

Lecture 13



## **Who is Reverend Sun Myung Moon?** *A Champion in Seven Arenas*

There have been many great figures throughout human history, but we are challenged to find any one as actively committed to world peace in various ways as Rev. Moon. The four great religions of Christianity, Buddhism, Confucianism and Islam have profoundly affected human history and culture, helping to lift human civilization to its present day standards. But none of the founders of these religions was able to transcend their own local or national boundaries during their own lifetime. Most faced ignorance, opposition and persecution, and the ideals they planted during their lives bore the greatest fruit long after they were gone.

Rev. Moon, however, has devoted his life to the work of liberating the grieving heart of God, and saving fallen humankind from their sins, creating a movement that has touched every corner of the earth, and inspired believers of all races, nations and faiths. He accomplished this enormous feat despite indescribable opposition from established religious and political institutions. Imprisoned six times in several countries, he repeatedly faced persecution, torture, and even death in the course of his ministry. But far from being defeated, he repeatedly embraced his enemies with the unchanging mind and heart of “love Heaven, love humankind, love the nation.”

In 1971, Rev. Moon came to this country and totally invested himself to awaken America and convey God’s providence to its people. At 81 years of age, after more than 30-years of pouring his heart and soul into America, he risked his life with a 50-state speaking tour. He traveled nonstop to 52 cities in 52 days, without skipping even one day from February 25 to April 17, 2001. He focused his message upon American clergy and leadership with the topic, “The Path for Humanity and America to Walk in a New Millennium.”

American clergy overwhelmingly responded to his sincere love and dedication for this nation and the world. They established the ACLC in accordance with the vision, guidance and teaching of Rev. Moon. With last year’s 144,000 Clergy Couples Blessing as a turning point, they came to lead a movement to unify all Christian churches beyond denomination. Currently, the movement to research and study his teachings, under the title, “Who is the Rev. Sun Myung Moon?” is spreading like wild fire. Let us now go over this in detail, considering seven areas in which this great religious leader is a historical champion.

### **I. The Champion of Knowing God**

First, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows God most deeply. He is not only teaching the divine nature of God and the fundamental relationship between God and human beings, but also is revealing the depths of His heart and will as never before in human history. According to Rev. Moon, the relationship between God and humans is that of parent and child established through true love, true life and true lineage. He is also clearly

answering the question: What is God's current standing as the absolute, unique, unchanging, and eternal Being?

Ever since Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden due to the fall, God, as their Parent, has been shedding tears of lamentation and sorrow, as He seeks to save his lost children through His providence of restoration. Throughout his entire life, Rev. Moon has been walking a path of filial piety and loyalty no one could ever imagine, until he could finally liberate God and restore His original position as the King of Kings through the Coronation of God's Kingship. As the Parent of the Cosmos, God who should have been on the throne of honor and glory from the beginning, came to settle as the substantial Parent in the spirit world and physical world through the King of the Blessed Families for the Peace and Unity of the Heavenly Parent and the Parents of Heaven and Earth held on February 6, 2003. Through this, the era of God's absolute sovereignty, an era in which God could exercise His full authority and govern with the law based on the Principle, has been opened.

God's heart is described in detail in His letter recently sent to the True Parents. In the past many perceived God vaguely and conceptually as an almighty yet distant absolute authority. But Rev. Moon's intimate teaching of God transcends our traditional concepts, revealing Him to be our Parent, the original source of true love, true life and true lineage. Truly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows God the best and is also the filial son of all filial children in human history, having restored the original sovereignty and position of God, dedicating it to Him.

## **II. The Champion of Exposing Satan**

Secondly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows Satan, the origin of evil, the best. Who is this Satan that is the subject of evil powers, Satan who bequeathed the original sin to human beings? What is his real identity? How did he become Satan? What was the true motivation and process that made him God's enemy? Further, how has Satan been able to rule over humanity and the world? Rev. Moon answers all of these questions in detail. Further, he clearly guides us how to separate ourselves from Satan and to eradicate his evil in human beings and the world.

Satan alienated human beings from God and spread conflict, confrontation, wars, divisions, etc., which are the destructive evils prevalent in human society today. He is the source of all evil powers in the world. Thus, knowing the enemy Satan is the key to bringing fundamental salvation to humanity and peace to the world.

