

TODAY'S WORLD

JUNE 1995



**FATHER—“TOTAL EVALUATION OF GOD’S HISTORICAL PROVIDENCE”
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S CONFERENCES FOR WORLD PEACE**

Sisters for World Peace

Nora Spurgin

WHEN women have a bond of sisterhood, their men cannot go to war against each other. The eight International Women's Conferences for World Peace, taking place in Washington, D.C., between January 22 and March 8, 1995, are a testimony to the role of women in making peace.

Fifty years ago, hostilities ended between their nations. Today they would celebrate that ending and a new beginning, by forging relationships which will span the ocean. They would take each other's hands and pledge:

Through this sisterhood ceremony I join in friendship with my partner to build a bridge of peace and reconciliation between our two

nations, the United States and Japan. As a woman concerned with peace at all levels of human endeavor, I will strive to be a peacemaker and harmonizer in my family, community, society and between nations.

The day's festivities begin with a delicious luncheon held in two separate Japanese and American dining areas, followed by welcoming remarks and orientation.

In the Grand Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, stand 500 women from all over America in anticipation of meeting their counterparts (sisters) from Japan. They would become sisters of peace.

Suddenly the doors open and 500 Japanese women find their places beside their smiling American partners. It is a powerful moment. A moment of silence is observed for the Kobe earthquake victims. Welcome and greetings are given by the American and Japanese Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) presidents. There is beautiful music, building up to the dramatic moment when a curtain drops revealing a beautiful bridge, cherry blossom trees and roses on the stage. It is breathtaking. The emcee, Josette Shiner, managing editor of the *Washington Times* and vice president of WFWP, explains the thought behind the stage decorations:

The bridge is symbolic. The design is patterned after the Memorial Bridge which is a symbol of reunion of

North and South after the Civil War. The bridge was built to connect General Lee's home, on one side of the Potomac River, to the other side, where the Lincoln Memorial stands, a symbol of the North. Half of the bridge looks like a bridge that was built at the Japanese Imperial Royal Palace called "Megane Bashi."

Other decorations are merged symbols of America (stars and stripes) and Japan (the rising sun).

After a keynote speech, the ceremony begins. From the first row, American women move to the left side of the stage, and Japanese women move to the right. One by one, they enter the bridge from each end, walking ceremoniously until they meet in the center of the bridge, where they meet and greet each other, sometimes with bows and handshakes, sometimes with hugs. Hand in hand they walk down the center of the stage to dramatic music and return to their seats. Some of the Japanese ladies wear kimonos. The Americans, a rainbow of races and colors, sometimes wear the costumes of their ancestors' countries. Having been represented by this first row of sixteen sister-pairs, the remainder of the 1,000 women now greet their sisters, exchange information, gifts, embraces and tears.

As Japanese and Americans wipe away not only tears, but painful memories, this becomes a cleansing moment in which the flow of energy brings new life and the promise of a new beginning of cooperation between our two nations.

There are many stories of new relationships between women. One set of sisters discovered that each woman had lost a father during World War II. Many commented that there were special aspects about their sister-matches which seemed as if they had been chosen in heaven. For example, Alexa Ward's sister-match began by saying that her favorite lecturer was Dr. Tom Ward—then Alexa informed her that he was her husband!

Even though they often cannot speak the same language, the language of love and care is the language of heaven, and the barriers melt quickly.

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PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Each of the groups of Japanese women visited the Capitol building during their time in the United States.

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Front Cover: Father and Mother sing onstage at the banquet held, in the Manhattan Center Grand Ballroom, on the evening of the Holy Weddings of Kwon Jin Nim and Hwa Yun Nim together with Sun Jin Nim and In Sup Nim, April 17, 1995. (Photo: Ken Owens/New Future Photo)

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Total Evaluation of God's Historical Providence

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON
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EAST GARDEN
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IN THE FUTURE scholars from around the world may ask you on which page they can find Reverend Moon's comments on true love or some other subject. If you can refer to the original Korean text, you will have more authority to convey the message. There will be a big difference between those who are able to read the original text and those who can only read the translated version.

HISTORY LIVES WITH US

As you know, to be able to understand Western civilization and culture you need to understand Latin. Latin is the base of Western languages and civilization. By the same token, Korean will be the language that will reflect these things for us. History passes, but the truth of each time period will be remembered. There must be a historical framework; otherwise, once the time passes the truth about it may pass along with it. However, as long as there is a historical standard, the truth will remain and return to the original position. We must understand that history never dies but rather lives with us. True historical events will remain for eternity, while false historical events will disappear quickly.

