

# Epoch Maker



## LOVE GOD, LOVE MAN



Sang Ik Choi

SEPTEMBER 21, 1969

This is a very important question. Some will say about love, "So what?" But love is the highest value; if you feel no love, your life is without value. You can watch movies or TV; or parents and children, husbands and wives, you and your friends, if these lack love, then what are your relationships good for? If you take the love out, all stories or anything else are good for nothing; no matter how rational your speaking is, people seek an emotional, heartistic life of feeling. Thus, emotion is more effective than 100 words of reason to convince people. This is why the Bible emphasized faith, hope, and love; also that God said love is everything.

Yet you can see many men living without color TV, without a car, without most material things, and yet be happy--why? Because his life and relationships to relatives and friends is full of love. Meanwhile, another in the highest position -- a millionaire company president with many things only quarrels with his family and business associates. Such a man is unhappy--why? He has no love with anyone.

So, love is the final goal of human life. All religions and philosophies teach us to "love each other". But people say "I cannot love". What you mean?? You say you love God? You can't say that unless you know God; just believing in God isn't enough. Little children "love" Santa Claus; but they don't when they grow up. If there is a God why do we have war and evil all over the world? One can hate God for the existence of such things.

You "just believe it"? Explain reasonably how I can love God? Or, if you love God, why can't you love people? Jesus said "love your enemy", too; do you love the hooligans in the movies? You only blindly translate the Bible; did God love his enemy when He destroyed many people at the time of Noah? No he didn't; he destroyed those people because they were evil. Also, God told Joshua, when entering Canaan, to kill everyone, including women and children. When Adam ate the forbidden fruit, he dies. Can you truly love an evil neighbor as yourself? Don't blindly translate the Bible.

The true meaning of "love your enemy" is to love him temporarily, to try to restore him to goodness. God wants to restore evil people rather than judge them. But good and evil cannot co-exist; if your enemy is really incorrigible, useless, stubborn...then "love your enemy" is against the heavenly law. In this case, judgement becomes necessary.

So many people today say "I cannot love God because I don't know God", or "I cannot love people because people are evil and stubborn". Without knowing the cause of evil or stubbornness (like taking an aspirin for an unknown illness), how can we love? But these (above) are the two basic reasons why we cannot love.

The purpose of religion is to bring true love; foolish religion will only force you, or have you blindly believe it. I was a Christian for many years, but never knew God closely. Young people came to ask me how to love God and men, but I could not explain these clearly. Thus, the young only closed their eyes when I spoke. However, older men blindly believed it. They just wanted Bible verses: See, John, James, Peter said so; here it says "God is love" etc. They also sought the advantage of an afterlife rather than righteousness.

If you hate people, hell begins. Thus, Buddha said that the strongest agony of human life is hate. If you hate your dog or cat, still you can live together, although uncomfortably; if you hate other people, you cannot live together, and your life becomes restricted, and you move from one place to another. This becomes hell in you now and in your afterlife. If you love people, then heaven comes within you now and in your afterlife. That is why everything you do brings judgement. Moment by moment. True salvation is overcoming sin, not just being forgiven; otherwise, we would never love each other more than temporarily or superficially.

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# letters:



Do you think Jesus always loved his enemy? Jesus was always angry at the Pharisees, and even threw money-changers out of the temple. A movement of love is needed; but it begins with the restoration of goodness or truth, otherwise we can not love. What is the truth? If you don't know, ask one who does. Such a person is the Messiah, who teaches us love and truth, and this is why we need a Saviour. If the Saviour dies, then we need a good teacher to do this. Your conscience is a good teacher. St. Paul said "Men who don't know law will be judged by conscience."

Some know no religion, but they meet conscientious people. Today, many are not honest. If we have no conscience, how can God work through us? Who can bring one closer to God? A good man--not necessarily a learned one--can do this. Jesus worked through twelve conscientious men who didn't know very much. If a man is 100% conscientious, he can do anything that he wants because conscience points to a good direction. There is no need to restrict him.

Today, atheism seems more reasonable than the Bible. People believe that everything happened by chance. But did you think the empire state building was created just by chance? No creation comes by chance. Sure, evil prospers today; but no evil society is destined to last over 400 years (you look at history). However, goodness (such as Christianity) lasts long, like 2000 years. Before I only cried and prayed "God, forgive me, I'm ignorant"; but now I pray to "Heavenly Father." Some Buddhists just chant words again and again; they think this is universal. Others say having four wives is alright. Such people are partially conscientious. Are these ways good for all people? Such ways are not universally good; give up your partial, prejudiced knowledge and concepts or conscientious way of life. You must be universal. Why can't we love God? Because we don't know God. So we have to realize God by understanding the truth. Why can we love man? Because men are evil. Unless men restore rightness, we can never love them mutually. We must be conscientious in order to be good.

Dear Family,

Hello again. Only this time from down here. In Texas, in San Antonio. Pine trees, crisp air and occasional downpours have been replaced by sticky, three showers a day. Gulf coast heat, and occasional downpours.