Rev. Moon came with the mission of the Third Adam. Therefore, he should clearly reveal the identity of Satan who caused the fall of Adam and Eve. The first human ancestors made a fatal mistake, the fall, while still in their growing period, by not fulfilling their responsibility of observing God's commandment, which would thus have perfected them. Therefore, the returning Messiah should reveal the identity of Satan, without any help from God, and subjugate him. In order to accomplish this, for more than 14 years, Rev. Moon fought countless spiritual battles against Satan, battles that God alone knows. And

eventually, he succeeded in revealing Satan's true identity and discovering the origin of the fall.

Further, Rev. Moon came to know how to separate Satan who has been governing fallen humans, thus restoring them back to God, by engrafting them to the true Olive tree. The marriage Blessing is the ceremony for fallen human beings to return to God's lineage. Accordingly, it consists of several procedures: the engagement ceremony, the holy wine ceremony and the actual holy wedding ceremony. Each step is to separate from Satan, by removing the original sin, and to return to the original position of God's true children. The Messiah is the only one who could reveal the origin of the original sin. Therefore, Satan finally voluntarily revealed his own identity on March 21, 1999, and repented before God and True Parents, submitting a letter of surrender. Thereafter, he resolved to dedicate himself completely to cleaning up all the evils sown and multiplied by him. The love of True Parents can bring even Satan down to his knees in repentance and back to his original position. Thus he saves the ultimate enemy of God and humankind. Indeed, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows Satan the best.

### **III. The Champion Who Knows Human Beings**

Thirdly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows human beings the best. Where did humans come from? How are they supposed to live? Where do they go ultimately? How can they obtain true freedom? Fallen human beings have been wandering in ignorance, without knowing the answers to these fundamental questions. Further, they have been living without knowing the true purpose and direction of life. Rev. Moon teaches us so clearly the right path of life to tread, as the children of God. The ultimate purpose of our life is to perfect our own spiritual self during our earthly life, by living for the sake of others, and to lay the foundation for our eternal life in the spirit world. Position, honor, knowledge, material wealth and such are merely accessories in our earthly life, and not its essence or purpose.

What is the most important and precious to us is to become an embodiment of true love, resembling God's divinity. After studying Rev. Moon's teachings, numerous young people who have been wandering in the abyss of sinful world, came to Rev. Moon to follow him. Many of them are from the free world, but some are from the communist world, having believed in atheism and dialectical materialism. After the crumbling of the communist ideal, those from Russia, Eastern Europe and even China rejoice in finding a new purpose of life. This demonstrates the breadth and grandeur of the Divine Principle, the truth presented by Rev. Moon.

As a result, young people from all over the world have entrusted to Rev. Moon the task of finding their eternal life companion. They then participate in a group wedding ceremony, where tens of thousands of people are married at the same time. Such events took place on many occasions at different locations. They participated because of their deep trust in Rev. Moon's intuition and spiritual insight into each individual, not only for the present, but also for the past and future. He is well known as the world's most prolific matchmaker.

After having wandered in the darkness, and finally learning the meaning of life and the value of human beings, the teaching of Rev. Moon and the ideal of true love and True Parents becomes the most precious thing. We could not find anyone in history who has addressed the fundamental problems of human life so completely, presenting the answers that could restore them back to their original position as God's children.

So, some have concluded that Rev. Moon is the fifth saint, who is one level higher than the four major saints in human history. This is so because he has the eyes of wisdom that can penetrate thousands of years of history or any individual's entire life immediately at a glance. That is why any group of prominent politicians, scholars or religious leaders would feel small once standing before him, thereby experiencing and recognizing this greatness.

Further, Rev. Moon absolutely loves people with true love. There are so many testimonies of how he would give all he has for those around him. He has spent many sleepless nights for even one person, listening and speaking to him with all his devotion and sincerity. Thus, people from around the world have inevitably come to attend him as the Parent of humankind, having become overwhelmed with his sincere love and dedication. Rev. Moon is the champion who loves humans more than any saints, sages, or leaders who came and went in the course of human history. He is also the champion who knows humans the best.

#### **IV. The Champion Who Knows the Spirit World**

Fourthly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows the spirit world the best. Spirit world is the spiritual place where all people are destined to go after ending their physical life on earth.

According to the principle of creation, humans are to experience three stages of life: life in their mother's womb, life on earth, and the life in the spirit world. The approximately 9-month period in the mother's womb is above all a preparation period for the earthly life. Likewise, the physical life on earth is a preparation period for the eternal life in the spirit world. Our spirit transcending to the next world upon the death of our fleshly body is as natural as ripened fruits, which are harvested to the storehouse as the vine returns to the soil. That is the principle of creation.

