

## God could not abandon fallen humankind, so He began the providence of salvation

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As a child, I had many questions about Holy Mother Mary. How is it that Mary conceived Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit and gave birth to him, yet was unaware of the reason for his coming and what he had to achieve on earth?

Moreover, it was not the culture in those times that they could not remember the date when a baby was born. Why was that record not preserved, and why, following Jesus' crucifixion, did the date of Jesus' birth end up being decided as December 25 by so many clergymen? All Christian pastors are aware of this.



The early Christians suffered a great deal of persecution following the crucifixion of Jesus. The three hundred years before Rome's official recognition of Christianity was a very difficult time for them. However, Christianity began with the persistent wait for Jesus Christ, who had promised to return. "I will return!" Jesus promised to return and conduct the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. In spite of this, throughout its 2,000-year providence Christianity has not understood the meaning of Jesus' words.

The Creator created a man and a woman and gave them a period of time during which they were to grow. The Creator wanted to live with them at the point when they perfected themselves. In other words, our Creator wished to embrace and love His children on earth, along with the victorious ancestors of humankind. God wanted to live with them in the kingdom of heaven on earth and in the eternal kingdom in heaven.



But this did not work out. Yet God could not simply abandon fallen humankind, so He began the historical providence of salvation. As you all know, God selected the people of Israel as His chosen people. How very difficult it must have been that it took 4,000 years to bring Jesus Christ into the world!

Thus, God sent the Messiah for whom the people of Israel had been waiting so long. However, even Mary, who gave birth to Jesus, did not really understand. How is it that she gave birth to him but then could not look after him for the next thirty years? She was unable to provide Jesus with a supportive environment. How is it that the Holy Mother was like this?

We are now in the era of Cheon Il Guk, when both Heaven's providence and human history are complete. The Christian community must wake up. Jesus' wish was to become the True Parent. The True Parent! Thus, Christians should wait with the aim of meeting the True Parents. Then, they should be reborn through the True Parents, and on that basis become children that attend their Heavenly Parent.

Those who identify themselves as Christians and pastors who genuinely love Jesus should aspire to become disciples as well as the sons and daughters who seek to fulfill his hopes. What I mean is that they should not restrict themselves to the Old Testament era of the past.

Throughout the 2,000-year history of Christianity there have been many failures. How could communism, which claims that there is no God or that God is dead, arise from the ranks of those who believe in God? This requires a great deal of self-reflection. Who is it that talks about heretics? With what qualification?

Can you keep your eyes closed now that the time of darkness has ended and a new day is dawning? You should open your eyes, shouldn't you? Would you agree or not? [We agree.] With Christianity making plain the truth about Jesus, with the Christian realm becoming one with the True Parents, and with Christianity and the Family Federation together taking the leap to embrace the people of the world, let us advance toward the realization of a heavenly unified Korea and a heavenly unified world.