Who lives with the truth historically? As I said, history lives with us. We leave behind either living history or dead history. For example, if American people abide by truthful and desirable historical facts, then they will be remembered. However, during a certain time period if American people create a false history it may be quickly forgotten. This same principle can be applied to the individual and family levels as well. Individuals and families who exemplify true historical events will be remembered.

If we expand this application, then what kind of life must we maintain if we are living for God? Human history hinges upon God's will. Due to the fall, human history was not begun centered upon God. In the history of God's providence, was there a time when God won the victory? Centered

upon the ideal of God's creation, the family of Adam emerged. However, did Adam's family achieve God's ideal of creation? No. No matter how much human history may have been glorified up until this point, it does not have anything to do with God's will. The fallen world has done nothing to enhance God's providence. History has been filled with tragedy and misery.

America enjoys its position as the superpower, but how many days will its control of the world last? No one can be sure. Can any American citizen claim that America will last forever? We should not boast about American culture and tradition. Rather we should emphasize the kind of culture and traditions which America should have adopted.

HISTORICAL FAILURES

In the history of God's providence, Adam's family failed, Noah's family failed, and Abraham's family failed. Because of the failure in conditional offering, Isaac had to make the substantial offering of himself. Abraham was about to kill his own son in offering to God. Abraham's failure in the original offering



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

God's history of salvation shows clearly how to cut out Satan's involvement in human life, how to root out the wild olive tree, how to cut off the wild bud, trunk and root and engraft it with the true olive tree's bud, trunk and root.

created room for Satan to intervene. This lasted for 400 years.

Moses failed in the wilderness course. When the Israelites were ready to enter into Canaan, Moses offered a desperate prayer to God, yet God did not accept him. He was unable to enter into Canaan with the second generation. When Moses struck the rock twice, it affected the entire history of Israel and offered a condition whereby Satan could invade the body of Jesus Christ.

When the Israelites were bitten by snakes, Moses raised up a bronze serpent so that whoever looked upon it could survive. By the same token, Jesus had to sacrifice his body in order to give spiritual salvation to mankind. Those who believed in Jesus were spiritually saved through his sacrifice. Of course, John the Baptist played a large part in the failure of Jesus' course.

America represents worldwide Christianity, which is in the position of the bride religion. America, centered upon the bride culture of Christianity, was supposed to welcome and receive the bridegroom. Because it failed in this mission, America has been declining for the last forty years.

In human history there has been only one time when the entire world was culturally united centered upon the bride culture of Christianity. That time was right after World War II. The entire world culture centered upon Christianity was supposed to be offered to the coming Messiah.

CONNECT WITH THE TRUE OLIVE TREE

Because of the fall, human history has been a fallen history. Humankind did not start out with the seed of true life, but rather with the seed of false life. Even though there are over five billion people in the world, the multiplication has nothing to do with God. Since we are all wild olive trees, we need to be cut off and engrafted with the bud of the true olive tree. This is the only way to go back to God. If you accept the fact of the human fall, then this result must be accepted also. Without doing so you cannot go back to God.

If the fall had not occurred, beginning from Adam's children and grandchildren, generation after generation was supposed to lead a true life and automatically enter into the Kingdom of God on earth, as well as in heaven. There would have been no wild olive trees. Every tree would have been a true olive tree. Due to the fall every tree became a wild olive tree. The central bud, trunk and root all became false, directly connected to Satan's lineage. No one can deny this logic.

To get out of this situation we have to first separate ourselves from Satan. God's history of salvation shows clearly how to cut out Satan's involvement in human life, how to root out the wild olive tree, how to cut off the wild bud, trunk and root and engraft it with the true olive tree's bud, trunk and root. Unless we can turn around the history of God's providence and make it a success we cannot arrive at a total evaluation of God's providence.

LEARN ABOUT PAST FAILURES

Without knowing all of the details of the failures involving Adam's family, Noah's family, Abraham, Moses and even Jesus,

we cannot pursue the history of restoration at our level. We cannot just assume something may be true. Rather we have to prove, through our action, experience and result, that it is absolutely true. Otherwise, we will be unable to conquer this satanic world and separate Satan from our lives. We have to clearly understand and come up with a solution that is 180 degrees different. One way leads towards hell and the other toward heaven.

Without knowing how and why Adam's family failed, how can we even think about the history of restoration? Without knowing the details of all of the providential families, we will be unable to consider making a total evaluation of God's providence at this point.

Adam was supposed to be the True Parent but he failed. How can that position be restored? We have to restore a living Adam so that he can become the True Parent and save the entire world. Without this, we cannot even contemplate the history of God's providence.

