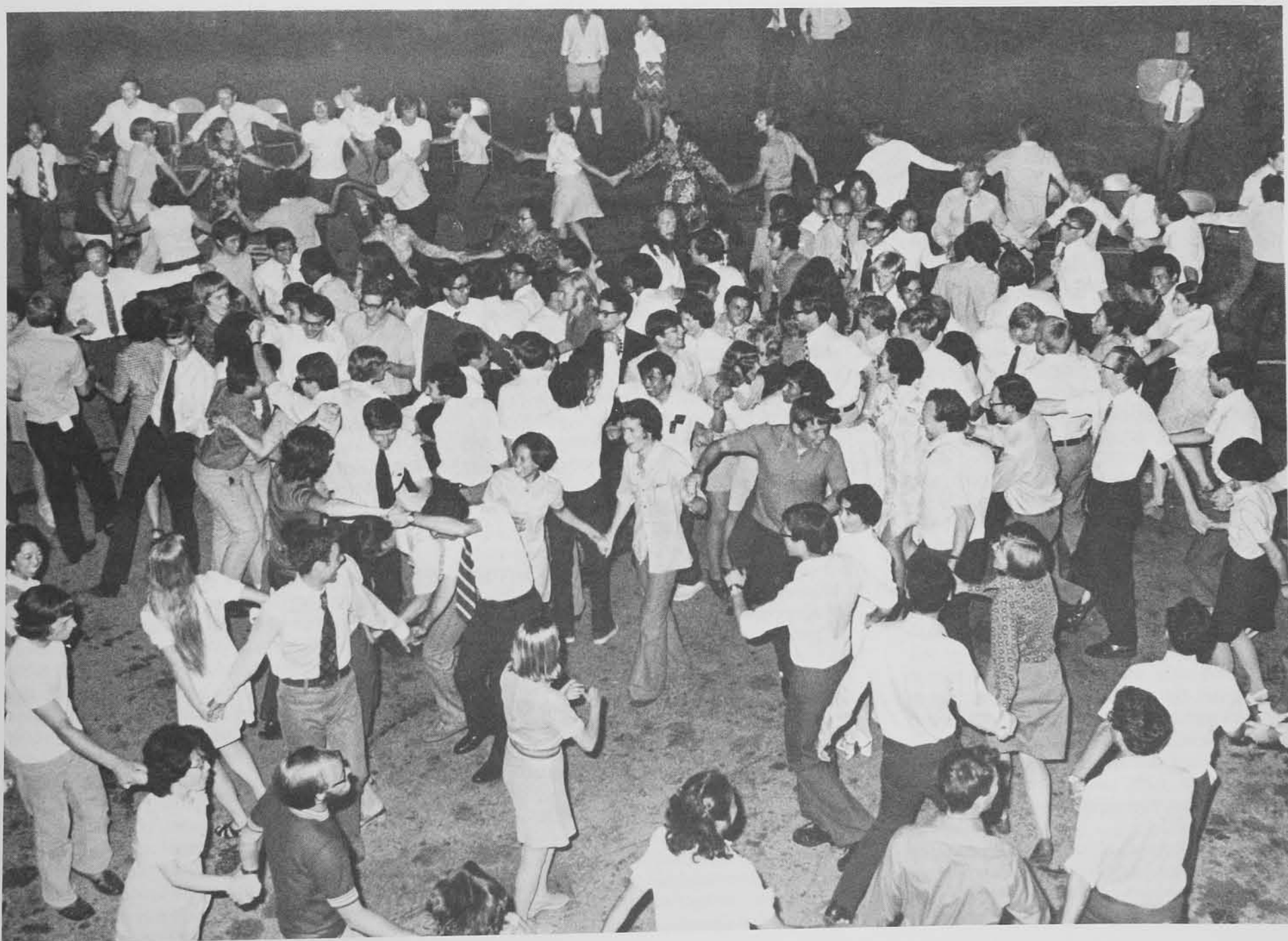
Oh, I realize that as I said before, there are areas of society that definitely need special attention. And the black man is one area, that's for sure. And if there is anyone in the world that is conscientiously concerned about improving the lot of the black man, I am. I think my life has indicated this in the past. But I see a higher form of improvement for society as a whole. Unless society as a whole is transformed, the plight of the black man, though it be improved, will only be temporarily assuaged.

Let's be whole-minded. Frankly, it's high time that we stop trying to tailor-make religion, so-called, to suit any facet of society per se. It should appeal to the totality of society. The sooner we stop thinking about what's in it for my family, or for my race and start thinking how it will help society as a whole, the sooner we'll have a Christian approach to the subject.

Some people are so possessed with their own fulfillment that they pursue it at the expense of society. But no man is an island unto himself...we are all part of one great continent. What diminishes you diminishes me...what diminishes the black man diminishes the whole, and vice versa. The continent is no stronger than its weakest area. The world is no stronger than its weakest race. I feel that the Church must work conscientiously toward the healing of the weaker parts of society and of Christ's holy Body. Let's be whole-minded.

You see, the nature of a man must be changed — whether he is black or white. In Christ there is neither black nor white, Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female. All are one. And the sooner we are willing to acknowledge this and approach Christianity from this standpoint, the sooner the world will become one. This is what Christ prayed for. He said, "Father, sanctify them with Thy truth. Thy word is truth...I want them to be one even as we are one," (John 17:17, 20).

The word of God, coupled with the Spirit of God, will unite people. God is Spirit, and if there is an aspect of spirituality that God is, the Bible says that God is love. These two attributes of God will unite people — the word of God and the love of God, working together.



Why I, a Christian Fundamentalist Minister, Have Fully Identified with this Unification Movement

Beloved fellow Christian...

Just a few weeks ago, I said it was *impossible* for me to identify with this group. I had been a fundamentalist since 1952. But, I've always been honest with myself at whatever level of development...even for 32 years as an agnostic. But, just plain, honest observation of conditions today...including the Church...earnest prayer for the perfect will of God at any price, intense study of Unification ideology, communal living with these people for a few weeks, observing Reverend Sun Myung Moon's life and work, has convinced me it just has to be of God. If it isn't, I am pitifully confused.

Never close your eyes to anything that even *may* be the truth, nor conclude you have *all* the truth. I, too, felt satisfied with what I just knew to be "The Truth". Now, I've been reborn and refilled, earnestly asking God to perfect me at any price. Join me. It's a glorious experience with people on fire for God; a people concerned about a physical salvation as well as a spiritual one; a people changing this world for good and God; a people willing to be total, full-time, exemplary...I just kept looking for loop holes, but found none.