Father's here, too. A good prospect in Albert Valverde, a young guy, 20. I think who's appalled by what man does to himself. So, friends, a young man with previous contact with a benevolent association in San Francisco.....Gonna feed him more when I get a chance to see him again.

He's a smallish, sensitive person with a quick temper. A former political science nut, he feels the answer, not ultimately, but practically, lies in politics. Does he have a point? In order to "buy" more time and lose less people in the process?

The Alamo is down here, too, only a short ways from here. Will write a paragraph or three on it in a couple weeks, when I get a pass.

The atmosphere here on base is much more relaxed, partly because of the heat, partly because of living conditions which aren't bad, partly because of the type of work being learned here - saving lives in war. There's a certain feeling of righteousness and honor.

Compared to Fort Lewis, this is utopia.

After two weeks, we get to have weekend passes. Will see what in St. Anthony's city may be of value in Heaven. It's got the Alamo already.

News, but I don't know whether constructive or not. I withdrew my CO application. I can't remember all the reasons why. I asked Father, but the decision was left to me. I just hope and pray it was the right one.

Anyway, I've been placed in a situation where there are 1-A-O's who believe in God, and people, in general who are going to have to think more about other people.

But at the same time, I'm still here. Do I belong here?

Anyway, I'm here. Existential reality. Heaven in San Antonio? I hope I can help it along then. Answered my question didn't I?

Father's really helping out in the beginning. He's here.

Will still be in touch with Darrell, Jay and Michael, even tho we've been separated. I think it'll be better if I can write to them. My thoughts become less complex & more coherent.

More later.

In Father's love,  
Ron

8/28/69

Dear Family.

I received your invitation to the training session and the Epoch Maker. Thank you very much for both of them. Although I would very much like to attend the training session, I feel it is important that I talk to my parents about principle; and hopefully they will consent to my moving in. I am leaving Saturday morning to meet them in Ukiah.

As I read the introduction and purpose of the seminar, one sentence popped out from the page (as if it applied to me). "But a single bird in a cage or an animal in a pen can only be in a state of sorrow, even if they are supplied with plenty of food..." Like the animals mentioned, my hunger and thirst is for truth and not physical objects, and unless I free myself and completely devote myself to principle, I will never consume enough truth to allow my starving spirit to grow.

I hope that you gain many new members from the training session. May Father bless you and protect you during this weekend and always.

With love, your sister,  
Kathy

COMMUNITY IN

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

People of the 20th century regard Albert Einstein as a revolutionary figure in changing man's perception of the physical world. However, most of us today, have a vague comprehension of Einstein's Unified Field Theory and a dim idea of his remarkable equation  $E=MC^2$ . We need more of an understanding of Einstein's scientific principles, how they

relate to man's perception of the universe, and how they relate to man himself. The following scientific information is based on a book written particularly for the layman. **THE UNIVERSE AND DR. EINSTEIN**, by Lincoln Barnett.

Most of the phenomena in our external world are viewed by science as being produced by two elemental forces: electricity and magnetism. Until 100 years ago, man regarded these quantities as being separate from one another. Late in the 19th century it was proven that a current of electricity is always surrounded by a magnetic field, and in return magnetic forces can induce electrical currents. Consequently, electricity and magnetism may be regarded as a single force. Working on this principle, Einstein in 1929 published his Unified Field Theory which identified gravitational attraction with electromagnetic effect. Later in 1949, he revised this theory, postulating a set of universal laws which would resolve the universe into one homogeneous substance. At the base of Einstein's revised theory is the belief that this universe consists of one elemental fabric, and a single set of physical laws which include the field within the atom as well as the phenomena of outer space. As Lincoln Barnett writes, all forms of motion, "from the slow wheeling of the galaxies to the wild flight of electrons become simply changes in the structure and concentration of the primordial field."

At the center of Einstein's universal set of physical laws is the equation  $E=MC^2$ : The mass of a moving body increases as its motion increases and since motion is energy, then the increased mass in a moving body comes from the increased energy. In simpler words, mass has energy, energy has mass. Cause equals effect. An even clearer statement in terms of the equation: energy contained in any particle of matter is equal to the mass of the matter times the square of the speed of light which is always constant. This basic equation resolves partial scientific theories into a universal principle.

However Einstein's formula (and Lincoln Barnett's book) do not answer the question fundamental to man's understanding of existence: **WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF THE MASS ENERGY SUBSTANCE?** Although all partial scientific concepts have been reduced to the field energy/mass, where does the energy come from?

We know from the Principles of Creation which we are studying here at the Re-Education Center, that the equation  $E=MC^2$  doesn't account for the qualities of love, beauty and truth which are inherent in man's nature and are expressed in the surrounding universe. These qualities must - since cause equals effect - be inductively assumed in the Cause. They must be contained within the Energy. The love, beauty, and truth which we feel in ourselves and respond to in other human beings, we recognize as essences of our divine Originator, the ultimate cause of energy and quality.

