

True God's Day Celebrated in Korea

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Peace Rally in Jerusalem

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FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

21ST DAY OF VICTORY OF LOVE

This speech was given on January 2, 2004 at the Cheugpyung Training Center, Korea

This year is the year of fatherland and the era of peace kingdom, that is why we proclaimed all this things. If you go to fatherland without knowing and understanding these things you will be caught. Please understand these completely and as the sons and daughter of God, put your effort in practicing and bring these words into action. Since we are all one family, you have to be able to convey this message to others, so that they can be able to proclaim these message, like Heungjin nim, make this into a message, so that can be a reality.

The age to believe in this reality has passed and now is the age we have to know this reality. That is why we have to know the content (of the message from Heungjin nim), which will decide whether going to shining bright heaven or the dark hell. Therefore you must not hesitate in going into the road. You yourself must know where to go, and there is no excuse for not going ... you must be able to make the decision whole heartedly, and raise your life style on to the Fatherland. This is your responsibility.

So with this resolution and determination, even though I have mentioned it many time but we are reading these messages in the beginning of this year, so that we can make a great leaps and a revolution of hears. You know that body dominate the heart and

conscious, now your heart and conscious must overcome the body, which was under the dominion of Satan, and be able to connect in unity with God. Since God is able to stand in the position of authority, He may now settle all the environment and factors around him.

Father was able to liberate God through the Coronation ceremony and open the way so that you can walk that path as the filial sons and daughters, royal family, saints and divine sons and daughters in this world.

This message were reported correctly and acutely, and if there are not correct, if what Heungjin nim said is a lay the even True Parents will be caught because of that lay. The greatest of all treasures in unification families is being able to receive the messages from the spirit world. All the fact that father has discovered on earth you must understand completely.

For that to happened the revolution of heart as the revolution of conscious must take place externally and internally, so that your mind and body can be absolutely one and united, and so you can live a life for the sake of others centering on God's tradition, connected to God's Love, Life and Blood lineage ...

With out these words from the spirit world God's kingdom can not be accomplished. When you are awake, during meals, when sleep during your

dreams, you have to be able to understand this things with joy, break down the walls in the spirit world and be able to stand as the sons and daughters of liberated God. Standing in that liberated position in front of God, you can

become the patriot, filial sons and daughters, saints and divine sons and daughters. You must be able to go beyond every things that father indemnified for the restoration. Only when you can stand in that position, you can become the prince and princess of the culture of heart, Amen. Do you understand?

The greatest treasure of the unificationist is to be able to know the reality of the spirit world and its position in front of physical world. As well as to be able to listen to the message from the spirit world. This is not a dream; this is a true reality if you can know these things! With God and five great saints from the spirit world, Heungjin nim is giving report to convey the reality and progress of the spirit world...

We reached the level of the revolution of conscious and beyond that is the revolution of heart. Finally all the millions of the barriers and boundaries which were the obstacle and blocking my path, can be destroyed 8 When you are going to spirit world, do not say, True Parents! Why am I here? That will be a legal time, where everything is governed by law and principles and because

of this God could not forgive Adam and Eve for the mistake. If God could compromise that law, his love would also be compromised. Therefore God has gone through providence facing all hardship, troubles and sufferings unrelentingly. Even though his son was died in the cross, still he has to go that way.

Now as I am in the position of son to God, with the authority of prince and princess, I take responsibility for all the things which was left behind as well as the responsibility of all the blessed families going over the line of death, do you understand? I am advising you about these things to you, therefore please become the prince and princess of the revolution of heart. It is not about the revolution of conscience, with this you can not unite your mind and body. Your mind and body still struggle, didn't they? Mind and body have to be one, Man and woman have to be one for the sake of each other and be able to stand in the position of sons and daughters to inherit that kingdom for thousand of years. And give birth to sons and daughter who are even better than that 8

Do you know how vast is the spirit world? A trillion larger than our entire galaxy, it is unlimited infinite universe that God has created. Do you want to live in spirit world's hometown where God lives or you want to live in a place which is larger than that of father's? Do you all want to live together with father? Then you have to live in a place grater than that of father? God is the

see **VICTORY** on page 6



C A L E N D A R

FEBRUARY 2004

DECEMBER 2003

- 1 Declaration of the Opening of the Gate for the Blessing of the Spiritual World (1997)
- 4 Opening of Columbia Road Church (1977)
- 14 Shin Pyung Nim's Birthday (11/11/96)
- 18 Summit Council for World Peace Inaugurated (1981)
- 22 35 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1976)
- 26 Un Jin Nim's Birthday (11/23/67)

JANUARY 2004

- 1 True God's Day (1968)
- 2 Day of Victory of Love (1984)
Ye Jin Nim's Birthday (12/11/60)
Heung Jin Nim's Ascension (1984)
- 10 Kook Jin Nim & Soon Ju Nim's Blessing (1989)
Shin Yul Nim's Birthday (12/19/92)
- 11 72 Couples of the Second Generation Blessing (1989)
- 12 1275 Couples' Blessing (1989)
- 13 Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God (2001)
International Federation Victory Over Communism (1968)
- 15 Jun Sook Nim's Birthday (12/24/67)
- 17 Shin Gil Nim's Birthday (12/26/87)
- 22 Hoon Sook Nim's Birthday (1/1/63)
- 24 Yeon Jin Nim's Birthday (1/3/81)
- 27 True Father's Birthday (1/6/20)
True Mother's Birthday (1/6/43)
WCSF Blessing Ceremony (2001)
- 28 Shin Heung Nim's Birthday (1/7/01)
Choongmo-nim's Ascension (1/7/68)

- 1 Day of the Opening of Heaven (1985)
Segye Ilbo Established (1989)
- 5 Hyo Jin Nim & Yun Ah Nim's Blessing (1999)
- 6 Shin Jung Nim's Birthday (1/16/83)
Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace Established (1999)
- 7 Shin Man Nim's Birthday (1/17/00)
360 Million Couples' Blessing (1999)
- 8 1800 Couples' Blessing (1975)
- 10 Kwon Jin Nim's Birthday (1/20/75)
- 11 16 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 13 Shin Sook Nim's Birthday (1/23/84)
First International Blessing of 400 Million Couples (2000)
Cosmic True Parents' Federation Established (2000)
- 16 4000 Couples' Blessing (2002)
- 17 International Security Council Established (1985)
- 20 In Jin Nim & Jin Sung Nim's Blessing (1984)
Heung Jin Nim & Hoon Sook Nim's Blessing (1984)
Dong Sook Nim's Birthday (1/30/55)
- 21 74 Couples' Blessing (1977)
Montevideo Declaration World University Federation (1996)
- 22 430 Couples' Blessing (1968)
- 27 Declaration of Parents of Heaven and Earth (1998)
- 28 One World Crusade Established (1972)
43 Couples' Blessing (1969)
- 29 Shin Won Nim's Birthday (2/10/88)

Due to the manner in which the lunar calendar corresponds with the solar calendar, Hyo Jin Nim's, Un Jin Nim's, Yun Ah Nim's and Shin Choon Nim's birthdays are not celebrated in 2004. Dong Sook Nim's birthdate (1/30) and Shin Ji Nim's birthday (7/30) does not exist in the 2004 lunar calendar; as with other leap days, it is celebrated the following day (as listed above). Every attempt has been made to create an accurate calendar, and I'd like to keep it that way. If there are discrepancies, please feel free to contact me. A lot of work and effort goes into this calendar's creation (annually for the past ten years)-including learning Japanese to be able to read an accurate lunar-solar calendar source, and gaining an understanding of the workings of the lunar calendar-Kathryn Coman [KathrynComan@worldnet.att.net]

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

TRUE GOD'S DAY MORNING SPEECH

These are notes taken at the 10:30 AM speech in the Grand Hall in the Palace at Cheong Pyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center, Cheong Pyeong Lake, Korea

I will talk a little bit. Actually, I never liked to talk that much. When I was young and could not talk freely, eat what I liked... then I had to do so many indemnity conditions. Restoring everything was so difficult. To say that I am a happy man, true father and king, True Father was not free.

So many who live freely thinking that I can do anything I want, free sex, alcohol, etc. they will die. Those who live sacrificing so many times, almost dying, they will live.

God was never able to stand as king. Because of the fall, He couldn't stand in that position. No one had true family or nation to value. Lost because of the fall. Think about it. There was nothing.

This kind of day is enjoyable isn't it? (True Father begins clapping and everyone joins in, True Father starts to dance.)

People say that we do everything we like. If we forget everything and start dancing what would happen? I used to be a good singer, but now I am old and I am embarrassed.

What is today? The era of peace kingdom. It was proclaimed, not declared. Do you like a proclamation or a declaration? The contents of this proclamation are spreading. We need a new constitution. We need to make new God's couples. Please think about this.

God's fatherland and the peace kingdom. It may sound like a dream, but know that we are entering an amazing age. This is a warning. True Father taught you, and if you follow we cannot close the gates. If you hear this for the first time, sit up straight and listen well. The first will be last and ... Say amen with this kind of heart.

When Korea is liberated that will be good. Some though will not welcome this. Some will try to be presidents. Some will go north others west. In the east U.S. and Japan, in the west, China. Without forgetting Korea, some Koreans were pro-Japanese and tried to create a separate country. Some are pro-Chinese, others pro-US and will try to build a new nation. Until now the countries are all divided and those who live in this age cannot deny this. What happened in the Shilla or Li ages? What about now?

This is the complete unification, when everything under heaven will be united. This is what Rev. Moon is advocating. Some like communism. Do you? How about democracy? Do you like democracy?

We talk of superpowers. What about China? We used to call them big gangs. We called the Americans, those American guys. The Japanese were robbers, the Russians rascals. They used to steal even the pillows in their backpacks. How about the Koreans? The people in white. What does that mean? Koreans would wash their clothes even if they were not dirty, striking them when washing them to make them white.

The Great Wall actually belongs to the Koreans; the Koreans were the owners of China at that time.

They are talking about the Lord of the Rings by Tolkien. The owner of the rings was the true owner. It was incredible;

they even mobilized the spirit world army. In this age, these things are being brought out. True Father slept, but True Mother is smart and she watched so I heard the story later. Would you like to go there? Or come to father? Those who have that kind of sixth sense will remain.

What is it? God's Fatherland. True Father proclaimed it, from now it will come about. With the peace kingdom, it is a place where there is no shadow of the fallen world. There will be many hometowns and nations where people can live together. This will be the reality realm of substantial being. That is the beauty and value of this. If there is no fatherland you will all disappear. If there is no nation, then all the nations cannot exist. There must be God's fatherland. All those things can only exist on this foundation.

We must rebuild and remodel the fatherland. That is the time to come now. True Father has talked of the total unification. The saints and sages who lived for the hope of the fatherland support us.

We must forget and discard all the false things and liberate everything. Only then can we welcome the fatherland with joy and happiness. Are you clapping because this is true?

Without God's Fatherland, you have no parents, no husband or wife, they are all false. There is no such thing. Is your mind and body struggling? If unity, then mind and body can never struggle.

You have to understand how much God struggled to create the fatherland. You have to have insight that this was not possible without the resolution of God's Han.

Do you all have your registration cards? You have to burn them. You have to burn them just like burning the items of the dead person. We had the holy burning ceremony. On that foundation we built the 4th Israel. Do we have to burn that to? Even God's fatherland must be burned away, and then we can liberate the han of God and Jesus. This is the second coming of Jesus. That is why we have to repent and go beyond the 6000 years. Mohammed appeared in the beginning of the 7th century. All the tribes of Israel were driven away. This is the Barrabic faith. Before this there was never a religion that forced faith, but Islam came with the Koran in one hand and the sword in the other.

In Jerusalem, there is a temple palace with all three faiths and they were fighting each other. Who can reconcile that?

Jesus was to do so. But only 1.85% of the people admitted to Israel are Christian.

That kind of religious hotbed exists in Korean peninsula too.

We must proclaim the message of the great saints in spirit world. All those people in the spirit world have already received the blessing. Hoon Mon Nim, how many families did you bless? About 120B. We must go through tong bong kok pa to bless three times more. Even threaten to kill them to make them take the blessing.

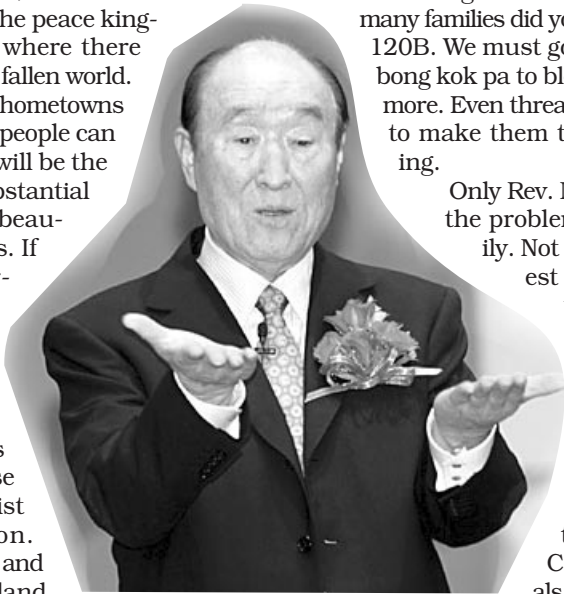
Only Rev. Moon can solve the problems of the family. Not even the greatest nations of the world can do that.

Only True Father can do this.

Only True Father can change the false to the true olive tree. Can homosexuals really give birth to children? Their

eggs will become stones first. You are all descendants of this kind of blood lineage.

Up until now we have not had a nation to register our marriage and birth. This is the cosmic blessing from last year, from True Parents' blessing. In the 3rd year of Cheon Il Guk, True Parents for the 1st time opened the gates. It was the coronation of the king of the blessed families. The first time in history. I have followed the path of persecution form the pits of hell to create this time. Everything from the time of creation was straightened out.



We talked about the elimination of indemnity in July. Centered on principle we can stand with dignity to enter the Kingdom. All directions united, we created the realm and age of princes and princesses, and created the registration blessing, the age of the blessed family.

In preparation for the foundation of God's kingdom, for the time when God's kingdom will come. The elimination of all boundaries and the liberation of hell. This will be a time of building.

Centered on the 8th pledge, we must go beyond the traditional absolute love

of Christianity. True love, God's Love, is living for the sake of others. If it isn't logical it cannot be true. The providential view of Rev. Moon cannot be denied.

All the peace ambassadors are archangels and have no right to possession. People say that Rev. Moon tries to buy power. They have tried to put Rev. Kwak in prison. Have I gone to North Korea and come back alive or not?

People try to attach strings. Don't attach strings. There should be no false affections. The Nobel Prize winners cannot create factions in our movement. People thought that I would be destroyed. Would god be with someone that is on the way to destruction? Wherever I go, God is with me.

Who from the west has not spoken critically of me? I do not trust the judges and politicians, they are all robbers.

There was an appointment with Bush, I did not go. There is an ignorant farmer in Brazil as president now. He wanted to meet with me, but I would not go. When they apologize I might meet them.

Members of the Nobel committee came to meet me in London. I made them wait two hours. I told them that if this were the truth would they follow me? They are all robbers. They said they would have to ask the queen.

I survived all these struggles, and am able to teach all the great people of the world. Can the Kingdom of God be declared or not? If you don't believe it you should go to the established churches.

At the UN GA, if this is decided then everything will follow. If not, then we can put them on a plane and go to Inchon. We can replace them with people registered in Korea. The law of the fatherland will be developed, the laws are not humanistic, and there will be no sympathy here. If you become True Parents yourself, is there something that I did not teach you? We are all masters of Cheon Il Guk. God has allowed this, it is your country. If no fall then centering on your lineage, unity would have come.

There will be a purge on God's orders, and evil will be eliminated like shadows. Gays will be eliminated, the three Israels will unite. If not then they will be burned. We do not know what kind of world God will bring but this is what happens. It will be

greater than the communist purge but at God's orders. Can I pull the blessed families from hell? If you fail your ancestors will form factions in hell and descend on you.

God sends out a public message. The Kingdom has been proclaimed but there was no nation. If all the nations of the world became loyal, then we could shine like the light.

Until April 10 of next year, the embassies must come together and 120 families

Father’s Historic Proclamation Concerning the Peace Kingdom

On January 3, Rev. Kwak gave a profound report on the IIPC and the work of Father for the last 40 years leading up to the incredible victory in Israel. Rev. Kwak was very direct as to how Father worked toward this moment in a very consistent manner for the last few decades. Father did not just begin inter-faith work but is the recognized world leader and the one who has the trust of the major religious leaders. That’s why Al Aqsa Mosque and Key Christians as well as important Jewish leaders could trust us.

After we had Yute —by the way I was on the winning team and all the Korean leaders felt it was a good omen for America!! I believe it’s because of Dr. Yang’s heart to Father and the American members extraordinary sacrifice to unite absolutely and respond to God’s providence. Also many feel that Jesus had a hand in it... thank you Jesus!— -Rev. Michael Jenkins

Father held a lottery and gave many things away. It was totally exciting. Then suddenly at the end he began to give this most historic summary. The atmosphere became hushed with focused anticipation.

Shortly after Jesus was crucified Israel wandered for 2000 years. In 1948 Israel became a nation again with the cooperation of the United States. In 1948 Korea was liberated and formed a nation again with the cooperation of the United States. With the ceremony of the Coronation of Jesus all the historical entanglements are dissolved and Jesus will be free to work as he should have been able to as the King of Kings. Now Jesus will not only stand as the King of Israel but also as the spiritual King of the Second Israel America. Now Jesus will have the power to unify all Christian denominations, Catholic and Protestant.

The first, second and third Israel will become one nation as the fourth Israel which includes Moslems, Christians and Jews and all faiths. The Abel United Nations centering on the third Israel will bring peace on earth. The IIPC was formed as the Abel UN. The Old Testament Age has passed through the coronation of Jesus. Then through the second Israel the New Testament Age will be restored. Then the Completed Testament Age will be restored through the rallies to crown Jesus in the Fatherland. Then the fourth Israel will become one. Then the substantial Cheon Il Guk through the fourth Israel will be fully realized. Through the Cheon Il Guk Blessing we will expand the blessing and the change of blood lineage to all people. The perfection of the fourth Israel will be based on the oneness of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Israel. This will create a new realm ending the conflict of Cain and Abel and will reconcile them

as one. This will be the era of the Peace Kingdom. All the pain and suffering of the heart of God will be ended.

Pyeong Hwa UN (Peace UN) will center on the Fatherland. The fourth Israel will center on America and will move

To achieve this all religions must cooperate to support and achieve this. This will be done through all religions leading the way through the Cheon Il Guk Holy Wine and Holy Salt to change the blood lineage and to sanctify all possessions so that all may be claimed by God. Then with this foundation all can be claimed by God through every religion, race and people. That nation that can make the offering of all humanity and all things before God is Cheon Il Guk (the Kingdom of God on Earth). Now the total living offering must be completed and offered not in the name of the church but in the name of God.

The True Parents will perfect the first, second and third Israel and through this process will perfect the realm of the fourth Israel. This all was to originally occur in 1992. During this 20 years all the family must complete 3 generations of blessed family. You must achieve this in 20 years from 1992 or the 12th year of Cheon Il Guk. This is the year 2012. The foundation for this must be realized by 2007 and then through the years 2008 – 2012 your family must be perfected in heart. This will be the era of great transition. All the refugees will throw away all their possessions and move to the central nation of God’s kingdom. Until this time all your possessions are fake possessions as they can’t be recognized by God. You must offer everything to God through True Parents and then all your possessions and more will be given to

all nations to the Peace Kingdom. We cannot do this with the current UN. Therefore the Peace UN in Cooperation with America will fulfill the Peace Kingdom.

This will give God the position in which God will rule over humanity as the True God and True King. There will be no more Cain and Abel and no more division. If two people can come together in prayer this will be the basis of the Peace Kingdom in every situation. This fourth Israel based on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Israel will be the basis to go beyond all national boundaries and a new Constitution will be formulated for all mankind. We will now enter an era of law in which you cannot enter into heaven without the unity of the mind and body. This will be achieved in cooperation with the spirit world and the teaching from the spiritual world and Father’s words that will bring about a revolution of conscience and of heart. From now you mind must subjugate your body. Your body can no longer dominate your mind. The Peace United Nations and the Fourth Israel will become one forming the heavenly nation of Cheon Il Guk.

Then they will be able to welcome the era of the perfection of God’s ideal. This will be the fulfillment of the Peace Kingdom. America, Israel and Korea must become one. This will become the external realm of sovereignty. With this foundation then Cheon Il Guk will be opened. The first second and third Israel perfected as one will be the basis for the Peace Kingdom. All will be liberated and this will be the basis for the Heavenly Eternal nation of Cheon Il Guk.

The first Israel, second Israel and third Israel must come to unite as one.

the fulfillment of all the providence of God. This Peace United Nations must have a body. That body is the unified 1st, 2nd and 3rd Israel into the fourth Israel.

With that kind of subjective standard and the pure blood lineage and the pure love organs the safe settlement of mankind will be realized.

All Japanese members must go through training. You must not miss this opportunity. Everything starts on the foundation of God’s Fatherland. If you miss this opportunity then Satan could still invade. You must burn away all your possessions the way that Nero burnt down the city of Rome. You must burn away all the past and make a new beginning. As the Israelites put the blood of the lamb over the door you must prepare yourself is such a way that you will be ready for the great Exodus like the Israelites went through. Rev. Eu you must build the embassies for the son. You are responsible. Japan is responsible to fulfill this before heaven. You must build the embassies for the Fourth Israel and the Peace United Nations. Japanese members —this is a warning you must not miss this time.

Report

Mr. Pak Sung Kwon then gave a brief report.

I congratulate all the lottery winners and the winners of the Yute game. I am the President of True World group and the Pyeong Hwa Motors. One famous Christian minister came to me and was desperate because he said the current leadership of Korea doesn’t know what it is doing. They don’t understand North Korea.

I’ve been to North Korea seventy six times. We have many businesses there now. Mr. Kim the secretary of the North Korean Party passed away. I was the only representative of South Korea to go to the funeral. He was lying there peacefully. The funeral was done with a solemn atmosphere. His wife was moved and she told me that she heard so much from him about Rev. Moon and we will work with President Kim Jong Il together with Rev. Moon to bring the unity of North and South Korea.

Peace Motors is the only automaker in North Korea and now has the total support of Kim Jong Il. We have a relation-

ship built on Father’s consistent love and support since he met Kim Il Sung. From that trust has been built. I received an award from Kim Jong Il and I gave it to True Father. ❖



you as blessings from God through True Parents. Only then can we have true ownership and rights over possessions. This is the era of great transition.

Cheon Il Guk will create a culture of heart centering on God. This will be



REV. MICHAEL JENKINS

Rev. Jenkins is the President of the American Church

by Rev. Michael Jenkins

As we now enter the 37th True God's Day and the 4th Year of Cheon Il Guk on behalf of Dr. Yang and the whole American movement we wish to express our total gratitude to God and our True Parents. We also wish to thank Rev. Kwak our international Chairman, Rev. Hwang the FFWPUI International President and Dr. Walsh of IIFWP for the work that led to True Parent's victorious conclusion of this year. Dr. Yang and I also wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude to our America Family and our Regional Directors, our Vice Presidents Vice Regional Directors and leaders of all major organizations. Most of all we wish to sincerely thank all Blessed Central Families for repeatedly rising to the challenge to unite with God's providence which has now created the realm of the Fourth Israel and the Era of the Peace Kingdom.

We began this year with True Parents having successfully completed the 33 year course of Jesus Ministry in the United States and on that basis they bequeathed all that they possessed to humanity. Based on the foundation of the 144,000 blessing and subsequent Interreligious and international blessings, as well as the Cloud of Witnesses, True Father asked that the Cross be taken down to end the old era and begin a new. In support of this direction on December 31st one Christian Church formally led the way.

To prepare for this year the leaders of our movement engaged in a 50 day workshop at Cheong Pyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center to prepare for the year of 2003. This led to the Choen Il Guk Activity in which 2400 representatives from Korea, Japan and America came to unite with True Parents and set the condition to protect and secure the Fatherland which at that time was under historic tension between the North and South. Then Father called upon the families to become owners of Cheon Il Guk and representatives of that body were assembled with the 7200 from the three primary nations.

On February 6th True Parents held the "Holy Marriage Blessing Ceremony of the Heavenly Parent and the Parents of Heaven and Earth and the Coronation of the King [and Queen] of the Blessed Families"

This was the third stage of the Blessing and represented the cosmic level or completion of the Blessed Family. This was the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. With this blessing True Parents could be crowned King and Queen of all Blessed Families and with this victory, heaven and earth could ring with resounding joy. The first stage blessing was our first and family level blessing, then the second stage national level blessing was held in October of 2000 based upon all blessed families drinking the holy wine for a second time. (This was not the original plan of God but was based on the grace of our True Parents and was needed due to our that the Blessed Families did not fulfill their responsibility for absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience.)

