



Becoming Central Figures that Overcome Satan

“Satan promised God that anybody on earth who manifests His character through absolute, unchanging, unique faith will belong to God. God is in a sad position, in a way, because Satan is always accusing people before Him, “You think John Doe is a man of God? You are proud of him now but how can you guarantee that for the rest of his life he will not change?” God cannot say for sure because He doesn't know what John Doe will do ten years from now. Satan always has the upper hand because men are always doing more good for Satan than for God. God is always worried and concerned about men and wishing for the best but in many cases people bring more disappointment than satisfaction to Him.”

- True Father, 02/20/1983

Central Figure:
a person called
by God for a
specific mission



“Moses was able to subjugate Satan by following the pattern of the model course which was revealed symbolically in Jacob’s course. In his course, Moses developed this to the level of image. Similarly, by building on the pattern of Moses’ course, Jesus came to substantially bring Satan to submission. By walking in Jesus’ footsteps, people of faith can also bring Satan to submission and master him.”

- DP Part 2 Chapter 2.1.1

“Fallen people can never find the path that leads to life without understanding the particulars of the providence of restoration. Herein lies the reason why we must study the Principle of Restoration in detail.”

- DP Part 2, Introduction to Restoration Section 3

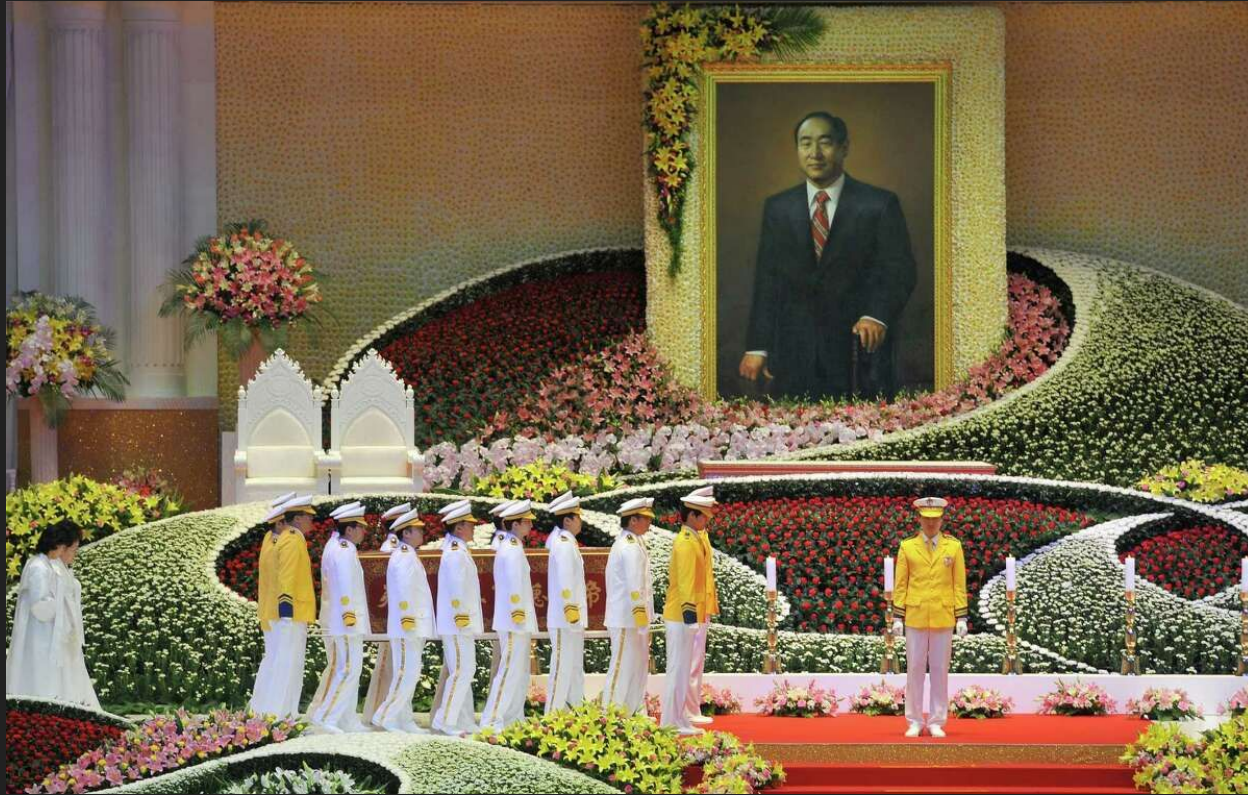
1. Overcome a Trial by God



2. Reviving One's Flesh and Spirit



3. Purification of the Human Body



4. Restoring the Growing Period



5. Lean on the Staff: The Symbol for the Messiah



6. Mother-Son Cooperation



7. Returning from Satan's World to God's World



8. Eradicating Satan



“If you don't like suffering then you shouldn't even enter the boxing ring. Once you enter the ring and decide to fight, it is natural to receive pain. No matter how difficult things may be in the future, never be defeated by your challenger. Fight against him all the way, centering on God's love and ideal, and go on until the day of victory.”

- True Father, 06/19/1980



Thank You!

“Becoming Central Figures that Overcome Satan” - Sermon Notes