God and Satan have been aware of the details of the fall, yet people have not known them. As long as humankind is ignorant of the fall, God cannot do anything about it. Humankind has been going through so much agony and enduring so much manipulative abuse from Satan. Not only has humankind been abused by Satan, but Satan has even accused God. Satan has charged that no matter how powerful God might be, He could not complete the restoration of humankind. How miserable God has been!

YOU NEED THE MESSIAH

Who is able to dig out all of these historical secrets and reveal them to the world? God's promise of the Messiah, made during the Old Testament and New Testament Ages, is aimed at accomplishing this mission. Since all humanity is living in the realm of failure, do we absolutely need the Messiah, or do we merely want the Messiah because it would be nice to have him? Even if we have to deny everyone from the individual level to the entire cosmos, the one need we can never deny is the need for the Messiah. If we had to sell the entire nation of America in order to buy the Messiah, should we sell it? Even if it takes trading in the entire world, we must do it. The Messiah is more precious than the whole world, more precious than all history. Do you in fact know that value or do you just recognize it?

Imagine that you have the most valuable gold mine in the entire world and suddenly you realize that a diamond mine is next to you. Would you sell the gold mine in order to buy the diamond mine, or would you keep the gold mine and forget the diamond mine? You would go for the diamond mine. If you have to sell your most precious things and deny the people closest to you in order to receive the Messiah, would you do that? Would you really give up your wife, children, tribe and even your nation in order to receive the Messiah? Have you felt it to the bone? You have to calculate what percentage of yourself is ready fully to accept the Messiah and believe in him. Only you know that percentage.

America is a very liberal country, but can you find even one person who can truly accept and understand the Messiah

Unless there is total unity between mind and body, husband and wife, and brothers and sisters, Satan automatically invades. Satan's dominion over the family is the root of the satanic world.

here? If you say you are trying, it means you are on the way. When the "trying" course will be finished is the problem. This is a very serious and critical question for us.

DISCOVERING HISTORICAL SECRETS

Just imagine how desperately serious I was when I was learning the hidden secrets of all the historical families. I had to put my neck on the block in a life and death fight. Satan constantly tried to chase me out and confuse me. Imagine just how manipulative and evil Satan has been throughout human history. He played games against God. When I innocently appeared as the Messiah, Satan was desperate to block me.

To create the future ideal world, I had to obtain Satan's voluntary surrender. I restored the failure of Adam's family through a severe battle. There were so many times when I met with denial and refusal. As I persisted with logical proof, finally Satan had to admit the truth.

After I succeeded in revealing all of the hidden secrets from Adam's family, Satan tried to block me regarding Noah's family. I then had to struggle once again to discover all of the hidden failures within Noah's family. Many times, Satan denied the truth about Ham's failure, but I kept producing the factual proof until Satan bowed down and surrendered. That is how I restored the failure of Noah and his family.

Satan then told me that, even though I had restored the failures within Adam's family and Noah's family, history still carried on through Abraham's family. Once again Satan tried to block my way by telling me not to touch Abraham's family, because he had nothing to do with the problem. Once more I began to dig into all of the secrets of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, continuing through the various stages of Israelite history, including the restoration between Jacob and Esau and the story of Tamar. Finally Satan bowed down once again.

No one knew how desperately I had to fight to restore, not just Abraham's family, but all the way to Moses' family. I found all the facts and confronted Satan with those facts and the facts of Jesus' family and John the Baptist's failure. No one knew what kind of course I had to go through to achieve that goal. No one knows what kind of course I passed through in the last forty years to restore the 4000 years of human history.

By the end of World War II, I knew all of the facts of Adam's family, Noah's family, Abraham, Moses and Jesus. I indemnified all the failures of restoration on the horizontal level from Adam's family through Jesus.

THE FORMULA FOR UNITY

As a result of the fall, people's minds and bodies have been separated. I have established the formula for unifying mind and body. Family unity is based on mind-body unity, husband-wife unity, and parent-child unity. Unless there is total unity between mind and body, husband and wife, and brothers and sisters, Satan automatically invades. Satan's dominion over the family is the root of the satanic world. On the tree of humanity, your family is like a bud. This lineage of the central root, trunk and bud has been falsified and we have to cut it off and be engrafted

with the true olive tree. Again I am telling you that unless there is absolute unity between mind and body, husband and wife, brothers and sisters, parents and children, Satan always invades.

Throughout the entire human history, no religion has given as much value as the Unification Church to family life. All of the world's religions, cultures, civilizations, nations and people had their origin with the family. That is why I value marriage so highly. That is why I have been conducting these holy weddings. Horizontally Adam and Eve's family has expanded to the worldwide level.