Ideally, there should be no conflict between the principles of science which govern objective reality, and the principles of spirit which govern man's internal subjective reality. As Einstein himself said, "The cosmic religious experience is the strongest and noblest mainspring of scientific research." The perfect science and the perfect religion - as man's spirit and body, should co-exist harmoniously under the basic truth which governs this universe: The Unification Principle.



In the spring of 1967, Gilbert Fox graduated from high school. During these years his most fundamental concepts of life were formed. He became a lover of all mankind. The student and the worker in particular were the people his heart and mind went out to. He was the enemy of institutions founded on lies and hypocrisy. However like so many other young soldiers of the righteous and political revolution, he himself was not honest. He detested the business-military complex, yet he stole from the grocery he worked in. His character was weak and at the best shallow.

His goals were praiseworthy. He wanted to see the universal brotherhood of man. His methods of achieving this however were at best confused. Basically he thought everyone should join hands and love each other. He did not realize that this means taking the dirt off his own. For all this confusion however, his desire for success was strong and he kept searching.

In August 1969 Gilbert Fox's true achievements had been limited to one. This was five days of feeling togetherness on his Catholic college campus. He had been a prime mover of a boycott that formed a common base for the separated student body. This base was too artificial to last. It quickly faded from the campus and with the fading of his achievement he too disappeared from campus.

His ideas being frustrated he continued his search. The road led from New Jersey to the San Francisco Public Library, where a young girl named Susan, greeted him. Nine days, and one training session later Daikan told me I could move in. I thank the family and Heavenly Father for directing me into the house. The reason I felt so moved to join the family is as basic as food and water to me. I'll explain it this way.

I had always felt that man was basically good. Powers outside of man had corrupted him. There was so much deviation that few people could see it, or admit it was there. I could not see the deviation for itself. However I could feel it in the conflict and frustration in my soul. I wanted to understand man and to help him understand himself. My hopes for man were based on a vague concept of universal love. This hope carried me on a search for God and meaning. The hippies spoke of a universal love, but they did not understand what this meant. They could not understand these feelings, so they did not think of them. The family, however taught in organized lectures, the truth I was searching for. Conscientious common sense is the universal love and understanding I wanted all men to know and embrace. The family not only taught this idea, they lived it as best as they could.

For me not to have moved in would have required complete intellectual blindness. And since I was granted enough understanding, the only way I could have stayed out would be through living the life of a liar and failure. I thank Father daily; for his blessing showed

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me the direction and gave me the strength and the sight, and hopefully the courage to come and grow in our home.

When I moved into the house intellectually I saw an idea through a deep haze. I hoped with study the idea would become more concrete. As I read the Divine Principle I prayed. My faith was rewarded with a positive affirmation. My studying moved fast and with great joy, I came to understand more clearly. It is insignificant to write that we have a long way to go. However it is extremely significant to me that I am eager to be moving ahead. Without fear of being redundant, I thank you again family for all your love and help. I thank Father for my all.

## question and answer



**Q: WHAT IS THE SOLUTION TO THE POPULATION EXPLOSION?**

**A:** When I first came to America, I traveled from the East Coast to the West Coast. America is so vast that there is enough space for 3 billion people to live here. Despite the crowding in the cities there is so much open space. The problem today is not the number of people but man's greed. Why do we have borderlines? Because many people seek their own political, religious, economic, social, or racial benefit rather than international common benefit. If we can overcome greed then we can move very freely on

this planet. With scientific achievements man can live in skyscrapers, from the ocean, and even in planets. First greed must be overcome.

**Q: WHY IS IT THAT SOME PEOPLE WHO COME TO THE CENTER WOULD LIKE TO BE FRIENDS BUT NOT HEAR THE LECTURES?**

**A:** Those kind of people are interested in personal relationships and a kind of feeling and not seeking truth or to be righteous. To be involved in a movement to make a better society you must be really conscientious, spiritual and have to study truth—not just seeking personal relationships. If you want to be just friends, that's OK. But we should desire to improve humanity and to construct a good society by studying the truth.

**Q: HOW CAN AN EFFEMINATE BOY BECOME LIKE A MAN?**

**A:** We all have different natures. Some boys are slightly like a girl rather than a man and vice-versa. But the basic natures of a boy and a girl are different. A boy might behave like a girl because of some strong shock in his past that changed him. In order to change we must know what a man looks like. A man has potential for strength, bravery. He is capable, manly, comprehensive and has a wide mind. In order to develop this it is not easy. It takes time and training and discipline. Find a manly person and be his friend. This is the quickest way. If you stay with women, you will become like a woman.