- Read 1st quote: *“Satan promised God that anybody on earth who manifests His character through absolute, unchanging, unique faith will belong to God. God is in a sad position, in a way, because Satan is always accusing people before Him, “You think John Doe is a man of God? You are proud of him now but how can you guarantee that for the rest of his life he will not change?” God cannot say for sure because He doesn't know what John Doe will do ten years from now. Satan always has the upper hand because men are always doing more good for Satan than for God. God is always worried and concerned about men and wishing for the best but in many cases people bring more disappointment than satisfaction to Him.”*¹
- God and Satan want me to become their Central Figure, which is a person called by God for a specific mission², or God’s calling
- Of course, doing good for God is extremely difficult, especially on a consistent basis.
- What’s so special about the Divine Principle is that it gives an exact formula on how to go about overcoming Satan, and its revealed through Jacob’s, Moses’ and Jesus’ courses.
- As central figures, this is our first and chief task
- Read quote: *“Moses was able to subjugate Satan by following the pattern of the model course which was revealed symbolically in Jacob’s course. In his course, Moses developed this to the level of image. Similarly, by building on the pattern of Moses’ course, Jesus came to substantially bring Satan to submission. By walking in Jesus’ footsteps, people of faith can also bring Satan to submission and master him.”*³
- For a long time I always never understood why this section in Moses and Jesus was included. But very recently I was re-reading the DP and I had an overflow of realization and gratitude for the section because it literally numbers the steps for you!
- Part of my realization from God was how some of the steps described have either already happened or are happening substantially in my life.
- This is why the DP says: *“Fallen people can never find the path that leads to life without understanding the particulars of the providence of restoration. Herein lies the reason why we must study the Principle of Restoration in detail.”*⁴
- In Section 1 of Moses and Jesus it gives eight numbered things that a central figure must go through successfully in order to successfully overcome Satan
- #1 is Overcoming a Trial by God⁵
- This is because the Fall was the result of risking our spiritual lives.⁶

¹ <http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/sunmyungmoon83/830220.htm>