We must have perfection here on this earth. The unification of mind and body must be achieved here on earth, centered upon true love. Without experiencing true love you cannot even consider mind-body unity. Unless you are in the position of object to God you cannot experience true love. Human history began with the separation of mind and body, and we have inherited false love, false life and false lineage.

LEVELS OF UNITY

The family unity was where humankind's deviation started. That is why I have given you the Family Pledge. Unless you become totally one, centered upon the unification of mind and body, husband and wife, and brothers and sisters, there is no way you can enter the Kingdom of God on earth or in heaven. This formula applies not only to the family level, but also to the tribal level. Society is not random but organized in various levels from the village up to the national level. Each level has its head. The family unit is the base. The president's family, as the first family of America, should be plus and the other American families minus. If there is unity between this first family and the other families of the nation, there will be success. Otherwise there will only be failure.

Satan's major effort throughout history has been to destroy the unity between plus and minus, or subject and object. On the other hand, God has been working to help people unite plus and minus. Satan always discourages mind-body unity, whereas God is urging us through our conscience to unite them. Unless you unite your mind and body centered upon true love, you need not even think about the Kingdom of God on earth.

People have high goals, but the highest goal must be the unification of mind and body. This is our true and unchanging destiny. If we cannot fulfill this goal in the physical world, we will have to do it in the spiritual world.

Jesus Christ came as the True Parent of humankind, not because it was his desire but because it was his true destiny. However, he could not fulfill this task due to the people's disbelief. Therefore, he promised to return to finish the messianic task. That is why the Second Advent must take place. Because Jesus did not fulfill his mission he could not enter the Kingdom of God. He has been waiting in Paradise. The truth is this serious and critical.

BUILDING A BASE ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL

You must understand what the term True Parents means. No one throughout history has gone through what I have

*To be protected at the individual level we need our family unit.
At the family level we need the protection of the tribe.
At the tribal level we need national protection.*

experienced. No one can imagine how difficult it was and how much suffering I had to pay. Therefore, sitting in front of this incredibly valuable True Parent, you must be able to set the proper condition to reciprocate spiritually.

To be protected at the individual level we need our family unit. At the family level we need the protection of the tribe. At the tribal level we need national protection. I and the Unification Church have been persecuted throughout the world because the Unification Church does not have its own national foundation yet.

In Korea there has been a false father in the North and a True Father in the South for the past forty years. In the South, Christianity was supposed to work with me at the beginning, but on the contrary it has been opposing me and making my life miserable. Communists teamed up with Christianity to persecute me and the Unification Church all these years in Korea.

Before Jesus came, Elijah was supposed to prepare the way for him. John the Baptist came as Elijah, but people did not understand this. As a result, Jesus was persecuted and finally crucified. The people believed that Elijah would descend in a fiery chariot from the sky. By the same token, Korean Christians were looking up to the sky to receive the Second Advent coming down in the clouds. However, the Messiah came as a man, just as in the time of Jesus. Therefore, people did not understand, and I had to walk this course of indemnity all of these years. That is why there has been opposition.

Jesus was crucified because of misunderstanding and persecution. The entire world has been opposing me, just as people persecuted Jesus. But this is a different era, and no matter where I go no one can put me in prison or persecute me to any extreme ever again.

Mikhail Gorbachev considered me to be an archenemy of the former Soviet Union, but he became like my younger brother. After I made one visit to Pyongyang, Kim Il Sung became like my brother. Because of his physical age, he became my elder brother, in the Cain position to me as Abel. How impressed he was by my one visit! Just before he passed away, Kim Il Sung said that the re-unification of Korea can only be done through Reverend Moon. (Applause.) Even though Kim Il Sung said that, the 23 million North Koreans do not know what to do. They have no choice but to follow my guidance.

