

## Compiling the Cheon Il Guk Scriptures, Cheon Seong Gyeong, Pyeong Hwa Gyeong, and Chambumo Gyeong

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I pioneered in the early days. I was a minister for ten years, carried out interdenominational and inter-religious activities for twenty-five years, served as the Korean national leader for five years and worked as the national messiah to China. Recently, I have dedicated myself to the compilation of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong*, and the *Chambumo Gyeong* as the vice-chairman of the Cheon Il Guk scriptures Compilation Committee, and I would like to freshly arouse members' attention to the revelation and words I have received from True Father.

Foundation Day was the starting point of Cheon Il Guk and marked the great shift from the pioneering wilderness era to the Cheon Il Guk era of settlement. The history of the development of religions shows how a new religion passes through a pioneering period and systemizes its identity and tradition in order to enter a settlement period and become a traditional religion. Accordingly, the scripture compilation project that True Mother is leading is a truly phenomenal blessing, stemming from True Mother's keen insight and discerning eye. Our church scripture, which is a compilation of True Parents' teachings, their lives and their achievements, is composed of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong* and *Chambumo Gyeong*.

The first-generation members that lived with True Parents since the early days of our church have compiled the scripture, which will become the eternal standard of all churches and of our entire existence. This time is an incomparable, unique period in which the legacy of our faith is being formed and the historic existence and identity of our church established. It is a time when the scripture, the eternal standard of our church, will be compiled, becoming a legacy of faith for every single moment in the future. Hence, these are holy books for our church. The scripture, the standard of eternal life, came to be created in accordance with True Parents' instructions.

We have received words of salvation from God and True Parents. The purpose of this compilation is to enable us to preserve and digest this standard as our own and to help us understand these teachings in depth.

The scripture will form the founding elements of our church and as the eternal standard of our life of faith will enable the church to continually exist and to be brought to life. Hence, the scripture is the eternal foundation of the church, a standard for living, a legacy of faith, and the way to the establishment and completion of Cheon Il Guk.

### **Significance of Scripture Compilation**

Bequeathing is handing over and conveying by the church the words of salvation through living faith, conveying God's word to humanity based on that and enabling such actual salvation to be maintained. The

actual salvation and words of salvation achieved within True Parents can be seen as the living faith of the church. By passing this down, this living faith will continuously be revealed and become reality.

Bequeathing is not just about passing down True Parents' teachings alone, but also their achievements, the experiences we obtained from our humanistic relationship or life with True Parents, the mystique felt from a close relationship of love with God and True Parents and everything that we came to newly understand spiritually. This means conveying all aspects of actual salvation starting from believing, loving, practicing and actually living it. Hence, it is about conveying True Parents' teachings and work, what we experienced from living with them and what we learned under God's grace through sermons, an exemplary life and a system.



*Rev. Jae Seok Lee (top left) in a Chambumo Gyeong compilation committee meeting*

Our church's scripture compilation project has recorded True Parents' teachings and lives and their work and is passing these on to our future descendants. It signifies not only that which was learned by the first generation elder members from their lives lived with True Parents in the early days, our faith and its practice and doctrinal teachings but everything including all the various ceremonies, behavioral norms, experiences and other aspects of our church. Narrowly speaking, it signifies our teachings and their practice passed down from the initial church community in the early days.

As the embodiment of God, True Parents have come as the perfected beings of the word and as the mediator between God and man. The word of God achieved within True Parents is the word of salvation that must be declared and conveyed in every era and to every person. First-generation members have carried out a special mission in order to convey this revelation. Their very lives are proof of the existence of the revelation from God that has been achieved within True Parents. The message they declare reveals their experiences with True Parents.

The special experiences of our core community of elder first-generation members regarding True Parents is the standard for all experience of faith that all generations hold. In this way, our legacy of faith has been formed. Therefore, one should not wait for revelation in another form.

All things have been realized within True Parents since everything formed from the lives and faith of followers who experienced True Parents are being conveyed to humanity.

