

## Let's Educate Members about Completed Testament Age and Family Pledge

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*Elio Roman at True Father's Seonghwa ceremony in September 2012*

A new age beyond the Old Testament Age and beyond the New Testament Age has arrived. We have entered the Completed Testament Age [since 1993]. Blessed families have not received the education provided for us by True Parents regarding the Completed Testament Age (CTA), the Age after the Coming of Heaven and the Age of Cheon Il Guk. Our membership has been searching for direction, and our movement is in a state of uncertainty. There is confusion regarding terminology, our duties and responsibilities, our vision and mission, as well as the method, or means by which blessed families can fulfill the way of daily life in Cheon Il Guk and build God's Kingdom on earth. True Parents have clearly shown us the way, beginning with the teachings of the Completed Testament age.

Through this article I hope to start a campaign to educate blessed families of the importance of the Completed Testament Age and the Family Pledge. It will be helpful to review the mission of the Unification Church, the mission of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), and the significance and meaning of the Family pledge and how they apply in this Age of Cheon Il Guk, to building and expanding God's long promised Kingdom.

I am aware that I have been raised in the Unification church culture during the Unification Church's wilderness course, as well as in the modern and post-modern American culture in this time of globalization. Culture plays an influential role in the development of one's theology, or the ideology that one constructs and applies as a way of life. I have sought to suspend my cultural perspective and look at Father's words from the many different angles in which he presents his teachings in order to discover God's word in the Completed Testament Age. Whether one is young or old, or Christian, Jewish, Muslim, American, European, South American, South Korean, or North Korean, national culture is a powerful determinant as to how one looks at a new theology or ideology. With this understanding, I will try to present an introduction to the teachings of the Completed Age.

### **The Mission of the Unification Church**

The mission of the Unification Church has finished. The Unification Church successfully has fulfilled its mission and now the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification has been established to carry on God's providential work toward building the ideal Kingdom.

During the time period from 1945 to 1952 Christianity, which was in the position of the bride, failed to receive and attend the Lord of the Second Advent. The 4000 year foundation that was established through the Old Testament and New Testament Ages was lost and needed to be restored. True Father had to undergo a 40-year period of indemnity representing the 4000 year period of the Old and New Testament Ages. He had to indemnify a 20-year period in Korea, from 1952 to 1972, representing the 2000-year Old Testament Age, followed by 20 years in America, from 1972 to 1992, representing the 2000-year New Testament Age. From 1952 and concluding in 1992, Father, through the indemnity paid during the 40-year period, was able to restore the lost 4000-year foundation and fulfilled the mission of the Lord of the Second Advent, and then declared the arrival of the True Parents of mankind and the opening of the Completed Testament Age.

The Unification Church was founded during the wilderness course. The Completed Testament Age has arrived and is a time of settlement. The mission of the Unification Church was to establish the necessary conditions to restore Christianity's failure to receive the messiah from 1945 to 1952. It is amazing to think that the mission of the Unification Church was for Father to restore the 4000 year period lost by Christianity's failure to receive the second coming of the Messiah.

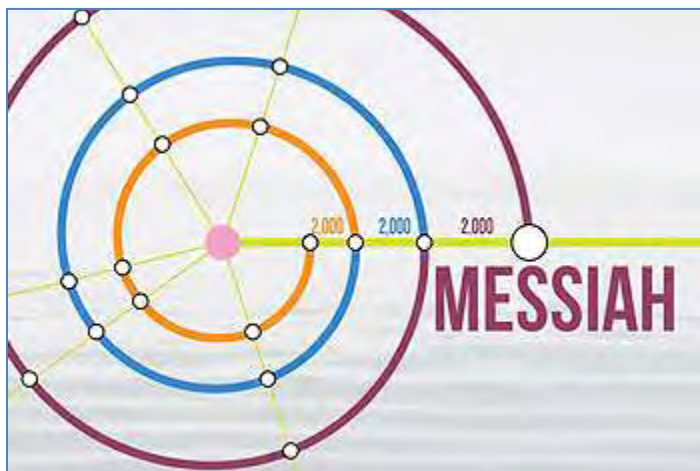
The proclamation of the messiah was finally given in a speech called “The Reappearance of the Second Coming and the Completed Testament Era” (Jan 19, 1993). Father says in that speech, “In ‘The Reappearance of the Second Coming,’ what does reappearance mean? The Lord of the Second Advent was to appear in 1945, but since that foundation was lost, he must reappear now. From 1945 to 1952 was seven years, and from 1952 to 1992 was forty years, during which time Father re-indemnified everything. Within this mere 40 years, Father re-indemnified the entire 4,000 years of the Old and New Testament eras.”