Through the second stage National level blessing all blessed families were forgiven and became conditionally pure

subjects of Heavenly Father. This allowed them to register into God's Kingdom as Blessed Central Families. This opened the way for True Father to offer the Coronation Ceremony for God's Kingship on January 13, 2001. This was a central turning point in God's providence and gave Heavenly Father full authority as substantial king over all humanity. This means that from the point of the Coronation ceremony the authority and power of goodness will continue to rise while the authority and power of evil will absolutely decline. This rise of goodness is now irreversible however the speed with which goodness is manifested in all people is dependent upon how rapidly we fulfill our portion of responsibility.

The third blessing (Cheon Il Guk Blessing) is a world level blessing. The third Cheon Il Guk blessing of February 6th on True Mother's birthday, came upon the grace given by the burning ceremony of October of 2002 on True Children's Day at which time Father changed the Family Pledge to begin with "As Owners of Cheon Il Guk..." This also allowed True Parents to select a conditional number of families to be representative "Owners of Cheon Il Guk to receive True Parents direct inheritance." This allowed us to be "reborn" as a new Adam and Eve couple and we could register in a way that signified our receiving our "birth certificate".

Then Father called upon the families to become owners of Cheon Il Guk and representatives of that body were assembled with the 7200 from the three primary nations. To prepare for this year the leaders of our movement engaged in a 50 day workshop at Cheong Pyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center to prepare for the year of 2003. This led to the Choen Il Guk Activity in which 2400 representatives from Korea, Japan and America came to unite with True Parents and set the condition to protect and secure the Fatherland which at that time was under historic tension between the North and South. This Cheon Il Guk activity allowed the "Owners of Cheon Il Guk to return to their hometowns in Korea as Father was returning to his hometown." Externally this protected the Fatherland and secured the course toward the establishment of the sovereign nation of God. Internally the proclamation that True Parents are the King of all Blessed was proclaimed in every village of the Fatherland. All Blessed Families could be secured. On this basis the Family Party was established in Korea as the foundation for the education of the leaders of the Kingdom of God on earth.

Unfortunately, we as Blessed Central Families, did not fulfill our responsibility to bring forth the substantial Kingdom that should have welcomed the King of all Blessed Families. Therefore indemnity was needed to advance the Cheon Il Guk. Then upon Father's return to America the world wide tensions that should

have been resolved through the cooperation of the Interreligious and the International leaders led to the outbreak of war which was not the desire of heaven. Father himself paid maximum indemnity on our behalf. We must really repent at this time when we think that Father's sickness was a desperate battle that was fought both on a life risking physical level and in an internal life or death spiritual struggle. While Father was battling against all odds to reverse the course toward a global war which could spill over into a world wide religious war, Father kept the 5 am schedule without fail and slowly and painstakingly over an 80 day period Father overcame and became renewed. This set the condition to forgive all for our shortcomings and reverse the path toward global religious war. We must really thank True Mother for this period because she spent every possible moment supporting Father in his recovery and maintaining the secure and stable foundation for our movement and the direction of heaven.

During this time of immense suffer-

said that the ACLC Christians should go to Jerusalem and help their elder brother the first Israel to overcome the condition of having rejected Jesus and reverse that by embracing Jesus. This was accomplished through the Jerusalem declaration. Not only did Christians and Jews reconcile at this time but also the Muslim leaders came forth. When the Rabbi was asked if he could sign the Jerusalem Declaration he said "If my brother from the Islamic faith will sign". When the Imam came forward all of history began a new course and the three Abrahamic faiths began a course of reconciliation and unity. In the May course Father began a new public ministry. One of the first things that Father did was to go to UTS and reestablish the seminary.

On the Day of all True Things on May 31st and in Father's June 1st address a new era dawned in which True Parents are one before heaven. At pledge Mother and Father bowed to God together and Mother no longer would bow to Father but would take her place behind the altar after Father and Mother bowed to God.

Then also Dae Mo Nim was included in the True Families bow before heaven.

Father gave a 7 hour address on June 1st signifying the 7 days of creation and all things were renewed. Starting with the forgiveness of the 36 blessed couples, Father forgave all blessed central families and a new course of history began. To set the condition to internalize this grace all were asked to do a 21 day condition of reading Father's words from his May speeches. We were all asked to register our families as new families of God's kingdom and place our fingerprints on our birth certificates.

In June the AFC movement led by Mr. Jim Flynn launched together with Rev. Jenkins and Dr. Walsh, Secretary General of IIFWP the American Leadership Initiative in which over 79 Congressmen and 3 U.S. Senators came and could receive the message from our Chairman Rev. Kwak concerning the need for the Inter-

religious Council for Good Governance, peace and stability in the world.

Also in June Father launched a special Media training for all leaders with the Washington Times and then expanded the Jerusalem Declaration to the Washington Declaration. He also launched effort to renew the United Nations seeking the acceptance of an Interreligious Council. The Interreligious and International Peace Sports Festival was held in July and America's basketball team led by Rev. Greg Thomas of Washington D.C. took the silver medal.

In August the Lasting Love Conference led by FFWPU and World CARP with 120 representatives from each country representing Korea, Japan, China, Russia and America was held educating Students on the value of purity, blessed marriage and the Interreligious principle leading the way to Peace. Rev. Joshua Cotter did a tremendous work in this

see 2003 on page 7



ing, Father called upon the Christians to remove their crosses ending the era of blood shed and proclaiming the era of life centering on the resurrection of Jesus. This was done on Good Friday April, 2003. 123 Churches took down their crosses. Father then directed them to take this condition to the Holy Land and to bury the cross there. At the same time he directed that theological conferences be held with black theologians to lay the theological and intellectual sound and solid ground for the end of the era of the cross. Major Black theologians to our great surprise and joy stepped forward affirming the end of the era of the cross. This protected the movement to end the cross.

On May 1st True Parents ended the indemnity course and began a new public ministry. During May Father accomplished amazing historical victories on the foundation of the indemnity that he paid. He gave a series of landmark messages at the morning Hoon Dok Hae. He

VICTORY
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same, he wants his sons and daughter to be greater than himself, isn't that so? Parents always want their sons and daughters to live greater than themselves, is not that a truth? A wife also would like her husband to live in a better place than hers, that has been God's underlain truth.

What is the most important among love, life and hope? Among these three, love is the greatest. In the completed testament age we are talking about absolute love, absolute life and absolute obedient, so this must be absolutely infested so that the people on earth can live accordingly 8 in a way God can bring them all the way up to heaven where the absolute love, absolute

life and absolute obedient can be brought about. Unless you live a life absolute investment and absolute forgetting, living for the sake of others, you can not inherit his love and you can not reach the center of the universe in ruling it and become sons and daughter of God. And unless you have that revolution of heart you can not encompass the vast universe. God is trying to truly hand down



this truly vast universe to us ... all of what True Parents of heaven and earth became a great revolution. ❖

were doing is truly amazing. Heungjin nim can not do anything on his own, he is doing these things because father instructed him to pioneer this way. Because of false parents, false life and false lineage Heavenly Father was in a very miserable passion. Do you know how much Satan trapped God that way, because of the evil and sins? Without True Parents everything would end up in hell but because True Parents came and revealed all these things, this

Report from Daemo nim

A birthday celebration for Jesus was held at Chungpyung Training Center on January 3rd, 2004, at 7:00a.m. After the coronation ceremony for Jesus as the King of Israel, which was held on December 22, 2003, January 3rd, 2004 is the first day in which Jesus' birthday was celebrated as the king of Israel for the first time in history. For hoondokhae Rev. Kwak read True Father's speech [title: The New Future of Christianity] which was given on September 18, 1974 at Madison Square Garden. Then Daemo nim gave this short report regarding Jesus' situation during his coronation ceremony.

When we began the Chungpyung providence, True Father said that it is the restored and perfected Garden of Eden. Father instructed that in this perfected Garden, mankind be created as well. To do this, I had the opportunity to look at the spiritual world from hell to heavenly kingdom and my responsibility was to know everything about the spiritual world.

It took me three years to know about Satan and evil correctly. To help the people in this training center in order to be perfected, I made the indemnity condition and I went to spiritual world. I felt so much pain when I looked at the spiritual world and the physical world. Originally we were created to live joyfully but it did not happen.

After the fall God has sent central figures, but because of evil, the spiritual world is not a comfortable place as we may think. We may think there are Paradise and the heavenly Kingdom, but it is not. Evil realm developed so strongly and even took over the paradise, and so almost 80% of the spiritual world is under the evil and Satan. Such a world this place has become, it is a very strong world in its own, and you can think this way. When you see even a small light there you would run for it, with this you can feel how people are in spiritual world.

True Parents are on earth right now. We are on earth and as we are attending them we know how precious they are. But more than that if you see True Parents in the spirit world, they appear with a greater value... Then we realize that how well we should attend them. Even though True Parents made a

lots of indemnity conditions, letting us to have only small amount of condition, but we did not fulfill our responsibility and that is why True Parents course became so difficult. When you see all the things True Parents have done and how much we did and how we have been, you will see clearly that what True Parents are doing are much more ahead of schedule, like the coronation of God's Kingship, Family Kingship. According to their standard it was delayed, therefore they think they should have done it earlier but because we did not fulfill our responsibility, it was delayed and according to that still they did it 3 years earlier. It was the same with Abel UN as well.

When we met the 4 major religious founders (in the spirit world) they said that how precious True Parents are. (I was thinking) how strong they feel about it and how they are so confident in specking about our True Parents' precious value.

We should know about them, who are they, what they say and etc. They said they can only respect True Parents, because True Parents have true love. True Parents came based on true love and the love they are giving us is so great. They know about the original sin but the religious founders did not know about it. This is the difference between True Parents and the religious founders. That is why they accept how precious True Parents are.

At the time of blessing the religious founders were so happy, they were so grateful and they promise to work hard in spirit world. They promise to work hard in order to resolve and untangle everything on earth, and understanding the divine principle. They are thinking deeply how to teach and they are so grateful to our True Parents.

Christians and the Christian culture supposed to be restored during 1992 to 1994. We have been working hard from December 22 to 25 to resolve

and untangle the things. On December 22nd at midnight all of a sudden Heungjin nim said Jesus will come on December 23rd at midnight, and they will speak about the great thing which is going to happen between those peri-



ods. On that night Jesus came and I asked what are you going to do? Then he said that True Parents have resolved my resentment and blessed me and I am feeling so grateful. I never thought that my coronation can be done, he said. He was so grateful and during the ceremony he was talking to those who were there that how much he is happy. But they could not understand so I came here and Jesus told me that all True Parent' wish is to save humankind from sickness and misery in the spiritual world and the physical world. That is why I want to pay back something to True Parents and so during the holy song session I want to do the healing.

When we read about Jesus work in the bible we think that it happened just like that, but actually the healing happened after the evil spirit was removed. In order for blind to see to or the deaf to hear, was done just like the Chungpyung. What he did was done together with angels. This time together with the angels who worked with him in the past and those angels who supported the disciples, and Heungjin

nim they did "ansoo" to us and cleared up the evil spirits during the holy song session on December 24th and 25th. Many miracles accorded at that time and I wished many peoples from around the world could participate, but it had happened all of sudden...

Jesus thanked our True Parents and said that every thing will be different from the year 2004; God's sovereignty will be established and True Parents will proclaim about peace. From now on God will express his almightiness. Jesus said, he wants to do something in response to what True Parents have done for him. He is grateful for he was remembered. Even this morning at this celebration Jesus said as True Parents held birthday celebration for me I want to make sure that they can see me doing something for them. So that they never regret for giving me such great celebration.

I have seen Jesus in the spirit world but this morning he is so happy. As you know Jesus is gentle mannered while he speaks and his action is gentle always but after the coronation ceremony he is looking so strong and confident. I know that for all our members and the people of the world, especially those who are sick, there will occur many great miracles. And one more history can be made by Jesus.

Our member will be able to accomplish the purpose of the blessing. This is our time, we have our God, our True Parents and there are absolute good spirits, angels and saints surrounding us. If we just work hard, as God and True Parents want us to go out and work for 3 hours to restore neighbors around us, we will bring victory. We can go to spiritual world only with our merits and what we have done for God. So we have to be able to create more merits during our life time here on earth. So that True Parents who are working so hard and living for us completely, can feel happy.

From now on none of us has to live a poor life begging Satan to look at us to how well we do (for him), but we should be loved by God. ❖

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UNIFICATION NEWS

GOD’S DAY
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blessed, 180 and 430. All the nations must do this. The age has come when they must come to Korea to be blessed.

Everything was separated. The 7 nations separating couldn’t make one unified world. Can the 7 nations be united in the embassies? Problem or no problem?

No problem. One family, one world. You have to know this well. You have to go on the front lines and make the preparation. The embassies have been built. The nations centered on Korea, embassies of all the nations and islands and continents will be created. All the neighbors of Korea. The peninsula will become the gateway to the world. We gathered many leaders yesterday in Cholla. Before they opposed True Father but now they want Cholla to become special area, now they unite.

All the ancestors of the spirit world have come together to repent for killing Jesus. Now all the Israels can be connected centered on Korea. They have all been liberated. Now we have the proclamation of God’s Fatherland in the era of the Peace Kingdom. Everything that I am saying is being sent to the CIA, saying that True Father will bring down America.

You have to sell your house to bring in this age. True Father has to proclaim the fatherland and quickly restore this nation.

We will end. Understand, total unification, even the blessed families must be recreated to bring in the Peace Kingdom.

Some of the tasks that we must do:

Fulfill the family pledge, live up to the name of an owner of Cheon Il Guk. All must be one, mind and body, h/w, p/c. Centered on the blood lineage, the gates

of heaven will open. The whole problem is that you must go past the first gate. There are two more pledges than the 8, but I cannot announce them now. The age of the completion of the family pledge has come about. Only on this can we stand on the foundation for the Cheon Il Guk. All things must be offered to complete the family pledge. This is completion and liberation of the heavenly nation.

Next, are we the only ones to perfect this? With new holy salt and new holy wine, we must liberate the Cain type world. By using this we will complete the tong bong kyok pa. We must bless and purify those who do not know the family pledge.

Next, we must make the safe settlement of pure love, life and sex. What is a pure love department? We have to completely separate this like Sodom and Gomorrah. You must never forget, purity before marriages, fidelity in marriage, protect your blood lineage, the 3 generations of your lifetime, even up to the 4th gen. You must complete their blessing.

Next make the age of the total and complete harmony. Restore your family and tribe. Revival, resurrection and eternal life ceremonies of blessing and purification. All blessed families must put these things together.

Number 5, the confirming of True Father’s words, the conferment ceremony, and the grandfather of the first generation can confirm and hand down the words. How many volumes? 400, you must inherit all of them, and pass them down to each generation. The son and grandson must inherit from the father and grandfather, handing it down to the 7th generations, the 16th generations.

To set them up to live in the heavenly kingdom, they must receive the heavenly law. That is why you must have a ferment.

The Chun Sung Pa, the heavenly scripture distills the 400 volumes to a 2300 page book, the heavenly bible. You have to study and memorize. All the guidelines for living in the heavenly nation are



in this book, the articles of the heavenly constitution are in this book. How much is 400 volumes? 6M won. 400 volumes must become your family treasure. 7.8 M won plus 30%. Round off to 10 M won for the 400. Rev. Kwak? This must be conferred to your lineage. How much? We have so many people from around the world, let’s decide. Who says 7.8?

This money offered belongs to True Parents, not the church. With that money we will build heavenly infrastructure, roads and schools. This is a sacred offering, don’t deceive. Use a portion of your salary to give this money. Do not deceive. Hand out some paper and make everyone sign and give their addresses, for your sons and daughters. Write your ancestors, so that this can be handed to

your descendants. So no other factions will come from your lineage.

If there are three generations, then you must fulfill this task. Work together to fulfill this money.

So it is fixed at 10M won. 30% more than cost. In America and Japan, those costs will of course be much higher than in Korea. So this offering will last tens of thousands of years, and these volumes can be passed down, if so, then the kingdom of God will never perish. As more time is spent in HDH, there spirits will rise.

Number 6 is that all things begin from God’s Fatherland. Forget everything, burn everything of the past. Don’t be proud of the things you did in the past. You can be proud of only the things you do in the future. True patriots and saints. True Father is closing the doors to suffering and opening the gates to the Kingdom of heaven.

Number 7 is unification of mind and body. This is going in reverse. Starts with family pledge and ends

in mind and body unification. You can end with the fulfillment of family pledge, but it must be fulfilled. All things must be united in accord with your mind, set up the determination to be in the position of prince and princess in front of God.

True Father is handing down these words to you all. Please pass it on to your descendants and then God’s kingdom will last forever and ever. Everything will finally be perfected and completed.

God wanted his fatherland we wanted the peace kingdom. Give thanks and be grateful, stand without shame before heaven and earth. Do not become the kind of sons and daughters that only cry for themselves. ❖

2003
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dispensation. From this base a new witnessing movement was born through CARP in America. Together with the IIFWP and before these leaders Father gave the first of three central historic addresses. “ The Owners of Recreation” on August 15th. The IIFWP in August completed the three stages of the reconciliation and forgiveness of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Israel through the Seoul Declaration in which Moslems, Christians and Jews affirmed the repentance for past history and the embrace of Jesus to reverse the condition that divided the chosen people 2000 years ago into Judaism, Christianity and Islam. On this basis on August 20, 2003 Father proclaimed the establishment of the “Fourth Israel” as a substantial sovereign entity as the horizontal manifestation of the vertical “Cheon Il Guk” (Cosmic Nation of Peace and Unity – the Kingdom of God on Earth). This fourth Israel was now composed of all people, religions and nations who had received the blessing.

To seal the covenant between the new “chosen people of all races, religions and nationalities” the Cheon Il Guk Holy Wine was given. all Blessed Central families including all generations had to take the Holy wine again. This purified the new chosen people and set us on the new course of history.

One final push was given to give the UN a chance to accept the Interreligious Council. Representatives of 7 enemy nations were selected (120 from each

nation) and 840 representatives came to New York for this historic 40 day effort. During this time Father launched the second ACLC Pilgrimage to the Holy Land the opened the gates to Al Aqsa Mosque and the Western Wall as well and our delegation of Moslem, Christian and Jewish religious leaders and representatives of all faiths were welcomed in Jerusalem and Gaza. This was the substantial manifestation of True Father’s proclamation of October 3rd entitled The New Elimination of Boundaries and World Peace (the second of three historic addresses). Then on October 3rd with the United Nations unable to accept the Interreligious council needed for World Peace Father launched the “Peace United Nations” as the Interreligious and International Peace Council centering on Rev. Kwak. Based on Father’s direction we also marched to the United Nations and with thousands gathered including former heads of state we proclaimed the Interreligious and International Peace Council will lead the way to world peace. On the stage representatives of the Jewish, Christian and Moslem faith reconciled as brothers.

The 840 of 7 enemy nations were led by Rev. Kwak, Rev. Hwang, Dr. Yang, Rev. Song from Europe, Mrs. Erikawa, Dr. Walsh, Rev. Jenkins and Mr. Jim Flynn unifying many dimensions of our leadership. This team included key European, Japanese and Korean leaders and set the condition for unity of Enemy nations. From this body 84 Ambassadors were appointed by True Father as the “first” Ambassadors of the Fourth Israel

and they departed for Korea for special training by True Parents. Father then launched the Third Pilgrimage to Israel not only with the ACLC Clergy but also with 400 representatives from 7 enemy nations (Korea, Japan, America, England, France, Germany and Italy). These 7 enemy nations rallied with 5,000 at Independence Park and walked to the Holy Sites and proclaimed that we as former enemies have reconciled and now the gate is open for Israel and Palestine to reconcile. Upon our return to Korea Father proclaimed that “Let’s Go To Gaza”. He also proclaimed the reconciliation of Ishmael and Isaac, Hagar and Sarah must be accomplished through the fourth Pilgrimage and that this is the precondition for the unity of North and South Korea.

In December the Dr. Moon led the world wide leaders of the Women’s Federation for World Peace in their summit which was held in New York. Our American Chairwoman, Mrs. Alexa Ward did a magnificent job as the host and the NGO work of WFWP is now strengthened opening many, many countries to the heart of our True Parents.

Father directed the IIPC to manifest its work in the Holy Land through the Middle East Peace Initiative in both a conference and a rally. Father asked the world movement to go to Israel. 3000 representatives went and beheld the miracle of God. An International Conference was held with Rev. Kwak and President Wahid of Indonesia in the Gaza strip with 100 religious leaders and 150 religious and NGO representatives from Gaza. Then almost 3,000 gathered at the Holy sites

and to the surprise of many tens of thousands from Muslim, Christian and Jewish faiths as well as Palestinians and Israelis gathered in peace and united centering on Father’s words delivered by Rev. Kwak. Dr. Yang led the rally to the victory of the Coronation of Jesus as the King of Peace by representatives of the Jewish Faith, with a Muslim and Christian representative. Then the Muslims presented a menorah and reconciled with Jewish leaders and Christian leaders repented and embraced a Muslim representative giving him a robe symbolizing the confirmation that Muhammad is God’s prophet. Jesus, Moses and Muhammad are one. The era of conversion is over and the Era of the Peace Kingdom is now realized through the resolution of the problems of 3000 years ago. We sincerely thank Heung Jin Nim, Dae Mo Nim, Jesus, Muhammad, Moses, Buddha and Confucius for making this possible from the heavenly realm. Now the lion will lay down with the lamb.

Father’s final direction in the Holy Land was that centering on Rev. Kwak and Dr. Yang 1400 leaders should be educated in preparation for the unity of Palestine and Israel as one family of God. This goal was completed on December 31st (in 7 days).

We must rejoice and be grateful that we were chosen to be a direct heir, owner and witness to the fulfillment of all scripture. Glory to God on High !!! Let the Proclamation of God’s Fatherland and the Era of the Peace Kingdom manifest in every home, community and nation on earth. ❖

Working Heart to Heart in the Holy Land

by Rev. Michael Jenkins

Leaders who attended the web-cast with True Parents in Korea on December 22nd expressed how deeply serious Father was until the Coronation ceremony for Jesus and the reconciliation with Christians, Muslims and Jews. Afterwards Father was so deeply relieved and happy. One leader told me that each and every day for two weeks before the rally, Father was very serious and tense. He held Hoon Dok Hae strictly and didn't speak often but only had the Hoon Dok reading of God's words.

This was a most important crossroad in Human History. The condition has now been sealed that the chosen people of Israel embraced and welcomed Jesus and crowned him as the King of Peace. This reversed all that occurred 2000 years ago. On that basis Muslims, Christians and Jews will unite as "Gods" chosen people to form a new covenant - that of the Fourth Israel.

The joy at the God's Day celebration was immense. Rev. Kwak's, Rev. Hwang's and Dr. Yang's reports on the Holy Land were each unique and overwhelming with power and confirmation that the fulfillment of all scriptures has now occurred. Once the root cause of enmity is solved we must walk ahead with faith and we will see the transformation occur. We are overwhelmed by the transformation we see in Gaza, Ramallah and Jerusalem in Jews, Muslims and Christians on all sides. It is very real.

We know that behind this victory was God's 6000 years of unchanging heart to save humanity and True Parents indemnity and conditions to restore the True Family.

Also the work of IIFWP laid the foundation for excellent Ambassadors for Peace who would be ready when God called them.

Most importantly the unity of Rev. Ji (Mideast Continental Director), Dr. and Mrs. Abe, Hod, Miri, Mr. and Mrs. Nonaka, Tal, Addi and all IIFWP members there and especially the sacrifice of the Japanese volunteers. They bring the Holy Spirit through tears and prayer. God is a magnificent God sent leader so much so that I would like to encourage you when you go to Israel to not only say "Let Go Let God" but now to also include "Let Go Let Hod". God is working through our team there. They laid the foundation for the eternal historical coronation that reversed and forgave all the conditions that occurred 2000 years ago.