DOCTRINE?

It's only God's means of achieving the Kingdom. God's more concerned about what we do and are than what we teach. He said the Holy Spirit would *guide* men into all truth; would take the things of God and reveal them unto men. Jesus said he would come to people who would demonstrate their love by obedience and would manifest himself to them (John 14:21).

CONCERNING THE FALL OF MAN

God would no more create a garden for His children and place a death trap in it than you would. Forget the "literal fruit" idea. End-time light has come to clarify that most disconcerting paradox.

That the original sin was an improper expression of love between Satan and Eve should not be thought impossible. The men of Sodom had such perverted ambitions toward angels (Gen. 19:5). Could this not have been the spiteful vengeance of Satan after realizing, though he was created a servant of God, that Adam was God's son? (Luke 3:38)

Whatever the first unprincipled act, Satan induced it, seeing Eve was immature...gullible, inexperienced and their intimate communication tempted Satan to tempt Eve. As they shared attitudes, thoughts and feelings, their desire to gratify God changed to a desire to gratify self. Thus, not only was sin multiplied through Adam, but the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life plagued human nature throughout history (I John 2:16, 17). In God's sight, a man who so much as looks at a woman with evil desire for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart (Matt. 5:28).

If you believe God planted His idea or seed of human perfection in the womb of Mary, and elevated her, is it not logical that Satan planted his seed of evil in the womb or

heart of Eve causing her to fall?

"Love" is the "fruit" of life...whether spiritual or physical. Its seeds are children as well as deeds. The quality of love (or fruit) will determine the quality of seeds...children, deeds, etc. To partake of the "fruit" of the knowledge of good and evil could have meant the union of two beings in misused Love, which could only produce impure children with conscience-plagued fallen natures.

What did David mean by "In sin did my mother conceive me"? (Psalm 51:5; read entire chapter). Jesus said some men were children of Satan (John 8:44). Could he not have meant that even as God became his father, Satan became the father of some people, if not all? Paul says we are waiting for *adoption* as sons, through the redemption of our bodies (Rom. 8:23). Both Jesus and John the Baptist called men "brood of vipers" — children of Satan sentenced to hell (Matt. 3:7; 23:33). Eating fruit could not defile a man...according to Jesus...for it is not that which we eat that defiles us, rather that which comes out of our hearts...adultery, etc. (Matt. 15:11, 17-20). Jesus used the word "fruit" to generalize evil and good (Matt. 7:15-20).

Is it not possible that Jesus, "The Word" or Logos, could have used "fruit" in the story of the garden fall to symbolize the awareness of good and/or evil brought on by the improper use of love? The consequence of such indulgence made man guiltily aware of the difference between good and evil.

Have you ever wondered why the expression "to know" meant to have sex relations? (Gen. 4:1, 19:1-8). Then, remember, Adam and Eve didn't cover their mouths with fig leaves but they covered their sex organs...a custom we've inherited. Jesus did not tell his followers everything then for they were too immature to accept some revelations (John 16:12). Men from Moses to John, including Christ Jesus, expressed themselves in symbolism and parables to create impressions and attitudes rather than establish rigid, dogmatic doctrine. In every era of man's restorative history there will always be God's man chosen to reveal *that best way*.

The truths they expressed were often hidden from the contemporary wise and reserved for babes (Matt. 11:25, Luke 10:21); and other things remained for such a time as now...the end of the age (I Cor. 13:9-12; II Peter 3:16). Jesus said the time was coming when he would not speak in parables (veiled language, allegories, dark sayings) or figures of speech, but would speak about the Father in plain words and openly...without reserve (John 16:25). If Jesus returned today and told us the garden fall story was an allegory, and that Satan, Eve and Adam were victims of misused love, would we believe him? Remember, Jesus wondered if he would find faith on the earth when he returned (Luke 18:8).

ON ETERNITY OF HELL

With all the cultural nutrients at your disposal, if you cannot honestly conceive of a God less cruel than one who could not only contentedly watch His creation...and special apostle, Judas Iscariot, suffer

such terminal anguish unto suicide, but also torment him forever...you must suffer the discomfiting prospect of this unjust plight. I know the feeling, having only recently escaped that dark, cold cocoon.

My God is more enlightened and perfect. Despite man's feeble attempt to ascertain God's perfect will in contrast to His permissive will, Peter recognized that God did not "*will*" that anyone perish, but that ALL reach repentance (II Peter 3:9).

When one understands the Purpose, Will, Heart, Plan and procedure of God, one does not wonder that He would threaten King Hezekiah with death, and then change His mind. Neither man's love nor fear of God has brought him in alignment with God's Logos. Only a fallen, Adamic attitude would dare project eternal vengeance upon the God who paradoxically threatens Nineveh with destruction today and blesses her tomorrow.

Bible history is replete with such examples hidden from the eyes of the spiritually immature. When God made man, He gave him an eternal soul or consciousness. True, by the choices we make and paths we take, we pass through stages of blessing and cursing, good and evil, life and death. How long we linger in any stage depends upon our attitude and behavior while there.

Fragments of Jewish culture concepts were brought forth and interwoven into doctrine...even prophecy (see Isaiah 66:24). The Bible is so full of symbolism that no enlightened theologian can describe "hell" with absolute finality.

In the figurative, spiritual Valley of Gehenna, or hell, "the 'worm' or guilty conscience (consciousness) does not die there; neither is the fire quenched" (Mark 9:43-48).

Today, in 'Old' Jerusalem...outside the city wall...is the Valley of Gehenna (hell), once perpetually ablaze with the consumption of man's refuse...including dead animals...now cold, filled-in, preparatory for more constructive use.

Thus, the future of hell, once the by-products of man's earthly livelihood, is recycled into perpetual good when once again the Christ descends into hell and sets free even captive angels (Eph. 4:8, 9) as well as saints (Matt. 27:50-53).

When Jesus predicted everlasting fire, he didn't say everlasting torment. When he said the Devil and his angels will be hurled into the fiery lake, and will be tormented forever, he was referring to evil, the abolishment of evil, its perpetrators and effect. Whether hell is referred to as outer darkness, lake of fire, the grave or a place of grief, it has been different things to different people of Bible history. The main question is: Will the punishment or its effect be eternal? David said, addressing God, and perhaps speaking prophetically for Jesus, "Thou wilt not keep my soul in hell, nor suffer thy Holy One to see corruption", after having said, "my flesh shall rest in hope" (Psalm 16:9, 10; note v. 11). David had a hope of the resurrection from hell.