**Q: WHAT IS A PRACTICAL WAY TO BECOME A GREAT LEADER?**

**A:** The first condition is to have a great mind, a great spirit. Read about any great man and you will see this characteristic. If your idea scale is small or just on the personal level, you will remain small. A small scale person goes to a certain place and always worries about and is stingy for money. A great person knows how to use money boldly and thinks and acts big. Also a guiding ideology is necessary. Then you must act manly and comprehensively. A big scale naturally comprehends small things. When someone moves in, the first thing I do is check to see if he has a big scale mind, heart and ambition and a comprehensive character

**Q: HOW CAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS OPEN UP MORE HONESTLY ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE WE CANT TALK WITH?**

**A:** If we are sincere, honest and frank, you will never make a conflict relationship. This begins by subjugating your ego. Sometimes I see brothers and sisters self-justifying and arguing over such small, selfish things. Argue about universal matters. A selfish man acts

superficially and always makes conflict bases that causes separation. You don't feel close because of selfishness. Where is conscientious common sense? On Sunday I really speak with all my energy. I want to really change and really do it. If we subjugate our ego and make a common base, there is no inch of space between us. Even if we are physically a million miles apart, spiritually we are close. Closeness doesn't depend on where you sit. You can sit in front but be very far away. A selfish person superficially and artificially covers oneself and can't frankly speak. Frank, warm speaking makes a sincere person. All conflict comes from ego self-justification.

**Q: WHAT CAUSES EVIL SPIRITS TO ENTER A PERSON?**

**A:** Satan is an evil spirit and can't make a reciprocal base with a good man but only an evil man. You must be careful if you have an angry mind Satan can get in and you do great evil. For example a teenage boy killed many men with a rifle. When asked why he did such a thing, he said he didn't know but that he was just interested and did it because of an insuppressible power. Many of today's crimes lack deep motivation and just some unconscious activity comes out. Today is a new age. Good and Evil are really combating one another. If you have evil thinking, then Satan's power comes in and strong insuppressible temptations of hate, jealousy, greed, lust and license arise and unconsciously you do evil. You must pray constantly to God, have faith and seek goodness. Then Satan can't get in. Sometimes we lose faith and forget and then Satan can make a base and work evil. I have seen religious men in the mountains praying constantly and deeply who went insane. Why would prayer lead to a capture by Satan? When you pray deeply to God, be careful. Soon prayer leads to a high spirit and a feeling of joy. We become on God's side. Satan is jealous. There still is some space which he can get in. You might become very arrogant. You might get a really high spirit, and think you are a Son of God and better than all of your brothers and sisters. If you are really blessed then you should be humble and thankful. Today, many religious leaders have been captured by Satan. They think 'God loves me' and become very arrogant. The same thing happened 2,000 years ago with the high priests. They were really pleased with themselves. A small hole in a river bank of sand can destroy the whole bank. This is why all religions try to reach humility. Today is the New Dawn of history so Satan is really attacking.

**Q: HOW CAN WE DISPEL SATANIC GLOOM?**

A: When we are depressed the first thing to do is to pray deeply to God. But that is not easy when we are depressed. Secondly, stay with someone who has a high spirit. Don't talk to other people who have a low spirit. This happens often and a base is often made and both people criticize. Speak to someone who has a high spirit who speaks conscientiously and heartistically in order to restore yourself. But if you cannot do this, then without praying or speaking, do good things. Just do them. For instance, go ride on a bus and give your seat to an elderly person. Help a blind person cross the street. Action is better than anything. Act conscientiously.

**Q: WHEN JESUS FORGAVE SINS; WHAT DID THIS MEAN?**

A: Our spirit grows by the truth, not forgiveness. Jesus said, "My words are life" -- not just the forgiveness of sin but faith in the word of God. Christ's death on the cross and the fact that he forgave sins have not solved the world's problems. If you follow God's words, know His will and heart and act for God's providence of the restoration of the heavenly kingdom then your spirit grows. If people are bad, repeat the same sins and apologize, then God forgives them. But unless people have faith in the truth and obey God's words, sins will never be forgiven and character will never grow. Religions misuse the concept of forgiveness.

**Q: HOW CAN I SHOW A SKEPTICAL PERSON THE TRUTH OF THE BIBLE?**

A: You must speak reasonably and the inner true meaning of the Bible and not just literally.

**Q: IS LIFE AND DEATH AS MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE BEFORE THE FALL PART OF THE RELATIVITY OF TRUTH?**

A: Life and death does not exist in the relativity of truth. Like Good and Evil it exists contrastively and comparatively. Subjects and objects exist in relativity.

**Q: WHAT ARE THE STUMBLING BLOCKS THAT PAUL WARNS THE EARLY CHRISTIANS NOT TO THROW IN FRONT OF EACH OTHER?**

A: The twelve disciples, Paul and followers are not perfect men, & not much difference between them and us. They were founders and pioneered with much suffering and effort. Everybody has defects, also they had their own concepts besides Jesus' teachings. They preferred their own concepts and experience. The same things are true for today's Christians.