Our Ambassadors for Peace in the Holy Land are without question the best in the world. Why? Because they put it all on the line, their reputations, their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. If we failed in this bold venture they would be the ones most humiliated. They were criticized and scorned and many were mocked. The skepticism is great because so many Peace movements have come done a show and never come back. (We will never stop this work until the Kingdom comes first in the Holy Land and then to the

lievable insight and sensitivity to our efforts - Shuki - who is deeply connected to the American Indians, is the heart of our Ambassadors for Peace and Shosh did incredible work), Dr. Walid Sadiq (former Knesset member and Muslim leader - did much to develop our work on the highest levels both in the conference in Gaza and Ramallah as well as Palestinian and Israeli Muslim communities), Dr. Hassan Amer and his wife Lubna (Muslim scholar and leader who brought over 500 and another 200 to Kafer Qasem - he also

the right, center right, center and the left) , Father and Mrs. Abouna Hatum of Nazareth (Catholic leader who brought over 1000), Sheikh Kiwan - whose beautiful heart and family moved the heart of Allah. He is the ideal leader of Islam. He brought 700 to the rally), Sheikh Ali Birani (Druze leader) who, through the leaders he organized, brought 141 buses of Muslims, Christians, Jews and Druze), Dr. Daniel Dana (a Persia leader who brought 288 Jewish VIP's to the rally and another 200 to the follow up banquet) - his wife Marina also aided

with the Russian community, Rabbi BD and his wife (their unchanging heart was magnificent), Shelley Elkyam our beloved powerful Poetess and Jewish Woman leader. Ms. Delia Steiner Producer at Channel One deeply connected with our Peace Task Force Pastor Rev. Marilyn Kotulek and reconciliation between Jewish and Christian women was established through their example and friendship, Sheikh Bukari whose 2000 year old historic home on the Via Dolorosa became the headquarters for our East Jerusalem Outreach.

Our Service For Peace movement led by Akiko caught the imagination of young people in Bethlehem and Tel Aviv. Students are now on fire for the Heart to Heart Campaign. Father Emil Rohanas was unchanging in his efforts. Samer of Ramallah opened many doors. Amir our Jewish Brother moved our hearts and took care of our Peace Task Force, translating for them and going to appointments. Our Palestinian support team of Hatam and Isam and Ibrahim were key to many victories.

In addition there needs to be recognition of the key people from the IIFWP MEPI efforts. (This will be done at another time.) We simply want to say thank you to our Holy Land Team. You are the heart of True Parents. Let us heal all hearts in the Holy Land. The Holy Land is a Holy Land. Let us march forward quickly from Gaza to Gethsemane to the Rolling hills of Ramallah to the Holy City of Jerusalem.

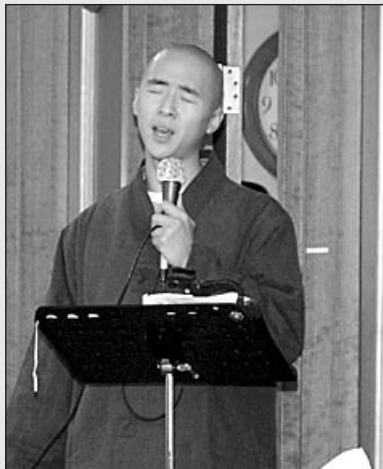
Heart to Heart has just begun! Father has asked us to do three more Pilgrimages! ❖

True Parents and Israel

Representatives of seven nations and some other Korean members joined True Family in Hannam-dong to watch the live broadcasting of the events in Israel through internet on December 22, at 9PM.

On December 23 before hoonddokhae True Parents cut the cake for the victory in Israel. Then with a short report from Peter Kim regarding the event in Israel, True Parents spoke to Rev. Kwak and the members in Hannam-dong at the same time, giving guidance regarding the providential needs for all the people of the world including the people of Israel and Palestine.

After the hoonddokhae True Father asked members to join in singing, in celebrating the victorious event in Israel.



Fatherland.) Through the consistency we have established and the amazing movement of hearts and the work beyond all boundaries gained respect for heart to heart throughout Israel and especially in the Israeli and Arab press. The Israeli press is among the toughest in the world. They were moved and we appreciated their honest coverage.

There are two many to mention to cover all the key people but our core committee was outstanding. Dr. Shuki and Shosh Ben Ami (who brought unbe-

brought 20 mayors together), Dr. Eliezar and Rachel Glaubach (who was instrumental in strategy and conveying a most powerful endorsement and leadership as a Jewish Professor and former Jerusalem City Council Member - Mrs. Glaubach opened the floodgates to touch the heart of the Jewish people - she ran the phonebank night and day relentlessly calling all Jewish Community centers), Mr. Baruch and Shelagh Shelev (ah Baruch - fearless and wise - Baruch and Shelagh led us into the camps of

people from the IIFWP MEPI efforts. (This will be done at another time.) We simply want to say thank you to our Holy Land Team. You are the heart of True Parents. Let us heal all hearts in the Holy Land. The Holy Land is a Holy Land. Let us march forward quickly from Gaza to Gethsemane to the Rolling hills of Ramallah to the Holy City of Jerusalem.

HEART TO HEART FOR THE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Peace March, Heart-to-Heart Rally-for-Peace & Peace Candle Ceremony in the Holy Land

Religious, political, NGOs, students and other social representatives from 50 nations of the world with the Israeli and Palestine citizens, around 30,000 people, gathered at Independence Park in Jerusalem for "Peace Rally" on December 22, 2003. This really was sponsored by "Interreligious and International Peace Council" under the title: "Heart to Heart for the Peace in the Middle East and the World".

Rev. Chang Shik Yang, chairman of the rally said "We have respect for each of the various faiths. Rev. Moon is working beyond all denominations for world peace."

Rev. Jenkins, the chairman of the IIFWP USA said: "Today Jesus will be welcomed by his family and honored by his people. This will remove the curse that has divided the children of God. On this foundation, in the midst of tears we will reconcile Christians and Jews and representing Isaac we will bow with respect and love for our brother Ishmael as Jacob bowed before Esau and as with the time of Jacob the brothers will weep and reconcile. All bloodshed will finally come to and end. The new covenant of God is now with a new Chosen people of every race, every people, every nation and every tongue. The Muslims, Christians and Jews will be the base upon which Buddhists, Hindus, Confucianists, Sikhs, Jains and all the religions of the world will reconcile."

Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, Chairman of the IIFWP and the Interreligious and International Peace Council, said: "We should break down all boundaries that divide people, we should live together



in mutual respect and cooperation." He added that with the desperate desire in the world for peace IIPC is bringing this opportunity to practice peace in action among all the representatives participating in this rally.

Two Jewish representatives approached yellow armchairs on a plat-

form in Jerusalem's Independence Park. The Jewish man bowed and placed a silver crown on one seat. The woman beside him placed a robe on the other. Both bowed repeatedly as spectators from 70 countries as far apart as South Korea and the United States stood watching.

"The rejection of Jesus is restored and He is honored as king of peace, welcomed by the Jewish people and embraced and loved as the Lord," declared the Rev. Michael Jenkins.

A Christian clergyman then placed two thick candles signed by True Parents on a low table in front of the yellow chairs. "The prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, is now recognized as God's prophet," Rev. Jenkins said. "We believe in Muhammad."

Two Muslims then gave a Jewish professor a golden menorah as a symbol of reconciliation with the Jews, and the Jews returned the gesture with a black robe. "The best of what God gave you, you want to give to the other," said Dr. Taj Hamad, a Muslim representative from Sudan, who donned the robe.

Rev. Jenkins said religious leaders can support the peace process, help keep it alive when political negotiations hit snags, and give it their blessing once an agreement is achieved. "Without political leaders we cannot achieve peace," he said.

However, he said, religious people are in a better position to reach reconciliation. Sheik Mohammed Khalil

Kiwan, the imam of Majd al-Kurum in the Galilee, said such a group "could introduce some pressure into the politicians' hearts."

Rev. Sun Jo Hwang, President of the FFWPU International said: "All the religions leaders of the world have to put their effort through march for peace to bring about the Peace Kingdom." ♦



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Heart to Heart for the Peace in the Middle East

by Dr. Chang Shik Yang

Distinguished guests from around the world, ladies and gentlemen, brothers and sisters! On behalf of the organizers of the Heart to Heart Peace Initiative, I welcome you to Jerusalem. Peace! Shalom! Salaam Alaikum!

Why did we come here today? Why did more than 3,000 people from more than 40 nations come to the Holy Land? It is because we truly believe that we are standing at a turning point in the history of this land, which has seen so many tears and so much sorrow. It is a time when we need change. It is a time when change can come.

We are children of Abraham who are

destined to live in unity despite our differences. We know that our future lies together, not apart. We must come together as one in unity. It is our only hope. But it can never happen through doctrine or theology, and it cannot happen through political or economic power. It can only happen through true love.

In the last few days our volunteers went to every corner of the nation. We met mayors and leaders; rabbis and imams; Jews and Muslims, Christians and Druze. All of them are longing for peace. But what is the bar-



rier that divides us, blocking the road to peace? It is fear. And what is the only antidote to fear? It is true love.

What is True Love? The Founder of today's gathering, Dr. Sun Myung Moon puts it this way: true love means giving and forgetting that you gave. It means loving not only the people who are close to us, but even our enemies. If we cannot forgive, if we cannot love, we can never unite.

Two months ago we rallied for peace at the United Nations. Two days ago we were in Gaza. Today we are here in

Jerusalem and tomorrow we will be in Ramallah. Wherever we go the message is the same. We must tear down the walls that separate us! We must stop the bloodshed! We must stop the violence! We must put aside our fears and prejudices and learn the ways of peace.

So I urge you, my dear brothers and sisters, to leave this rally a changed person. Look around you at everyone who is here. Are we not all the same? Don't we share the same hopes and ideals for our children? If we can make peace here in Jerusalem, we will be sending out a message of hope to the world that the time has come to build an eternal Kingdom of Peace starting from today. ♦

Heart to Heart with the Grand Mufti

by David Tramborg

Dr. Yang, Rev. Michael Jenkins and a group of Christian ministers and American Muslim Imams went to meet with Grand Mufti Ekrima Sa'id Sabri of Palestine, and three of his assistants to ask his blessing on the December 22 rally for peace. After an hour of talk with his assistants, who invited the three thousand ministers coming from America and the world to come to the Al Asqa Mosque during the rally, The Grand Mufti himself gave his warm blessing on the march and rally, and encouraged all Muslims to attend and support it.

After serving us tea, and talking about many of the serious issues of peace and conflict that face the world, Imam Dr. Erima Sa'id Sabri, Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, and chief of the Schol-



ars and Preachers organization of Palestine, formally gave a video speech where he encouraged all Muslims to try to

solve the pressing issues of peace, and encouraged them to attend the Rally on the 22nd of December. The atmosphere was warm, and cordial, and the Imam did not mind at all as we crowded around him, and his desk and showed him pictures off of Rev. Jenkins's computer. He seemed very inspired to see what we were doing all throughout the holy land, and particularly in Gaza, where suffering is such a great problem.

As we left the Imams office, we walked through a beautiful Spring-like day to a nearby house that is owned by one of our greatest supporters, Imam Baruch. His family has been in that house for over four centuries. He asked Dr. Yang and Rev. Jenkins if they would be so kind as to sign his family diary of visitors. As they did so, giving a special message to this great supporter of God's work today, he told how this book had visitor's signatures and messages from



over 400 years to his family, from almost all countries of the world. ❖

JERUSALEM PILGRIMAGE TESTIMONY

Prof. Eliezer Glaubach-Gal

Please don't lose momentum with coming to us in Israel on pilgrimages. We need you in masses because

we here do realize the change of a t m o s p h e r e towards removing the barriers between the Abrahamic religions which also moves the political leaders of Palestine and Israel towards building bridges for Peace. However in the meantime the reality is so sad.

Rivers of tears flow in the streams of the Holy Land and the sacred River Jordan, tears over the victims and

their suffering families; tears on the helplessness and loss of orientation

and out let, on the nonsense and despair; tears pouring from mothers and fathers, Palestinian and Israelis of orphans and people who's personal world got lost; tears of thousands of funerals wounded and handicaps on negligence of leaders on their untruths and lies. Tears over the culture of enmity and revenge and war.

It seems that we accept to live with those disasters, but we don't. We cry-out loudly for no more! No more!

Your spiritual pilgrimages do hit strongly the minds of the politicians and give real hope

For removing barriers of fear and open the hearts, and this way end foundations of religious hatred, national and ethnic hatred in the Middle East and also elsewhere i.e. Kashmir, East Timor, Balkans, Philippines etc.

So please regard your efforts as sacred missions, which you anyway do, mainly relationship to that pilgrimages to our area, since we do witness the beginning of spiritual change within the nations that dwell in the Holy Land.

This change leads no doubt the so desired and necessary spiritual transformation among political leaders and the nations concerned.

We do realize that our hearts shout strongly when we think of the seeds of hope you are planting here around; so please again don't lose momentum because the chance is enormous that due to your pilgrimages and your activities when you are here more things change. Please, Then, come in masses and quick! And we stand by you forever like always.



Religions Urged to Reconcile for Peace

JERUSALEM (UPI) — Two Jews slowly approached yellow armchairs on a platform in Jerusalem's Independence Park. The man, in a red gold-embroidered skullcap, bowed and placed a silver crown on one seat. The woman beside him placed a robe on the other.

Both bowed repeatedly as spectators from 70 countries as far apart as South Korea and the United States stood watching. Jerusalem police estimated the crowd gathered yesterday at 8,000 persons.

"The [Jews'] rejection of Jesus is restored and He is honored as king of peace, welcomed by the Jewish people and embraced and loved as the Lord," declared the Rev. Michael Jenkins, a minister of the Unification Church, representing the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP).

A Christian clergyman then placed two thick candles on a low table in front of the yellow chairs. "The prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, is now recognized as God's prophet," Mr. Jenkins said. "We believe in Muhammad."

Two Muslims then gave a Jewish professor a golden menorah as a symbol of reconciliation with the Jews, and the Jews returned the gesture with a black robe. "The best of what God gave you, you want to give to the other," said Taj Hamad, a Muslim of Sudan, who donned the robe.

The ceremony was designed partly to convey the idea of the participants that Judaism, Christianity and Islam must reconcile to advance peace in the Middle East. "We should break down all boundaries that

divide people, we should live together in mutual respect and cooperation," said the Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, chairman of the IIFWP and the Interreligious and International Peace Council. Mr. Kwak is chairman and president of News World Communications, which owns The Washington Times and United Press International.

(The Jerusalem Post reported that members of Lev L'achim, an Israeli organization that opposes attempts to convert Jews to other faiths, protested outside the guarded gates that enclosed the event. Chang Shik Yang, chairman of the rally, told the Post that the event, broadcast worldwide over the Internet, was not intended to recruit members for the Unification Church, founded by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

The Jerusalem conference was organized under the auspices of the Rev. Moon. "The age of conversion is over," Mr. Chang said. "We have respect for each of the various faiths. Rev. Moon is working beyond all denominations for world peace.")

Mr. Jenkins said religious leaders can support the peace process, help keep it alive when political negotiations hit snags, and give it their blessing once an agreement is achieved. "Without political leaders we cannot achieve peace," he said.

However, he said, religious people are in a better position to reach reconciliation. Sheik Mohammed Khalil Kiwan, the imam of Majd al-Kurum in the Galilee, said such a group "could introduce some pressure into the politicians' hearts." ❖

by Rev. Bruce Sutchar

A Jewish/Unificationist Perspective on the Jerusalem Peace Rally

My brother lived in Eilat on the south coast of Israel for 3 years, yet I am the only member of my extended living family to not have visited Israel. In fact, I never really desired to go to Israel until I suddenly heard about the first pilgrimage in May 2003. The trip was very selective (only ministers who had taken down their crosses were invited).

However, I was so single minded and felt such a purpose driven focus that both Bishop Ki Hoon Kim and Rev. Jenkins approved my participation. I brought along a guest who was a Coptic Christian professor of religion from Egypt. (Did you ever think that Egypt, being converted by one of the disciples, was a Christian nation for 700 years until Mohammed converted the population to Islam?) Professor El Mallakh is a wonderful professor of World Religions in Chicago who shares a deep love with Jesus Christ and has a deep respect for our True Parents.

This first pilgrimage went first to Rome (over which my Austrian Catholic wife was drooling), and after viewing the historic sites from the lives of Peter, Paul, and the early Christians amidst the ruins of ancient Rome, we departed for Eritz Yisrael (Israel).

Our tour primarily focused on the religious shrines; the upper room, the Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, the empty tomb, the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, the tomb of David, and the Western Wall. Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, and Gaza were all off limits and not part of the tour.

Of course the pilgrimage concluded with our interfaith conference (130 Christian ministers, an equal number of Israeli rabbis, academics and social activists and a handful of Imam and Druse leaders. Then for a grand finale lead by Bishop Stallings, a chief Rabbi of Israel, and a Muslim Sheik, we all signed the Jerusalem Declaration. I felt that my Cohan ancestors (the Priests within the tribe of Levi) were celebrating as I was able to sign the proclamation just after Mr. Abe (the Japanese National Messiah of Israel). I had a similar feeling when I approached the Wailing Wall (the closest place that a Jew can stand to the site of the original temple) for the very first time.

Six months later, I have digested some of the meaning of the pilgrimage and I was debating how I could attend the December Peace Rally (originally scheduled for the week before our True Family Values Banquet in Chicago). Then one day around Thanksgiving I got a call from Rev. Jenkins in Jerusalem asking me to come to Israel for the December 22nd rally and bring some Jewish leaders from Chicago.

By one miracle of God I was able to be included in the El Al Charter flight and before I could even take one deep breath after our December 13th banquet, it was 4 am on December 16th

and I was headed to Midway airport in Chicago.

Flash forward to Christmas Eve. I have been back in Chicago a little over 24 hours and I am trying to prepare for tomorrow's festivities and at the same time beginning to put the pieces together from the last whirlwind 8 days in Israel. So many things happened so fast in those 6 days - almost like all of human history passing before your very eyes. There is one thing that really stands out - from the level of heart - and that is our own brothers and sisters.

Being in Israel was much like a high school reunion, like God's Day at the New Yorker. So many of the people that I have known over the past 27 years were there, many of whom I haven't seen in 10 or 20 years. My teachers, my team captains, my spiritual children, but most of all, my brothers and sisters. And in the midst of all the activity we would all gather (maybe 600 of us) for morning Hoon Dok Hae at 5am every morning and then re-gathered from 8-10pm for reflections every night.

My heart really goes out to those special Task Force staff persons who basically were confined to office work and had little chance to leave the 8th floor of the Renaissance Hotel in Jerusalem. Not wanting to leave anybody out (I refer to people coordinating transportation, media, publications,

businesses, churches, and schools to invite their inhabitants to the rally. And a third contingent under the leadership of our sister Akiko Ikeno went out daily, performing service projects in some of the poorest areas in Israel (Bethlehem, Jerusalem, etc). But how wonderful it was to be seeing our true

ful to welcome the tourist trade.

On the night before the rally we held an evening of song and testimonies. I had the distinct feeling that within this ballroom sat the most diversified (Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Druse, Greek Orthodox, Coptic Christian, Protestant, Evangelical Christian, Caucasian, Arab, African American, European, and I am sure that I missed many more) collection of people that existed anywhere in the world. What an incredible gathering of righteous men and women of God our True Parents have brought together. No one, no how, no where, could ever have done this kind of feat.

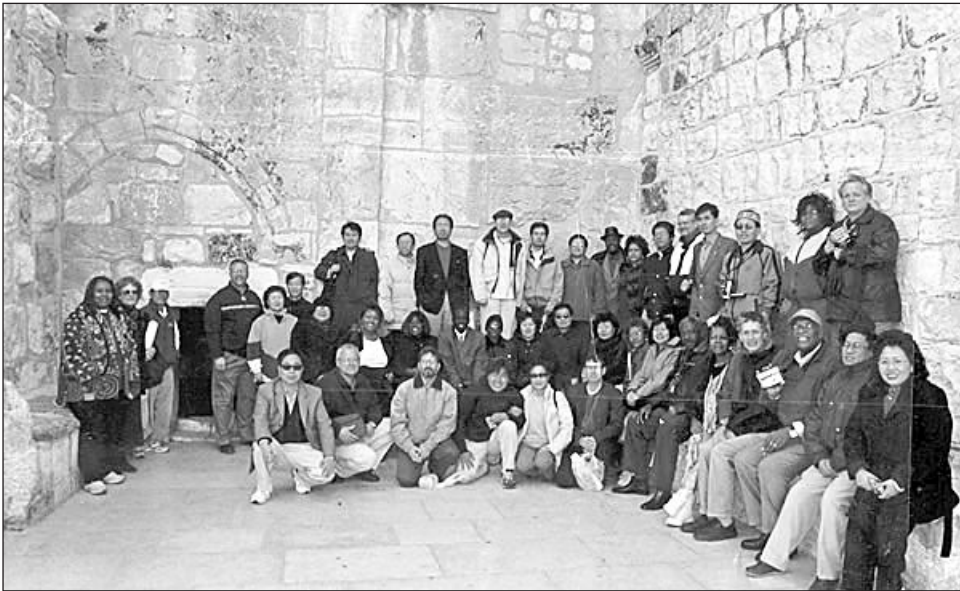
The march and the rally themselves were incredible. I believe, based on the foundations that had been set by our True Parents, by the leaders of our movement worldwide, by our brothers and sisters all over the world (through prayer, fasting and financial contributions) and the special task force in Israel led by Dr. Yang and Rev. Jenkins, that the march and rally were a guaranteed success before they even began.

December 22nd began as a clear, crisp, and windy day in Jerusalem. The heavy rains and snow of a few days earlier had passed and we were expecting a bright and sunny, if a little bit chilly December day. The march began promptly at 9am, and 500-700 pilgrims marched in unity to the holy shrines of the Wailing Wall and the Temple Mount at the Dome of the Rock. At each shrine we gathered for pictures, prayer, and celebration. One wonderful experience was the feeling of God's power as we were joined suddenly by our international church leaders, such as Rev. Kwak, Rev. Hwang, Drs. Thomas Walsh, Frank Kaufman and Andrew Wilson.

After a wonderful lunch in a kibbutz restaurant overlooking Bethlehem, we arrived at Independence Park about 2pm to enjoy the day's festivities. The afternoon was filled with Israeli music and the incredible Fire Choir from Dimona, the home of the Black Hebrew Community. They sang especially Henay Matovu Manayem, letting the congregation know that it is good that men and women of God can be gathered together in one place. Rev. Schanker looked so handsome in his black tuxedo as he served as the program MC. The park was filled to the rafters as far as the eye could see, especially with the colored hats that had been placed on every seat.

The program was a wonderful blend of peace, repentance, and reconciliation. It ended with the stage being filled with Christians, Muslims, Jews, Americans, Israelis and Arabs, all standing

see **PERSPECTIVE** on page 12



and all the details that were necessary to make the march and the rally on December 22nd happen), names that immediately come to mind include Reiner Vincenz, Tom Cutts, Howard Self, Joshua Cotter, Bill and Donna Selig, David Eaton and so many others. (Rev. Vincenz mentioned that he had been out of the hotel 3 times during the month.)

So many others had the challenge and the blessing of going out every day and visiting synagogues, mosques,

as was my earlier sojourn in May. First of all, we had the opportunity to go to Bethlehem (where we had to get off the Israeli bus, cross the military checkpoint, and then board a Palestinian bus) and Nazareth (which I found to be a quaint town of 40% Arab Muslims, 30% Arab Christians, and 30% Jewish). We visited Nazareth on a Saturday and visited the church built on the spot where Jesus was born. Our Palestinian guide was wonderful and I felt that the local natives were so grate-

JERUSALEM PILGRIMAGE TESTIMONY

Marzuq Abdul Jaami

I have worked the last three decades building bridges of understanding between religions. I've taken cues from Prophet Muhammad, who worked with Christians, Muslims and Jews in Medina (in ancient Arabia), and from my religious leader, Imam W. Deen Mohammed, who started interfaith work with rabbis and ministers in the United States in 1975 after dismantling the Nation of Islam and bringing it into true al-Islam.

This fall, my work carried me to Israel. I was a member of a mission team with the American Clergy Leadership Conference and the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, organizations that are working to establish an interfaith council at the United Nations and focus religious efforts toward peace in the Middle East.

I joined more than 130 other American clergy, rabbis and imams, along with 300 supporters from Europe, Africa, and Asia on the third mission of the clergy conference. We were to march and rally for peace with local Jews, Christians and Muslims in Jerusalem.

As I thought about our mission, I thought about success we have had in Dallas demonstrating unity in Friendship Among Faiths. We start each program with the traditional calls to prayer in each faith - blowing the Jewish sho-

far, ringing the Christian bell, and chanting the Muslim adan. Then we lay our holy books together on a table - the Torah, the Bible and the Quran.

I suggested to the mission's organizers that we do the call to prayer for each faith, lay the holy books together

the Rock and Masjid Al-Aqsa.

The old city is divided into three sections - Christian, Jewish and Muslim, each with security checkpoints. As we entered the Muslim gate, the police stopped us to ask us to recite a verse from the Quran. Then the guards let



er and that a rabbi, minister and imam speak on peace from their respective holy books. They enthusiastically agreed, and we worked to make it happen when we got to Israel.

On our first day, we toured the old walled city of Jerusalem. Four of us, including the Rev. Michael Jenkins, president of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, set out to pray at two mosques - the Dome of

us in.