We cannot conceive of God finally failing in His purpose of creation nor having eternal joy knowing countless billions suffer eternal

torment. It will be hell enough consciously realizing your sins sent Jesus to the cross when your eyes become spiritually open and you find yourself out of fellowship with God — ask Judas Iscariot. It is grievous darkness, torment and every other parallel.

While in the belly of the great fish, Jonah called it “hell” (Jonah 2:2). But, thank God, it needn’t last forever; you can come to yourself, repent and be restored.

And even if our concepts of hell differ (as did those of Bible writers and theologians ever since), we should still receive each other on the basis of our faith in the saving grace of Jesus Christ (see Rom. 14:1-13, Living Letters, Paraphrased Epistles; also Eph. 4:1-13).

Jesus said, “Fear not...for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the Kingdom (Luke 12:32; also read Jeremiah 18:7, 8). God can be turned from His decision to destroy people, if they repent. Ephesians 4:8-10 suggests that Jesus led captives from hell in his expanding Kingdom of God (See footnote to Psalm 68:18, Amplified Old Testament; and Lang’s Commentary).

WAS JESUS GOD?

No; nor did he say he was. Is your body your mind and vice versa? Each is an expression of the other. In one sense, yes; but totally and exclusively God? No.

Jesus tried to tell us he was not God when a man addressed him as “Good Master.” Jesus answered, “Why do you call me good? There is no one ‘good’ but God” (Mark 10:18). Again, Jesus said, “I and my father are one... (John 10:30); but he said, “the Father is greater than I am” (John 14:28), and “No one has ever seen God”... (John 1:18).

In John 1:1-14, the Word or Logos means idea of God for perfect man. Jesus was Christ, but “Christ” was the mission, not the person.

Apparently people were called gods by God Himself according to Jesus (John 10:35-38). Paul said, “The head of Christ is God” (I Cor. 11:30). Finally, the Son, Jesus, will become subject unto the Father, God (I Cor. 15:24-28). This explains our “...looking for our Great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).

When the Messiah shall have subdued the kingdoms of this world and become King of Kings, etc., we will become acquainted directly with God.

Paul seems to be saying that no one has seen the King of Kings and Lord of Lords (I Tim. 6:15, 16). Who said this was Jesus? John in Revelation 19:13-16 describes the Word of God and the King of Kings and Lord of Lords as the same being... it is likely that John perceived Jesus as the Logos, or God’s idea of perfect man, and in this sense, who was with God and was God (John 1:1).

Remember Paul admitted he foresaw and prophesied with only partial insight? (I Cor. 13:9-12). Don’t be afraid to agree with him. He knew that when the perfect Truth comes all would be clarified.

Paul admitted God’s ways were past comprehension (Rom. 11:33). Even angels have not known everything about God’s plans (I Peter 1:10-12). God told Daniel that the words he had received were closed and sealed until the end time (Daniel 12:9, 10), but notice, while some continue in wickedness others purify themselves...and “only

the wise would understand.”

Jesus was the mediator between God and men (I Tim. 2:5), because he was the most perfect expression of God the world has ever known, but there is no way anyone can make any Scripture say more than that.

Now that the truth is being fully told, many will rapidly perceive it. Others, as in the time of Jesus, will have eyes which do not *perceive*. Yet, Jesus says to those who perceive, “As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you”... meaning, I am sending you to hearts made hard by hatred, to eyes made blind because they will not see, to spend, though it be blood, to spend and spare not... so send I you to taste of Calvary. As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

DID GOD’S ORIGINAL PLAN FOR MAN’S SALVATION INCLUDE CHRIST’S DEATH ON A CROSS?

The kind of man God purposed to make in the beginning was a *perfect* man... men who would be fruitful (perfect), multiply (reproduce only perfect offspring), and take perfect control of the earth, sea and air and all things... living and non-living therein (Gen. 1:28).

Jesus came as close to fulfilling God’s original purpose as his society allowed. His power was dependent upon man’s faith (Matt. 13:57, 58). He told his followers to be perfect even as (perfect as) their Father in heaven is perfect (Matt. 5:48).

As mature as Peter was, Jesus knew he would need further conversion to strengthen the other disciples (Luke 22:31, 32). Peter needed power as did they all (Acts 1:8). Whatever the amount of power Peter received on the Day of Pentecost, it did not make him *perfect*, as any Bible student knows; for he drew back from uncircumcised Gentiles and Paul had to rebuke him publicly (Gal. 2:11-19). Tradition records that, even when at Rome, Peter, fearful of losing his life, was taking a lonely road out of the eternal city when Jesus intercepted him with the transforming query, “Quo Vadis?” (Where are you going?) He who fled for his life in the Garden of Gethsemane was still unready to die for righteousness... *still imperfect*. Embarrassed again, as at the trial of Jesus, Peter returned to Rome and submitted to crucifixion upside down... feeling unworthy of being crucified as his Lord.

But neither was Paul perfect according to Romans 7:14-25; and if you still think this passage does not apply to his state since Christ, notice he said in Phil. 3:12, “Not that I have now attained this ideal or am already made perfect...” The spirits of just men have been made perfect (Heb. 12:23); but as the Divine Principle taught by Reverend Moon makes plain, there is within the spirit of *man*, a spirit mind and body, but in physical man a physical mind and body also exist; and both require salvation before the perfection God required can be achieved. Faith in Christ’s vicarious death does not provide this, as any honest 20th century Paul will admit.

When John the Baptist said, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,” he was not saying Jesus was born to die for the world. God could have done more with a living Messiah than a dead one (Hosea 6:6; Matt. 9:13; 12:7; 22:32; Rom. 12:1). God’s plan was for His Son’s acceptance rather than rejection (Matt. 21:33-44) and warned Israel not to reject Him (Luke

19:11-27 and similar parables).