**Q: WHAT HARM IS THERE IN EITHER SMOKING OR DRINKING IN MODERATION?**

A: Drinking properly maybe is not bad, but smoking is. In an Oriental proverb we say: 100 things harm you, but one benefits you. Smoking is entirely bad, no benefit. Although I am not a physician, some people say by avoiding smoking you protect yourself from TB. Drinking properly seems to be easy but there is trouble. In this Universe what is the most difficult thing? That's to subjugate yourself. Can you control yourself? Unless you can, you have small bad habits. This is not good. It indicates greed and things you cannot overcome. If your will is not strong enough to subjugate yourself, then that idea of drinking is useless. Without a strong will to control yourself, then just one cup or two cups of proper drinking leads to more and then later drinking subjugates you and you become alcoholic. Alcoholics always say they can overcome. But without strong will, drinking will overcome you. Sometimes you can justify drinking. But without strong will and with only the concept of your desire of proper drinking, it is impossible. Jesus was a perfect man. He could subjugate himself, so he could drink. I could drink and control myself. If you have ability to control yourself, you can drink.

**Q: WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF KNOWING THE DATE THAT WE CAME INTO PRINCIPLE?**

A: Your spiritual birthday is the day you were reborn as a good man. Which has more significance, physical birth or spiritual birth? Our spiritual birth is more meaningful. In some way this is significant because it gives a chance to look back and remind us of the joy of our spiritual birth. It gives a certain kind of stimulation, a new kind of hope. On this day you began to realize a meaningful life. This is the day you changed your life. After one year you may look back and say oh, I didn't grow much. Spiritually I had better repent. Then after three years if I am still childish, I had better repent and grow up. We need new stimulation, and knowing the date can give it to us.

**Q: DON'T YOU THINK IT IS EGOISTIC TO THINK THAT GOD CREATED MAN ONLY ON EARTH?**

A: The truth is reasonable. It is also mathematical. Isn't mathematics reasonable? In mathematics, everything begins with one. From 0 comes 1,2,3,4,5,...this is the truth. In the beginning of the Universe there is one entity; nothing visible--just the Word. The word or concept. In the beginning there was the word and the word was with God. This means idea existed but not in space and time. So if I have a good idea, I have the will power to move. The idea becomes power and power becomes energy and energy becomes mass. This is how 0 became 1. This is how the universe was created. But it begins with one beautiful planet, among an innumerable number of planets; earth, and one man, Adam. So why did God create many men and many other places? Because God is the truth which expresses order. If God ignores the Truth, he has to be destroyed. If I do not tell the Truth, then what good am I? That is why God created one man on this one chosen beautiful planet, one by one in the order of mathematical truth.

**Q: WILL A UNITED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BE NECESSARY?**

A: Don't you think America needs a United Federal Government? If all states were separate, then what would happen? There would be economic and political war between state and state. Then you would need all kinds of restriction, passports and other things. 100 principles exist under the principle of relativity. The principle of relativity exists under one ultimate unified center. Without a world unified government, two powers will always conflict. Why is there trouble today? No one is unified. If we had one unified world then the communists and those of the free world and everyone would co-exist and contribute their uniqueness for their own advantage based on the common benefit of the whole world. Order and harmony begins with unification. With separation there is disorder and conflict. Whether it's a big group or a small group, basically we need one unification in the family, society, country, and world.

**Q: IN THE BIBLE JESUS SAID "DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME" AS HE BLESSED THE BREAD AND THE WINE. OTHER CHURCHES HAVE COMMUNION; WHY DON'T WE?**

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**A:** When you read the Old Testament there are many rituals. For instance, after Jesus came, he didn't keep the Sabbath day. Traditionally Jewish people didn't work on the Sabbath day because of the commandment. In the old Testament one woman was killed by the people because she was gathering fire wood on the Sabbath to bake bread. Jesus came and healed the people on the Sabbath. Then people were really against him and called Jesus, Beelzebub, chief of satan. If you are the son of God, you have to obey His word which is the ten commandments given through Moses. According to the Old Testament anyone who worked on the Sabbath day should be stoned and killed. So Jesus said which is better - if I do good things on the Sabbath day or not? If one sheep falls in a hole on the Sabbath should I save it or not? How much more valuable is a man's life than a sheep's? The purpose of human life is to do good things. You can do the best things by conscientious common sense. In any case you are never against God's law. Jesus sometimes broke the law of the ten commandments. The inner meaning of the Old Testament is to do good things for God and for others. Don't harm others and glorify God. This law is good for others and me, to protect myself and to protect others. We have law for the happiness of all. If you do good things for Heaven and for others, no restrictions are necessary. There are all kinds of inner meanings in the ten commandments. Without understanding the inner meaning of them and only understanding the letter, you become a stonehead to the ten commandments. If you understand the inner meaning of the ten commandments and Jesus's teachings, then you are also important. We receive stimulation from them. We live freely here, but on Sunday we have a meeting. Not a Christian type of meeting but we do have a service. Sometimes a group might freely live but still sometimes dress in uniforms and have ceremony because it gives a good and different stimulation that refreshes you. We need a free life, also we need a certain amount of ceremony. We have a private life and also a collective life. Sometimes we have group activities that give you joy. We have individual activities that also give joy. The purpose of religion is to abolish all kinds of ritual, activities, and become free in the truth like Jesus did in his life. Life and freedom come from the truth, not ritual. In the formation stage of religion we may need restrictions.