We went straight to the Dome of the Rock and made salat (prayer). I thanked Allah for sending us our beloved Prophet Muhammad and letting me live long enough to visit three Holy precincts - Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem. Then we made Zuhr (noon) prayer at Masjid Al-Aqsa.

One Palestinian brother approached me and said, "See, we have police at our mosque. Why do we have to have police?"

I told him, "Do not worry about the police being at your mosque. Prophet Muhammad would never worry about that. He was concerned about pleasing Allah. Go give the police some water. Let him see our Prophet in you."

He looked at me and said, "Al Hamdulillah," which means "All praise be to God."

I felt so blessed. It was hard not to cry.

That night at dinner, Mr. Jenkins gave an inspiring message and warning. "We could lose our lives tomorrow during our march but there's a saying in the Bible, 'He who seeks to give his life will save it, and he who seeks to save his life will lose it.' It's up to Allah now. It's up to God. And will you march for the one God?"

The next day, our group was joined by local imams, ministers

and rabbis, Jews, Muslims and Christians, and we started marching through the city of Jerusalem chanting, "Peace under One God. Shalom, Peace, As-Salaamu Alaikum. Pray for peace in the Middle East."

The rally carried us all the way to the Dome of the Rock. This time the officers were given instructions to let everybody in without having to recite a verse from the Quran. Inside we chanted, "Shalom, Peace, Salaam Alaikum," and the Palestinian children and families looked on and said, "Al Hamdulillah."

After the march, a group of us was invited to the Israeli Knesset in Tel Aviv, where we spoke to members about our mission and shared a Kosher meal.

At Independence Park in Jerusalem that afternoon, more than 1,000 people watched as we addressed all three religions on tearing down the walls of division to work for peace among Israeli and Palestinian people. There was a call to prayer from each faith and readings of peace from the Torah, Bible and Quran. Hebrew Israelites, along with Christians and Muslims, finished the rally singing, "Tear the walls down, we want peace."

On my way back to America, other clergy and Christians thanked me for helping them with the Arabic translations and working with them as their brother, teaching them about al-Islam. I thank Allah for giving me the examples of Prophet Muhammad and Imam Mohammed, to work with people of all faiths for the betterment of humanity. The people of Jerusalem were so kind and treated me well.

We see ourselves as one Jewish community, one Christian community, and one Muslim community, but I think God wants us to see ourselves as one human community, one with God.

Marzuq Abdul Jaami is a member of the Thanks-Giving Square Interfaith Council and a founder of Friendship Among Faiths. ❖



PERSPECTIVE from page 11

together in harmony. The program was not easy. Rev. Jenkins lead the festivities while Rev. Kwak offered the keynote address. But the support from every sector of the religious community united and combined to bring a total victory for our True Parents!

As I returned to one of the hundreds of busses that were lined up to take the participants back to their homes and

hotels, I reflected on our first Jerusalem Conference in May. This conference foremost focused on repentance and reconciliation between the sons of Abraham. What was most amazing was that when the conference ended, many Israelis told me that a conference of this magnitude, bringing Christians, Muslims, and Jews, had never happened in Jerusalem before. Never? No never! Amazing!

Once again, our True Parents had broken virgin territory. Peace in the Middle East - what an amazing effort!

Whenever we told people why we were going to Israel, they mostly just shook their heads in skeptical disbelief that peace could ever be accomplished. But then again, they don't know our True Parents' resolve and determination: first the Berlin Wall, then the Iron Curtain, now the Middle East and finally Korea. And all the walls of the spiritual world are being torn down in the process.

Recently my family read True Parents' sermon from Christmas Day 1979 entitled "The True Meaning of Christ-

mas." As we were reading, I realized that while thousands of Christmas sermons were going out all throughout the globe, no one listening was gaining the insight and understanding of the life of our beloved brother Jesus the way we were, due solely to the love and grace of our True Parents.

The Jewish cry "Next Year in Jerusalem" has become "This Year in Jerusalem". Next year Korea, next year world peace, next year - well - next year only God and True Parents know for sure. ❖

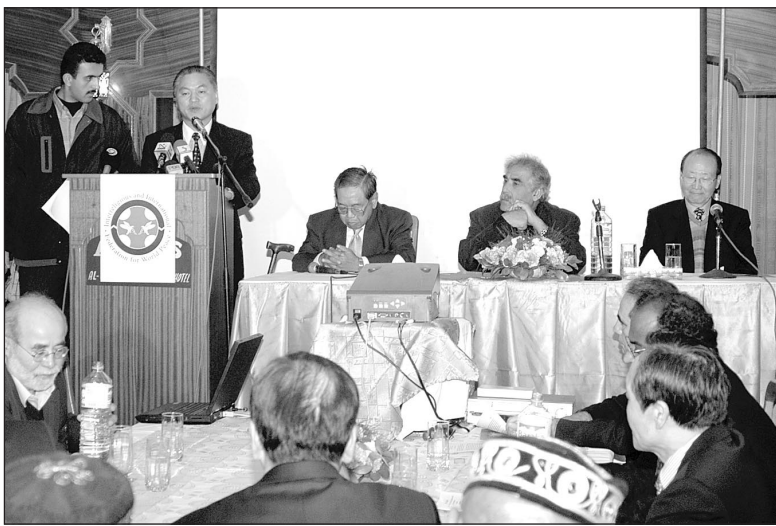
JERUSALEM PILGRIMAGE TESTIMONY

Pastor Carl V. Rawls

To our leaders and my brothers and sisters. I was blessed to be a participant in the first Pilgrimage to Jerusalem. I believe it is a mission that God has chosen me to do. A mission of spreading love, forgiveness and peace. On the first pilgrimage, we were greeted with guns and hostility. The air was filled with tension and concern. However, on the second pilgrimage, we were met with roses, hugs and kisses from our Japanese missionaries and others. The air was filled with total peace and comfort. My spirit was at peace.

Like the first pilgrimage, it was a privilege to visit the sites in Rome such as Paul's church, the Sistine Chapel and other places that I had only read about. It was also a tremendous blessing to walk in Jerusalem in some of the very paths Jesus walked, visiting Bethlehem, Mt. Of Olives, and the Sea of Galilee to name a few. Then there was the march. Arm in arm we marched, 500 strong. What a pivotal point in history as we marched together. Christian, Muslim and Jews, at a time of unrest in the Middle East. Christian, Muslim and Jews (God's children) together at the Al Aqsa Mosque. Christian, Muslim and Jews (God's Children) together at the Wailing Wall. Marching together in unity. Such a march of this type and magnitude had not occurred before. It was unbelievable to see barrier after barrier removed as the heart of those who sought to stop us was soft- en to allows all religions to respect the holy places and rally together, embracing each other as one family under God. Absolutely amazing! The providence set through the prayers, love and vision of Father and Mother Moon paved the way for this incredible pilgrimage for peace.

After returning home from the first mission in May, I saw a report about a bombing in Gaza. I turned to my wife (Marilyn) and said God is going to send me to Gaza. Every time I saw a news report on television concerning Gaza I would say to my wife, I know God is going to send me to Gaza. I don't know when, but I'm going to have to go. The call to Gaza came during this second pilgrimage. What God had revealed to me in my spirit was coming to pass. Selected as part of a del-



egation to go into Gaza, there was no fear. God was with us. Detained at the checkpoint for nearly three hours kept us out of harms way as we later learned of a bombing. God was with us. We marched into Gaza with the same determined spirit as if we were still marching 500 strong. There was no fear, only peace. There was a hedge of protection all around us. I know God sent me there to see all of the destruction so that my heart would become more compassionate like His heart.

This movement of God to bring an end to divisions is real and serious.

True Parents vision of reconciliation is remarkable and crucial for human kind. This movement of ACLC under the direction of True Parents to bring peace is a reality. I am living it! I tell the members of my church (Hopewell) that I am living it. I am a part of restoration. This is real! We must have the same type of love in our hearts that God has for ALL of our brothers and sisters. Revelation 7:9 says, "After this

I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands."

We are planting seeds of peace and reconciliation that one day will be harvested. This is just the beginning. There is a lot of work ahead. All of our brothers and sisters in the Middle East need our prayers and help. Let us continue to pray and ask God to give them and us the kind of love He has for the world and human kind. Through true love peace will come.

I am deeply thankful to Father and Mother Moon and to our leaders for allowing me the privilege of serving and truly living for the sake of others. I was privileged to have had the opportunity to bond with my brothers and sisters on "the green bus" who included such wonderful people as Mrs. Jenkins, Bishop George Craig of Birmingham, Alabama and our Atlanta family, among others. To all of you, I say, thank you.

Lastly, words cannot adequately

express how spiritually extraordinary it was for me to meet True Parents. I am truly grateful.

From Selma, down the streets of Jerusalem, to the Wailing Wall, to the Al Aqsa Mosque, (Dome of the Rock) to Gaza, to the UN.

Peace, Shalom, Salaam Ailaikam. Peace, Shalom, Salaam Ailaikam. ❖



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KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Reconsidering the Cross and Middle East Peace



DR. CHANG SHIK YANG

Dr. Yang is the Continental Director of the Church in North America.

This is the keynote speech delivered by Dr. Chang Shik Yang, Chairman of ACLC, at Union Theological Seminary on November 17, 2003.

Dr. Cain Hope Felder, distinguished professors and presenters, members of the American Clergy Leadership Conference: it is a high honor to join you in this historical symposium reconsidering the cross, its significance to the Christian message and relationship with the wider community of faith, held at one of this nation's most historic centers of religious education, Union Theological Seminary.

Three years ago, at the arrival of a new millennium, humanity the world over was optimistically looking forward to peace on earth. Instead, new conflicts have broken out and old conflicts have intensified. Even in places without war, people do not feel secure from threats of terror.

Samuel Huntington described the collision of Judeo-Christianity and Islam as a "clash of civilizations." Indeed, 9-11 was an explosion of enmity and animosity that was deeply rooted in religious belief. Today, religious beliefs are stronger than any political ideology. Some people armed with religious conviction are pursuing a "holy war," filling the world with indiscriminate bloodshed and destruction. The reaction to suppress these elements is pursued with equal conviction and only compounds the bloodshed. Nevertheless, viewing the world in this way cannot assure the victory of any side, but only produces innocent victims.

Recently, a lieutenant general in the U.S. Defense Department described the Iraq War as a contest between Judeo-Christian values and the Devil. Such a black-and-white fundamentalist attitude actually judges good and evil from one's own nationalistic viewpoint. An error in judgment can be easily made, in the belief that 1.5 billion Muslims and 56 nations with a Muslim majority are enemies of Christianity.

As a Christian, I believe that Jesus Christ is surely not such a narrow-minded person. As Saint Paul stated, whether Jews or Greeks we are all one in Christ, and this same unity should extend to our thoughts and beliefs towards other religions. As stated in John 3:16, Jesus brought salvation for all humanity. In this regard, Calvinism, which insisted on the salvation of a limited number of people based on its theories of predestination and original sin, should be corrected. We need to recall John Wesley's concept of prevenient grace, "the divine love that surrounds all humanity." Christ is working even through those who have never

heard the Gospel. Like sunlight, air and rain that are freely given to everyone, the grace of God is free for the sake of all people and is present within all people.

Religious Initiatives for Peace in the Middle East

The ACLC, which has rapidly grown into one of the largest interreligious clergy organizations in America, this year held three pilgrimages to Rome and Israel. In Jerusalem, the holy city of the three major religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, we visited the sites over which the descendants of Abraham are still fighting. We also visited the city of Gaza, which has been stained with blood over the past 50 years. Near the hotel where we stayed, a suicide bomber blew up a bus, and many people were killed or injured. The following day, a 17-year-old Palestinian girl committed a suicide bombing as her mother looked on with pride.

We cannot casually use the expression "terrorist" to brand those who are expressing their views through their own deaths. As individuals who possess nothing but their own life, they want to be heard by

tinian brethren. The Talmud has this wise counsel to a man who was at the point of life and death, "Be killed and do not kill; do you think that your blood is redder than his?" Although it is painful to endure bombings, the way of love will eventually prevail over enmity.

At the same time, we should let our Palestinian brothers and sisters who are taking extreme measures understand that the non-violence used by Mahatma Gandhi or Martin Luther King, Jr. would be more effective than what they are doing now. We should let them know that the power of love shown by Mother Theresa, wearing a white scarf with a smile on her wrinkled face, is more fearful than acts of violence. Violence only begets further violence, leading to a vicious cycle of violence.

Israeli mistreatment of Palestinians and Palestinian hatred towards Israelis should be the objects of repentance. Likewise, I personally believe that the foreign policy of America since the 9-11 incident is only isolating America from the rest of the world. A policy rooted in national self-interest while disregarding other nations with long histories of traditional and religious values can be of little help for world peace.

Today we should understand that political power and/or military power cannot resolve the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians. Physical confrontations are continuing between both sides, despite the announcement of the

dants of Abraham marched for peace through the streets of Jerusalem. Shouting "Peace, Shalom, Salaam Aleikum," they walked arm in arm from the Church of the Holy Sepulcher to the Western Wall and up to the Dome of the Rock. At conferences held after each march, Abraham's descendants shared their views and hugged one another in warmth and love.

With the leadership of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, the founder of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP), next month on December 22, 2003, leaders from more than 120 nations and hundreds of thousands of Israelis and Palestinians will come together with 12 million people throughout the world participating via satellite for a special prayer for peace in the Middle East. In preparation for this event, planes are being chartered to bring pilgrims to Jerusalem from all over the world. Even from Korea and Japan, thousands of people will participate. I am personally very pleased that the ACLC is co-sponsoring this "Interreligious and International Day of Prayer for Peace in the Middle East." Through this, the American Clergy Leadership Conference will no doubt grow to become an "International" Clergy Leadership Conference, going beyond religions, denominations and nations.

From a Christocentric to a Theocentric Vision of the World

It is only natural that religious leaders, who are dealing with the realm of the spirit, should guide the leaders of politics and economics, the domain of the body. The biblical paradigm is that of the Old Testament kings heeding the voice of the prophets. However, what remains in question here is the consciousness and standard of religious leaders. In other words, the question is whether or not the major religions can embrace each other.

If there is any religion or denomination that is not willing to dialogue with others due to its belief that it is the only true religion, it should change its concepts. If the paradigm of missionary work is one of conquest, working to abolish existing cultures and traditions, it also must change. The paradigm shift that is pending in the new millennium is demanded of the religious world as well.

The development of global communication technology, such as the internet, is bringing about a world of one large family. The controlled societies of the past, no longer imprisoned by ideologies, are being rapidly transformed into open societies. The old structure of a world divided into North and South and East and West is rapidly changing into a world of dialogue and reconciliation. National sovereignty is giving way to globalization. In this regard, back in 1976 Rev. Moon called on Americans to supplant the old America-centered motto, "One Nation under God," with a global consciousness that we are "One World under God."

What is demanded at this point is the change of our consciousness. We are called to be not only Christians but also citizens of the world. The world's diversity of religious faiths requires this change. We need to expand our concept of salvation from the vision of a

see **RECONSIDER** on page 15



those whom they see as their oppressors, even by sacrificing that life. Their belief that such an act is an act of martyrdom and self-defense is quite justifiable.

Israel is investing 2-billion dollars to build a defense wall in the Gaza area and the West Bank, but they seem not to be worried about the nearly 70% unemployment rate in Gaza. Our pilgrimage group personally witnessed and felt that under the pretext of national security, Israel was not simply building a boundary to stop further terrorist attacks, but at the same time it was creating a huge concentration camp that would only make the overall situation worse.

We should counsel our Israeli brothers and sisters that the way of Jesus, who turned the other cheek while extending magnanimity and compassion to his enemies, is the better way to deal with their angry and resentful Pales-

so-called "Roadmap." This is because the conflict is deeply rooted in spiritual and religious resentments going back many centuries. Military, political and economic programs will not solve the hatreds that grow out of these resentments. This calls for religious leaders, who understand the origins of these resentments, to step in and take a leading role in resolving them. As stated an often-quoted passage in the Bible, we should now "beat our swords into ploughshares."

In an initiative toward world peace, the ACLC made three pilgrimages the Israel with the motto, "Peace under One God." On May 18 of this year Jewish rabbis, Christian ministers and Muslim imams gathered together and proclaimed the historic Jerusalem Declaration, by which the three religions opened the door to reconciliation and agreement on core issues. In September and again in October, the descen-

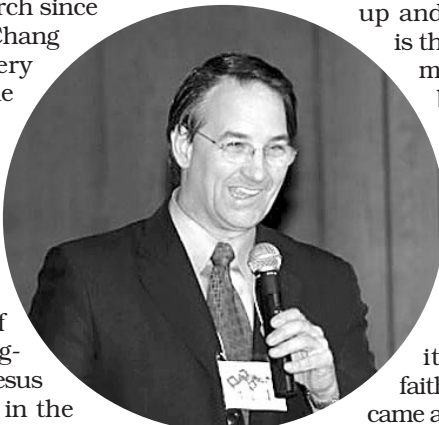
THE CROSS RECONSIDERED: HISTORICAL AND THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Union Theological Seminary Symposium: Rethinking the Viability of the Cross as a Central Christian Symbol

by Rev. Michael Jenkins

The Cross Reconsidered Conference was held at Union Theological Seminary November 17, 2003 and was sponsored by ACLC, The Biblical Institute for Social Change and UTS. Mr. Michael Balcomb opened as MC. The following is a surface level overview. Great depth will be found in the papers that were presented.

Dr. Cain Hope Felder opened the session framing the dialogue and discussion we were to pursue. Dr. Felder a professor of Theology and Biblical Literature at Howard Divinity School and a Union Theological Seminary alum. He first stepped out on this issue when invited to Imani Temple to discuss it. Now he sees the ending of the cross and emphasis on resurrection as perhaps one of the most significant theological issues facing the church since the reformation. Dr. Chang Shik Yang gave a very important paper on the Cross and the relationship with the Middle East crisis. Dr. Yang seriously articulated that the root of the problem of the cross is to be found in the rejection of Jesus. He also strongly linked the spirit of Jesus with what is needed in the



resolution of the problem in Palestine and Israel. That is that we must love our enemy. The eye for an eye principle will only produce more suffering and enmity. This must end. We must do it with love.

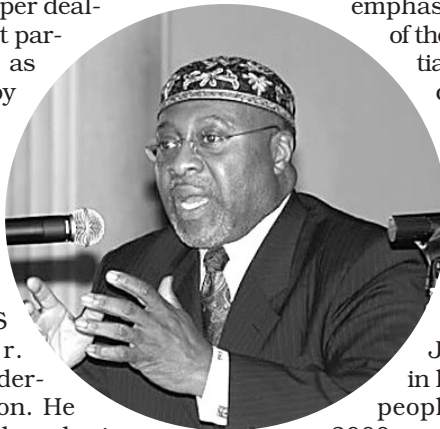
Dr. Milton Reid, longtime confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. received his doctorate at Boston University. His paper was very rich and yet challenging. He held to the traditional view that we cannot deny the cross as the path to salvation. He stated in his paper however that there might have been another outcome if the people believed in Jesus, however that didn't occur so we must deal with reality. He also sited that the cross was not first introduced with Jesus but actually was there from earlier times as an instrument of torture and execution. He acknowledged that the cross was introduced by Charlemagne and misused to justify conquering others. However the "true" cross is the one that we pick up and follow Jesus with. It is the one in which we bear mankind's sin on their behalf.

Dr. Lonnie McLeod, a professor of NY Theological Seminary gave a presentation on the panel. He strongly advocated the removal of the cross and the fact that it is because of man's faithlessness that the cross came about. Dr. Michael Mick-

ler presented his paper dealing with the different paradigms of salvation as given traditionally by Christian theologians. It was a solid analysis and deeply impressed Dr. Felder. He commented to me later that the scholarship of the faculty of UTS was excellent. Dr. Andrew Wilson moderated the first session. He has become a scholar who is living his beliefs to the fullest.

The second session was moderated by Dr. Kathy Winings. Dr. Winings sited a book by a very significant Protestant theologian Dr. Douglas John Hall entitled, "The Cross in Our Context: Jesus and the Suffering World". In this book he sites that cross was not God's original will !! These sessions with theological presentations were very significant. Dr. Felder, Bishop Stallings and Dr. Frank Kaufmann were panelists. The proceedings will be reported soon.

Bishop C. Phillip Johnson who received his doctorate from Howard Divinity did a groundbreaking powerpoint presentation on the Mission of Jesus, particularly dealing with the cross. It was an historic moment in which the Christian leaders are now seriously moving forward to teach the Principle view. Rev. Jenkins gave a call to action



emphasizing that the removal of the crosses from the Christian churches was the key condition that attracted Jewish Rabbis and the tearing down of the walls between Jews and Christians. This led to the Jerusalem Declaration which was a document of repentance and love. In which Jesus could be honored in his own land by his own people for the first time in 2000 years. This is a comfort to the heart of God.

Rev. Daugherty gave a profound summary of the meaning of unconditional love. He sited the fact that loving beyond suffering and even beyond the pain of slavery is the way that Jesus led him to go. This is true love. Then he introduced the resolution of the 1200 Clergy. Dr. H. G. McGhee read the document and Dr. Felder, Bishop Stallings, Dr. Yang, Rev. Jenkins, Bishop Johnson, Dr. Kaufmann, Dr. Wilson and many other scholars, pastors, professors and students signed. Over 120 signed that night. That brought the total who have signed to date at 891. Soon we will complete the 1200 and proclaim this stage of completion before history. Thanks to Rev. Daugherty and all the ACLC staff and clergy. Special thanks to Rev. Schanker our MC and guide through this historic day. The time has come to trade the cross for a crown. ♦

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world united under the banner of Christ, narrowly construed as adherence to Christian doctrine, to a world characterized by interdependence, common prosperity, and universally shared values.

At this crisis point in history, Christians should be careful about their attitude towards other religions. The relationships between religions should no longer be based upon the "survival of the fittest," but should be developed into the "survival of the most cooperative."

It is time to overcome the old paradigm of the First World theology centered on Western Christianity and embrace the concept of God-centered diversity. Paul F. Knitter believes that Christianity must necessarily go through a process of evolution from ecclesiocentrism to christocentrism and ultimately to theocentrism. He goes on to assert that the 'uniqueness' of Chris-

tianity should no longer be a literal truth, but a 'mythology.' Only when it is 'reinterpreted,' can it be a truth again. In this light, I believe that Christianity's uniqueness can be evident in Jesus' universal message that supports a world of interdependence, common prosperity, and universally shared values.

Christian theologians have taken three positions in relation to other religions: The first is exclusivism, which holds that Christians alone can be saved (John 1:4-6, Acts 4:2). This view is totally Jesus-centered, and impedes dialogue with other religions. It also promotes a conquest model of missions. The second is inclusivism, which accepts some truth from other religions as part of Christian truth. This is the view of Karl Rahner, who calls believers in other faiths "anonymous Christians." Yet this position has been criticized as church-centered. Finally, pluralism holds that the truth of God partially exists within all religions. In the search for God, religions complement each other, each emphasizing different and valid aspects of truth.

At this point, some misunderstandings about the pluralism must be clarified. Pluralism does not refer to relativism that regards all religions as the same. It is not a tolerance that is willing to accept any religion unconditionally. Neither does it call for a 'melting pot' that will homogenize religions. It is rather an idea that humbly recognizes the limitation of one's own religion, and strives for greater maturity through understanding other religions through dialogue. For this, we need to take a bold step of "going over" to other religions and "coming back" to our own. The fact that without reservations, Jewish rabbis can hug Christian ministers and Muslim imams means that they see more commonality than differences among themselves.

Religions should recognize diversity and pluralism in the world of belief and faith, ultimately in order to save this planet earth. Hans Kung stated that without dialogue among religions there cannot be peace, as there is no peace without peace among religions. I believe that more than dialogue, religions need

to join in solidarity and work for peace through concerted action.

Reconsidering the Cross

Christianity cannot fully participate in this change of consciousness without reexamining its understanding of Jesus Christ. In particular, Christians need to examine whether the teachings of Jesus require the missionary attitude towards non-Christians that seeks nothing less than the conquest of their traditional culture under the sign of the cross.

With the growth of the ACLC movement since the 9-11 incident, we experienced that the cross can be a serious obstacle to dialogue with Judaism and Islam.

It is evident that the cross has been widely misused throughout history. From the 5th to the 19th century it was a sign of anti-Semitism, a reminder of alleged Jewish perfidy for betraying and killing Jesus. In the Crusades the cross was the banner of conquest raised against the Muslim "infidel." It was even

see **RECONSIDER** on page 18

3rd Anniversary of the Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God

The celebration was held on January 4, 2004 at 7:00 am at the Chungpyung Heaven and Earth Training Center.