Regardless of the age or place in which they lived, humans have feared death. Yet those who know the principle that the quality of our earthly life determines our destiny, and have prepared well, have nothing to be afraid when they reach the end of life. It is simply another birth into a new dimension, where, one can sing and dance in the cosmos prepared as their stage, living in joy, transcending time and space.

Rev. Moon teaches that starting such a new life is a path to "Seunghwa," meaning heavenly ascension in Korean. So, he sometimes writes calligraphy that starts with

“congratulation” for those who have completed their mission on earth in their physical bodies and have gone on to the next world.

Rev. Moon freely communicates with saints and sages in the spirit world, although living on the physical earth. Thus, he simultaneously leads the providence in both worlds. As earthly people freely travel about on earth, the spirit world is not a foreign or scary place at all to human beings who achieved their true original value. Once they know the certainty of the spirit world’s existence, they will lead a straight life along the right path, in order not to feel the pangs of conscience. For this reason, Rev. Moon emphasizes the importance of the spirit world as one of the most essential subjects of study.

Accordingly, world renowned spiritual mediums and those whose eyes are open to the spirit world often testify that Rev. Moon is the center of the spirit world, even though he is still alive on earth. Thus, as far as the spirit world is concerned, indeed, Rev. Moon is the champion of all champions, who remains unbeatable by anyone who has lived throughout human history.

#### **V. The Champion Who Knows Jesus**

Fifthly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows Jesus the best in human history. Jesus is not only the founder of Christianity, but he is also the greatest of the four major saints. His has undeniably been the most powerful influence over human civilization. And to Christians, he is indeed the Savior and the Messiah.

Rev. Moon had his first encounter with Jesus during his prayer on Easter morning, at the tender age of 15. It was then that he was commissioned by Jesus to save humankind. Since then, Rev. Moon has continued communicating with Jesus as well as other saints and sages until the present time, as he has conducted God’s providence for humankind.

Particularly, Rev. Moon reads Jesus’ entire life as if seeing with his own eyes: the circumstances and background of his birth, the major events that took place during his 30 years of private life, his public ministry, his crucifixion caused by the faithlessness of Israelites, and his resurrection. Thinking of Jesus’ bleeding heart and death on the cross, caused by the rejection of God-prepared Judaism and the nation of Israel, Rev. Moon prayed countless nights in tears, in order to understand all the circumstances surrounding Jesus’ crucifixion. Lately, he is leading a movement for clergy to take down the cross from Christian churches. And even now, he is taking charge of the providence on earth, communicating with Jesus whenever necessary.

From the very moment he embarked upon his mission for God’s providence, he was at times immersed in prayer for as many as 16 hours a day. During that time, he discussed all matters with God, whether big or small. He is now mobilizing the spirit world, including the four major saints, to cooperate for the dispensation to bring world peace on earth.

Jesus is finally Blessed after having lived alone for 2000 years, brought to a union with the substantial Holy Spirit on earth. Thus, he is now secured in the position of the spiritual true parents. Such a dispensation for Jesus can be conducted by Rev. Moon alone, who is in the position of the Third Adam. Although as Christians we believe in Jesus, we do not know him well. However, Rev. Moon goes beyond the level of such a simple faith and reveals more about Jesus than anyone in history. Hence, he is truly the champion in knowing Jesus the best.

#### **VI. The Champion of Biblical Insight**

Sixthly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows the Bible the best. The Bible is God's truth with many of its key revelations written in symbols and parables. It is the guideline for fallen human beings to follow to find God. Thus, in John 16:12, Jesus says that there is more to reveal, promising that the Holy Spirit of the truth will come and reveal all secrets of the truth. Rev. Moon discloses all kinds of hidden secrets unveiled in the Bible and guides humankind to salvation.

For anyone to interpret the Bible conveying God's ideal of creation, the fall and His providential formula course for the salvation of humankind, he must be someone special, armed with God's wisdom. Therefore, as Jesus was the one who had the best knowledge of the Old Testament and completed it, Rev. Moon is the one who has the best knowledge of the New Testament and completes it.

Unless we can break the secret code of God's revelations hidden in the symbols and parables of the Bible, different interpretations of scripture will continue to bring about divisions. The schisms in Christianity, leading to several hundreds of denominations, could be unified only by the Principle with a comprehensive understanding from God's point of view.

Rev. Moon knows the future direction of Christianity, which has carried the responsibility for God's providence, based upon the foundation of activities of Jesus' disciples in the early days of the church. Thus, he now calls Christianity as the Second Israel with a new mission to fulfill for the Lord of the Second Advent.