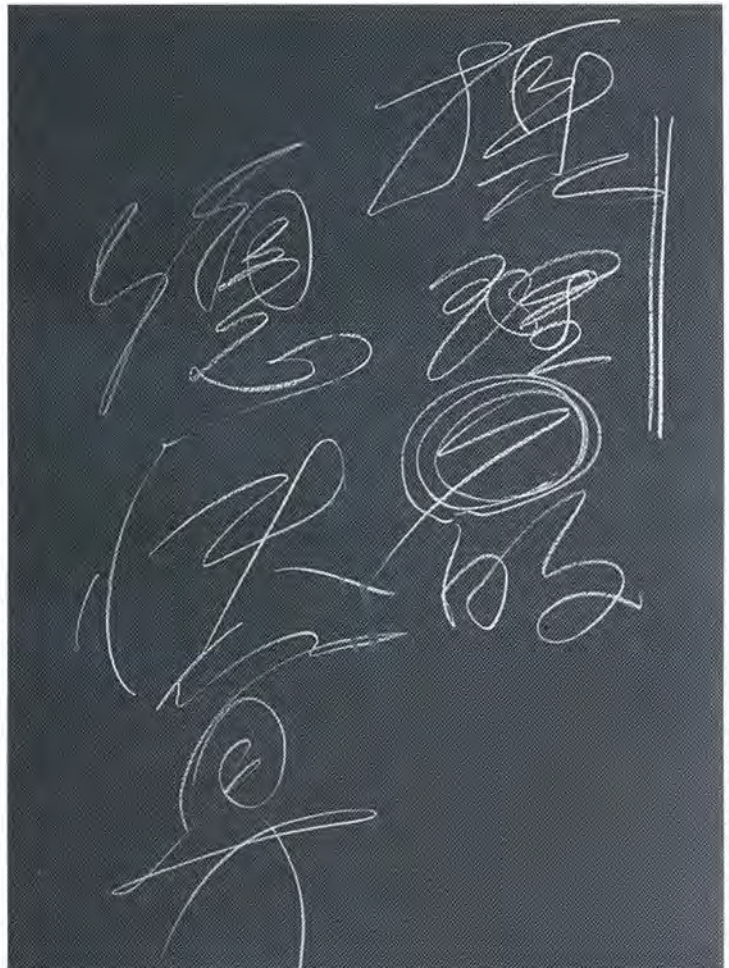
The nuclear issue was very hot a few months ago, and North Korea and America did not know how to relate to each other. I helped both sides work things out. This is not a concept, this is a reality.

This is the task of perfected Adam. As a True Parent I have been doing all this. Otherwise, there is no hope for us.

REBUILDING THE FOUNDATION IN AMERICA

In America the Unification Church is in the position of Abel, and Christianity is in the position of Cain. The symbolic unity between this Cain and Abel was achieved when the American people changed the leadership of the country.

The Parents' Day Resolution was passed by Congress, and President Clinton signed the bill making Parents' Day a national holiday on October 14, 1994. It is a historical record that within



The title of this sermon, written by Father, in Korean.

seventy days this Parents' Day resolution passed both houses. It took almost twenty years to get Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday declared a holiday. The quick passage of the Parents' Day resolution was a historical record. (Applause.)

Originally, I was supposed to come to America in 1962. At that time the leaders of both the Republican and Democratic parties agreed to issue me a visa. Yet, I had to work in Korea before coming to America. I postponed my work here until 1972. The Old Testament era in Korea had to be completed first. If I had come without completing the Old Testament stage, I would have had to return to Korea if opposition began there.

Actually, because America is in the position of the bride country, at the age of sixteen I began praying for this country and thinking about this mission. This is the first time that I am revealing this story. From the age of sixteen, I have been praying for America. That is almost sixty years, is it not?

I knew that the Allied countries would be victorious in World War II. Therefore, I was preparing for the time when the victorious Allied nations, centered upon America and Christianity, would welcome me and the Kingdom of God could be built on earth.

When they failed to do so, I had to prepare that kind of

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Since the Korean government opposed the Little Angels for 25 years, I took an alternative course. That course was to bring the traditional Russian ballet to America, where it has become successful and is indemnifying the Little Angels' course.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP



When Mr. Vinogradov visited our ballet academy, the Soviet Union was still not dissolved. Three years prior to his visit, the American government had sent an invitation for Mr. Vinogradov to come to America and establish a ballet school, but the Soviet regime refused to allow him to come. President Bush and President Gorbachev corresponded back and forth. We have copies of the actual letters that were sent. Because of these two heads of state, finally Mr. Vinogradov could come to America and serve as both the head of the Kirov Ballet in Moscow and the Kirov Academy of Ballet in Washington, DC.

The Soviet Union realized back then that they would have to somehow cope with Western culture. Therefore, to prove that Russia had something to be proud of, they picked Washington, DC, and gave me the absolute right to use the term Kirov Ballet, which is owned by the Ministry of Culture of the Soviet Union.

foundation again. I emptied my resources and formed the Little Angels, who could go around the world and enhance the image of Korea. I made the foundation to invite [former] Presidents Truman and Eisenhower and President Nixon to be on the board of the Korean Cultural and Freedom Foundation, so the Little Angels could be received by America and other countries. In addition to these three, approximately 150 American leaders of all different walks of life were on the board.

I began CARP activities on college campuses throughout America to re-create the right atmosphere for me to be accepted. However, America failed in this.

RESTORING THE PERFORMING ARTS

Korea opposed me for 25 years. Without that opposition, imagine what kind of well-established foundation I could have achieved in Korea and in the Western world. Through the Little Angels performances we could have influenced the world immensely. However, the Korean government would not allow the Little Angels to perform for the world.