² DP Part 1 Chapter 6 Section 3

³ DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.1

⁴ DP Part 2 Introduction to Restoration Section 3

⁵ DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

⁶ DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

- There are a myriad of things trying to distract me from my Life of Faith, but at some point as a Central Figure, something is going to attempt to pull me away from my calling and attack my LIFE spiritually.
- This has happened several times to me, it happened through being tempted to not pursue teaching, and instead pursue a career at my fast food job.
- The lifestyle I developed there was leading me away from my faith, away from my parents & family, away from all my values, and away from my inner-calling from God
- If I didn't overcome this, then there'd be no way to succeed in my mission or calling, as I would have let go of what God's calling was in exchange for what others were calling me to do, even if others' calling was genuine and even, in their mind, for my best interest.
- #2 is Reviving One's Flesh and Spirit⁷
- This is because at the Fall, because Adam and Eve risked their lives, we became spiritually dead and defiled⁸
- As a Central Figure, for me this is attending True Parents and reading the Word
- I could not stand up here, or have my realization, or help with CARP, or anything without food for my spirit, and without love for my spirit.
- A "defiled flesh and spirit", to use DP's terminology, cannot do God's will because it signifies that Satan has claimed me and I'm doing Give and Receive with him
- There's the stigma sometimes of "you need to do HDH in order to be a good church member", but the key point is life elements are needed in order to even attempt God's Will.
- Jesus said this and it made me laugh, *"If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit."*⁹ But seriously, who better to lead us then the least spiritually blind people on earth, True Parents?!!!
- I would often, in my time of struggle last year, seek out advice from people who going through the same struggles as me.
- This didn't make them bad people at all; they are amazing. But people like my parents, God, who know me better than I know myself, would certainly have been a better choice.
- Because by seeking out others also struggling, I was merely dumping my struggles and clinging onto them as my source of comfort, which was not appropriate.
- #3 is Purification of the Human Body¹⁰
- Jacob, Moses and Jesus all had significant accounts of their burials, and this is to emphasize the importance of passing onto the spirit world after physical life
- For us in the unification movement, this is substantialized in the Seonghwa!
- As a central figure, I hope to meet God, Jesus, and True Parents in the spirit world!
- Luckily, for me at least, I don't have to think about this step for a while

⁷DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

⁸DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

⁹Matthew 15:14

¹⁰DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

- #4 is Restoring the Growing Period¹¹
- This is because Satan claimed the time of the growing period of Adam and Eve when they fell¹²
- Restoring numbers is definitely something I rarely think about in my life of faith
- But these numbers are a key aspect in restoration, as seen throughout the DP, throughout True Parents' life and even in external aspirations
- And Adam and Eve were supposed to take time to grow and sort out their internal struggles
- The growing period actually served as an opportunity to reflect on what Lucifer was telling them, but instead they rushed into action without clear intentions
- Growing takes TIME; to embark on a difficult task, taking a period of separation to reflect on the Word, to reflect on my current struggles, and to set my intentions
- That's personally why I value workshops and camps so much: they give an opportunity to take a period of time to separate from the world
- True Parents purposely held 3,7,12,21 and 40 day workshops because these are key numbers to restoration, and the formula, as shown by TPs, Jesus, etc, WORKS!
- But aside from the individual numbers, the key in this point is to take a period of separation from Satan and reflect
- I had to do this last summer in order to rebuild my relationship with God; in fact it was so burned in me that I HAD to go no matter what
- #5 is to Lean on the Staff: The Symbol for the Messiah¹³
- This is because Adam and Eve did not cling to God's commandment when facing tribulations¹⁴
- So everyone your task is to go out to the woods after service and find a 6ft stick and carry it with you everywhere (LOL)
- But really, the Divine Principle explains it as following the Messiah by "smiting injustice, following his guidance and example, and depending on him."¹⁵
- In other words, its assuming the position of a child to the Messiah, the Parent
- There's a lot to unpack in this explanation, but in the context of overcoming Satan, its going back to God and the Word in times of struggle.
- When your peer-pressured in an external sense, such as maybe to drive 120mph on a suburban street, leaning on logic and reason will usually stop you and call that person crazy
- When struggling to do God's calling, leaning on God and his love often helps in the struggle.