True, Jesus came to save man (restore him to God) completely, but Satan in man hindered the physical salvation even as he tried to hinder the spiritual and physical salvation both in the wilderness temptation of Jesus and when (through Peter) he tried to prevent Jesus from going to the cross... (Matt. 16:21-23). Jesus came to establish the Kingdom (Family) of God and to produce people (children) both spiritually and physically perfect, pure, Godly. It was God’s will that John the Baptist prepare the hearts of men for the Messiah, but men generally rejected him and even John himself did not clearly recognize him after the initial introduction (Matt. 11:3, Luke 7:19, 20). What a let down! No wonder Jesus said, “He who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he” (Matt. 11:11). John the Baptist was like a backslider (Matt. 5:19).

God had planned for the Israel government to increase indefinitely (Isaiah 9:6, 7; Luke 1:31-33); and when Jesus was finally convinced they would not receive him, he wept (Luke 19:41-44, Matt. 23:37) because they did not recognize their opportunity to be the nation through whom the world would have been *spiritually* and *physically* restored to perfect fellowship with God. God’s ways have often mystified man and caught him unready to do such a simple thing as receiving the Messiah; for had they perceived the Logos (Plan) of God, they would never have crucified the Lord of Glory (I Cor. 2:7, 8).

DID JESUS FINISH HIS MISSION?

When Jesus prayed saying, “I have finished the work Thou has given me to do” (John 17:4), he meant he had completed his part in God’s alternate, secondary, conditional plan for the restoration of man. God’s *first*, preferred plan was stated by the angel to Mary, “The Lord will give to him the throne of his forefather David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob throughout the ages, and of his reign there will be no end (Luke 1:32, 33). God did *not* give Jesus the task of superimposing His will upon man.

We look at the prophesied suffering of Isaiah 53, and overlook the kind of kingly Messiah described in Isaiah 9, 11 and 60; also Luke 1:31-33. When looking at Isaiah 53 we conclude crucifixion was inevitable; but when considering other “predictions” we must conclude that God’s will has always considered man’s determined choice. Soon, we whose bodies have been afflicted with the Adamic nature, though spiritually saved, will be adopted into the family of God through acceptance of the final Messiah (as Paul predicted, Rom. 8:21-23)... even the redemption of our bodies.

For Jesus to have been the completed second Adam, he would have had to fulfill where Adam failed. If he did not sin, he would have had to fulfill the first three blessings: grow to perfection (he learned obedience by the things he suffered, Heb. 5:8), have dominion over the earth, and take a wife through whom he could reproduce God’s Kind... *spiritually* and *physically*.

However, he was not able to take a wife due to the pressing circumstances of his ministry and eventually his crucifixion; yet, through his spiritual intercourse with the Holy Spirit, he was able to reproduce the

spiritual part of himself through the faith of men. They acquire Christ's mind (I Cor. 2:16; Rom. 8:9), Christ in them (see I Cor. 15:44-50). They become his spiritual children. They get new spiritual life by receiving the love which comes from the give and take action between Jesus, who is the spiritual father, and the Holy Spirit, who is the spiritual mother. By this they are born anew spiritually, forgiven of their sins; but still victims of original sin. Thus, he must return to redeem their bodies (Rom. 8:21-23).

DID JESUS CHRIST SET UP THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

DID HE COME FOR THAT PURPOSE?

Jesus did come to establish God's Kingdom, but could not accomplish his mission.

The Kingdom of God cannot be of this age, since Satan is the god of this world (II Cor. 4:4). His reign is not totally ended until after God, Christ, and their followers destroy Satan (Rev. 20:10). Hence, Jesus must have been talking of a new age when referring to the Kingdom of Heaven — unless God and Satan can have peaceful co-existence, which is not a Biblical doctrine.

Jesus, in his own words, attests to the fact he came to establish the Kingdom of Heaven (Matt. 4:17), "From that time, Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent', the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

Jesus says, in John 12:31, "Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out." He states in Luke 10:9, "Heal the sick and say to them, 'The Kingdom of God has come near to you'." In Matt. 10:7, he tells his disciples, "and preach as you go, saying 'The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand'."

The Kingdom of God was just as much "at hand" when Christ Jesus first preached it (Mark 1:14) as it will be at the close of the age (Luke 21:31), as far as God's will and plan are concerned. But Jesus told them that because they rejected him, the kingdom would be taken from them (Matt. 21:43).

In holy disgust, Jesus, having been thwarted in his mission, exclaimed, "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, pretenders... hypocrites! because you shut the Kingdom of Heaven in men's faces; for you neither enter yourselves, nor do you allow those who are about to go in to do so" (Matt. 23:13).

He came to establish God's Kingdom; they prevented him; how plain could the record be? Why do you think Jesus wept over Jerusalem? They would not let him establish his earthly kingdom...only his spiritual kingdom.

God is determined to establish His physical or earthly kingdom. Thus, He is sending the Messiah finally. We must understand the nature, purpose, plan, heart, etc. of God to understand what He has been, is, and shall be toward men. The whys also, will become amazingly clear when one studies the teachings of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's *Divine Principle*. Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world..." only because the people rejected him. He was then forced to settle for a spiritual kingdom in the hearts of a few...and that only half-heartedly.

And John the Baptist's failure to support him with positive conviction (Matt. 11:1-6) contributed decidedly to Christ's rejection. Then came his outright contradiction of Jesus

...When Jesus said Elijah had returned in the person of John the Baptist (Matt. 11:1-15), John denied he was Elijah (John 1:21) making Jesus appear as a liar. The Jews were convinced that Elijah had to first return, before the Messiah could come (Mal. 4:5, Luke 1:17). Jesus, in order to convince the Jews that he was actually the Messiah, the one sent by God to establish the kingdom...said John was Elijah; but John contradicted him (Matt. 11:14; John 1:19-25).

If Jesus did not come to establish the Kingdom of Heaven, why did God send Gabriel to Mary to say, in Luke 1:32, "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever and of his kingdom there will be no end"? And why did the Jewish priests and wise men quote Micah 5:2 in Matt. 2:6, saying, "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people, Israel" when speaking of Jesus' birthplace?

The Scriptures clearly show that John the Baptist was to prepare the triumphal way for Jesus. In Luke 1:17 John the Baptist was prophesied to "Make ready for the Lord a people prepared," and in Luke 1:76 John was to "Go before the Lord to prepare his ways." To this end he said, in Matt. 3:2, "Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Not a long time away, but at hand!

John described Jesus, saying (Luke 3:17 and Matt. 3:12), "His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear the threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with the unquenchable fire." This clearly shows that Jesus came to end Satanic dominion and create the Kingdom of God.