Since the Korean government opposed the Little Angels for 25 years, I took an alternative course. That course was to bring the traditional Russian ballet to America, where it has become successful and is indemnifying the Little Angels' course in the West. The director of our ballet company here in America is Mr. Oleg Vinogradov. When he first came to visit our Universal Ballet Academy, he suddenly heard a voice from the spiritual world telling him that his destiny was with this organization. That proves that God is alive. In order for God to be able to act, we have to set proper conditions. I prepared everything for training ballerinas in that academy. There were buildings, facilities and students, and then this well-known figure in the ballet world came to visit. That is when God acted upon my foundation.

They gave me the right to freely use the name and skills of the Kirov ballet team. After only two or three years of training, our Kirov students went on tour around the nation. As a result the critics claim them to be superior even to the Kirov Ballet of Russia. (Applause.)

Each year students graduate and so they have to give auditions to new candidates. This year 1600 candidates applied for sixteen positions. I predict that soon the ratio of applicants to openings will be 500 to one.

I would like to see these ballet activities connect to the University of Bridgeport. I would like to establish ballet, cinema and other artistic courses there so that eventually those graduate students will clean up Hollywood. (Applause.) They can go out as pioneers and replace all those immoral people. Even at the Kirov Academy in Washington, DC, if there is any scandal connected to any student, immediately they will be expelled. That is the way I am setting the new tradition even in performing arts.

I have a goal to clean up Hollywood and Las Vegas. The American government cannot do that. Only I can. In the future, people who want to become famous in the performing arts will need to set a good moral standard as a good husband or wife and as a good family member. Otherwise, how can we think of building the Kingdom of God on earth?

EXCELLING IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

I have been working with scholars and journalists for the past twenty years. I have good relationships with thousands of men and women in the academic and political fields. Now, with this strong foundation, wherever I want to visit, there are always people ready to receive me.

When I was in Brazil a couple of weeks ago I gave a banquet

When people in wealthy countries are willing to sell their excess cars and homes to save their brothers and sisters in poor countries, the Kingdom of God on earth will be ushered in.

for the Brazilian VIPs from various fields, and over 200 people gathered at the Brazilian headquarters building. I had not planned this, but the State University of Brazil offered an honorary doctorate degree to Mother and me. Sooner or later thousands of universities from all over the world will offer honorary degrees. Then I will share them with you. (Laughter.) Suppose I were to receive 5000 honorary degrees and hand out two or three to each of you; these would become your family treasure. Therefore, work hard.

Name any field, and I have excelled in it. Regardless of how famous a college you may have graduated from or how wonderful a career you may have established on your own, unless you are totally aligned with my tradition, you will not have the chance to work in that field in the future along with me. People who want to succeed just for their own sake, without embodying my tradition of true love, will remain behind the scenes. America has been proud of its military and economic might as a superpower. However, even America does not have what I have.

I have an ideological foundation that transcends racial, cultural and national boundaries. The name Reverend Moon has been resurrected, and I am becoming recognized as the top leader in the world in this period. (Applause.) This is possible because of the various scholars who know me and my unsurpassed accomplishments. After forty years of severe persecution at the worldwide level, I have established so many prominent foundations in all different fields.

What I am saying is that the Second Advent will not come as a spirit descending on the clouds, but as a man. As a man he will work as the Messiah for mankind. People must accept this conclusion. If the Second Advent comes as a human being, then I am the only one who can possibly claim that role. People have to accept it because the time has come.

ESTABLISHING A MODEL COMMUNITY

My goal now is to establish the ideal model community and, based upon that community, the ideal model for the country.

The location for this model community is almost one million acres of land. I will divide this land into 160 different parts, each to be taken care of by a different nation. Within those one million acres, we will have 160 different nations, transcending race, culture, nation and religion. Every single person will be ideal people like you. Therefore, I need you to come there and demonstrate that kind of standard. (Applause.) Furthermore, this is how I will begin saving the starving people of the world.

Once we have this kind of ideal community established, people from all over the world will come to see it. It will become a tourist attraction. When people realize that under forty years of heavy persecution I built this ideal community, they will open their hearts. About four-fifths of the world's population falls into the category of poor people. Here I am, standing in a remote corner of the world village, but I am educating the entire world with God's truth. This is a reality. With the Divine Principle book, even a high school graduate can teach anyone, anywhere.

This model community can have a powerful influence all

over the world, particularly as the secular world is declining fast. Only I am creating this formula. It will appear like a lighthouse in the darkness. The world now is in darkness and I am building this model community as a lighthouse in the midst of the darkness.