¹¹DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

¹²DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

¹³DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

¹⁴DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

¹⁵DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

- There was a difference between sharing struggles with my friends and making my friends my only source of joy, comfort, and fulfillment. Those things that I sought we're truly only possible with God.
- #6 is Mother-Son Cooperation¹⁶
- This is because Eve's temptation of Adam eventually led to the 1st son Cain killing Abel¹⁷
- Eve is considered as implanting Satan's lineage in humankind because if she had not tempted Adam, only she would have Satan's lineage and her restoration would have been "relatively easier"¹⁸, but due to Adam falling as well the providence of Cain and Abel became necessary.
- This point in Divine Principle seems to be more directed to man central figures due to the fact that its discussing the model leading up to Jesus, but its clear that woman central figures also follow this course when looking at True Mother's cooperation and total unity with her mother as a child.¹⁹
- All the time I constantly share and ask for advice from my mom, who always points me in the right, Godly direction
- Even sometimes she'll share with me what God told her to tell me
- Without her, there's no way I would have the life and the faith I do now
- #7 is Returning from Satan's World to God's World²⁰
- This is because after the Fall, the Garden of Eden, God's world, was closed off to them²¹
- This is part of overcoming God's trial, as well as separating from Satan
- When I went back to work after the initial months of pandemic-quarantine, I actually told God "for the next year I know I am going to be tested but I will do this to grow my faith". And God listened.
- I was largely absent from church activities, in part due to the pandemic but also because of my decline in faith
- At a certain point though, like Jacob for example, the time had come to come back and begin fulfilling God's calling to me
- However, I did not want to leave, in fact I was determined to stay where I was at and merely work, work, work.
- To get me out, God gave me three wakeup calls. The first two didn't work, and I am convinced if I didn't listen to the 3rd wakeup call, I wouldn't be in a good place
- I was only focused on work, leaning on my friends and work for all my joy, estranging my family, ignoring God, and I was determined to stay on that track.

¹⁶DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

¹⁷ DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

¹⁸ DP Part 1 Chapter 1 Section 2.2

¹⁹ Mother of Peace Chapter 2

²⁰ DP Part 2 Chapter 1.2

²¹ DP Part 1 Chapter 2 Section 4.2

- So God woke me up with the thing I valued the most at that time: my brand new car, in the form of a car accident
- And at that moment I had a choice: I could hide from my parents who I mistreated the past year and run away from all my responsibilities (quite literally).
- Or, I could come back to my parents and back to God and begin to stand back on my spiritual feet.
- Its through experiencing some time without direct connection with God or a faith-support structure that I could realize the true value of my relationship with him; that's what the teenage years are about I feel: its right in the middle of the growing period
- There's a difference between taking some time away and committing a sin.
- Remember, a good act is something that fulfills God's purpose of creation²²
- Indirect dominion, or not being directly connected with God or church is not a bad thing, but it requires INTENTIONALITY
- I was intentional about what I was doing, but I eventually became unintentional and was in danger of committing sins
- Families and church communities should encourage INTENTIONAL time being less connected, because through that ownership of faith, relationship with family, and relationship with God occurs
- That way, if people observe someone perhaps becoming depressed, or engaging in a lot of negative behavior, they can lovingly step in and give a reminder about his/her intention and even, like God did with Jacob, tell him/her to come back.
- #8 is Eradicating Satan²³
- This is because, due to the Fall, Satan was able to act in all humankind²⁴
- Overcoming Satan is not a one time thing.
- Each time one prevails over Satan's challenge, he will accuse you and challenge you for something else, and tempt with another thing, and another, and another until all accusations are met. But with each time I've done all these things, and followed the formula, I've grown significantly.
- This formula has been playing out throughout my life, and is repeated with different challenges I'm struggling with.
- I shared this because I truly, truly, believe we are all central figures, and we each have a mission and calling from God, and following a step by step formula will make it easier to put our struggles in perspective and correctly gain victory over them.
- I love you guys so much, and I hope the message today and this part of the DP helps in your struggles.
- Read quote: *"If you don't like suffering then you shouldn't even enter the boxing ring. Once you enter the ring and decide to fight, it is natural to receive pain. No matter how*

²² DP Part 1 Chapter 1 Section 4.3.2

²³ DP Part 2 Chapter 2 Section 1.2

²⁴ DP Part 1 Chapter 2 Section 4.2

difficult things may be in the future, never be defeated by your challenger. Fight against him all the way, centering on God's love and ideal, and go on until the day of victory."²⁵

- On that day of victory, we will surely be overflowing with growth, fulfillment, and joy.
- Thank you.

²⁵ <http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/SunMyungMoon80/800629.htm>