

There Has Never been a Time When We Didn't Strive for a Peaceful World

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Distinguished guests from home and abroad, VIPs and former VIPs, peace ambassadors, the president of São Tomé and Príncipe, government ministers and distinguished guests from the continent! You have come here today to reflect on how we can achieve a peaceful world.

When we look at human history, so far, there has never been a time when we didn't strive for a peaceful world. That is how much humanity has wished for peace, but starting with ourselves, if we cannot unite our mind and body, we cannot hope for peace. Throughout the history of human civilization, many righteous people and righteous religious leaders arose. But the day they all sought to realize never dawned. Why was that so? Today, we know that human thinking and will have limits. Thus, we must know God's original nature and essence as the owner and the Creator of the universe.

God created all things in heaven and on earth in his image. Lastly, he created a man and a woman who were to become humankind's ancestors. God gave human beings responsibilities. During their growth period, they had to grow to perfection, but failed to

do that. As a result, today's fallen human race is a people without a relationship to God.

Since God, our Creator, made all things with eternity in mind, he cannot change his creation simply because his children had made a mistake. Since God cannot abandon fallen humankind, he began the providence of salvation. He carried out this salvation until his chosen people were able to lay and expand their foundation from the individual level to that of the family, tribe, people and finally a nation. Only after a long four thousand years was God finally able to send Jesus Christ, his only son, a son he could directly talk to and relate to and one he speak of to humanity as "my son."

Unfortunately, the Israelites, God's chosen people, failed to recognize Jesus. Even though God finally sent Jesus, his only son, after four thousand years, among Mary, who gave birth to Jesus, Jewish leaders and the Israelites, none knew who Jesus was. They ended up putting Jesus on the cross. Jesus promised to return as he died on the cross. On his left and right sides were two thieves. The thief on his left mocked Jesus while the one on his right rebuked the one on the left saying, "We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then, Jesus told the thief on his right, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." He said "Paradise."

God, the Creator, made his creation in his image. In this light, Jesus, who was born as a man and as God's only son, should also have God's only daughter by him. Sadly, such an environment could not be created. The kingdom of heaven is a place where only a perfected man and woman can enter as a couple. Jesus said he would return, but those in the Christian cultural sphere, which formed after Jesus' crucifixion, did grasp Jesus' essence.

True Parents must emerge

After Christianity became officially recognized as the Roman Empire's state religion in 313 AD, Christianity could move on to a new page. Beginning from the Italian Peninsula, it spread across Europe all the way to the island country of England. Then, people from many countries, with England at the lead, went out to the world with the Bible. I call this period the Era of the Atlantic Cultural Sphere. Sadly, they did not grasp Jesus' essence and ended up taking an egoistic direction in their endeavors. Jesus' essence called for the practice of living for the sake of others and for true love. That was not the kind of mission work they carried out at that time. All countries connected with the Era of the Atlantic Cultural Sphere were blind to Jesus' essence and prioritized their national interests instead. Such egoism caused much damage, particularly on the African continent.

The truth about God's providence must now be known. The six thousand years of history described in the Bible until now has been characterized by walls of wars and conflicts, walls of religions and cultures, walls that prevent us from uniting. This is due to the failure to know God. There are four great religions in this world today, but they too do not know how to meet and become one with God.



God's only daughter was essential

God had to find and prepare a nation to receive his only daughter and the True Mother of humanity for the returning Messiah to be able to fulfill his mission. The only daughter could not be born in Israel to a people that had not fulfilled their duties. That is because they still had indemnity left to pay.

So, for the completion of God's providence, God sent his only daughter to Korea, in Asia. If God's only daughter hadn't appeared, we would neither ever see the fulfillment of God's providence nor that of human history.

Our Creator, God, made a man and a woman in his image. Therefore, to see the completion of God's providence, victorious human ancestors, True Parents, must emerge from among fallen humanity. Two thousand years ago, God sent his only son Jesus Christ without any connection to the fallen lineage, in the same way God's only daughter must be born without a connection to the fallen lineage for True Parents to finally emerge on earth. Only then can we witness the fulfillment of the providence.

That is why wherever you search in history today, you cannot feel any hope. However, since God's only daughter has been born, humanity has hope. After six thousand years, God could finally bring forth True Parents, who through the blessing movement open the door for all 7.6 billion people to come to Heavenly Parent's bosom. Because fallen humanity can now be in the position of children to God, the Lord of Creation.

Let's make this nation a model of heaven

There are around two hundred countries in the world today. In Africa alone are many big and small nations. Up until now, people lived here in an environment in which they could not unite. However, thanks to True Parents, through the families that received the blessing, the people of Africa can now become one. Through the blessing that we will hold tomorrow, by receiving True Parents' blessing, you will be in a position of true children that God can embrace and to whom he will manifest all his love. Heavenly Parent has longed to see this day for the past six thousand years; it is the day Heavenly Parent will say, "Now you have finally become my sons and my daughters." He fill his children with his love, shedding endless tears of joy. This is that blessed day.

Since God created the universe to last for eternity, for only a father and mother to receive the blessing does not suffice. The children too need education so they can enter Heavenly Parent's bosom. In the past,

the first human ancestors, Adam and Eve, did not prepare well and fell during their growth period. Children of the blessed couples receiving the blessing tomorrow must keep their chastity until the day God can finally say, You too have grown up well; you are now ready. Only then can you become precious sons and daughters whom God can embrace. Therefore, I plan to bless this country's president and its government's personnel. I will give Sun Moon University scholarships to three people that the government chooses as future leaders of this country.

When True Parents have blessed all humankind, the world will become a place of blessings where Heavenly Parent can directly commune with humanity. If all blessed families fulfill their responsibilities, we will be able to see that day during our time on earth. As blessed families, work to create heaven on earth; if all the nations here become one, it will not only become heaven on earth but will also create the road to pass freely into the eternal kingdom of heaven in heaven. All of you here today can bring São Tomé and Príncipe to attend our Heavenly Parent and become heavenly São Tomé and Príncipe. If all its citizens become blessed families and blessed children whom Heavenly Parent embraces, this nation will become heaven on earth.

I want to say this again: Responsibilities are always present when you receive blessings from Heaven. Heavenly Parent has blessed São Tomé and Príncipe as heavenly São Tomé and Príncipe. So, when you are able to fulfill your responsibilities on earth and realize Heavenly Parent's dream, you will be able to proclaim to the world that São Tomé and Príncipe has become a model of heaven on earth. That will be a day of glory, blessing and endless joy. Will you do your best to make this happen? I would like to particularly thank the president of São Tomé and Príncipe and all cabinet ministers for their cooperation and support in making this day possible. Let us determine to make São Tomé and Príncipe heaven on earth.