In the Old Testament we find many prophecies that Jesus would create the Kingdom of Heaven. Just look up some of the following verses: Psalm 2:6-8; 22:27-30; 72:11; 86:9; 89:4; 102:28; Isa. 9:6, 11:4; 60:12; Jer. 23:5; Dan. 2:44; 7:14, 21; Mic. 4:7; 5:2; Zech. 3:10; 6:13; 14:17; II Sam. 7:16; and a host of other verses.

WAS JESUS BODILY RAISED FROM THE DEAD?

The body of Jesus was like that of an angel...capable of being both physical and spiritual at will...according to the faith of the observer (Matt. 28:17). From the experiences of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to those of John on the Isle called Patmos, God has manifested Himself physically and spiritually...sometimes intermittently (John 20:19, Luke 24:15, 16, 31).

After Christ's resurrection, some of his eleven disciples doubted him while others worshipped him (Matt. 28:17). He was seen by those who had faith only...through the eyes of faith...eyes that Doubting Thomas had to acquire; and Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at God's right hand (Acts 7:55); but did anyone else see Jesus? When Saul of Tarsus (Paul) encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus, *no one saw Jesus*...faith or no faith (Acts 9:1-7). We are blessed whether we see or not, if we simply believe (John 20:29). We walk by faith, not sight (II Cor. 5:7). Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not

seen (Heb. 11:1).

HOW WILL JESUS RETURN? ON THE CLOUDS?

First, let's agree, Jesus did say, "The Son of Man would be seen coming in the clouds." And so did the angels... "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

In all respect to the angels, this wasn't the first time they predicted something that didn't come off *quite* as predicted (see Luke 1:32, 33; how Jesus would establish an eternal Kingdom).

Jesus himself said, "There are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming into his Kingdom" (Matt. 16:27, 28). Some say he meant the Kingdom of God (see Mark 9:1; and Luke 9:26, 27); some say he meant the control of God, the government of God or the Church.

Jesus prayed, saying, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven..." (Matt. 6:10). Has it come on earth? As in heaven? Perfectly? In whom other than Jesus? Peter? Paul?

Jesus said, "The Kingdom of God does not come with signs to be observed, with visible display...it is within you (your hearts, Luke 17:20, 21).

Another time (Matt. 24:29-34) Jesus described his return...clouds and all...then added "This generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled." Also, "...You will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes" (Matt. 10:23). Notice he used the expressions in *his own glory, and the Father's, and of the holy angels, and spoke of rewarding every man according to his works*. Some die-hard fundamentalist theologians say "He meant this *civilization* would not die till some of its members observe the return of Christ." (That's one way to make sure no one can ever prove you wrong.)

Some Bible scholars believe that when Jesus said "this generation" he meant the people living at the time of the Second Advent, but they are visibly baffled when confronted with other statements such as Matt. 10:23; 16:27, 28; Mark 9:1 and Luke 9:26, 27. I submit that Jesus meant his *spirit* would be made manifest through the Pentecost blessing, and throughout all eternity, including through the coming of "the Son of Man," the Second Advent.

If Jesus meant a future generation when he said "this generation", in Matt. 24:34, then he certainly meant a future generation when he said "this generation" in Luke 17:25... "He (the Son of Man) must suffer many things and be disapproved, repudiated and rejected by *this age and generation*." He was certainly speaking about future events and their corresponding future conditions. The Son of Man...the Lord of the Second Advent, the future and final Christ...must first suffer in the process of establishing his completed Kingdom. God, who is Spirit, has always sought to manifest Himself in the flesh. When he could find a person or people He used them; when no one was available, he used angels, animals, or natural phenomena. God uses the Messiah on the highest level the faith of men allow. It's all a matter of man's spiritual maturity.

Some prophets predicted his first advent

via Bethlehem (presumably human birth, Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6, 7; 7:13, 14); but Daniel expected him to make his grand entrance via the clouds (Dan. 7:13, 14, 18, 22, 27). The Jews really expected the Messiah in the clouds, and that's why they were effective in contending Jesus could not have possibly been the Messiah...born in the flesh. The apostle John said such contenders were "antichrists" (II John 7, 8).

Some scholars say that Daniel's prophecy was describing Christ's Second Advent or final appearance; but Matt. 11:13 indicates that the Law and the prophets prophesied up until John the Baptist. God's original plan was for Jesus to have been received as complete Christ (Zech. 9:9, Matt. 21:5). The apostles thought they were living in the last days, made evident in many ways, including Peter's interpretation of Joel's prediction concerning God's outpour of the Holy Spirit in the last days (Acts 2:16-21, also see Heb. 1:2; I Pet. 1:20; I John 2:18).

Because the world did not really accept Christ as God preferred that Christ might restore men to God then, the time was postponed and an alternate plan instituted (Isaiah 53), the way of suffering. But whatever Jesus meant by coming on the clouds then, in Matt. 24:30, or even in Rev. 1:7, later in Rev. 12:5 we are told that the final ruler (Messiah) will be a male child born of a woman. This might be considered the last word on the subject.

Jesus asked, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Luke 18:8). If he comes on literal clouds and every eye sees him at once, he won't have many doubters around. "Son of Man" did not always mean Jesus (Dan. 8:17, Ezek. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6). Also, every eye will see him by the time all things have been brought under His control (I Cor. 15:27, 28; Isa. 60), not suddenly. It seems he may be a different person (compare Rev. 2:27 with 12:5)...as Elijah returned in the person of John the Baptist (Matt. 11:12-15; 17:10-13; Luke 1:17); and will have a *new name* (Rev. 3:12, 21; 2:17).

The same Jesus who said, "Surely I come quickly" (Rev. 22:20) may have meant to come "spiritually." In fact, he had told his disciples he would never leave them nor forsake them (Heb. 13:5) and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the world (Matt. 28:20). He said he and his Father would make their abode with persons who loved and obeyed them (John 14:23). Those whom he has never left spiritually will be the first to recognize his physical return once they hear the good news. They will be as "the wise virgins" (Matt. 25:1-13)...He said, "My sheep hear my voice...and follow me..." (John 10:27). He had other sheep to be brought that there be one fold with one shepherd (John 10:16). Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess him as Lord to the glory of God the Father (Phil. 2:10, 11).