The Christian world took 2000 years to gain one billion people. They are against us, but we will turn all of that upside down. North America has to save South America. The American Unification Church is in Abel's position and the Christian world is in Cain's position. If they combine into one they will form a big Abel position. The Christianity practiced in South America is Catholicism, which is in the elder brother or Cain position. North America and Protestantism are in Abel's position. When these two unite, their foundation can be connected with Germany.

Europe is becoming one nation centering largely upon Germany. However, Germany is unable even to unite its east and west regions successfully. Out of Germany came the split between Catholicism and Protestantism. Therefore, once this unification between Catholicism and Protestantism occurs, this big plus can re-unite East and West Germany.

TACKLING PHYSICAL SALVATION

We are now reaching the final stage of history. No advanced nation of the world is able to bring about this kind of unification. Only one person is able to bring this about, and that person is none other than Reverend Moon. Humankind has lost its direction, and I am solving all its problems.

I am planning to buy tens of thousands of acres in South America for building the ideal community. I have already established a sufficiently strong foundation in the metaphysical field. Now I am beginning to work for salvation of the physical level.

During the last forty years I indemnified 4000 years of human history. During this time I have been persecuted by all manner of people, religions and organizations, and each time I have prevailed and won the victory. It is as if I have constructed an impenetrable castle wall. No regime in this world is able to persecute me anymore. I have formed a band of strong unification soldiers throughout the world. (Applause.) You are the heavenly army. We have to make a revolution. This is the final war. I have already won the worldwide victory on the spiritual level, and now I am beginning to tackle the physical level salvation of the thousands of people who are dying of starvation every year. The world should recognize this.

These dying people are our brothers and sisters too. While your younger brothers and sisters are dying, do you want to hold onto your property because you wish to protect yourself, or would you go out and sell your property to save their lives?

When people in wealthy countries are willing to sell their excess cars and homes to save their brothers and sisters in poor countries, the Kingdom of God on earth will be ushered in. Remember that I have poured one billion dollars into the *Washington Times* during the last fourteen years. All the government bureaus, such as the CIA, have a record of this. To save this country that regarded me as its enemy, I have sacrificed this much. Now, to save our poorer brothers and sisters

The starving people in the poor nations of the world are God's children, your brothers and sisters. You have to save them. This is your mission from now on: to embrace and unify the people of South America.

who are not our enemies, we should do even more. Will you do that?

EMBRACING SOUTH AMERICA

If I tell you rich Americans to sell your houses and land to save those poor people will you do that? Will you do it voluntarily? I have voluntarily sacrificed to save this enemy country of America. The starving people in the poor nations of the world are not your enemies; they are God's children, your brothers and sisters. You have to save them. This is your mission from now on: to embrace and unify the people of South America.

Land in South America costs one-tenth of what it would cost in America. It is that cheap. In the near future the land in South America may become more valuable than the land in North America. North Americans may someday rush to South America to buy land. Then South America may build a high fence and select who will come and who will not, just as North America is doing to South Americans now! (Laughter.) If they connect with my ideal base, that kind of phenomenon can occur. I have the confidence to create that kind of foundation.

God desires the unification between North and South America. Originally God longed for complete unification between all of His children.

RESTORING 160 FAMILIES

You have to inherit from me and walk with absolute confidence within the satanic world, without being influenced. I am reaching out to 160 nations; your level of responsibility as tribal messiah is to restore 160 families.

If you truly want to inherit my tradition and my foundation, you need to restore 160 families. Jesus Christ was crucified because he was unable to secure 120 absolutely loyal disciples. To restore Jesus' failure and inherit my foundation, all blessed couples need to restore 160 families. When you accomplish this, you will be registered in a permanent record. I established a foundation in 160 nations under heavy persecution. Now you are able to restore 160 families without persecution. When you do so, the entire world will have to follow your footsteps.

Since tribal messiahs are supposed to restore 160 families, the second generation will work with their parents to restore those families along with their children back to God. Historically Satan has been abusing, manipulating and controlling humankind. Now, with the appearance of True Father as the Messiah of humankind, that trend

is reversed. Now Satan is being pushed backwards. You should have the confidence to proclaim to Satan, "I am a true child of True Parents." You must have absolute faith. Even if you have to deny your own nation or your world, you have to be able to proclaim yourself the child of the True Parents. You are free to declare to the world that you are a child of the True Parents because Parents have won all of the victories and conquered Satan. Therefore, whatever True Parents possess belongs to you as their children. If you are the sons and daughters of True Parents, you are able to inherit everything. Do you have that confidence?