Rev. Kwak, as master of ceremonies, explained about the importance of this day saying that originally Adam and Eve should have held their marriage ceremony before God as the son and daughter of God, and become parents. So this would have been the day that the ideal of creation would have been completed. So it could be the day of True Parents and True Children and all humankind could perfect themselves. And this would also signify the Day of All True Things. But because of the fall everything was reversed and the course of indemnity had to be followed.

In this course, beginning with True Children's Day everything was set up — True God's Day, True Parents' Day and the Day of All True Things. Now with the coronation of God's Kingship and the coronation of the King of the Blessed Families, starting this day we will celebrate God's Day and 4 other major holidays in one day. Actually if the ideal of creation has been achieved we could not separate other events from the Coronation Ceremony, and so there would be no reason to celebrate them separately.

True Parents and True Children then entered the hall. After lightning the candles, True Father prayed. A prayer of report was offered by Rev. Kwak's family. After True Father's short speech, True Parents cut the cake. In his brief message after Pledge Service Father emphasized the follow points:

- Fulfill Total Living Offering.
- Completely purify blood lineage.
- No time to rest.
- Completely take control of your body, even to the point of [symbolically] cooking it to get rid of Satanic elements.
- Body must be able to resonate with the joy and sorrow of God.
- Stand as representative of True Parents.

If you can understand principles of creation, go beyond limits to achieve a revolution of heart. We must become one with the invisible cosmic True Parents. With God's omnipotence, He can bring things to pass instantly. You are included in this realm of joy. Stand in front of your ancestors; God's Kingdom

will come.

If your mind and body struggles you cannot become the heir (inheritor) to bring this about. Form a protective

fence/barrier around this ideal.

Forget about position in society. Cut away these things. Separate from Satan to create a revolution.

These points are significant:

1. Substantiate a revolution of indemnity
2. Deny your position and possessions; return possessions to the owner. Cultivate our conscience. Through this revolution of indemnity we begin a revolution of conscience.
3. Bring about true love. life and lineage completely aligned with God's love. life and lineage. Stand as second self and representative of God, as heir who can inherit the ideal of creation.

Purify the mind so you can accept God's command, to restore love that was lost to Satan.

On the foundation of liberation of God's Fatherland, all these things can come about. The only way to claim material possessions and your body is after the revolution of conscience and heart. Only on the foundation of the points above. ❖



MOTTO FOR 2004

The Proclamation of God's Fatherland and the Era of the Peace Kingdom

Father's God's Day Prayer at Midnight



Father, You stood behind mankind with a heart of successfully completing the providence of restoration. With that kind of heart in the spiritual and physical world You yearned for the blessing that was lost due to the fall.

How great was Your suffering and sorrow to be able to deal with that upturned ideal. Ownership was deviated to that of Satan. You had to stand as the king of lamentation. The ideal of love which you could not abandon will unite heaven and earth centering upon You. It has been in Satan's hand, now returning the original position,

Evil people who could never stand in the position to relate with You — how painful to overcome that hill. The plain has been reached, the position of Recre-

ator reached by You. You have worked so hard to the day when we can restore the position of True Parent. We know we must completely connect with your heart to effect restoration. We know the path of restoration you have walked since Adam was to restore this blood lineage.

You have once more reached for that world of light. We know the hard work and suffering You endured to make this possible. We have reached a time of great transition, we are once more working to recreate that which was lost — tribe, nation and world — wanting our families to regain position of God's children. This responsibility is the hands of True Parents, not Yours.

We can right the wrongs. We want to repent for the fact that You had to go through so much suffering. We want to

offer such repentance knowing we are not worthy of forgiveness; yet we want to comfort Your heart.

We who are unqualified want to restore the original ideal so You can have a life of joy, Father. The blood lineage was contaminated in a way you never imagined, yet You pioneered through the barriers of pain and resentment.

We really know how great Your sorrow has been on the way of restoring the realm of Abel. We want to offer acceptable conditions of indemnity, find your kingdom on this earth and the kingdom of Cheon Il Guk.

The position of the Second Coming was to have been established in 1952 with 80 million Christians at that time. A new era would have been opened. Centering also on Korea they would have gone the path of the blessing to restore the blood lineage. However, there was a repeat of the inability of the Israelites to accept Jesus as king.

God will work with the Messiah, the Second Coming, who is to stand as the True Parent, realize an integrated realm of the spiritual and physical worlds, the Peace Kingdom, the Nation of the Fourth Israel, proclaimed on this day at mid-

see **MIDNIGHT** on page 19



AFFIRMATION

Transition from the Era of the Cross to the Crown

As Christian believers we affirm that Christ died for our sins; that we are redeemed through the atoning power of Christ's blood shed on the cross; that his unchanging love even for those who pierced him was more powerful than death, and by the power of his love he conquered death, and resurrected to eternal life. It is thus the resurrection that is the substance of our Lord's victory and the essence of our hope. We call upon all believers to focus upon the victory embodied in the resurrection.

The crucifixion, through which the Lord demonstrated his undying, sacrificial love for us, was at the same time a painful tragedy of faithlessness. The very people whom God prepared for generations to receive him, knew him not (John 1:11). Jesus taught that "...the will of God [is] that you believe on him whom He hath sent" (John 6:29). Clearly, however, Jesus went the way of the cross because of the people's disbelief. For this reason, Stephen compared his rejection to the history of faithlessness and persecution of all of God's prophets, acknowledging that a "stiff-necked people" had "resist[ed] the Holy Spirit," and that Christ was betrayed and murdered (Acts 7:51-52).

We no longer wish to glorify the tragedy of our rejection of him, nor to celebrate his suffering. While mindful of all he has done for us, we proclaim that "He has risen!" He is not on the cross, but has won an eternal victory that he longs to bequeath to all those who abide in him and endure to the end. The cross, then, is not the truest symbol for our life of faith.

The early Christians chose the fish as their symbol. In the Catacombs, where the vestiges of the first 3 centuries of Christian worship remain, no cross can be found. The cross was the Roman instrument of punishment for the lowliest of criminals. To early believers it represented the tragedy of Christ's rejection, and the power of evil embodied in those who crucified him; hence, the hymn "The Old Rugged Cross" calls it an "emblem of suffering and shame."

The cross became a Christian symbol only in the fourth century after Christ, when the Roman emperor Constantine placed the sign of the cross on the shields of his soldiers to achieve victory in battle. It thus became a symbol of Christian conquest, even as he wedded the church to the power of the state. Tragically, through a history of inquisitions, forced conversions, and anti-semitic pogroms, this symbol that to us represents the love

of God has signified intolerance and hatred to Jews, Moslems, and people of other faiths. A burning cross was the symbol of racial hatred and fear in our own nation's too-recent past.

Just as Jesus transcended the pain of the cross through loving his enemies, and has risen in victory, we look forward to the era when we, too must transcend the pain of hatred and suffering and inherit Christ's victory through love. The hymn says, "I will cling to the old rugged cross... and exchange it one day for a crown." This is the crown of life promised to the believer who endures (James 1:12, Revelation 2:10); the crown of glory that "fadeth not away" (1 Peter 5:4). The Lord promised that the victorious believer shall sit with him "in his throne" (Revelation 3:21-22) and inherit his authority (Revelation 2:26-28). It is high time that we prepare ourselves for that inheritance.

We therefore, as those who have heard his call, hereby proclaim that the victory of Jesus Christ was not on the cross but in the resurrection on Easter Sunday. We shall no longer glorify the tragedy of our faithlessness nor revere the instrument of his death. We will instead manifest the one true sign by which he said all people would know that we belong to him— love. We shall love one another, even as he has loved us. And we shall love our enemies as he forgave those who nailed him. In this spirit of love, we seek to remove any barrier that has separated the Christian family from the children of Abraham... our Jewish and Moslem brethren, or blocked any person of faith from knowing the love of Jesus as we have known it.

We further proclaim that the era of the cross is now at an end, as the era of the crown begins. All true believers will see the walls of race, religion and nationality come down, for the Bible teaches that "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son..." (John 3:16). Those who remain narrow, judgmental and intolerant; those who fail to recognize that it is the power of love by which we will conquer, shall be left behind even as the religious leaders of Jesus' day understood the letter of the law, but not the spirit. As we exchange the cross for a crown, we dignify each family as true inheritors of Jesus' victory. In this way we shall usher in the day when Jesus Christ shall reign through us in our churches, our temples, our institutions and our homes as the true king of kings.

I remove the cross with the power vested in me in order to inherit my crown as a true child of God and Jesus Christ. ❖

RECONSIDER from page 15

used by the Ku Klux Klan as a symbol of white supremacy. In justifying all kinds of crimes and sins, the cross signifies the exclusivist Christian paradigm that divides all humankind into two groups: believers who receive the grace of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and unbelievers who nailed Jesus to the cross.

When the first group of ACLC pilgrims arrived in Jerusalem on May 15, 2003, the leadership of Judaism and Islam warmly received them. One of the reasons was because as Christian ministers we had taken down the cross. Once the thick and high wall of the cross that had been blocking 2000 years of history had fallen, then Jews, Christians and Muslims could hug one another as siblings, without any hesitation.

It is time to ask some searching questions. Is this misuse of the cross an accident of history, or does it reflect something inherent in the cross itself, and in the content of Christian teachings about the crucifixion? Does the cross express the fullness of salvation for all humankind as required by the new pluralist paradigm of Christianity? As a means to human salvation, Christians have accepted the cross for nearly 2,000 years, without objection. Yet is there a better way to portray the saving work of Christ that does not carry with it the cross's many lia-

bilities?

To arrive at a better understanding of the saving work of Jesus and the role of the cross requires considerable insight and research. It is not an easy task to uncover the historical Jesus with the few records available to us. How could Jesus of Nazareth, who was born in an obscure carpenter's family, become the Savior of all humankind? How can the historical truth in relation to his mission be identified? Christian doctrine as developed in the New Testament church began after the fact of the cross. Yet, was it God's original intention that

and protect him: his family, John the Baptist, his disciples and the Jewish leadership.

For his part, Jesus on the cross triumphed over that situation, and as Christians we rightly celebrate that triumph as a model for all people facing trials and persecution for their faith. Nevertheless, from the side of humankind, the cross represents the shameful failure to unite with Jesus while he was on earth. As such, it left an indelible mark upon history—division between Jesus' spirit and body, between believers and unbelievers, between the faith-

ful and the persecutors—which set the condition for 2,000 years of bloodshed.

This is the tragedy of the cross. God never expected the people of the world to kill his beloved Son. God expected the Jewish people in particular to unite with Jesus, walk with Jesus, and if need be, suffer with Jesus as living sacrifices (Rom. 12:1) on the path to glory and the Kingdom. Instead, even Jesus' closest

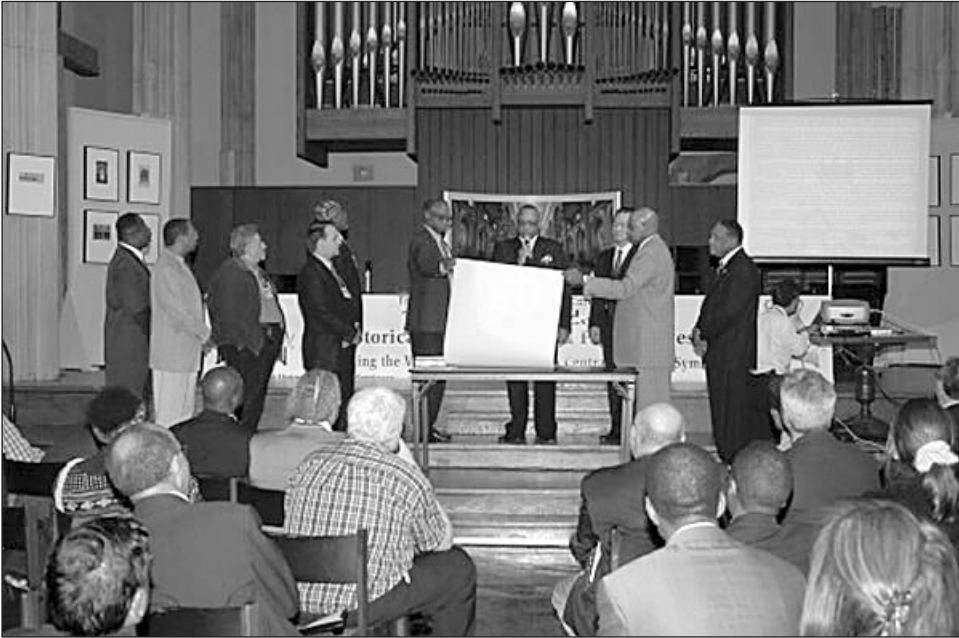
disciples abandoned him on the cross. This cut deep into God's heart, expressed through the three hours of darkness.

In light of this teaching, Rev. Moon calls upon churches to take down the cross. He recommends that we look to God's original purpose for sending Jesus, namely to reconcile all the people of the world to God and to each other, as proclaimed at his nativity, "Peace on earth,

good will among men" (Luke 2:14), and again during his anguished ministry, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem... How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!" (Matt. 23:37)

He sees the purpose of God who sent Jesus to the long-prepared Jewish people was to spread the Gospel quickly to all nations, even in Jesus' own lifetime, and thus establish God's Kingdom beginning from Jerusalem. (Isa. 2:2-4) The Judaism of his day was supposed to accept Jesus; they were to win over Rome, and then the world. During the 600 years that God was preparing the chosen people to receive the Messiah through the Old Testament prophets, God also sent Buddha to India, Socrates to Greece, and Confucius to China. Through these inspired founders God elevated the moral and spiritual standard of the world's cultural spheres so that ultimately they also could receive the Messiah. Jesus brought a teaching that could embrace them and elevate them to participate in the universal messianic Kingdom.

At this point in history, we should not ignore the universal messianic teachings that Jesus came to bring. That is, he did not come as the Messiah only to save Jews or Christians. At the core of each of the world's dominant cultures lies a religion prepared by God to participate in the messianic Kingdom. As modern-day Christians, let us open our eyes to a new horizon of faith and theology, understanding the depth and breadth of Messianic thought which is in pursuit of universal salvation through the universal Christ. Such a new Christian consciousness, transcending the old symbol of the cross, can serve as the guiding light for fulfilling God's providence for the new millennium. ❖



Jesus' life be ended on the cross after a short ministry of only 3 years?

Reverend Moon has stated publicly on numerous occasions that God never meant for Jesus to be crucified. When he was called at age 15, he received in the Spirit from Jesus that his original mission was cut short by the cross. The crucifixion was the due to the disbelief of those close to Jesus who were supposed to welcome him, support him

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UNIFICATION NEWS

BISHOP STALLINGS HAS WRITTEN A FINE BOOK

by Rev. Michael Jenkins

Archbishop Stallings has published a book that is well worth reading. It is entitled, "I Am... living in the rhythm of the god within in the key of g minor. An inspiration that began years ago but through his work with the ACLC it blossomed. They are selling fast all over the country.

It is rich with insights from a Christian perspective and that a leader who has now been blessed by True Parents and is leading the way for Christians to establish Blessed Central Families.

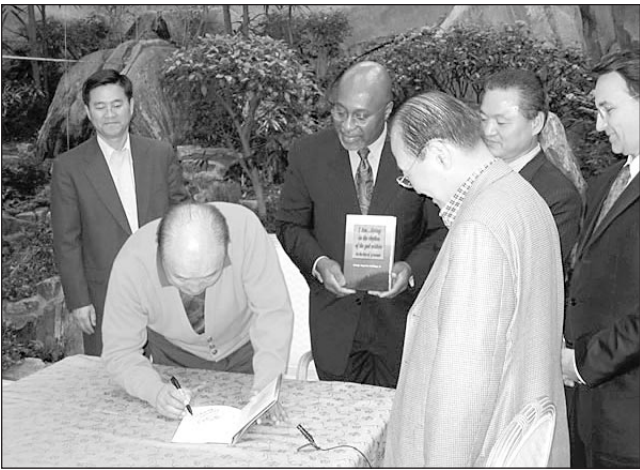
He acknowledges True Parents in the Acknowledgments and quotes Father's words. It is really great. Some chapters that are so relevant to our work to unify Christianity are "Praying in Your Own Name is as Old as Methuselah" and "True Love and marriage are made in heaven."

True Parents were very happy when the Archbishop presented a copy to them. Bishop Stallings, Bishop C. Phillip John-

son and Rev. Edwards were among the first to stand with True Parents and confirm Jesus' anointing of Father as the Messiah during the Clouds of Witnesses revelations last year. He has been unwavering in his faith. His Bishops have embraced his calling and are studying the Principle. The Head Bishop and Dean of Imani (the Mother church) of the African American Catholic Congregation has also taken a leading position.

Dr. Yang and I sincerely request that all families get a copy for your library. We are encouraging Bishop Stallings to take the books with him when he comes for ACLC meetings.

He is a hero of the Cheon Il Guk era. He is fearless and faithful. He and Sayomi have a son named by True Father - Shin Young George Augustus Stallings. He had the courage to step out of the box and as a major Afro Centric Christian



leader and central figure - when he was called by God he even went beyond his race to expand beyond all boundaries. Another child is now coming.

Key African American leaders respected his calling and said of the marriage — "It is a marriage that God has ordained."

Bishop Stallings courage and heart led him to be the central Christian rep-

resentative to repent for the history of Christianity's lack of love for the Jews and to call upon the Rabbi to stand with him to repent for not fulfilling our responsibility to embrace one another and to now open the door to embrace Jesus and reconcile our faiths. With that calling the Rabbi came forward saying I will stand with you if the Imam comes forward to join us. The Imam came forward with the help of Sheikh Ali Birani the Druze leader and the three sons of Abraham signed the historic Jerusalem Declaration. This became the condition upon which

all could be forgiven by God and the foundation for the fourth Israel was created.

We wholeheartedly support this great man of God. Let this book be blessed. Father signed it the day after he returned from Korea.

Contact HSA Publications—see back page—for ordering information. ❖

12 Diamond Principles taking Root in ACLC Sports League

by Rev. McCarthy

On November 29th we were able to have our second ACLC Sports League Basketball Tournament in Washington, DC. With each action step of the Sports League we are generating a growing excitement in the communities that we serve.

What makes our league unique is the promotion of the 12 Diamond Principles. The 12 Diamonds are the fundamental truths, values and principles resonating with the Bible and rooted in the teachings of our True Father.

The Twelve Diamond Principles of the ACLC Sports League are:

1. There is a God who loves us and sees what we do
2. Faith in God is a vital component of Character development
3. Life is eternal and we are accountable for our actions
4. Humans are physical and spiritual
5. Self discipline is essential to achieve the full potential of life
6. The crown of a self-disciplined life is pre-marital abstinence
7. Learning to live in peace and harmony with others is a key objective of life and is the foundation of being able to make a lasting happiness in life.
8. Premarital sex and/or sex without commitment is a self-destructive behavior.
9. Violence is wrought upon society by those who could not find their Godly value within their family.
10. Healing begins with honest reflection, facing the truth and choosing to change within a supportive environment.



tion, facing the truth and choosing to change within a supportive environment.

11. We are here to help you to save your life.

12. We are going to have fun, we are happy to be alive. God wants us to be happy to be alive.

These basic principles form the foundation of our league teaching curriculum. Every youth member of the league is required to complete the course of study.

Our objective is to recapture the public arena for God. We are not just seeking to only preach to the choir. Youth already involved in their faith are, of course, an integral part of our league, but our true target is the "unchurched." That is, the youth that

look to the popular culture for their guidelines about behavior. Those are the ones who most desperately need to be exposed to the curriculum.

Unfortunately, over the years, God's forces have become divided. One of God's three major "headaches" revealed to Father was the division of Christianity. One of the consequences of that division is that the Church lost its focus on the environment of society, the public good and, instead, only focused on the well-being of their own church community and building their own church foundation.

As a result, public life outside the immediate church community became increasingly pragmatic and ungodly. Morality declined, families fragmented and social ills burgeoned.

This decline was accelerated under a misappropriation of the idea of the separation of church and state. It has now led to the separation of America from her soul.

We must get God back into public life, including schools. One of the core Diamond Principles stresses that "Faith in God is an essential component of character development." We want to press the envelope on asserting the existence and nature of God as a founding principle of our national life.

We are trying hard to orient our ACLC ministers to a vision that transcends the interests of their own church bodies. What finer example to uplift than that of True Father who sacrifices his own foundation for the sake of all churches and religions? Conversely, what greater symbol of the tragic decline of America than the death recently of a 19 year old young man, the shining "diamond" of our league, gunned down on his own front porch? This was not the national climate God wanted to see in America.

Today, the multi-billion dollar entertainment industry leads our youth down a path of self-destructive behavior. The convergence of the porn industry and pop culture continues unabated. Where are the clergy voices crying out as one?

If there is to be hope for the nation, then that is what ACLC must become! That is the "New Future of Christianity" that Father spoke about so many years ago.

Ministers are being trained to teach the Divine Principle. That is the real hope of revival in America. At a recent revival in Bishop C. Phillip Johnson's church, the words of Divine Principle started a holy fire of spirit amongst his congregation. Jesus' mission, his tragic death, his broken heart at Calvary, the failure of John the Baptist were all clearly proclaimed from the pulpit. The service leader afterward was literally speechless, so lifted up in the spirit by the content of the Principle. She even had to apologize to



everyone as there was a pause in the service for her to catch her breath. Everyone came alive with spirit to know the deeper truths of the scripture revealed to them by Bishop Johnson.

Bishop Johnson, as our ACLC co-chairman, also taught the "12 Diamonds" at center court during our half-time ceremony at our recent tournament. Everyone now believes we can teach youth to move in the right direction with the 12 Diamond curriculum. And in what

could be seen as a reciprocal relationship with God's grace, Bishop Johnson's New Prospect Family Praise and Worship Center's team also was crowned tournament champ!

Also, at a recent memorial service held by Rev. Gregg Thomas for the late Diamond League, the star of our sports league who was killed, the 12 Diamond principles were taught by Rev. Thomas. One participant in the service was the principal of the school attended by Diamond Teague. When she heard the content of the 12 Diamonds conveyed so powerfully by Rev. Thomas, she became so excited. She approached me after the service, we exchanged cards and then she told me, "get ready to start multiplying the 12 Diamonds." She said that she was going to do whatever was possible to get the 12 Diamonds taught in the public school system. ❖



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night.

We can now proclaim God's Father-

land and the Peace Kingdom based on the victorious foundation. We are grateful, truly, to be able to make this declaration before you this morning.

We proclaim the Peace Kingdom and want to release Your pain, with a heart

of absolute faith love and obedience.

We pray as the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, we pray all these things, to go beyond all nations, and the entire world, to be embraced by your authority and kingship. We pray that you

can, as King of Kings, rule over all the world...

With this I proclaim that God's Fatherland and the Peace Kingdom are now on this earth, in the name of True Parents. Amen. ❖

by Hugh and Nora Spurgin

Bridgeport, the largest city in Connecticut — the home of a complete educational system — has seen amazing, substantial changes over the last ten years. Once a thriving, booming industrial center, Bridgeport was the home of the brass and garment manufacturing industries, theaters, museums, beautiful mansions along the coast of Long Island Sound, and the University of Bridgeport which was a thriving, expanding university that attracted wealthy students from the northeast.

P.T. Barnum, founder of the famous Barnum & Bailey Circus, was an entrepreneur and visionary who made Bridgeport his home

and an expression of his numerous, varied, and creative abilities. In accord with his political ambitions, he became the city's mayor. P.T. Barnum left many landmarks; the most beautiful were his four-story mansion named Iranistan and the 300 acre Seaside Park

that provides recreation and beach areas along the Long Island Sound. Unfortunately, during the last few decades, Bridgeport went the way of many urban areas. Businesses moved out, beautiful mansions were divided into multi-family houses, and the thriving, beautiful, seaside university went from an enrollment of 8,000 in the 1980s to 1,000 in 1992.

The Rev. Moon is a "super" visionary. He dares to dream what others do not even conceive. He dreamed of a comprehensive, educational system in a metropolitan area with the potential to once again become a beautiful, thriving seaport. Slowly, but steadily, that vision is becoming a reality, in part because of the investment of organizations which he founded.

Eliminating Urban Blight

We need to improve the quality of life in Bridgeport, especially in the area surrounding the university. The neighborhood of UB was once the home of the elite who lived in many historic mansions, including P.T. Barnum's Iranistan, which was destroyed by fire. The Bridgeport has become once again a thriving, growing community. Developers and homeowners have bought and fixed over forty houses around the university; this is enough to begin a trend of dramatic change.

The presence of new families moving to Connecticut has made an impact on the total campus atmosphere. Many students have taken leadership roles and have created community service organizations such as Ser-

vice for Peace and opportunities for spiritual and recreational "get togethers" that nurture families and students. When one observes university, high school, and middle school students playing soccer and other sports, there is a strong sense of joy and pride in the comfortable and safe community that has evolved in the university area.