Accordingly, as a unique period, the stage of the early church was one in which the historical existence and identity of our church was established. Here, the teachings that are to become eternal standards of church life have been recorded for every single moment in the future and our legacy of faith has been formed. Hence, this legacy of faith passed on to us by True Parents and elder members contains not only verbal and written teachings but also diverse aspects of actual salvation, experiences of faith and an understanding of them.

Thanks to True Mother's bequeathal project, *Cheon Seong Gyeong* and *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong*, a compilation of True Parents' quotations and teachings, have been published. Now, *Chambumo Gyeong*, the third volume of the Cheon Il Guk scripture, which will convey True Parents' noble lives, is being

compiled. This bequeathal project is a great religious act that compiles True Parents' teachings and their historical legacy of faith for us in order to create a broad and level road upon which all people of all ages can go to Cheon Il Guk.

### Revelations I Received



On 7.5 in the second year of the heavenly calendar (August 22, 2012), True Mother summoned some early first-generation members. She earnestly explained the need to compile scriptures that contain the teachings, lives and work of True Parents and instructed that the bequeathal project to offer praise and glory to our Heavenly Parent and True Father start immediately. She asked Chairman Young Hwi Kim to take charge of the project to compile the Cheon Il Guk scripture. In response to the very urgent mission from True Mother, we immediately held a compilation committee preparation meeting at which Young Hwi Kim was appointed chairman and I was appointed vice-chairman, with Seok Byeong Kim, the director of the FFWPU History Compilation Committee, overseeing all tasks connected to the compilation. The compilation of the Cheon

Il Guk scripture is the work of compiling True Parents' teachings, lives and work in *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong* and *Chambumo Gyeong*. The very first of the scripture texts to be compiled was the *Cheon Seong Gyeong*.

The first workshop to read and review the content that had been selected from the vast amount of True Parents' speeches began in Onyang, on October 26, 2012. During this workshop a discussion about the editing of the (chapter) Book of True Parents' Prayers began. We discussed reducing True Father's prayer when needed, but we couldn't come to a conclusion.

I lay down to sleep worrying about choosing important and heart-moving material. While half-asleep, I heard True Father's loud voice, saying, "You!" I sprang to my feet and said, "I am deeply sorry." Then I looked at the time. It was two o'clock in the morning. Father said, "Why are you fiddling about with the prayers? Just publish them as is!" Once again I said, "I am deeply sorry." I then repented and offered a prayer. As soon as the morning meeting began the next day, we discussed the problem again and a unanimous decision was made to publish the prayers in full. This was the first time I was scolded by True Father since the compilation project started.

On December 29, 2012, I was walking from Seoul Station to the Korean headquarters to attend the *Cheon Seong Gyeong* revised version compilation editorial committee meeting that was to begin on the eighth floor at ten o'clock.

I heard a loud voice above my head that said, "Why are you becoming a bystander?" At that moment tears starting pouring from my eyes and I automatically stopped in my tracks. Again I heard the voice, saying, "Don't be an onlooker!" I said, "God I have done wrong. Please forgive me. I will be more proactive in my life." With this determination, I started walking again thinking, "But, God, I retired and am eighty years old. What can I, who is inadequate, do?" I heard "Don't beat yourself up!" At that moment, tears starting pouring from my eyes again and I again stopped in my tracks. I looked far and wide and said repeatedly, "God, thank you!"

Then God's voice arose in my mind, "Think about your life. You see yourself as someone very inadequate; however, do you think you would be able to relive the life you have led if you were told to?"

"Oh, no I couldn't." "Then do you really think that you've led, to this moment, your life, which you feel has been difficult, under your strength alone?" "No. My life has been led by True Parents and the grace of God." "Then what are you worried about? Weren't you able to overcome all difficulties because of my guidance and True Parents' help? Why do you feel that you are lacking?" "You are right. I made a mistake. I will live proactively." I arrived at the headquarters with a spring in my step after having been deeply touched by God.