Besides, Paul said, "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God" (I Cor. 15:50). Did the natural physical body of Elijah enter heaven? Did the body of the thief on the cross enter heaven as it was? No. Did the body of Jesus enter heaven the same as it was on the cross? It is unreasonable.

How then did Jesus go into heaven? By first being born of the flesh, living a perfect life, free from original sin; thus, he went into

heaven.

What happened to his body in the tomb? The same thing that had happened to it on the Mount of Transfiguration and Sea of Galilee; he had the capacity to change at will. He had said, "All power in heaven and earth is given unto me" (Matt. 28:18).

How will Jesus return to earth? Out of heaven? The same way he came the first time: by human birth, etc. He said, "No man has ascended up to heaven *but he that came down from heaven*, even the Son of Man which is in heaven (John 3:13, 6:38).

Why did he refer to returning in the clouds? Because Daniel had published this mode (Dan. 7:13); because the prophet Isaiah, speaking of great multitudes used the word "cloud" (Isaiah 60:8). Isaiah, referring to conditions at the Lord's coming, compares their flocking into the Lord's house as the quick, massive motion of a cloud (read the entire chapter); because it was common to use the word "cloud" meaning multitude of people as in Hebrews 12:1, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a 'cloud' of witnesses..." Also, the elevated, purified (evaporated) waters of the fallen men would be as clouds (Rev. 17:15). He used the "cloud" condition to counteract a rash of false christs whose coming he knew would have been numerous. He no more expected to come on the clouds actually than he expected to come during the apostle's lifetime as he said he'd do (Matt. 10:23; 16:27, 28; 24:29-34, etc.) He used not only parables, but figures of speech...sometimes to clarify, other times to obscure (Matt. 13:10-15; 11:25). Some things will be revealed only in the last day as Paul acknowledged (I Cor. 13:8-12).

ARE KOREANS TO BE THE THIRD ISRAEL?

In the effort of some to refute the prospects of Korean people becoming the Third Israel, they use Romans 11:25-27 stating "all Israel will be saved."

As set forth earlier in this thesis, Reverend Moon teaches that eventually everyone will be saved...including Israel. The real issue is "Will God use the Korean people as a base through which to reach the world...instead of the Israeli people?"

Jesus told the Israel people that their stewardship of God's human harvest would be taken from them and given to a nation of people who would productively manage the great enterprise and, by all means, respect His Son (Matt. 21:33-43). Jesus denounced the Jews as true reprobates (John 8:38-44). Since they did not prevail in obedient faith — this is what the name Israel implies (Gen. 32:28), their lives were no longer worthy of their name. This is why John the Baptist said to the Jews, "Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham" (Matt. 3:9)...and this He has been forced to do.

Paul said, "For he is not a real Jew who is one outwardly, nor is true circumcision something external and physical. He is a Jew who is one inwardly and real circumcision is a matter of the heart, spiritual and not literal" (Rom. 2:28, 29). Remember, God abandoned all of them to perish in the wilderness, and led into Canaan only their descendants who followed Moses, as the real

Israel. After their long history of moral instability, they completely lost their qualification as the Chosen People when they crucified Jesus. The center of God's providence of restoration has been shifted from the Israelites to the Gentiles (Acts 13:46), though God loves them for their forefathers' sake and will include them in final restoration when the Deliverer (Messiah) is raised up out of His true spiritual Israel people (Rom. 11:25-32); meanwhile, God is provoking national Israel people to jealousy (Rom. 11:11). As sure as the Jewish people crucified Jesus, God has taken from them their office as representatives of the Kingdom of God (Matt. 21:33-43) just as Jesus predicted.

Why will the new nationality be Korean? Because the angel of Rev. 7:2-4 ascended from the *rising of the sun* (the sun would be over Korea when it appeared on the Eastern horizon to John, the Revelator) with the seal of the living God and sealed the chosen 144,000 servants of God on their foreheads. These stood with the Lord, the first chosen among the people of the land, sealed with His and His Father's names (Rev. 14:1).

If an Eastern nation, why Korea? Because the chosen nation must complete what the Second Spiritual Israel failed to accomplish. The First Israel was Abraham's lineal descendants who had been persecuted in Egypt while serving God's will in the Old Testament Age. The Christians, who, branded as heretics by the First Israel, having taken over the providence of restoration while serving the resurrected Jesus, were the Second Israel. Korea is not only the most accommodating nation for the emergence of the Messiah in the East, but the most reasonable nation in the world. Now, since this is revealed new-age truth, I must appeal to your spiritual intuition.

Similarly, as God's Chosen People (that is, the First Israel) were subjected to severe misuse by the Egyptians for 400 years; and then as the Second Israel received 400 years of persecution by the Roman Empire; so Korea, as the Third Israel, has suffered severe misuse under the Japanese for 40 years (1905-1945, Eul-sa treaty).

This nation must be God's front line and Satan's front line...that is, Democracy vs. Communism. Since 1948 the 38th Parallel has been, in a real sense, the battlefield of religion and atheism.

Yet, since 1906, revival forces of the most powerful variety the world has ever witnessed have been burning throughout the entire country. Some of the greatest Christian churches ever are there now, such as the Young Nak...about 12,000 attending each Sunday and 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. prayer meetings daily. Recently, 1,100,000 attended Billy Graham's crusade in Seoul. He expects Korea to start sending missionaries to the Western Church. The more you investigate the spiritual life in Korea, the more you'll recognize that Korea is to be the Chosen Nation.

This nation must be the object of God's Heart. The nation that must receive the Messiah must walk the way of blood, sweat, and tears, because its children must become children of filial piety by standing as the object of God's sorrowful Heart.

The nation to be the object of God's Heart must necessarily be a people good in God's sight...never once aggressive, but

only defensive. The Korean people, as a whole, have a national character which highly values loyalty, filial piety and virtue.

Like the First and Second Israëls, this nation must have a messianic hope. Satan, through oppressive governmental forces, has tried to wring this idea from the soul of Korea — to no avail.

Many spiritual signs regarding the Lord coming again in Korea are appearing like mushrooms after a rain. God is pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh (Acts 2:17). There is much communication with the spirit world... as when Christ first came... some were expecting him daily because of regular spiritual promptings. God has always had a prophet or so around through whom He could alert the humble, hopeful, expectant (Amos 3:7; Luke 10:21; Matt. 11:25).