Harbor Yard Sports Complex

Five years ago an area consisting of abandoned factories was razed, and a beautiful new minor league baseball stadium was built. Three years later a 10,000 seat arena which hosts world famous events (skating, circus, concerts, political rallies, etc) was built next to the sta-

dium. Recently, a public housing project has been razed and leveled in preparation for building a skating rink as part of the same sports complex. This sports complex has been a large draw for suburban families. The location of this Harbor Yard is within walking distance of the UB dorms and creates an active and pleasant atmosphere.

Seaside Park

The beautiful Seaside Park which wraps around the south, southeast and southwest of the UB campus and borders Long Island Sound has been restored to its original beauty and is kept safe by safety patrol and night closures. New facilities have been built; roadways, paths, and parking have been laid out, and several sculptures have been added. It is so nice to sit on the benches to meditate

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with the ocean tides flapping at your feet. This is a tremendous asset to University of Bridgeport.

North Side of Campus

The north side of the campus borders an area of dilapidated large houses and one old factory. Thanks to developers, this side, too, is undergoing changes. The large factory complex (an eyesore) has been bought, and work has already started to convert it into condominiums for young professionals. Across the street from this factory, a local church has purchased a vacant lot and empty office building, in order to create a church complex that will include a cathedral, offices, a seniors' center, and a day care center. These developments are all near the University of Bridgeport campus. A few miles away in downtown Bridgeport, a community college was relocated, a state police post was set up, a strip mall was established, and an empty department store is currently being renovated and made into sixty artist studios

The University of Bridgeport
by Steven Boyd

When the Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA) initiated its first investments in the University of Bridgeport in the early 1990s, the university was facing closure. However, now UB has become one of the fastest growing four-year colleges in Connecticut, offering over 50 majors for its approximately 3,200 students. In addition to its undergraduate programs, UB has major graduate programs in education, business, engineering, nutrition, chiropractic and naturopathic medicine.

Under President Neil A. Salonen's leadership, admissions for the last two years has been strong. Total undergraduate enrollment has increased more than 14 percent, resulting in the largest freshmen class since 1991. There are significant gains in students for the region and across the United States. The four major residence halls are near capacity. The number of resident students living in campus housing increased by more than 40 percent, with single rooms now a scarce, however prized, commodity.

The offsite campuses in Stamford and Waterbury are buzzing with activity and enrollments. Both cater to students pursuing graduate degrees, or obtaining their undergraduate degree after starting some years before. This fall the "Easy Living Plan" went into effect for residential students. It offers costs that decline over the years in residence. There are four different meal plan packages, with dining dollars for the Knight's End café. There's free local tele-

phone, cable television, high-speed Internet access, a microwave, refrigerator and freezer in each room, as well as free laundry facilities. Most rooms have a gorgeous waterfront view and overlook the Fredrick Olmstead-designed Seaside Park.

After more than ten years of support from PWPA, this year under President Salonen's leadership, UB was able to achieve a balanced budget and function without an annual subsidy from PWPA. The university's income is now based on revenue from tuition, government and private grants, and donations received from alumni and friends.

The university's athletic teams have performed extremely well. Last year, UB brought home two Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference championships (men's soccer and women's gymnastics). This year, the men's soccer team was ECAC champion for a second straight year. Last season, for the first time since 1992 the men's basketball team participated in the NCAA championship tournament. In the preseason poll, this year the Purple Knights are ranked 23rd in the nationwide ranking of NCAA Division II men's basketball teams.

In 2003 U.B. was one of two universities in America to receive the prestigious Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Award for outstanding campus safety. Reports issued by the U.S. Department of Labor place UB as the safest four-year college in the state of Connecticut.

Of special importance is the incredible diversity of the university community; over 80 different nationalities and almost all global faiths are represented. In such an environment of mutual respect and understanding, there is an active, growing number of second-generation students who have elected to complete their undergraduate and/or graduate degrees at UB. With over one hundred Unification students enrolled at the university and many more second generation in the elementary and secondary school, CARP and Service for Peace (as well as other groups and programs) are very active on campus and in the community at large. These activities, together with academic studies, provide support and a positive outlet to channel the second generation's creative energies.

Bridgeport International Academy

Bridgeport International Academy (BIA) is a college preparatory, senior high school located on the campus of the University of Bridgeport. The Academy is committed to promoting academic excellence and character development in a caring community and is housed in Cooper Hall and Marina Learning Center. Although the Academy is non-sectarian, the school is religious. All students take the character education course each semester. BIA is officially approved and recognized by the Department of Education of the State of Connecticut and has approval from the US government to issue I-20 forms for international students.

Bridgeport International Academy is tuition driven (supplemented with funds from several properties and businesses which are managed by BIA). The school



VISION IN PROGRESS

Complete Educational System

functions without a subsidy from any church or organization. BIA admits academically-qualified local students, some home-stay students from around the country, and a few international students. For non-local students, home stays are arranged with local church families. Closing the dormitory has allowed Bridgeport International to focus on the development of its academic program. Hence, students must maintain a 2.0 average in order to remain a student at the Academy.

A benefit of attending the Academy is the formal articulation agreement between the university and the secondary school which allows qualified juniors and seniors at BIA to take university courses. This means some students are able to graduate with almost one year of college while still in high school—a tremendous advantage in terms of finances and time.

Bridgeport International Academy has a core of full-time teachers and several adjuncts. Reflecting the international character of the school and student body, the faculty is composed of teachers from eight different nations. Most of them have graduate degrees. Margaret Vander Stok and Grace Hill, two second generation sisters, teach a musical theater class and have directed several musicals, including “The Wiz.” In addition to participating in an exciting adventure, students are able to use their energies creatively and productively. This provides an opportunity for the very talented students to express themselves and makes BIA a noteworthy school in the community. They are planning a performance as a fund-raiser for Habitat for Humanity’s “Youth Build” in which BIA participates as part of its community service program.

BIA continues to develop an “English as a Second Language” program for students whose English proficiency is not adequate to mainstream in the regular curriculum. To prepare them for courses in English, there are three ESL classes plus one TOEFL preparation course. Many of these students have or will continue at U.B.

The Academy uses a computer-based, distance learning curriculum to supplement some of its course offerings. For the past seven years, BIA has had a state-of-the-art student, computer lab with the addition of fourteen new computers this year. Students learn computer graphics and power point presentations as part of their training.

BIA STUDENTS SPEAK:

Ceramic Class

by Esther Jones and Geoffrey Dilg

The well-equipped, ceramics studio is located on the UB campus. Our instructor, Mrs. Kun Taek Oh, is an accomplished ceramics professor. She teaches us how to use the wheel and is always available for any questions. Ceramics is, personally, my favorite class. Students have a lot of freedom to make whatever they want. There are a variety of ways to express

our creativity on the wheel or simply by hand. The atmosphere in class is always uplifting and joyful. You can interact with other students while you mold your chunk of clay.

“The two hours pass by so fast,” says sophomore, Cindy Yang. At the end of our gratifying year, we get to display all of our beautiful work on elegant podiums at the annual Ceramics Art Show. This fun-filled class brings out each student’s innate creativity. *E.J.*

Mrs. Oh teaches us how to make a variety of things out of clay. She also teaches us how to make things on the wheel, like plates, bowls, and ceramic mugs. Every Friday, we go to class and spend hours making the most amazing and creative things. The best thing I have learned is that ceramics can be fun. *G.D.*

Musical Theater by Elizabeth Hempowicz

I’ve seen a bunch of average high school students transformed into a lion, a scarecrow, a tinman, various witches, crows, “winkies”, munchkins, a wizard and a little country girl named Dorothy. Put together, we are called “The Wiz.”

This is not something that we just threw together. Oh, no! This took two months of 6 hours a week, going over lines, stage directions, musical acts, choreography, and much more. On Decem-



ber 5, 2003 it was all worth it.

Drama is something that I have had a passion for since before I can remember. I love slipping out of myself and into a new character, as if I was changing coats. It gives me an ability to approach issues in a whole new way, but it also gives me an escape from myself.

When I heard that we were doing a musical, I hesitated, because it was not just acting anymore, it was singing, too. I have always been on the shy side with regard to singing. I almost quit the class, but then I decided I did not want to let my fears control me. I would not stop doing what I loved just because I was worried about what people would think of me. This class, even if in a small way, has taught me never to let my fears rule my life.

Internships

by Jennifer Betancourt

Throughout elementary school, I have had teachers who will never

leave my memory. I believe that period of a person’s childhood is valuable because one is learning every second of the day from the things happening around him/her.

However, it was not until I was in high school, when teachers and counselors began emphasizing the importance of



choosing a career, that I thought that teaching would be something that would make me happy. At the beginning of my senior year at BIA, I was offered an internship at Bridgeport Hope School, the elementary school down the street. I have spent a lot of time at Hope School these past three months, helping in the first, second, and kindergarten classes. Although at times I am discouraged by the frustration of being unable to motivate a student who seems uninspired to learn, I am overcome by a deep satisfaction when I am finally able to reach that student. The experience has given me a true taste of the hardships but also the joys of teaching.

Graduating Early

by Cindy Yang, Sarah Peterson
and Nathan Breland

The minimum credit requirement for high school graduation is 22. In a public high school, these 22 credits are normally achieved through a four-year course. However, a chance to graduate one year early is open for some BIA students, through an accelerated academic schedule for qualified students, even though the Academy has strict graduation requirements.

By senior year, most students are taking their last required core courses, electives, and Advanced Placement or AP



courses. Qualified BIA students are given the opportunity to take college courses at the University of Bridgeport. Students are given college, as well as high school, credit for those classes,

which allows them to save money by not having to take the same courses later in college.

The difference between taking a college course and a normal AP course at a public high school is that it only takes one semester to get one credit. Of course, a college course requires more work outside the classroom and thus more self-discipline. By simply taking English courses at UB for one semester, along with other classes in the third year, the student will have enough credits to receive a diploma. *C.Y.* Graduating early opens many doors as to what you can do after high school. You could get a head start on college or a career, or get involved in any after high school programs with your church or community. *S.P.*

Because this is not a large school, we are able to sign up for more classes than normal and be able to graduate in no time! Yes, I must admit, it is a bit of a workload to carry in the sophomore and junior years, but it saves time and money for my parents and me! The disadvantage of reducing time in high school is that there is not as much time for extracurricular activities. It takes discipline to study biology when you could be winning the ping-pong tournament, swimming 100 meters butterfly, or initiating a service for peace project!

Two reasons it is possible to graduate early is that the schedule is flexible and that you can take several college classes in a short period of time. In my junior year, I am taking one English class at BIA and another class at the university, in order to obtain two English credits. The workload for the UB courses is more difficult than normal and BIA has rigorous graduation requirements, but it is manageable if you focus. Most seniors in other schools are insanely bored with the skimpy workload of four or five classes a day. We take many more courses than students in most other schools. Ehh, who wants to waste an extra year in high school anyways? As my good companion Abe says, “Four years makes a bore; this curriculum is hard core!” *N.B.*

The Halloween Party, by Steven Martinez and Rebekah Hyangmi Cotter

This year we have kept up the tradition of hosting a constructive, Halloween Party by making it a memorable and fun

time for the whole family. The BIA Student Council prepared for weeks in advance and, on the day before the party, the entire student body came together to work on projects like making booths and an elaborate Haunted House.

All of the booths were
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family-centered with each family competing against other groups in an effort to attain the highest score in activities like the “pie toss” where one family member pied another and “chubby bunny” in which one person stuffs as many marshmallows in their mouth as possible while saying chubby bunny. The overall, winning family, the Montanaros, received the grand prize. *S.M.*

There were costume contests, a raffle, etc. Without a doubt the most anticipated event was the Haunted House. Moving through passage ways and down corridors, and running from an assortment of monsters, this Haunted House was a great success. The total number of people attending the event was around 150, and we all had a great ole time.

This party took endless planning and elaborate skills in designing. The whole student body worked Friday afternoon, Saturday, and Sunday, making multiple booths and a very spooky Haunted House. We gave our all to make this a fun filled evening for everyone in the Bridgeport community.

On that Sunday evening, many guests started arriving at the Marina Learning Center where the party was held. The Student Council had the brilliant idea to focus on the families. So, at every booth, each family would receive a specific number of points. At the end, we counted the points and the family with the most points won a prize. *R.C.*

The Swim Club
by Micah Boyd, Abraham Deshotel, & Hannah Boyd

We started the swim club three years ago. Since then, we have improved our swimming abilities and have increased the number of swimmers to twelve. We meet three times per week early in the morning and have a volunteer swimming coach, Mrs. Colleen Boyd, who is also our English teacher and the leader of our hiking. Mrs. Boyd has raised our level by pushing each of us to work harder. We all have fins and grippers, so we can do more in less time and feel the water better. We are now trying to improve our swimming times, and maybe even join some competitions, as we have done with soccer and basketball. *M.B.*

This year we also have a professional coach who comes once per week and teaches us the butterfly, an awesome stroke. This year we are faster and more serious about swimming and could possibly be ready for competition. Seeing how much we have improved, I think we could very possibly be “a worthy opponent at a swim meet.” Overall, the BIA swim team is formidable and is a serious swimming experience for any student willing to wake up early before our Character Education class begins. *A.D.*

Every class starts with a ten-lap warm-up, followed by a series of exercises given by the coach. Usually the class is focused on one stroke, so the students are able to concentrate on one thing in order to improve on it. Many times they do activities, like relays and games, so that students can build their muscles and learn how to race while having fun. The team’s hope for the future is to be able to compete in a league. If this happens, it would be a good opportunity, not only for the students to be able to com-

pete, but for this small school to get exposure and grow. *H.B.*

Community service
by Osborne Jones, Eri Sawada and Takashi Okamoto



Every Friday afternoon, we as students go out to serve others in small groups led by a BIA teacher. Some of the projects in which we have participated include painting, cleaning, cooking for people in need, raking leaves, shoveling snow, helping to build a house, teaching younger students how to read, and working on computers. So, whether it is



cooking or cleaning windows, we gain many different skills that we otherwise would not have. Through these projects we feel better inside with the knowledge that we have helped someone, and there are many indirect rewards which look very good on a resume, including receiving community service hours. Also, it allows us to spread the knowledge of our small school to others in the Bridgeport community. The possibilities and personal rewards are endless in doing community service for others. *O.J.*

For community service we help people in Bridgeport who need assistance. For example, in coordination with *Habitat for Humanity*, we helped to build some houses for people who do not have the money or resources to build a home for themselves. This was the big project of community service last year. Community service teaches us how to live for the sake of others, and it allows us to gain new skills for the future. It has many tangible benefits. Every month each team of students is assigned a new set of projects. *E.S.*

An example of a project is washing windows, vacuuming floors, and cleaning buildings. Another consists of work-

ing with *Groundworks Bridgeport* which does yard work in the neighborhood. A third team helps out at Bridgeport Hope School by playing with the children, doing activities, and performing tasks that need to be done.

All of these service projects, performed by our BIA students, help the university and our local community. And the service hours look very impressive on a resume or college application form. What I have gained through doing community service is the ability to go beyond my own limitations, to stop thinking about myself, and to start thinking more about what I can do for others. *T.O.*

Benefits of Studying on the UB Campus,
by Sungman and Sungho Cho

I have taken courses in Tae Kwon Do, Calculus, and Physics at the University of Bridgeport. I like being able to take university courses. The credits that I have obtained are for college, as well as high school. Thus, I am able to use my time wisely while still in high school. Because we can get the same credit in one semester that others obtain in one year, even though we have to study harder, we can graduate earlier than students elsewhere. That is a good thing about this school. *S.M.C.*

Because I am taking a college course, I feel like I am a college student. And I feel safe because the University of Bridgeport hired a high level security company. There are many advantages to being on the U.B. campus. The biggest advantage is Marina Cafeteria. BIA has the best cafeteria in America, because we are able to use the UB cafeteria. The food is really good and abundant, and the cafeteria is huge. Another advantage is that we are in a nice natural environment. For example, we live near the Long Island South, so we can see the Ocean whenever we want. We do not have to go far because the Ocean is near our school. Also we live next to Seaside Park. In the spring and summer, people have picnics everywhere. Many trees and green grass are in the park where we play soccer and many other sports! *S.H.C.*

Student Council,
by Benjamin Scazzero

The BIA Student Council is very unique and active. It gives students a chance to make a difference in our school and to give them a look inside politics. The students choose the student council members. However, before they are elected,



they campaign for office. Thus, they have to reach students who might not know them and try to convince them to vote for them, by using a catchy slogan or by making an election promise. Fortunately, at BIA, everyone knows one another, since it is a small school. When elections are held in October, everyone knows the people who are running and whether they think that person would make a difference.

Usually there are nine or ten spots to be filled on the student council. There is a Liaison who represents freshman / sophomore boys, another Liaison for freshman / sophomore girls, and an overall lower class Representative who represents all ninth and tenth grade students. The 11th and 12th grade students elect the junior and senior Boy and Girl Liaisons.

Handling finances for our Student Council is an important job that is occupied by a Treasurer who sometimes has an assistant. The next position is important, the job of being the secretary throughout the entire year for the Council. This job is significant because the secretary takes notes and presents them to the entire school in the school newspaper, *The Gazette*. Next is the Vice-President position occupied by either a upper class girl or boy. However, with the increase in girls, since a boy won election this time, there was a demand for a girl vice-president as well, and we made a new spot for a girl VP.

The most important spot is the President of the Student Body. The president is not elected by the students, but appointed by the faculty. Any student who is a junior or senior can run for the presidency. A new president is appointed each year, but it is harder to obtain than any of the other roles on the Council. The President is expected to write an essay to the faculty in order to persuade them to choose him as the Student Council President. The teachers look at the presidential nominee’s grades, character, and attitude toward fellow students, parents, and teachers. The President must have at least one year of Student Council experience before he/she can even be considered for the position.

The election process at BIA starts by going down the order of positions, one at a time. Each candidate gives a short speech on why he or she should be elected. Then a secret ballot is conducted with each student given the opportunity to vote for the candidate of their choice for each of the positions. Then the votes of the students are tallied, and the winner of each particular election is announced. This is democracy in action.

Bridgeport Hope School
by Clopha Deshotel

Bridgeport Hope School (BHS) is an elementary school for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Under the leadership of Elizabeth Deshotel, Bridgeport Hope School has a current enrollment of sixty-five students. Since BHS received state approval in June 2003, we were able to begin bus service for local students in October 2003. Our current enrollment is sixty-five in our multi-age classrooms, using a selection of self-paced materials, mentoring, and traditional exemplary methods: Core Knowledge, Saxon Math, CLUE, IEF Character Curriculum, and a neurolinguistic approach to cognitive development and English literacy known as *The Writing and Spelling Road to Reading*.

Parents have said that they like Hope School for the following reasons:

(1) The caring and nurturing staff, small student-teacher ratio...I feel comfortable leaving my daughter “all day” knowing that she is in a safe, fun and productive environment.

(2) At the school, we like the small classroom size and the individual attention that the students receive. Unlike the public schools, the students here don’t

What is Needed for Peace in the Korean Peninsula

by Antonio Betancourt

The Summit Council for World Peace, an affiliate of the IIFWP, has been deeply involved in the resolution of both the 1994 North Korean nuclear crisis, and has also undertaken an important facilitating role in the resolution of the current crisis.

Since 1991, as executive director of the Summit Council, I have traveled to the DPRK seventeen times, and met five times with the late President Kim Il Sung and twice with Chairman Kim Jong Il, as well as many other senior North Korean officials. My initial travels were part of the work of the Summit Council's International Commission for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea, created in September 1991 in consultation with Pyongyang. This commission was composed of five former heads of state who traveled under the leadership of the then-president of the Summit Council, Dr. Bo Hi Pak, as facilitators and advisors in the initial efforts to bring the U.S. and North Korea to a serious dialogue. Initially, our focus was to help the U.S. appreciate the necessity to engage in dialogue with the DPRK at a much higher diplomatic level in order for both sides to clearly understand each other's positions and create a road map to address differences and find potential solutions.

The work of that commission began with a Summit Council roundtable of renowned scholars, Asian affairs experts and senior U.S. officials in December 1992, chaired by President Clinton's chief military advisor, Adm. William J. Crowe, USN (Ret.), former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Another roundtable was held in March 1993, also chaired by Adm. Crowe, just as the first nuclear crisis reached alarming proportions. These conferences were followed by subsequent trips to Pyongyang with not only former presidents and prime ministers but with key American leaders, and opinion and policy-makers who could help shape a more positive American policy towards North Korea.

That was the beginning of Summit



Council's involvement. Throughout the last twelve years we have continued to help and nourish constructive dialogue and diplomacy between North Korea and the U.S. Our efforts were also extended in the early 1990s to the European Union and throughout that decade between the two Koreas.

It is so easy to misgauge North Korea's perspective and motivation for its behavior. Many dismiss North Koreans as crazy or irrational, without acknowledging their fierce sense of pride, and how their society is a preserve of what Korea was like in the late 1940s: rural, isolated, strongly anti-colonial (antagonistic toward the big powers), and with a strong Confucianist tradition of loyalty and filial piety towards its leaders that remains unchanged even today. It is better to view North Korea as a national enclave of man-centered religious monks, who disavow the outside world. Yet, despite what many might regard as its bizarre qualities, my experience - and that of many others - proves that it is possible to negotiate satisfactorily with North Koreans with a mutually beneficial outcome. The prerequisite to this is to treat one's adversary with the dignity that you may think they don't deserve.

I believe that this second nuclear crisis with North Korea can be resolved when the United States, along with Japan, China, Russia, and possibly, South Korea, provide written assurances against attack upon the North which will mean for them regime survival and the possibility of regime reform at their own pace and under their own conceptual understandings. In return for this multilateral security assurance, along with sizable economic assistance in various forms, the North is likely to freeze its nuclear programs and permit monitoring and even intrusive inspections of all nuclear facilities by representatives of these powers. There is a clear model in how Ukraine and other former

Soviet satellites gave up their nuclear weapons (to Russia) after the Cold War in return for security assurances by the United States. There appears to have been considerable movement in this direction in October and November, especially on the part of the U.S. and China, and U.S.-Japan-South Korea cooperation has been strong.

It is fortunate that the Bush administration has moved in the direction of strongly supporting a multilateral solution to this crisis, as all the Northeast Asian powers have a stake in the peace and stability of the Korean peninsula. Those in the U.S. who advocate increasing pressure on the North to force a coup or capitulation now seem to be ebbing in strength. Clearly, a diplomatic solution to this crisis is the only



solution desirable. Focused policy coordination within the Bush administration, among American allies Japan and South Korea, and with neighbors China and Russia, will bring about this positive outcome. China's role is particularly important at this time. We look forward to another round of the Six Party Peace Talks in December and hope that North Korea will accept the written assurances it is expected to be offered.

Once the nuclear crisis is settled, it will be urgent on the part of these

nations, especially the U.S., Japan and South Korea, to formulate a clear roadmap for bringing about peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. Key to this will be a sustained effort to support North Korean economic reform, aided by food aid, agricultural and technical assistance, especially in the areas of energy and institutional buildup to enable the North to interact with market economies. Moreover there should be significant involvement by international financial institutions such as the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. By then the U.S. should be able to send a signal to these international financial institutions removing its objections toward their engagement with North Korea as was done with Vietnam in the early 1990s prior to the establishment of U.S.-Vietnam diplomatic relations.

South Korea must play the lead bilateral role, but Japan's role will be no less important than that of the U.S. The Japanese public, despite its legitimate anger over North Korean behavior, must be reassured that this avenue will bring about the best possible result for Japan.

While the North Korean regime wishes to survive, it cannot do so without permitting major economic reform; it cannot rebuild its devastated economy on weapons. We already see small but visible and steadily-building economic changes in the North in the last two years, reminiscent of China in the early 1980s. These efforts need to be encouraged by the major powers, as well as by the European Union. By constructing an environment where North Korea feels secure and unthreatened, while promoting North Korea's economic reform bilaterally and multilaterally, the U.S., Japan, China, Russia and South Korea can bring about long-term peace, stability and reconciliation on the Korean peninsula.

Antonio Betancourt is Executive Director, Summit Council for World Peace; Secretary ❖

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get lost in the crowd.

(3) I wanted my child to grow up in a school that minimizes unnecessary gossip of a demeaning nature, but rather fosters supporting someone who may be struggling.

(4) I sent our son to BHS because of its emphasis on character education and wanting him to be in an atmosphere of respect of authority figures and fellow students. Because God is discussed in a nondenominational manner, his particular faith is re-enforced in a loving way.

(5) I sent my son to BHS because teachers are caring and children feel cared for and secure. They feel free to express themselves. They are learning to be good citizens of our society.

(6) BHS has a dedicated staff that not only addresses our son's aca-

demic strengths and weaknesses but also seeks to stimulate his character growth that he may become a caring, responsible human being who lives for the sake of others.