The workshop to review the edited material of the *Chambumo Gyeong* lasted a week and took place at Muchangpo Beach Palace Condo starting from 12.16 of the first year of Cheon Il Guk (January 16, 2014). It was very difficult for me, an eighty-two-year-old, to keep up with the twelve-hour sessions of reading the *Chambumo Gyeong* abstract. I endured for three days; after that, I only did eight hours a day. I felt very sorry to my fellow compilation committee members. I had reached my physical limits.



Also, the *Chambumo Gyeong* was compiled with the True Parents' messages, however, because those messages included material that is in the autobiography, True Parents' life course and church history, it wasn't easy to differentiate it from other texts. So I prayed to our Heavenly Parent at 5 pm on 12.21 by the heavenly calendar. I prayed, "I feel that I have reached a limit in my ability and strength. Now, I would simply like to live comfortably in attendance of you, Heavenly Parent." Then I heard a loud shocking voice, "Have you forgotten your mother's suicide? Don't let her death be in vain!" I immediately said, "God, I have done wrong. I will not be a bystander but will proactively take part."

My mother committed suicide in 1969. In 1956, I was in my third year of university when I quit school to join the church. The following year, I went out pioneer witnessing. The year I turned five, my father died and my mother, who was twenty-four years old at the time, raised her children -- a son and two daughters with utter devotion. My mother had high expectations of me. When I suddenly joined the church and went out pioneer witnessing, my mother felt as if the world had collapsed and experienced great despair.

Yet, she joined the church following in my footsteps and had to watch me go through much difficulty for fourteen years without any indication or hope of seeing improvement in my living conditions.

She began to lose hope. To make things worse, her migraines and diabetes got worse and she had to frequent the hospital.

One day her doctor said, "Do you have any children? Why do you always come alone?" When she said, "I have a son." The doctor said, "You have such an unfilial son?" My mother was in the midst of despair and losing all hope. What the doctor said was the last straw. Unexpectedly, she told me, "I will visit my hometown," and went down to my uncle's.

There, she took all her migraine and diabetes medicine at once and left this world. That night while I was praying, I heard the shocking warning, "You have the same ups and downs as your mother did. Do you think it is okay for you to let yourself become weak and hesitant? That is just causing your mother's death to have been in vain."

I revered our Heavenly Parent and True Parents for their keen attention to the scripture compilation and their direct involvement in it. I pulled myself together and determined to live upright, saying, "Heavenly Parent and True Parents, thank you! I am completely moved to tears in gratitude for the unlimited grace and love you have shown me. I will do my best until the very end."

### **Responsible Scripture Compilation**

The compilation of the scriptures is receiving and inheriting True Parents' teachings, their lives and work. These scriptures will guide all people to make True Parents' teachings their own, to live in the word and to become the embodiment or manifestation of the word, so that all are able to live in true love just as True Parents do. Opening the path to individual perfection for all, this scripture is nothing less than a splendid achievement.



In the future, the three scriptures should be read and their messages engraved into our minds; we should pray and meditate to feel the word in our hearts; we need repetitive training and education to practice the word and for it to become part of us. By fulfilling individual perfection, family perfection and our mission as tribal messiahs, we can then settle down as Cheon Il Guk people.

In the pioneering wilderness era, we yearned for Cheon Il Guk and invested everything at the risk of our lives, practicing the word with the aim to enter Cheon Il Guk. However, in order for those that have registered in Cheon Il Guk to finally settle, it is essential that we move into the era through which the individual settles after reaching individual perfection, the family settles after it perfects the four great loves and the tribal messiah settles by investing everything at the risk of one's life and through a life of practice.

The compilation of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong* and *Chambumo Gyeong* has a very important, historic significance. This is because this project is providential and revolutionary; it is a great transformational signal for our community, which teaches the word for the completion of Cheon Il Guk. Once again, I would like to express my gratitude to True Parents for bestowing upon us precious love and words of truth and life.

Starting now, we must educate about and practice the word within the scripture volumes that have been given to us and thereby change into individuals embodying true love; the family should train itself in the four loves and form the kingdom of heaven within the family; then tribal messiahs should fulfill their mission to spread the kingdom of heaven from within their families to the tribe. Let us all gravely resolve to become forerunners in the completion and settlement of Cheon Il Guk.