There are many reasons why the return of Christ is imminent. We see such signs as in the days of Noah and Lot — authority and rights of the church, but inner corruption; church leaders who are captive to a form of godliness, and devout Christians who are wandering; self-righteous leaders on their way to hell; and revelations to non-church people who may be more likely to accept the Messiah (See also II Timothy 3:1-6).

TIPS ON HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE MESSIAH

(The Lord of the Second Advent)

From the Bible

(And A Little End-Time Common Sense)

First pray:

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;

Place in my hand the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;

And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;

Open my heart, and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

As the wise virgins referred to by Jesus, you must be ready, willing, and able to meet the Messiah. You don't have to be "religiously" wise — just humble as the disciples of Christ (Matt. 11:25, 26). Be ready, willing and able to reverence God; this is the source of divine wisdom (Psalm 111:10). The prophet Daniel was informed that, in the end-time, knowledge of God's plans would be increased, though previously limited (Dan. 12); and those who are "wise" shall understand (Rev. 10:1-7). Remember that God will do nothing without revealing His secret to His servants, the prophets (Amos 3:7).

He will come as a thief in the night (Matt. 24:42-44; Luke 12:39-40), hand-picking his followers, separating on a lower level to unite on a higher level (Matt. 24:40, 41). He will not come on literal clouds this time any more than he did in the person of Jesus. The clouds figure went along with the heaven figure. Jesus said he came down from heaven and was in heaven (John 3:13). It was all a matter of their spiritual maturity. That's why Jesus would use the expression, "If you can receive it..." (Matt. 11:14; 19:11-13).

That's also the reason Jesus would select his inner circle (Peter, James, and John) for special miraculous demonstrations. The faith of the observers made the difference, as in Nazareth (Matt. 13:58; 17:20) and in many other places.

He must clearly reveal and explain not only Satan's original subterfuge in the Garden of Eden but how he has been operating ever since — especially today through communism, materialism, the misuse of love, immature parents, etc.

The Messiah will be busily engaged in subjugating the evil domains of this world (I Cor. 15:27, 28) and establishing God's house, family and Kingdom (II Sam. 7:13). This ruling Messiah shall be born of a woman (Rev. 12:5); will come in the same way that lightning originates out of the East and shines even into the West (Rev. 7:2); will come as the sun rising out of the East (Rev. 7:2-8) with 144,000 of his faithful followers clearly bearing his and his Father's names (Rev. 14:1).

He could not be antichrist, for antichrist would be representative of a group who denied that Christ had come in the flesh, (John 2:18, 22; 4:3). Because he comes as a thief in the night, many will be unaware of his presence. If he comes in the literal clouds, everybody will believe in him; but since he comes as a thief in the night, we can understand his question, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8). There will be separation of good and evil persons (Matt. 25:31-33), persons who prefer life to death, persons who prefer maturity or perfection to hell (the hog pen of spiritual stagnation, if not retrogression, alienation from the original purpose of God).

The reason the Messiah will have power to subjugate the evil dominions of this world (I Cor. 15:27, 28) is that those who overcome with him and through him might have power (John 1:12; Eph. 4:10-15; Acts 1:6-8) to *restore Israel*. All Israel, through Christ (The Lord of the Second Advent) shall be saved (restored, Rom. 11:26-36). For, if we are Christ's then are we Abraham's seed, and heirs to the promise (Gal. 3:29). All this will not happen suddenly; nor did creation. It will all depend upon how quickly men yield to the will of God. In perceiving the Messiah, we must search the scriptures (John 5:39), rightly handle them (II Tim. 2:15), remembering the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth; will take Christ's things and reveal them unto us (John 16:13). We'll see that God is no respecter of persons, for in Him there is neither Jew nor Gentile (Gal. 3:28). We will see God working through another nation of people through whom He can expect the fruits of the Kingdom (Matt. 7:23; 21:43).

We will notice Christ's mission taking him "through Samaria" to restore outcasts (John 4:4-42), because the love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell. It reaches far beyond the star, and plunges 'neath the lowest hell. He will go through "Samaria" because he knows there are people there "ripe unto harvest" — "good Samaritans" who are more godly than many "Levites" (John 10:30-37); they are sheep without a shepherd (Mark 6:34); he'll be a friend of sinners, and even tax collectors (Matt. 11:19; Luke 7:34-48) exercising a redemptive love and forbearance upon

wicked women (John 4:9, 16-18; 8:10; Luke 8:2). But, on the other hand, he must disown a mother or even wife who does not fully recognize him as Christ and demonstrate a love centered on his heavenly Father's will and business (Luke 2:49; John 2:4).

He, in the spiritual lineage of David (Luke 1:31-33), will be man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22), full of all the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22, 23); and all those, his restored children, will quickly acquire his qualities (II Cor. 5:17; Rom. 8:9). He, however, must be greater than David, even without sin (Heb. 9:28). Being reviled, he will not revile in return (I Peter 2:23); being persecuted, he will suffer it (John 15:20; Isa. 53:4-7). He will fulfill everything Jesus wanted to, but couldn't (Matt. 23:37; Luke 13:34). He will fulfill everything Jesus (the second Adam) should have, but didn't (Gen. 1:28), that is, be fruitful — reach perfection or maturity to the point where he could reproduce godly children, without original sin; to multiply would require marriage; subduing and taking dominion over the whole earth.

Like Jesus, the Lord of the Second Advent must have the very same attitude of God; he must know and demonstrate God's heart; he must know and reveal God's original and providential plan for man's restoration to his original position with God — and even higher — a place where he will never sin again. He must lead people to the very heart of God. He must bring God and man together in Him (II Cor. 5:19). He must not speak in parables and obscured truth, but must bring men face to face with God (Luke 8:10; John 16:25; I Cor. 13:9-12); have eternal life by truly knowing Him (John 17:3); and be perfectly one as he is one with God (John 17:17-23). He must show us the goal of salvation and the process by which we obtain it. He must thoroughly explain why restoration unto original perfection is a gradual, growing process. Once men *understand* the process of perfection, know why man couldn't live it before (other than Christ), and know that he is here among men to demonstrate as well as teach perfection, they will live it through him. Understanding stimulates effort and discipline.

He must show that Christ is the Tree of Life which all men were meant to achieve. He must show that it is possible for all men to become Christs. He will speak with obvious divine authority (Matt. 7:29); he will speak as no other man, ever (Matt. 7:46).