(7) I really appreciate the way they do Reading Buddies at BHS because most parents are too busy to schedule reading aloud to their children. By training the older students to tutor and read aloud to the younger students, BHS is nurturing a caring heart in my child.

Info on UB, BIA and BHS:

For further information, please contact the three schools by calling (203) 576-4000 for UB, 334-3434 for BIA, or 368-6239 for BHS; by sending an email to biahighschool@hotmail.com; or by consulting the websites at www.bridgeport.edu, www.bridgeportacademy.org, or www.tomoyama.com/preparehop❖

Grants for Management Studies at UTS

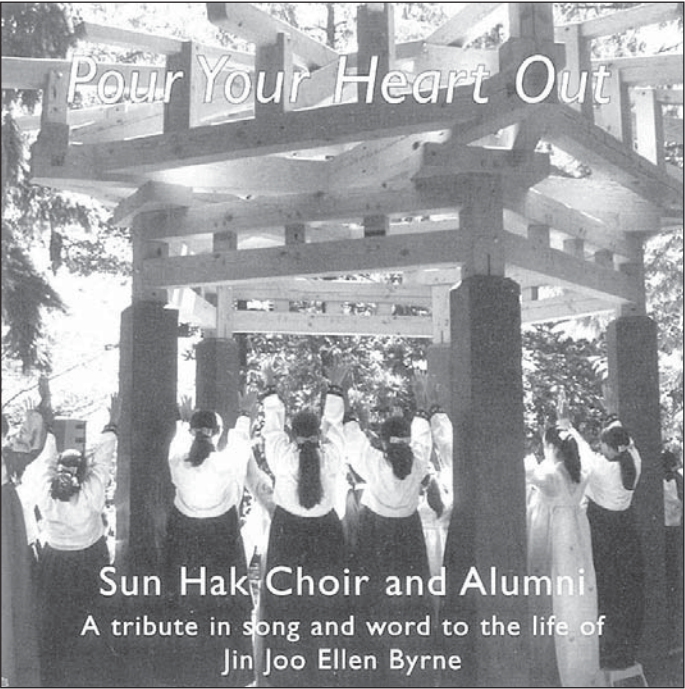
Effective ministry requires capable management informed by current best practices, and the UTS management curriculum is designed to meet the need for such ministry. We are pleased to announce that the Young Jin Moon Charitable Foundation is providing awards for students to pursue this management curricula.

The Young Jin Moon Award provides \$7,500 per year for two years, applied toward tuition and fees for full-time study towards a Masters of Religious Education at UTS with a focus on management. We are looking for applicants who have a personal commitment toward church and non-profit management, academic excellence, and a record of achievement in prior life experience.

To apply, contact UTS Admissions at (845) 752-3000 x200
or admissions@uts.edu

Article removed in Internet edition

Sun Hak Choir Salute Jin Joo Ellen Byrne



Jin Joo Ellen Byrne
"Pour Your Heart Out" brings together recordings of Sun Hak's 2003 summer camp music and a collection of impromptu recordings by those alumni to create this tribute to the life of Jin Joo Ellen Byrne, a former choir member. On August 10th, 2004, at the age of eighteen years, just three months after graduation from high school, Jin Joo Byrne was murdered in Charlotte, North Carolina, while active in missionary work in the service of her country and her faith. From an early age, Jin Joo was creative, artistic, and independent. She loved music, art, and ballet, but her parents remember that her strongest passion in life was her dedication to the ideals of pure love and true family. Anyone whose life was touched in any way by Jin Joo will always remember her wonderful idealism and her sincere heart.

Jin Joo joined the choir in 1997, just after moving from Alaska to Seattle, along with her two younger sisters, Christine and Sonia. In 1998 she was selected to perform in a duet.

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loved music, art, and ballet, but her parents remember that her strongest passion in life was her dedication to the ideals of pure love and true family. Anyone whose life was touched in any way by Jin Joo will always remember her wonderful idealism and her sincere heart.

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gushed five state honor choir in 2000. Jin Joo traveled with the choir to South Korea on a concert tour in Seoul and Incheon. At all times, Jin Joo was an enthusiastic, helpful, and dedicated member, during her four years in the choir.

"Pour Your Heart Out" is the title on a hand-written collage of inspirational words that Jin Joo had intended in her journal, discovered by her family after her tragic death. Sun Hak members of posterity today and tomorrow all hope to fulfill her creed, "Pour Your Heart Out."

Pearl Foundation
A portion of the proceeds from sales of this album will be donated to the Pearl Foundation, which was founded to ensure that Jin Joo's life is remembered as one who would have wished—with an outreach of love. Pearl Foundation supports educational programs that further her vision of creating world peace through living for the sake of others.

Sun Hak Choir
Sun Hak is a private, non-profit youth chorus dedicated to performing and recording choral music that expresses mankind's desire for peace and unity. The choir aims to portray a harmonious body of youth from all cultural, racial and economic backgrounds, and seeks to foster the personal growth of its members through musical training. Founded by Dr. Park Ji Han, Hon., the choir's namesake, Sun Hak is well known for its broad repertoire of Korean music.

Based in Seattle, Washington, the choir is directed by Nancy Kubo and has affiliated membership around the United States who participate in Sun Hak's summer programs.

Recordings by the choir for this album were made during its 2003 summer camp, which brought together 48 children from four states for performing at the dedication of the Korean War Children's Memorial in Bellingham, Washington. Information on future camps can be found at: www.sunhakchoir.org.

The Sun Hak Choir and alumni salute a friend and former member, Jin Joo Ellen Byrne, with “Pour Your Heart Out” – a keepsake of Jin Joo’s words, music, inspiration, and photos, along with Sun Hak’s 2003 summer camp music. Choir selections include Korean favorites such as Toraji, Holloh Arirang, Hwee Pah Ram, Arirang, and Korea’s national anthem, plus favorite American songs — One Small Voice, Sing America Sing, and Children of the World Unite. A portion of the proceeds from sales will be

donated to the Pearl Foundation, which supports educational programs that further Jin Joo’s ideals of pure love and true family. Order Information for Sun Hak Choir’s “Pour Your Heart Out”

Individual Price: \$12.00 each. Special: Buy 10, get one free. Group Price for fundraising: Quantity of 50-99: \$7.00 (resell @\$12.00) Quantity of 100 or more: \$6.00 (resell @\$12.00) Shipping: Add \$2.00 for up to 3 cds for shipping inside U.S. For group quantities, call for shipping information. To order, contact: Sun Hak Choir, 3007 22nd Ave. W, Seattle, WA 98199. Credit card orders can be called in to: 206-691-0621. Email: nancykubo@sunhakchoir.org ♦

Orange County CA ACLC Pilgrimage Prayer Breakfast

by Susan Munsell

On Saturday, December 6, we held our first Orange County ACLC Prayer Breakfast. Thank you to Heavenly Father and True Parents and all the brothers and sisters who supported the effort. Members came and volunteered without even being asked. The good spirit world came too; the atmosphere was heavenly. All the guests who attended were very happy that they came. There were at least 20 guests attending. Haitham Bundakji was the keynote speaker and he always testifies with confidence about Father. He has a heartistic foundation in the Interfaith Community in Orange County. Rev. Millsap of Sadoc Family Christian Church testified to the “real” experience of love and dedication for God’s will he experience through the Pilgrimage.

Mr. Andy Weiss gave a wonderful testimony of interfaith experience in his family and developing new bonds of relationship through the Peace March from the Western Wall to the Dome of the Rock and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Rev. Walter Frank gave the invitation speech. The whole effect was truly dynamic--three were interested in attending the Pilgrimage right then and several pledged to attend in the future. One Seventh Day Adventist minister is confirmed to go to Jerusalem. Rev. Short, our host at Harbor Christian Church, had been very reluctant to participate in our events, but encouraged us to hold another event to report on the Pilgrimage experience. I have been working with the Interfaith Community for 12 years in Orange County. It was really satisfying to finally have an ACLC prayer breakfast in this

area. The churches here are all main line churches such as Presbyterian, Methodist, Catholic, and Seventh Day Adventist. There are many Fundamentalist or Evangelical churches such as Calvary Chapel or Mariners, etc. in the community, but they don’t belong to the interfaith circle. Even in interfaith circles I have always been looked down on as a “Moonie”, but it hasn’t bothered me because I know I’m just following Father’s desire to unite Christianity. My goal from the beginning has been to have True Parents speak at the Crystal Cathedral, probably the largest and most famous church in the greater Los Angeles area. Since the 9/11 disaster at the Trade Towers, I have been working with the Muslim Community to develop a Women’s Auxiliary for Christians and Muslims for Peace (CAMP). I have always felt that if we can serve Cain-

type foundation and bring unity between Cain and Abel types, Islam and Christianity, it will be a foundation for Father to be recognized globally. We need to do on a local scale what Father is doing on a global scale. I feel responsible to expand our ACLC foundation to these larger predominantly white churches. I have been trying to go the servant of servants’ course by serving the Islamic Community so I can somehow gain power to move even the large churches. The spirit world is helping too. So I want to sincerely say thank you to Heung Ji Nim and all the prophets, saints and ancestors who are working with us. On a spiritual level this event was a real breakthrough. Thanks so much to Rev. Ku and Pastor Henning for their prayers and support. ♦

GETTING STARTED



**PAUL
CARLSON**

**Mr. Carlson is involved with
marine aspects of the
Providence in the Bay Area**

This article is about growing up. In a practical fashion, as in getting a job, moving out, and forming a household. This article is offered primarily to our new Blessed couples.

Americans are sometimes accused of being too pragmatic. This author is firmly in that category himself—just ask his wife. Still, Americans dominate the world these days, and that didn't happen by accident. Practical knowledge helps a lot.

Our growing BCs are in a complex situation. Some want to marry early, while others intend to wait many years. Their parents, too, are uncertain. Should our young folks wait until they have a college degree and a solid career? They might fall for some non-member classmate in the meantime. Should they start a family sooner, even without enough money to support a child? As it turns out, if everyone agrees, sooner is often better.

Rather than spend their whole lives in the same dinky village, modern kids are usually out on their own by the age of twenty. Trouble is, these young Americans often make the same mistakes, and land in the same difficulties, as millions did before them.

Popular culture has a lot to do with it. Practical advice remains unspoken, and unrealistic expectations are fostered. Not everyone can become a dot-com founder, or a sports-playing millionaire, fresh out of school.

The credit card companies know this. They set up tables in Student Unions, and hand out their plastic to college students by the thousands. All too often, after a spending spree, parents end up bailing out their indebted offspring. Hopefully the right lessons are learned.

Getting Established

Every new couple starts from scratch. It may look daunting, but it's a well-trodden path. White collar or blue, any sane employer will appreciate a polite and reliable worker. I wouldn't turn down a parent's largesse, but that's not always in the cards.

In my case, at first we Carlsons lived at a church center, then rented a single room from another family. Next we split a bigger apartment, and later, rented a place of our own. Finally we bought a condo. We live in an expensive region, and were fortunate to get help with the hefty down payment from my parents.

These days you can't do anything civilized without credit. To begin, get a 'secured' credit card. You send that bank \$500 or so, and that's also your credit limit. (You get the money back later, plus interest.)

After about 18 months, if you don't mess up, your personal credit is established and you'll get a flood of applications. Pick only one or two cards; those without annual fees, and maybe that offer some type of bonus.

Be frugal with your money. Use a 'no fee' Saving and Loan or Credit Union rather than a huge, greedy bank. Borrowing to pay for daily expenses, or to make donations, is always a terrible idea.

There are only so many ways to divide up your monetary pie, and the pie itself grows all too slowly. It's important for a

couple to agree on finances, and to know exactly what they're spending and why. It's amazing how many so-called adults don't balance their own checkbook, or look over those credit card bills.

Start small. Don't be afraid to shop at the Goodwill store, or to buy used cars and appliances. Buy with some written guarantee if possible. If you can deal with fellow church members, so much the better. Just don't give them any cause for hard feelings.

Please don't get ripped off. Knowing an honest auto mechanic is crucial. Ask for recommendations. Be very careful with Internet transactions. Check out Clark Howard's radio show and web site, *Consumer Reports* magazine, and other available resources.

Wives, especially, place good common sense over emotional loyalty to your friends. Our members are famous for trying wonder businesses and miracle cures. Such as: tachyons, eloptic energy, and magnetic items; plus miracle soaps, herbal pills, or cards. No member has ever done well with those flaky outfits, especially in the long term.

In the past, a few con artists have collected 'sympathy' money by pretending to be escaped UC members. Opposite this, Mormon Utah is a long-time haven for 'insider' swindles. Who would doubt a fellow Saint?

Our members are more naïve than sneaky, and let's fix the former before anyone gets tricked by the latter.

Getting Along

Men and women have different needs and priorities. They communicate in what amounts to two different languages. Here, John Gray's "Mars and Venus" books are very informative.

Many churches require premarital counseling for engaged couples. Topics

include relatives, sex, and money. Also, spelling out their plans. Potential disagreements can be handled long before they spark trouble. For Unificationists, our matching tradition alters this equation somewhat.

For our strictest members, counseling's secular implications make it unattractive. I think everyone could benefit. Not from endless years of Psychiatry, but a few sessions with an experienced Marriage and Family Counselor.

What do your relatives want? Which, if either, grandparents will you live near? Hopefully you'll get along with both sets. From our perspective, the number of deprogrammings (outside Japan, anyhow) has dropped to near zero. The main reason? Grandchildren.

It's true: men want more sex. Wives should understand this—and the husband must know she's not always ready. Not to mention, what happens after squalling babies enter the picture.

Disagreements about money are nearly universal. Who will do the family book-keeping? Men are often more pragmatic, and that's a bad word for Unificationists. He might want to buy more stuff, or save up for retirement, while she insists they "put their money in the Bank of Heaven" instead.

Tithing is a vital tradition, and it's not to be put off. No wise leader makes unrealistic demands, and even a 'widow's mite' is important. There is anecdotal evidence that families who tithe have much better fortune regarding employment.

Houses

We are now in the official Age of Settlement, and UC members are buying property. Is that a good idea? Nobody objects to your owning a toothbrush, and even a car.

What about a house? Depending on

where you live, and your credit score, mortgage payments vary widely. It's said, "Either you're paying the landlord's mortgage or your own." Our Rev. Thompson cautions, "Just don't let the house own you."

What about starting a business, or making capital investments? Unless you have extraordinary talent, that's just about the only way to make a lot of money. Robert Kiyosaki's "Rich Dad, Poor Dad" books explain this well.

Investments are risky, and demand a huge amount of your time and attention. Many Unificationists rent out homes, and run successful restaurants or franchise shops. By now, most have partners and employees reliable enough to allow some time away, for vacations and Providential activity.

Christians such as Larry Burkett offer sound, moral advice. In the future, as our movement expands, we Unificationists will build our own financial networks and consumer power. At the far end of life, we've just now established a national cemetery.

As children enter the picture, and even though it's distasteful, we must record our wills and medical 'preference' documents. Many states have passed horrible, doctor's orders 'pull the plug' laws. Few people even know about them. The ongoing Terry Schiavo case (in Florida) isn't the only one . . .

At our Bay Area Family Church we've held several Old and New Couple dinners. Frank and wide-ranging discussions were the order of the day. It's amazing how many practical ideas, and words of wisdom, our elder couples have gleaned over the years.

Unselfish sacrifice is good. As an added bonus, it'll help prevent your kids from getting spoiled. Keep in mind that, in a material sense, you cannot offer what you never had in the first place. Therefore, go right ahead and become prosperous. ♦

FOR KIDS

by Françoise

Find the seven differences between these two drawings of making Christmas cards

Help them find the glitter

40 YEARS IN AMERICA

by Dr. Michael Mickler

Dr. Mickler is Vice-president and Professor of Church History at the Unification Theological Seminary.

Many members expected that Blessing '99 would be the final Blessing, certainly in the current sequence of International Wedding Ceremonies conducted on a global and mass scale. The goal of 360 million couples had been accomplished, a total that Rev. Moon had said would turn the world upside-down. He set forth an elaborate projection, stating, "the 360 million—really 400 million—couples constitute 800 million husbands and wives and, supposing that each couple has four children, this is approaching 3 billion people." Thinking in this way, it was possible to conclude that more than half the population on earth was connected to the Blessing. In other words, the scale had been tipped in the movement's favor. Global transformation was inevitable. Moreover, all this had been achieved prior to the dawn of the new millennium, which served as a kind of finish-line for some tribal messiahs. It was a neat package.

Members with this mindset, therefore, were surprised when Rev. Moon announced another 400 Million Couple Blessing to be conducted in conjunction with his 80th birthday, on February 13, 2000. They were even more surprised to learn that the 400 million were to be "matched couples only."

However, as early as July 1998, Rev. Kwak communicated Rev. Moon's request "to find many who can become candidates for the matching and participate in the Blessing." Rev. Kwak repeated the direction to find unmarried young people as single-person blessing candidates for Blessing '99 in September and October 1998. However, the reality was that matched candidates constituted only a small fraction of a percentage of the global blessings: some 6,500 out of 40 million in Blessing '97 and approximately 3,000 out of 120 million for Blessing '98. The added push for matching candidates increased the total for Blessing '99 but not enough. Church spokesmen set the number of newly wed, i.e., matched couples at Seoul Olympic Stadium at 12,000. There may have been several thousand more in other locales. The Philippines, for example, reportedly brought 14,000 Blessing candidates itself. Yet, obviously, these numbers were dwarfed by the 240 million previously married couples.

Rev. Moon spoke with some candor about the situation in November 1998. He said that "ideally, the heavenly blessing should be received on the tradition of the value of the blessing." It was "supposed to be dealt with very inwardly and with internal value." However, because of what he termed "the failures of Korea, America, and Christianity," the Blessing was "given out now as a token to people all over the world." It was, he said, as if "a royal family member... [were] being finally cast out...and marrying a beggar on the street." This much "devaluation of the blessing" was occurring.

He drew some consolation from a scene he had

This is the twenty-ninth in a series of excerpts from the book *40 Years in America: An Intimate History of the Unification Movement 1959-1999*. The editor is Michael Inglis, the historical text by Michael Mickler. The book is available from HSA Publications for \$70 + \$8 s&h. Contact them at: 4 West 43rd Street, NY NY 10036; tel: (212) 997-0050 xt250 or at their web-site: www.hsabooks.com.

animal or fish such as a shark or a snake, the alligator first just makes sure that he swallows it. Of course, birds and animals have fur, skin, and bones and all kinds of dirty stuff, but they are just swallowed. There is no cleaning process. I came to understand then that God is the king of swallowing. It is like casting a net and catching everything.... God is casting a net to swallow everyone, evil people, good people, and mediocre people. Likewise, when I give the Blessing to the world, as for example at the Madison Square Garden Blessing Ceremony, I cast my net out to the entire world. Whoever comes into the net, even if they may have been criminals and murderers, is swallowed. That is why two thousand years ago God gave the message through Jesus Christ to love one's enemy. God's representative can swallow everything from the individual to the cosmic level, including the cosmic Satan, without a problem. Can you do that?"

Within the same discourse, he acknowledged, "[N]ot

observed on occasion during his visits to the South American interior where the movement was expanding. As he described it, "When an

alligator catches a big animal or fish such as a shark or a snake, the alligator first just makes sure that he swallows it. Of course, birds and animals have fur, skin, and bones and all kinds of dirty stuff, but they are just swallowed. There is no cleaning process. I came to understand then that God is the king of swallowing. It is like casting a net and catching everything.... God is casting a net to swallow everyone, evil people, good people, and mediocre people. Likewise, when I give the Blessing to the world, as for example at the Madison Square Garden Blessing Ceremony, I cast my net out to the entire world. Whoever comes into the net, even if they may have been criminals and murderers, is swallowed. That is why two thousand years ago God gave the message through Jesus Christ to love one's enemy. God's representative can swallow everything from the individual to the cosmic level, including the cosmic Satan, without a problem. Can you do that?"

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all the 360 million couples who received the blessing are fully ready to come...and meet God and True Parents."

Rev. Moon expected that the millions of blessed couples would keep heavenly traditions. After Blessings '95 and '97, for example, there was an expectation that the 360,000, 3.6 million and 36 million couples would keep a forty-day purification period following the Blessing before consummating, or resuming marital relations; that they would pay a substantial blessing fee; that they would meet regularly for *Hoon Dok Hae* reading; and that they would bring ten of their relatives or friends to the next Blessing. After Blessings '98 and '99, Rev. Moon still had every expectation that the 360 million couples would help create "a family culture in which all people have affection for me." He took out advertisements in newspapers in major capitols throughout the world to address "Blessed Couples Worldwide." He also sent Mrs. Moon on world speaking tours following each

Blessing

major Blessing to educate newly blessed couples and others in the Completed Testament word.

However, there was a sense of dissatisfaction with the results. By January 1999, this evolved into a sense of sorrow and even repentance. Amid expressions of gratitude and determination in his Midnight Prayer at the beginning of that year, Rev. Moon also stated, "I am truly so very sorry that even today, after fifty years have passed, I have still not been able to hold a victory celebration wherein I could offer the entire nation and world to Heaven through establishing Your will on this earth."

This was the fundamental motivation for the shift in emphasis from previously married to matched couples.

The movement had reached the outer limit of what was achievable or credible, even for Rev. Moon, in the 360 Million Couple Blessing. It wasn't that the 360 Million Couple Blessing was unreal. It was very real in Rev. Moon's mind. As he put it, "People think it's a joke, but it did happen through God." However, its fruit was largely internal. It remained to make these victories substantial, to truly transform people and the world. In the movement's terminology, the 360 Million Couple Blessing, and the

global blessings that had preceded it, were a spiritual condition, a foundation of faith. They needed to be complemented by a foundation of substance. This is what the 400 Million Couple Blessing was intended to be, or to begin. Together, the foundations of faith and substance would establish an unshakable foundation for global salvation.

This brought Rev. Moon back on message. "The 400 million couples and the 360 million couples," he said, "will influence the entire human race." Elsewhere, he stated, "The 400 million couples who were blessed in 1999 can be the foundation of the 400 million youth blessing. Just one youth for every couple." If members used "photo albums of blessed couples, young people will

get inspired to see so many wonderful matches made by Father. They will want to get matched by Rev. Moon." He noted that "the spirit world must be mobilized" and reported that on April 13, 1999, 1.6 billion young people were blessed in the spirit world. In addition, 106 past saints were sent to America and welcomed in a ceremony at Headquarters. Finally, on May 14, 1999, "Lucifer voluntarily surrendered to God." At several meetings, the texts of several astonishing letters of apology were read. Rev. Moon urged the membership not to take these lightly, but to believe in them as genuine and from God. Mrs. Moon also embarked on a world tour as a kick-off to the 400 million couple blessing, presenting a speech on "The Path of Life for All Humankind."

In America, this tour brought to fruition much of the work with Christianity at the grassroots level. Members had been encouraged to visit Christian churches. Many had taken this seriously and had developed good relationships with pastors and their

40 YEARS IN AMERICA

2000

congregations. Nowhere was this more so than in Chicago. When Mrs. Moon spoke there, over 4,000 guests, the vast majority being Christian congregations, gave her an extremely warm welcome.

In the end, responsibility fell on the membership to mobilize single people for Blessing 2000. For those who responded, this necessitated at least two new shifts in consciousness. First, members had to shift their focus from previously-married couples to young people. Second, they needed to shift their focus from pre-Blessing activity to finding and preparing persons for matchings. These shifts were not easy or simple. At the same time, the level of commitment expected of participants had been raised to a level approaching that of full-time members. Apart from this, the movement provided no clear guidelines. As before, members were expected to accomplish the goal on their own.

Under these circumstances, the necessary shifts in consciousness did not occur all at once. Early in the campaign, many members shifted their focus to young people. However, they were not able to shift their consciousness from pre-Blessing activities to finding and preparing people for matching. As a consequence, they proceeded in ways only slightly different than before. During the spring and summer, members targeted school graduations, movie theatres, ball parks, beaches, fairs and other places where young people congregated, passing out "Pure Love Pledge Cards" and candy. This was only a slight variation from previous pre-Blessing work, targeting as it did, a different audience and offering a slightly different message. The Pure Love Pledge sought the following commitments from young people:

- To refrain from all sexual relationships before marriage;
- To respect and honor the ideal of purity in myself and others;
- To learn how to practice pure love as a child, friend, spouse, and parent;
- To dedicate myself to absolute fidelity within marriage;
- To encourage others to do the same.

These were admirable sentiments. However, it was impossible to determine how many young people were responding simply by calculating the total of cards and candies distributed. In addition there was a major chasm to be bridged between accepting and affirming the Pure Love Pledge and agreeing to a matching.