On April 10, 1992 at the Inaugural Rally of the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP), True Mother was the first president. As the substantial bride of Christ, she proclaimed Rev. Sun Myung Moon as the messiah worldwide – fulfilling Christianity’s failure to receive the messiah.

“Because of that victorious foundation, in 1992 for the first time, Father proclaimed the Women’s Federation for World Peace. Up until this point, the dispensation was that of restoring Adam, and so Mother could not surface.” (Nov. 23, 1994)

On July 6, 1992 Father announced that he had fulfilled his mission as the Lord of the Second Advent in a speech titled “The Reappearance of True Parents and the Ideal Family.” It was delivered at the WFWP rally at Chungju, Korea. At WFWP rallies held on July 6-9, 1992, Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon declared Rev. Moon to be the Second Coming of the Messiah, the Savior and the True Parents of mankind.

On May 13, 1993 Rev. Moon delivered the Speech “True Parents and the Completed Testament Age” in 12 major American cities. The purpose of the speech was to proclaim the arrival of the True Parents of mankind, and to announce the end of the New Testament Age and the beginning of the Completed Testament Age. From May 13, 1993 and through all of 1993, True Mother, in the position of the substantial bride, held rallies throughout the world and gave the speech “True Parents and the Completed Testament Age” hundreds of times at worldwide events announcing the arrival of True Parents and the opening of the Completed Testament Age.



### **The Completed Testament Age**

True Parents fulfilled the necessary conditions and established the first ideal family. The age of the wilderness course came to an end. After the reappearance of the messiah, True Mother then proclaimed the messiah and True Parents worldwide. On that foundation the CTA began, and the age of family salvation began. Blessed families were now able to settle around True Parents and work toward fulfilling the conditions to restore their original heavenly hometowns.

The Completed Testament Age corresponds to a time in the Garden of Eden in which Adam and Eve would have achieved the first ideal family and would have progressed to the building of God’s Kingdom. Had that been achieved, religion would not have been necessary, and God’s ideal of creation would have expanded as he originally intended.

After the reappearance of the messiah, True Mother proclaimed the messiah and True Parents worldwide. On that foundation the CTA began, and the age of family salvation began. We have arrived at a time in which religion is no longer necessary as an institution. It is a time when God’s original ideal world can be built. All the indemnity has been paid in order to start to build God’s original ideal all over again.

The Old Testament Age is the formation stage of God’s providence of restoration. The New Testament Age is the growth stage of the providence of restoration. The Completed Testament Age is the completion stage of the providence of restoration. The word, “testament,” comes from the Latin word, testamentum. Its meaning is “covenant.” To enter into a covenant is to enter into an agreement or contract. It is an

agreement between God and human beings. In the CTA it is an agreement between God and blessed families.

The Old Testament, or the old covenant, is an agreement between God and the Israelites. They walked through the wilderness toward their promised nation carrying the Ark of the Covenant, which contained the two tablets of stone with God's commandments.

Upon the arrival of the New Testament Age the new covenant between God and human beings was given through Jesus. If Christians have faith in Jesus and keep his commandments, they will be saved, have eternal life and have the right to enter Paradise as adopted sons and daughters of God.

During the Completed Testament Age, the completed covenant has been given to humankind. The completed covenant of the CTA is found in the "Cheon Bok Ark" which contains the eight textbooks and teaching materials of the word of God given through True Parents. The Family Pledge can be said to be the categorization and systematization of True Parents' words, through an eight-step process, in order to achieve progressive development towards the building of the Kingdom of God. It is the application of the principles of creation that Adam and Eve would have advanced, had they not fallen, toward the building of God's Kingdom on earth and in the spiritual world.

"Just like the Israelites, who had to carry the Ark of the Covenant in their forty-year wilderness course, the Unification Church members are now entering the heavenly kingdom carrying the Family Pledge. The Israelites departed from Egypt for the sake of establishing a nation. In the same way, you must have a clear sense of establishing a nation." (265-293, 1994.11.27)

### **The Mission of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification**

We are now in an Age in which religion as an institution is no longer necessary, so our movement had a name change. On May 1, 1994 Father announced the title, "Family Federation for World Peace and Unification." On the same day, Father gave us the Family Pledge. The Family Federation was established 40 years after the founding of the Unification Church. The Family Federation was established in order to build the ideal Kingdom. The vision and mission of the Family Federation is detailed in the Family Pledge.

### **The Mission of the Family Pledge**

The Family Pledge is the completed covenant of the Completed Testament Age as well as the vision/mission statement of the Family Federation. I have been researching Father's words on the Family Pledge for more than 16 years. Night and day and day and night I have been studying True Parents' teachings in a systematic way. In a following article I will offer a simple and brief article defining the Family Pledge concepts at each of the eight Pledges, how to achieve each concept, and what we will inherit or receive as we achieve each stage, as a blessed family, and as a collective global family.

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