In order for the Messiah to relieve the suffering of God and men, for eternity, he must first experience their suffering and make restitution for the sins of men, giving his body and blood as a living sacrifice for the salvation of all men. "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Yet, we esteemed him stricken by God and afflicted; but he was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole; and with his stripes we are healed (Isa. 53:4, 5). This time he will be a living sacrifice, triumphing over Satan and establishing God's Kingdom on earth.

He, like Jesus, must be branded a heretic because he must take a bold stand against the inconsistencies of contemporary religion. "Christians" will be the first to persecute him. Yet, he shall establish the new heaven and new earth, as predicted, on the foundation of their spiritual salvation obtained by

Jesus on Calvary. Still, he must first suffer many things at their hands (Luke 17:25).

God did not reveal the presence of the Messiah to the religious leaders of Jesus' day, but to gentle astrologers, humble shepherds and lowly, often non-religious people. As Jesus said, "He would prepare the marriage feast for people called in at random — from the highways and byways rather than for those who were first invited" (Matt. 22:8-10). Like Jesus, he will first teach in their synagogues (Matt. 4:23) and temples (Mal. 3:1; Luke 2:46; John 2:14; Matt. 26:55; Mark 14:49); but, because of rejection, must resort to sinners and tax collectors (Matt. 4:9; 11:19; Luke 7:34-48); wicked women (John 4:9, 16-18; Luke 8:2); and the rejected Samaritans (John 4:1-42).

The Holy Spirit should remind us of the many extenuating circumstances prevalent at the time Christ last came. Christ is basically the same; so is this world, and Satan, and God. Religion is belief in a God. Many people are very religious. But true Christianity is God in a man; therein is a serious difference. While fulfilling the original blessings, the Messiah will not only reproduce godly children from his own loins, but will give birth to an endless, ever-expanding true family — godly parents and godly children. Where there is righteousness in the heart, there'll be harmony in the home; where there is harmony in the home, there'll be order in the nation. Where there is order in the nation, there'll be peace and happiness in the world.

Because many serious "Christians" will be busily sidestepping their chance to serve Christ in their delusion that they are serving God — as in the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37; Matt. 25:44, 45), the Messiah will have the painful job of correcting them. Such correction is part of godliness; and "all who live godly shall suffer persecution" (II Tim. 3:12). They will honor Christ with their lips but their hearts will be far from him; and he will be forced to tell them so, and he said (Matt. 15:8). They will be surprised to hear him say, "Depart from me...I never knew you," (Matt. 7:23; Luke 13:27). They will be victims of a religious delusion created by the Devil; the god of this world shall have blinded their eyes keeping them from discerning the truth of the gospel of the glory of Christ, the Messiah, who is the image and likeness of God (II Cor. 4:4). Even while men doubt and reason: "How

can it be that he has come already? Should he not come this way or that way, from this place or that?" Shouldn't Elijah come first? All the while Christ will be here among us, fulfilling his mission: gathering his children, creating godly families and homes — the only way the Kingdom of God will ever come on this earth.

The Messiah will qualify to be our prophet, priest and king. He ever lives to intercede for all that come to him (Heb. 7:25). In Christ all the types, prophecies and promises center. He is the most suitable object for the sinner to look to, trust in, and expect all his hopes, joys, and consolations, from, as, by him, life and salvation are procured. He is head of principalities and powers, the brightness of his Father's glory and the express image of His person (Heb. 1:3); the glory of all the worlds and the refulgent luminary of the universe (John 1:9); the inexhaustible fountain of all the treasures of nature, grace, and glory (Jer. 2:13); and the matchless, incomparable Redeemer of all who come unto him (John 6:37). Christ was the grand subject of all the apostles' ministry (Acts 8:5), and, indeed, a sermon without Christ is like a cloud without water, or a shadow without substance. One moment's communion with Christ is of more worth than ten thousand worlds; his person most glorious, and he is altogether lovely (Sol. Song 5:16).

The ancient Hebrews, being instructed by the prophets, had very clear notions of the Messiah. But when he appeared in Judea, the spiritual perception of his contemporaries was dulled by their eagerness to have him overthrow the Roman yoke and bring the whole world under subjection. This he would have done, his way, had they first *received him*. They were much scandalized at the outward appearance, the humility, and seeming weakness of our Savior, which hindered them from acknowledging him as the Christ whom they expected.

The ancient prophets had foretold that the Messiah should be God and man, exalted and abased, Master and servant, Priest and victim, King and subject, mortal, yet a Conqueror of death, rich and poor, a King, a Conqueror and glorious, yet a man of griefs, involved in our infirmities, in a state of great humiliation. All these seeming contrarieties were to be reconciled in the person of the Messiah and *will be discernable*.

He was not "born in sin and shapen in iniquity..." (Psa. 51:5), as David, because he was born of a blessed virgin, but mainly because a sufficient foundation had been laid by his predecessors for his birth without original sin; thus, he first appeared, accomplished our spiritual salvation by living the perfect life (as far as he was permitted). This time, today, it is not necessary that Christ have any special kind of birth, but birth he must have, as predicted in Rev. 12:5. What matters now is that he fulfill what Adam and all his posterity have failed to fulfill.

The Lord of the Second Advent will completely triumph over Satan on the "Mount of Calvary" this time, and just might return to the Mount of Olives, from which point he will begin the destruction of all evil and the establishment of God's Kingdom of Love on earth in a concerted way.

MY CLOSING IMPASSIONED APPEAL

Beloved, I beg you in the name of Jesus to prayerfully examine the preceding as Paul instructs... "with complete lowliness of mind (humility) and meekness (unselfishness, gentleness, mildness), with patience, bearing with one another and making allowances because you love one another" (Ephesians 4:2; see also through *verse 13*).

Also, remember when John the Beloved wanted to stop the ministry of a man who didn't seem to be officially with Christ's commissioned apostles? Jesus said to him, "Do not restrain or hinder him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will soon afterward be able to speak evil of me. For he who is not against us is for us" (Mark 9:38-40; Numbers 11:27-29).

Finally, at least, remember the wise advice of the esteemed Gamaliel:

"...Let them alone. For if this doctrine or purpose or understanding or movement is of human origin, it will fail... be overthrown and come to nothing; but if it is of God, you will not be able to stop or overthrow or destroy them. You might even be found fighting against God!" (Acts 5:38, 39)

Your servant, for Christ's sake,
for your sake,
and for the sake of the world,

Pastor William H. Luke