By late summer 1999, it was apparent that the movement needed a breakthrough. On previous occasions, Rev. Moon had called the movement's leadership together for intense encounters in mostly isolated locales. Before Blessings '98 and '99, he called the movement's leadership to forty-day trainings in the interior of Brazil. He did something similar before Blessing 2000. However, rather than call leaders to an isolated setting, he instituted a forty-day "Japan-America Leadership Exchange." Some fifty-two leaders from both countries traded places for a month's time, and then both groups went together to Korea

for the final ten days. Immersion within an alien culture was a spiritual condition and wilderness course of a different type. The intention was that the U.S., as a representative of the world, inherit the dedication and heart exemplified in the lands of the movement's origin.

From Japan

Beyond this, hundreds of Japanese sisters descended on major U.S. metropolitan areas. They actually were wives and mothers, many of whom already had sacrificed their immediate families to pursue world mission during the 1990s. A highly dedicated and well-practiced force, their mission was to find matching candidates. Beginning in October 1999, they hit the ground and fanned out, staying in church centers and members' homes.

Activity in New York City was fairly typical. About eighty missionaries settled in at National Headquarters in Manhattan with smaller groups migrating to Brooklyn, Queens, Connecticut and the Mid-Hudson Valley. According to one report, "Every morning they are out on the streets carrying surveys on clip boards, diligently approaching the citizens and tourists of the city. Within the first couple of weeks they have brought over 1,000 guests to the 2nd floor of 43rd Street, where t h e y



have set up a system of embracing the guests (sometimes teaching origami, sometimes reading their palms, and always smiling), educating them (introductory lectures are given every two hours), counseling them, and ultimately signing them up for the matching and a one- or two-day workshop."

This report noted, "From the beginning, there were many logistical problems, finding space for everyone to sleep, getting the toilets and showers in working order, and providing three meals a day for everyone." One of the main handicaps was the lack of English-speaking lecturers and counselors. Nevertheless, the report concluded by noting that the "heavenly hurricane" True Parents wanted to bring to America through the Japanese sisters was "beginning to grow as more and more American brothers and sisters are becoming involved in the campaign."

Initially, the thought was to find single people who could become full-time members and then matching candidates. However, this was too cumbersome, and within a month, Japanese sisters in San Francisco and Seattle reversed the process. Rather than have guests attend a lecture or evening program and a workshop or series of workshops prior to completing Blessing applications, West coast witnesses invited people to complete Blessing applications immediately, even on the street, prior to attending lectures or workshops. Emphasis was placed on finding those

who wished to have a blessing partner, not necessarily on those who wished to become a full-time member.

This, basically, was the situation on the eve of the new millennium. While Blessing 2000 still was more than a month away, two realities already were apparent. First, Blessing 2000 had not penetrated mainstream American culture. In fact, the shift away from previously married couples to single matching candidates only heightened the challenge of attracting mainstream Americans to the blessing. Japanese sisters were far more successful among minority populations, ethnic groups and new immigrants. Second, Blessing 2000 had not really empowered the U.S. movement. This observation was more open to debate as many felt revitalized. However, the reality was that Japanese sisters did the street witnessing and Korean regional leaders handled the decision-making, particularly matchmaking decisions. American members were in a supportive role, providing housing, transportation, monetary donations, occasionally lecturing or counseling, and handling public relations.

Things had not yet substantially changed, at least not to the extent that Rev. Moon had envisioned. There were four major ways members interpreted these realities. At the negative end of the spectrum, some concluded that the Blessing and, by extension, the movement's program of world peace and unification, were flawed. The most negative of these members essentially agreed with the movement's critics. The problem was with the movement. Those holding this perspective either disassociated themselves or became inactive. Another group of members concluded that the problem was not with the movement but with themselves. The Blessing was real, and the movement's program was sound. The problem was their own lack of sincerity, purity and commitment. Members holding this perspective craved revival and associated themselves with spiritual phenomena

holding forth the promise of personal and communal liberation. A third group concluded that the problem was not with the movement or its members but with the world. The movement and its membership had given everything, but the world, as ever, was treacherous, disbelieving and stubborn, "killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent." Members holding this perspective tended to associate themselves with efforts to recreate the world from scratch. A fourth group decided that there was no problem at all. The Blessing and the movement's program of world peace and unification, in fact, had succeeded. Human problems at every level were overcome. What remained was to live out the fruits of victory.

It, of course, would be mistaken to think that all members divided neatly into one or another of the above-described groupings. It was true that some individuals inclined and even gravitated quite clearly toward one or another of the perspectives. However, others held all of the positions or several of them in different combinations within their consciousness simultaneously. It also was apparent that the movement had not broken into four separate camps, at least not yet. Still, it was important to attain some level of clarity about these orientations as they represented the movement's live options and were in significant respects, sign-posts to the future. ❖

2nd Gen

In Memory of Kwan Jung Lee

by Rev. Sung Jung Seo, Minneapolis.

Last September, there was an urgent message for a request of sincere prayer recorded on my cellular phone. It was unexpected news that Lee Kwan Jung, a young member of STF, the second son of Rev. Lee Hun Suk, (the regional leader in Seattle, WA,) was involved in a car accident and in critical condition.

Quickly this news was informed to all churches in the USA as well as True Parents. The following information is what I learned about the tragedy described on the internet. The van that had STF members with their seatbelts on was heading to Houston Texas, driving the legal speed limit on the freeway. Around 7 am on Saturday morning Kwan Jung was doing Hoon Dok Hae in the van. The tragedy started when a small truck on the other side of the road suddenly lost control and flipped over hitting the right top of the STF members' van. The driver of the truck, who was as young as Kwan Jung, also died instantly at the site.

As soon as I received the news I had all members get together and pray for the recovery of Kwan Jung with hope and faith. After Sunday service I received another phone call. It was discovered that Rev. and Mrs. Lee who are the parents of Kwan Jung arrived, examined, and confirmed that the one who was killed at the accident site was their beloved son Kwan Jung.

It turned out that Alexei Belgrove, who was from the Ukraine was driving the van at that time also suffered critical injuries and later died. Nam Hee Hwang, the son of Rev. Yup Joo Hwang, national messiah to China, was in critical condition with other injured members.

Members and I had prayed day and night for Kwan Jung's pleasant trip to Heaven and the recovery of our young brothers who were involved in the car accident, while we waited for Seung Hwa ceremony.

In the meantime, Dr. Yang, the continental director of North America, Rev. Michael Jenkins, the president of the FFWPU and other leaders were in Israel to participating in the Middle East peace seminars with other Christian ministers.

In Kodiak when True Parents heard about Kwan Jung's Sung Hwa Ceremony, he gave a beautiful calligraphy to Kwan Jung "at the Seung Hwa at 7 am, September 19, in the third year of Cheon Il Guk, Congratulations- a virtuous, living offering fighter (patriot) for the New Heaven Registration (of Lineage), Lee Kwon Jung Before all the officials of Heaven From True Parents at Kodiak." And He told us to conduct a joyous Seung Hwa Ceremony.

On the 25th he allowed us to bury him in Paju, Korea where Heung Jin Nim was buried. Hyun Jin Nim and Jun Suk Nim who are in charge of education for the second generation sent Rev. Jin Man

Kwak, vice president of World CARP to comfort family members of the STF who were also involved in the accident. He had Rev. Jin Man Kwak deliver a message to Rev. and Mrs. Lee that the path Kwan Jung took is what Heaven and True Parents went through and what Central Blessed Families should also take. We should do our best to offer sincere prayer for Kwan Jung to be such a holy and immaculate sacrifice. About 600 members and ministers attended the Seung Hwa Ceremony held on Sept. 27, while the Won Jun Ceremony was conducted by CARP in Paju, Korea on Oct. 4.

There was another memorial on Sep. 29 before the Won Jun Ceremony, was offered by 150 school friends and teachers of Kwan Jung in Minneapolis where he grew up. It is time for us to think what we can do for Kwan Jung who

STF Member

followed the Heavenly tradition at the front-line as a STF member and left for the Spirit World. We as second generation and parents should reflect that this incident should not be misunderstood with only sympathy that he had to die and go to the Spirit World at such a young age during his STF mission due to a miserable accident.

True Parents stressed the important meaning of the death of a STF member at HDH every morning. True Father emphasized on the day after the establishment of Abel UN on Oct. 4 that we should take the incident as joy not sadness on the fact that after the establishment of Chun Il Kuk, Kwan Jung has been the first one as "Saeng Chuk Yong Sa (valiant heavenly soldier) in the Spirit World since Heung Jin Nim was appointed as Chun Chung Kwan (chief Commander of Heaven). We

should remember the sacrifices of Kwan Jung and other STF members were mandatory for the accomplishment of Abel UN since the announcement of the 4th Israeli nation just like Heung Jim Nim's sacrifice helped humanity get out of a history of falls and since 20 years ago.

I would like to thank the Korean CARP's attention and support to the STF. Let me give an introduction of Kwun Jung who understood the desire of True Parents and Hyun Jim Nim for the foundation of Chun IL Kuk of God, and left for the Spirit World on his 43rd day of STF activities.

Kwan Jung Lee was born in JunJu, Cholla Bukdo province on Jan. 18, 1985 as the second son to father Hun Suk Lee (regional leader in Seattle) and mother Ok Hee Lee, 6000 couple. When he was 9, his family moved to America where his father was transferred to. Since then he grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and left for the Spirit World during his STF activities. He decided to join STF to do heavenly work before admission to college or university.

He was an ideal blessed child who had talents and a gentle personality. He was called a filial son by many people who knew him personally as well as in his own family. He was a very good son and the hope of his parents. He always understood his parents' hope and desire. He was their comfort, hope, joy and pride. There is no words to describe how deeply sorrowful his parents felt to let their son go far away. His older brother Kwan Soo testified at the Seung Hwa Ceremony that he even respected his younger brother.

In his testimony, Kwan Soo said that Kwan Jung was comforting his parents when he gave them a hard time during his teenage hood. During Rev. Lee's UTS time, Kwan Jung was living with his mother. According to Mrs. Lee, he never fell to sleep before she came back home from Fundraising, and his friends were all well aware of his character that he never forget what he promised with his parents.

He was also a good student. I got to meet with his teachers after the memorial service at his school. Every teacher gave compliments to Kwan Jung, and many of his friends

testified they were influenced by his goodness. Even after graduation his photo was still hanging on the school wall. The school had students' pictures on the wall, who were excellent students with good grades and successful accomplishment of international bachelor's courses, which were college courses combined with high school classes to shorten 4 year college years to 3 years. Kwan Jung was one of them.

He was good at music such as violin and piano. He performed at an orchestra. He was also a natural sportsman 6 feet tall and was a quite skillful wrestler and skate boarder. He fluently spoke English, Korean and Japanese. He was popular and generous to his friends, and known as "giver" amongst his peers. Because of such a good reputation he built at his school, over 100 students and teachers came to visit our church and got to know about True Parents and the Unification Church.

There was a letter written by Kwan Jung explaining why he wanted to work for the nation and world right before he joined

the STF. The teachers must have been very curious why such an excellent student like Kwan Jung decided to do volunteer work for a religious organization rather than going to college or university right away.

He explained the reason to his teachers as it follows. "Next school year I will be involved in a church-related school project... it is a serious program with a rigorous schedule. Hundreds of high school graduates will be involved and will be going around the nation doing numerous service projects. Although I don't know much about it, it is supposed to be a character building program where we totally give ourselves up for a life of sacrifice and in those moments of hardship is when we get in touch with the greater being and understand ourselves better. So I'm excited at what this program will be able to offer me and I'm excited at how I will be like after next year"

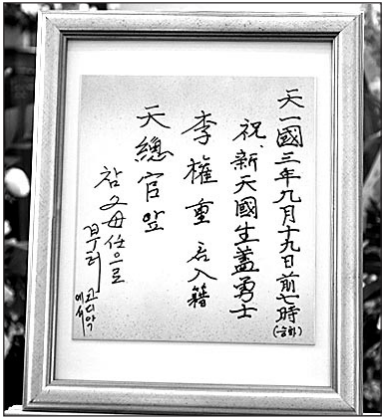
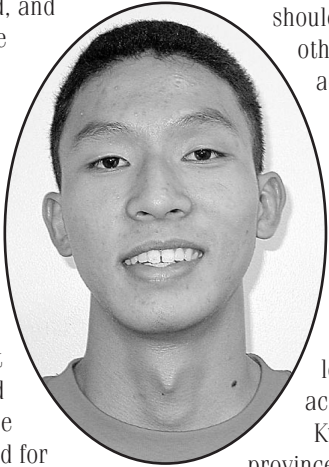
He wanted to follow the path of the Heavenly way that God wants us to do rather than the worldly way of instant success. He wanted to practice God's words found in the Bible, not worldly ways to make him go ahead in this materialistic world. When we think of this young man's pure heart and desire to contribute himself for the nation and world peace by serving and working, we could call him a patriot and a saint. He was very religious. I myself taught Divine Principles to Kwan Jung. He was always obedient to church leaders, and never gave anyone a hard time in the church.

We, as parents, tend to worry whenever our second generation children inform us that they want to go out with someone.

However Kwan Jung is the one we parents always felt comfortable with if our children hang out with him. Some parents told me they had trust in him for his religious mind and practice. He was not only a young good member to church leaders but also to first generation parents and church friends. When he had to move to Seattle where his parents were, he donated everything to the church, and played violin to comfort and give joy to everybody at the church right before he left for Seattle.

His heart and goodness at home, school and church gave him a position of special assistant to Heung Jin Nim. We are taught that we should perfect the dutiful way of filial piety in our family, patriotism in our nation, saints in the world, and divine sons and daughters in Heaven and Earth as

see **LEE** on page 30



Section

NC Youth Leadership Adventure

by Bruce Hutcherson, NC Youth Minister

Takamitsu Sakauwa and I met at Hung Jin Nim's Kodiak workshop a year ago. Now that he lives in North Carolina he wanted to do an adventure workshop for the NC teen BCs. He asked me to organize activities for an overnight camping trip for our first Leadership Adventure Workshop with the goal to embody Core Values through our experience in Nature. Saturday morning, November 22nd 2003, we all met at my house in Winston-Salem, NC, packed for a camping trip. Eight teens were able to come plus Takamitsu and myself.

After an orientation in my house by Takamitsu, we loaded into the vehicles and headed toward Pilot Mountain State Park with the goal to camp over-night on an island in the Yadkin River. We arrived at the Park and followed the gravel road as it wound through the woods and forded through a gravel and stone bottomed creek in several places. Takamitsu's car rides so low that it looked as if it would get stuck in the creeks water. We arrived at the river access parking and made the short hike down the hill with our gear.

With only two canoes, ten people, a heavy, swift current and huge rocks lurking under their telling white caps, we



felt challenged to cross this river to the island without flipping our gear laden canoes. To be safe, everyone wore life jackets and the gear was tied to the boat to prevent loss in case the current was pushed sideways on a submerged rock, rolling us in the water. The thought of pitching camp soaking wet in November, or trying to pull a swamped canoe and drifting gear out to the current of the Yadkin posed its thrill and threat. Each canoe would have to make three crossings to move the group and gear to the island—before dark.

David and Derrick Dussek, the only other brother besides me and Takamitsu, worked hard to pull the canoes through the woods. The sisters all worked hard on the gear. Because of the good teamwork, the crossing went well, and after a brief prayer, we made camp as night approached. A three prong stag sped through the woods right by our camp as we prepared to pitch our tents. We had just enough daylight to make a short tour of the island. It was like the Swiss Family Robinson surveying their new paradise home. We all worked together to collect firewood and cook our spaghetti dinner. Derrick Dussek made a valiant effort to fish for catfish. Later Takamitsu taught core values and the teens planned their next days Sunday service as we all warmed our toes around the camp fire.

Waking at 5:00 am, we had Pledge and read HDK as we built up the fire in preparation for breakfast. As soon as the meal of scrambled eggs, bacon was done we packed up tents and gear and loaded the canoes for another trip across the river. By now we had our act together and in no time at all we were loading the van with the canoes strapped to the roof. Our next goal was Pilot Mountain.

Pilot Mountain is a rock topped mountain the foot hills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. With its distinctive rock dome, it has guided the way for the Indians and pioneer of our past. After a picturesque hike along the base of the cliffs, we were to have a lesson in rappelling. Rappelling is an aspect in the sport of mountain climbing where one descends down a cliff or wall using a rope and harness. Even with all the safety procedures, it's tough to have the faith to go over the edge of a rock ledge, (in this case a small rock ledge for training) and to trust our gear and support team. As our time ran out, we would have to finish on this practice run, but the results was shown on the faces of the participants as they were empowered with a new confidence and inner strength.

We finished our trip by returning back to Winston-Salem with the teens doing a fine job with Sunday Service with several families in attendance. I enjoyed Derrick's sermon with his summary of the trip and Kieva's testimony of trust on the river. The teens had to trust and depend on each other to succeed in each challenge as they

built a closer bonding, whether it was at the edge of a cliff or edge of a river.

Testimony: Esther Spasi

I have to say "It was a really, really good experience for me" and I think I learned a lot of things. It was the first time for me hearing about the whole 'Core Values' – Culture. I tried to really focus on that during the workshop. Things I could accomplish are for example Responsibility, Initiative, Open-Mindedness, Energize and Conviction. Of course, there are a lot of things I could have done better, but

I am going to work on the Core Values in the future.

Anyway!! It was great to share time with some BC's I felt a good spirit and atmosphere all the time! The camping was adventurous in fact. It was not easy to sleep in a mini-tint with two others people. Also, it was cold. But I had to overcome my physical limits and my bad sides in order to 'embody the core value through the nature'. It was a great inspiring + motivating time and I hope we can do this again!!! Thank you very much!

Testimony: Tazuko Sugajima

The main goal of this workshop was to embody the Core Values in nature and learn to recognize them in our actions. Through the leader, I learned that in nature, we must first find the lessons God give us and then learn from it, which is different than just a teacher giving a lecture to a student.

One thing I really felt during the camping trip was to say positive and to pass the spirit to the other member. Everyone encouraged each other and helped out all through out the two days. I felt more energized and inspired to activity; most of us never tried it before including me and were a little unsure to try. But after one sister's example people tried themselves and the rest of us cheered them on and helped out automatically. I felt that the Core Values are in our daily life and that we just don't recognize it. The more we understand, the more we can see the Core Values we need to incorporate in our lives and become one step closer to being a better person. ❖



The Truth About God

by Victoria Howell

This short address was given the last week of November at the Long Island Church, NY. Victoria is a 10-year-old 2nd Generation.

I am here to tell all you parents and kids that God is not what you always think he is. God is not a spirit, not an animal but love. God is always with you and will always be with you for the rest of your life.

If there is something that you're having trouble with and you need to tell someone you could always tell God in your prayers. God will always have something to tell you. You should know that God has been suffering for so long now. He wishes that he could tell you a ton of good things, but he can't because not a lot of good things are happening in the world. God has been suffering for so long but now he doesn't need to suffer because of two people who are married. People who know them call them True Parents.

True Parents are two very very special people who are helping God make everyone know how much God suffered and are helping everyone know how to make these wars stop. They want everyone in the world to understand them. They also want the poor not to be poor and let people know that there is no need to fight. They said, "You should love your enemy". If you love your enemy they will probably love you back. Love is important because if you don't love people they won't love you and you might not understand God's heart. When you're trying to tell people about God or True Parents you should keep on trying even if they might not believe you. Also you should not think about how crazy you may look in front of a lot of people. ❖

The Second Generation Section

The **Unification News** is adding a new section for all 2nd Generation youth ministries. It will include a variety of reports, articles and testimonies from regions all over the nation. We hope this section will help in the development of your youth ministry.

For information on how to contribute please contact the US 2nd Generation Department's Assistant Planning Team Leader, Rachel Johnson at: 4 West 43rd St. New York, NY 10036, tel: 212-997-0050 ex. 123, cell: (914) 882-6338, or email at: BC2ndGen@FamilyFed.org.

Article removed in Internet edition

PRESERVE HISTORY!

Between 1945-1992 no one made as consistent and substantial a contribution to ending the Cold War than Rev. Sun Myung Moon. At UTS, the CAUSA Foundation, a not-for-profit 501C3 organization, has established an exhibit and an extensive archive to memorialize Rev. Moon's contributions in this very significant process. When at UTS kindly visit the CAUSA room. If you are able to support this initiative to preserve history your help is needed. Please send a check to the

CAUSA Foundation, 4 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036. All donations are tax-exempt. For a limited time any donor of \$50 or more will receive a copy of a beautiful hard-bound version of An Idea Who's Time Has Come, which traces the history of the CAUSA and the VOC movement in plain language and with wonderful color photos. This book was prepared for True Parents' 70th birthday. There is a limited number of copies and it is a historical work that you can share with friends and family and pass on to future generations.

LEE • from page 28

mentioned in the Family Pledge #2. His heart and attitude of attendance on this earth seems to fit him to the one mentioned in the Family Pledge. Rev. Jin Man Kwak said at the Seung Hwa Ceremony it is a very important sacrifice that some STF members left for the Spirit World; it should be the foundation on prosperity of second generation, unity of Christianity and victory of Abel UN over Cain UN. In total 3 young members of STF went to Spirit World. The first one was Jin Joo representing American second genera-

tion last year, the second one was Yoshida representing Japanese second generation on Aug. 19, 2003, and now the third one is Kwan Jung representing second generation of Korea on Sep. 20, 2003. The incidents again reminded us how important our responsibility is to unite with Korea, the fatherland, Japan the motherland and American the eldest son. In addition, the accidents of Nam Hee Whang, whose father is the messiah of China and Alexei from former Soviet Union is also highly important as it is considered as necessary sacrifice, not coincidence, to accomplish

unity of South and North Korea in center of Korea, Japan, America, China and Russia who are also members of UN. I wrote the above as a minister to Kwan Jung with hope to let you know about Kwan Jung and understand the meaning of his trip to the Spiritual World. As I conclude it I think of one of Kwan Jung's

Motto "Let us be givers. Let us live for God and True Parents. Let us challenge difficulties others don't dare to do" I hope that Kwan Jung in the spirit world would live in the words and names given by True Parents as eternal child, valiant soldier and our brother right here in this world and in the Heaven.

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UNIFICATION NEWS (ISSN:1061-0871) is published monthly for \$25 per year (rates for multiple copies, payable monthly: 5-20: \$1.75 each; 20- 50 \$1.55 each ; over 51: \$1.25¢ each) by the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of Christianity (aka: HSA-UWC; Unification Church), 4 West 43rd Street, New York NY 10036. Periodicals Postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: UNIFICATION NEWS, 4 West 43rd Street, New York NY 10036.

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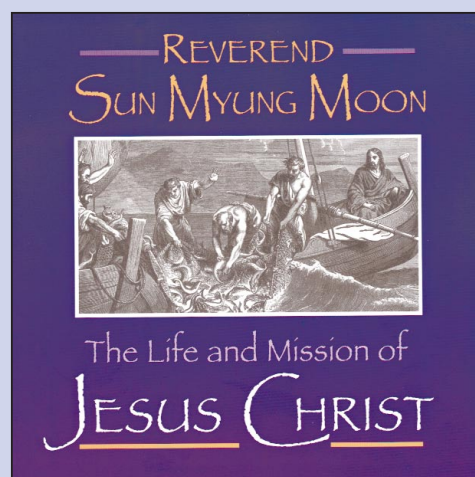
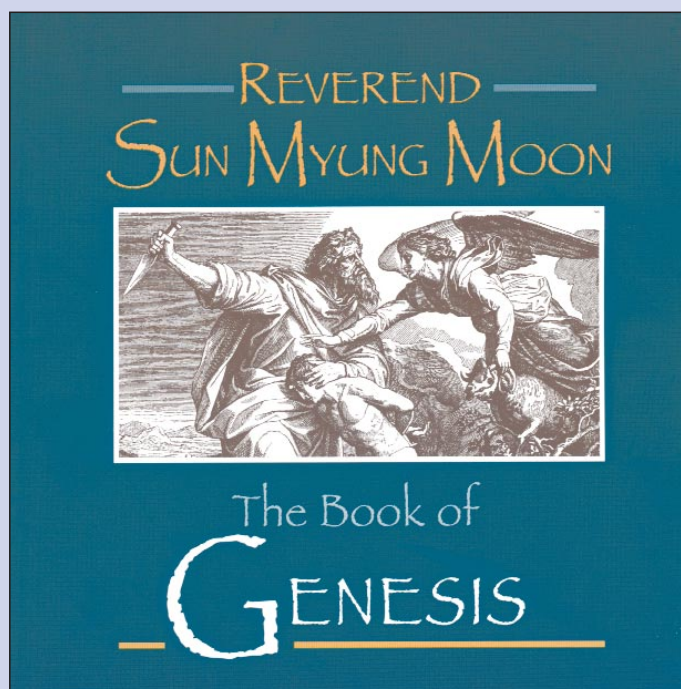
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