**Q:** HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR A SPIRIT MAN AND PHYSICAL MAN TO HAVE A SEXUAL RELATION?

**A:** You want to believe what you can perceive thru your five senses or thru reasonable reason which is close to daily life. How can you experience spiritual things? We have no spiritual experience. I can make certain reasonable reasons that are not close to your daily life and you cannot believe it. But things like this are the trouble. Jesus said if you can not understand earthly things, how can I speak to you of Heavenly things? Even if I speak of things in the physical world, you cannot believe it. How can I speak of a spirit man and a relationship. How can you believe it? In a dream you are a physical man, but a dream is not physical. It is a spiritual phenomena and actually you can have a sexual relationship and have the same feeling. The spiritual world is the same as the physical world but the density and dimension are different. It is possible to have a sexual relationship between a physical man and a spirit man but with no reproduction. Reproduction occurs only through the physical. Go to the library and you can find many books about these things. I will tell you a story. A man married a woman and never slept with his wife and she got angry. She took the case to court. The judge asked "Why don't you sleep with your wife?" The man said, "Frankly, I have another woman." People said he was crazy and put him in a hospital. But this man was not crazy. Every night he had a spirit woman coming to live with him. A spirit relationship is more sensitive and stronger than a physical one. In a dream you confront some fear and you really feel scared. So spiritual fear or stimulation is much stronger. So people who have experienced spiritual phenomena know that physical stimulation is not so great.

**Q:** IF YOU HAVE A SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP IN A DREAM.....IS THE INDEMNITY AS GREAT AS IF IT HAPPENED IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD?

**A:** In a dream you may have sexual relationships naturally, then this is not your responsibility. There is a certain reason for this. But if you had a dream with a certain lusty mind before sleeping, then you have to take responsibility. That is spiritual adultery. But without any such things and you still have it, that is not your responsibility. Jesus said, "If you have lust, pluck your eye out." All kinds of sin begins with lusty thinking. So be-

fore sleeping, you must pray to God to take lusty selfish thinking out. This is very necessary. Also pray to repent your daily life to clean up things.

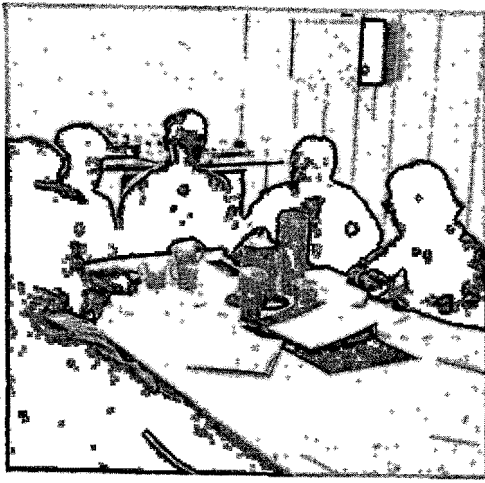
**Q:** IN THE PAMPHLET "PEACE WILL COME"—WHAT DOES CONFLICT OF ADVANTAGE MEAN?

**A:** Advantage is benefit. Today Communism and the free world conflict over a cease fire at the peace talks in Paris. They are both stressing their own benefit. All trouble comes from spiritual reasons or ideology. So if you give up your selfish ideas, and selfish advantage there is no reason to fight.

**Q:** WITH ALL THE CRIME AND CORRUPTION IN SOCIETY, IT APPEARS THAT MAN'S BASIC NATURE IS EVIL. SO HOW CAN WE PROVE TO AN ATHEIST THAT MAN'S BASIC NATURE IS GOODNESS?

**A:** Crime, greed, lust and license is not human nature. It is temptive nature. Would Al Capone want to be a good man or a bad man? I think he would say good man, but he cannot help it. Because greed tempts him too strongly. This is temptive nature, not original nature. Original nature is good. Then we become accustomed to this temptive nature and it becomes like a habit: this nature has become mixed in. If this is natural nature you might say, "Al Capone you are really a bad guy." Would Al Capone feel wonderful? Something is confused. Evil is not original. Today we have a conscience—a Christian type of conscience which is influenced by a certain type of theory or doctrine. We also have another type of conscience which is an original pure conscience. Today's conscience is not trustworthy because it is influenced by certain doctrine or group benefit. We need to know our original conscience and original nature and not our fallen natures. That is our temptive nature. Unless we have a deep mind you can never distinguish these natures yourself, that is why we have to have a good teacher who has deep thinking. Then we can know. Then thru him, we can learn. Why do you come here? Because you can get some good advantage. continued on page 7

*What a man has received he must immediately give back. Only then can he receive more. Otherwise from him will be taken even what he has already been given. Gurdjieff*



# self-perfection

Sang Ik Choi

SEPTEMBER 14, 1969

The purpose of human life is to establish the ideal universe. How can this be done? The universal utopia begins with the ideal world; the ideal world begins with the ideal country; the ideal country begins with the ideal society; the ideal society begins with the ideal family; the ideal family begins with the ideal man. Therefore, each of us must become an ideal man or woman. To make the ideal is the purpose of religion, philosophy, and education. This is very common sense. Truth is common sense because it is universal and eternal standard.