According to the direction of Rev. Moon, the United Federation of Churches was established with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Its vision and ideal are, under God, to unite all churches that believe in the Bible. The Divine Principle is the most fundamental principle, connecting all 66 books of the Bible from Genesis to the Book of Revelation. Like a master key, with the truth contained in the creation, the fall and the history of restoration, it answers all fundamental questions in the Old and New Testaments. Thus, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows the Bible the best.

#### **VII. The Champion Who Knows History**

Seventhly, Rev. Moon is the champion who knows the meaning of human history and the core teachings of the religions, philosophies and systems of thought that have developed throughout human history.

Humans are born in history, live in history and die in history. Thus, understanding the beginning, process and destination of the history that has formed the flow of all human civilizations, like rivers, brooks or streams of varying sizes, is essential to understanding the meaning and direction of human life.

According to Rev. Moon, human history is God's work to save fallen humankind, expressed as His providence of restoration through indemnity. Human history is replete with struggles between good and evil from the individual to the global level. But with the returning Lord as the ultimate point of transition, good will eventually prevail over evil, leading to the realization of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in heaven. The conventional view of human history is pessimistic: it ends with the last judgment. Rev. Moon introduces a new perspective and vision with hope and joy: human history culminates in a return to God's original ideal and the building of a new Heaven and new Earth.

Human beings are unaware that God has been behind the scenes, conducting history as its director. And the role of humans visible on the stage is extremely limited. It is, in the end, following God's scenario for the restoration of humankind, walking the path of recreation for the original ideal world of creation.

On the other hand, dialectical materialism, which views history as advancing only through struggle, is merely superficial, ignorant of the true objective of history. The struggles in history reflect the battle between good and evil to build God's Kingdom. In the process evil seems to be prevailing over good, being in control of power. However, good will eventually subjugate evil.

Another contribution of Rev. Moon is that he presents comprehensive answers to fundamental questions raised by religions, philosophies and ideologies, the fruits of humanity's pursuit of truth in an effort to overcome the internal and spiritual ignorance of human beings.

The Unification Thought covers all schools of thought and philosophy, from ancient times to modern day. It thoroughly analyzes the existence of all beings and their fundamental issues from a comprehensive perspective. This teaching is now receiving much attention from the world of academia. The ideology that overcomes right wing and left wing is called head wing ideology.

Similarly, another amazing contribution of Rev. Moon is his publication of "World Scripture." It is a universal compilation of basic teachings of highly advanced religions. It opens a possibility of bringing the grand unification of those religions, by reflecting the mirrors of the truth from each religion. It can help overcome the many religious barriers and prejudices and advance the building of one unified world centered on God. That is why the appearance of someone like Rev. Moon was prophesied in both the Orient and Occident. Some examples are the "Kyukahm Yoorok" from the Orient written in the 16<sup>th</sup>

century, and the prophetic book of Nostradamus, written around the same time period in the Occident. Indeed, Rev. Moon is the great teacher who understands overall history. He is a great thinker and philosopher who can answer the fundamental questions of philosophy. He is also the great religious leader who can help religions transcend their own limitations.

Rev. Moon is the champion in the above-mentioned seven points. However, even objectively, based on his lifetime achievements, he stands as the Savior and Teacher of humankind in this new millennium. More importantly, he is not simply conveying the great truth, but he also lives it. More than 400 volumes containing his words demonstrate the grandeur of his teachings in depth and vastness. At the same time, he is personally leading the providence on the frontline, in order to realize the actual Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in heaven, while committing every second of his life and investing all of his heart and energy.

He has established numerous institutions, associations, and firms all over the world and in various fields. They include peace institutions such as the FFWPU and the IIFWP; mass media institutions such as the Washington Times and United Press International in Washington, DC, Tiempos del Mundo in South America, Segye Times and Sekkai Nippo in Korea and Japan; institutions in the fields of culture, sports, art, science, academia, ideology, technology, etc.

This demonstrates that Rev. Moon not only proclaims his teachings but also puts them into practice through these organizations and their many conferences, seminars and projects. During the past 50 years or so, Rev. Moon has been striving to build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in heaven in accordance with God's master plan, using a formula course for the providence of salvation. Each of his works, day by day, is a significant step, clearing the old history of thousands of years and opening a new era. That is why beyond race, nationality, religion, and ideology, the five races from the five oceans and six continents of the world, are working hard to spread the vision of Rev. and Mrs. Moon, attending them as the Parents of Heaven and Earth.