Unless I become an ideal man myself, we have no hope for an ideal man and the ideal society. Even if you speak the truth to other people, unless you can become an ideal man, how can you expect an ideal society, an ideal world, an ideal universe? So all kinds of truth, religions, training, evangelism, all kinds of activity and movement begin with becoming a perfect man or ideal man. This is the first step. Then what is the simplest and quickest way to become an ideal man, a good man? We have many possible ways to become a better man, an ideal man, or a good man; but we must think of what is the simplest and quickest way to do it. In a democracy people exchange many ideas to find out which is the simplest, quickest, most effective way to do something. If your idea is good but takes 10 years to actualize and his idea only takes one year, take his. If we are smart we will honestly judge which is the simplest, most effective way.

If you believe in God, this is the simplest, quickest, easiest way to become a good man. But today many Christians believe in God, yet, they are hypocrites. On the other hand, I know many atheists who are good, conscientious men that are frankly much better people than Christians. Whether I believe in the Bible, whether I am a Christian, a fact is a fact. Maybe I can deny a concept, but I cannot deny a fact. Usually religions are deceived and satisfied under the name of God's authority. I always want to help the righteous side. Beyond the fact that he is nice to me, beyond friendship; I want to judge whether he is right or wrong by universal right. Before regarding my shift my own benefit, my own interest, I want to judge universally, fairly. So in Christianity we sing Christian songs and read the Bible; but I want to judge universally what is fact. Christians say you will go to hell if you don't follow orthodox Christianity or think that idea or that truth. Whether I go to hell or not, first I want to universally judge or regard truth before fear of death. If people want advantages over righteousness, they are always greedy. Today I can see good men among the conscientious rather than among the religious. If I say in order to become a good man, you must believe in God and that this is the simplest and quickest way, then my teaching seems to be wrong. But I didn't mean just to believe in God. Believe in both God and the truth. Today many religions believe in God but misinterpret, distort, or change truth. Today there are two kinds of religious men. One is the theologically orthodox man, and the other is the conscientious man. For the most part I have been speaking about the theological Christian. Those Christians believe in God, go to church, give offerings and do lots of Christian activities; but their standard of Christianity is theoretical and not conscientious, instructive and graceful. But the conscientious man is very good, warm and sincere.

Today, my religion believes in God, Belief in God itself is the source of goodness, but it is abstract goodness. But being conscious of the goodness is more concrete and effective in our life and helps to actualize goodness. Which works more effectively; abstract or concrete goodness?

The Bible teaches about God, but it also teaches truth. Many Christians misinterpret the inner, true meaning of the Bible; they just memorize it or make it academic. They believe in God and are very faithful, but they believe in a mysterious God and mysterious religious activities, and so they receive mysterious results. So belief in God is abstract goodness. Some spiritual phenomenon

are interesting, but they are just interesting without goodness. Also these people are interested in some kind of advantage rather than truth. Advantage ideally comes after truth. Advantage is alright after knowing truth; but without truth, it becomes just greedy desire. So myself, I spent many years as a Christian and sometimes I met other religionists and Buddhist monks—very noble, warm, generous, sincere, good men. Many people told me that I was a very faithful young man. Yet I felt conflict within me. Sometimes I met a very good, conscientious man, and I felt shame and envied him. So I asked questions of many high positioned preachers or ministers, but they told me not to worry about my conscience, you cannot trust it, you cannot trust your rational mind. Just believe in the Bible, just trust it and you will be righteous not because of your deed but because of your faith; so just believe it.

I was raised in Confucianism and Buddhism which use very common sense, but when I became a Christian, they said you aren't supposed to trust your common sense, conscience, and rationality, Just believe in the Bible and you will go to heaven. So then I asked a man, "What does Heaven look like?" He didn't know; he can't explain what the spirit world looks like or why it is wonderful. You don't have to ask questions, just believe it. Without knowing why they say it is just wonderful. Then I feel really strange. Even with a child you have to give a reason, so the foolish child can believe and be convinced. Ignoring conscience and rationality, such people just give me the hope of the after-life; then the heavenly kingdom is not reasonable, just believe it. I asked many sharp questions and the minister did not realize these things; then he said, "Hey young man, you'd better not ask that question..." Faith is not just belief without understanding. That is a good excuse to cover ignorance. But he himself tried to understand, because his teaching was not very reasonable, but very vague and full of weak points. I can read a man by his eyes, the window of his soul, and see if he tells the truth or not. I judge if he lies, by two things; by his eyes, and by his last words. The last words of people who speak truth are very strong. If they are lying, then their last words are very weak. Righteous power is continuously strong. If you know truth, truth isn't just conceptual but it has application for daily life. So today some Christians believe in God but are not good conscientious men. A conscientious man is better

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than an unconscientious religious man because the religious man believes in God but only in abstract goodness, not concrete goodness. However, many Christians believe in God and are interested in ritual & ceremony, not in truth. Truth is reasonable reason or universal knowledge; universal reason is the truth. Just giving partial knowledge or reasonable reason for only your own group is not a universally-oriented existence. We need the concrete goodness which is the truth. But they say: forget your conscience and your rational mind; just believe it. That is why they don't have any concrete goodness and believe in God without knowing the deep meaning of the truth. That is why the religious man seems to be a good man, but actually is not good. I would like to know what is goodness, what is truthful, and what is right. I need concrete goodness; abstract goodness is not good enough, because I have to act concretely.

Ask your conscience what good is: you'd better not fight, you'd better comprehend, you'd better understand things more deeply. Why are you fighting? Because of self-benefit or self-interest, your conscience says you'd better have on your mind common benefit, common interest.

Your conscience tells you everything. If I find a purse, what shall I do? I had better look it up in the Bible; it doesn't say anything, and it is not against the truth, so shall I keep it? You better use your conscientious common sense. This money is the owner's blood, sweat, and tears and labor.

So concrete goodness is conscientious law and rational law. Conscientious law and rationality together can tell you concrete common goodness in your way of life very precisely. Those conscientious men who don't believe in God are more sincere than those who believe in God without actualizing the truth. The conscientious men know concrete truth and goodness, which comes from a rational mind. That is why when one acts according to conscience, his action is good.

Religious men go to church and believe in God, but ignore a conscientious life and are interested just in spiritual phenomena, ritual, or memorized Bible verses. Their goodness is very abstract without the deep meaning of the Bible; thus, they cannot bring concrete goodness in their daily life. Therefore you see many greedy religionists or believers who have strong faith in God. Whenever a man believes in his conscience and rational mind, he believes in concrete goodness, so we have the result of a good man, who rationally cannot deny the existence of a God.

We have two kinds of philosophers: theistic and atheistic. A really conscientious philosopher always becomes theistic like Kant and many other theistic philosophers in human history. If you have a really high standard of conscience you feel some kind of superpower in the universe. Atheists and theists argue with each other; but if they were out on a boat during a storm, the atheist will cry out "Oh my God, help me." Is your atheism good only for land and not the ocean? This is human nature. His atheism is good for only his own circumstances and is not universal. Our faith in God is not only conscientious, but also intellectual. Without an intellectual reason you cannot convince others; if you are just conscientious they cannot believe it. But if they are really conscientious they feel the existence of God; they also feel God if they are really intellectual. Atheists are not intellectual enough; they say the whole universe exists by accident or chance. This is the same kind of excuse as a Christian who says "just believe it". The human brain has a system hundreds of thousands of times more complicated and delicate than does an IBM computer. Do you think an IBM machine exists by accident or chance? You are not smart enough, you atheist. Who made the great masterpiece in the museum? No one did; it just exists there by accident? Do men, flowers, the great masterpieces of nature all exist by accident? Those atheists are not smart enough.

Today, even some ministers and theologians do not believe in God, because they are not deep enough. But the really conscientious and rational ultimate goal is to have faith in God. Abstract goodness and concrete goodness of rationality cannot be separate; they are equal. Abstract goodness and physical concrete goodness are to make oneness, to merge; that is why we need true faith in God, faith in both the abstract and concrete goodness of both our conscientious and rational mind. Perfect man has faith in God, and is 100% conscientious, 100% rational, 100% heartistic and comprehensive.



THIS IS HAPPENING.

Victory! On the City College Campus. The Unified Students have placed Steve Hart in the position of Student body president with David Endo as vice-President and

Gloria Mota and Helen Chin as members of the Council. Congratulations! We now have a firm base from which we may constructively guide student relationships, and hopefully unify the City College Student Body.

Sunday, September 21st, our sister in San Jose, Carmela Acohido, visited our center for dinner and to talk closely again with all of us. It was really good to see you again Carmela. We are proud of the mission you are accomplishing in San Jose, and hope that a few of us will be able to arrive for your Friday evening experimental course based on the lectures, and Principles of Education.

Sunday evening was also the debut of Korean play and dance, featuring several of our sisters. The production was directed by Karen Kardel and Susan Burbank, choreographed by Gina, who herself is a professional Korean dancer and costumed creatively by Mamasan. It was a beautiful addition to our Sunday evening ceremonies.

Recently as a whole family unit, we have intensified witnessing. Toward this end we have been meeting daily on the corner of Stockton and Geary after work to distribute pamphlets. Also we have organized into witnessing teams of 3 or 4 family members instead of the original pairs we have been working with. The teams should be effective in visiting at nights with a good team spirit.

May these words bring spirit to our sister Josephine Louie, who is working on her mission in Palo Alto and the Stanford Campus. She was preceded by Diana Swank who with the help of En pioneered the mid-peninsula community for several weeks.

Lastly and very importantly, a new book by Sang Ik Choi, (Papasan) has been printed at our International Exchange Press. Let's read The Purpose of Mankind thoroughly and distribute it widely.

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Lectures every night at 7:30

Sunday Meeting at 11:00 at  
Sacramento Street Center