Are you able to imagine the suffering course that I have walked? I had to deal with every kind of suffering and torment in my life. I was offered the daughter of the world's richest family if I would forget my mission. I spat at that offer. Even if the entire nation of America were offered, I would reject it. Are you able to do as I have done?

Now I have a strong foundation throughout the world, but when I first began no one supported me. I simply relied upon revelation from God. I was without resources or manpower, but your situation is so different. Since you have my truth clearly leading you all the time, yours is a much easier course. The spiritual world is always fluctuating and changing, but in this physical world I am showing you how to do everything. Therefore, you have to understand what happened in Adam's family and Noah's family as well as all the historical details of restoration, so you can confidently stand on my foundation. This is the only way for you to win the victory.

The Old Testament era, the New Testament era and the Completed Testament era each represent 2000 years. The fall



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

The disunity between Jacob and Esau was reflected in the disunity between the Northern Kingdom and the Southern Kingdom. To receive the Messiah, they had to set an absolute condition of unity between Cain and Abel.

represented the first failure of Adam. The second failure of Adam was at the time of Jesus Christ. The third Adam is represented by the Lord of the Second Advent. Even in the case of the third Adam, the mission was postponed because of the failure of America centering on Christianity. However, instead of failing, I restored the foundation over the last forty years and won the victory. Therefore, the world of peace and unification is dawning.

RESTORING MOTHER AND CHILDREN

At the end of the Old Testament era, Jesus Christ appeared and was supposed to establish tribal level, societal level, and national level foundations. The Old Testament era was centered upon Judaism in the position of Abel and the nation of Israel in the position of Cain.

Christians are proud of celebrating Jesus' birth in the stable, but this is not something to be proud of. The people of Israel should have prepared everything necessary for the birth of Jesus. However, Jesus was abandoned and he was born in the stable. At the time of Jesus' birth, Joseph and Mary, as plus and minus, were to become a combined minus to God in the position of plus. They and God would have been a combined plus, and Judaism would have been in the position of minus. Had everyone totally united in that way, everything would have gone well.

In the eyes of God, Jesus' relatives represented the fallen mother and children and the restored mother and children. When restoration of the children occurs it is not usually through the original wife but rather through the concubine or second wife.

After World War II if the Allied countries, centered upon Christianity as the bride culture, had accepted me as the Messiah, I would not have been divorced from Sung Jin Nim's mother. Instead, with Sung Jin Nim's mother and Sung Jin Nim, I would have started building the Kingdom of God, unifying the world as one country. However, when the victorious foundation was lost completely, I had no family, no tribe, no nation. Without a course of bitter restoration, the ideal family, tribe and nation could not have been built.

RESTORATION IN JACOB'S FAMILY

Because of the formula of restoration, a special relationship between Rachel and Leah took place in the family of Jacob. Otherwise, their children could not have become central figures making preparations for the Messiah. Jacob's family had to make restoration through the second wife's position. The elder wife and younger wife, who also represented elder and younger sisters, had to unite and head in the same direction, back to the realm of Adam before the fall. The unity of Jacob's family made the foundation for Jacob's settlement.

Because of this formula, the course of restoration usually takes place through the second wife or concubine, not through the original wife. That is the reason for the relationship between Rachel and Leah. Leah had every reason to confront Laban, because in a way he sold his daughter twice. Jacob's mother had the responsibility to work with Jacob and straighten out

this situation. Finally, this course of restoration on the family level was established at the time of Jacob.

ELIJAH'S MISSION

The disunity between Jacob and Esau was reflected in the disunity between the Northern Kingdom, representing the first son, and the Southern Kingdom, representing the second son. To receive the Messiah, they had to set an absolute condition of unity between Cain and Abel. Elijah came and attempted to bring about this unity, but he failed. When Elijah ascended into the spiritual world he promised to return. However, who came in the place of Elijah at the time of the coming of the Messiah? John the Baptist.

Elijah tried his best to demonstrate God's almighty power in the Northern Kingdom, but the people tried to kill him. Finally Elijah prayed telling God that he was the only one left. God told him that there were still 7000 people who had not surrendered to the false god and that Elijah had to work with them and unite them.

This was a prediction from God that when Elijah came again in the form of John the Baptist, he should unite with Jesus and accomplish restoration. Had John the Baptist been totally united with Jesus and mobilized the 7000 people around him, establishing the ideal community centered upon Jesus, the entire nation of Israel would have accepted this group.

Until the coming of Jesus, the Israelites used circumcision as a sign of indemnification of original sin. Water baptism was not even recorded in the Old Testament, but John the Baptist began practicing baptism.

MARY'S MISSION

Who was the father of Jesus Christ? Elizabeth was the wife of Zachariah. Leah and Rachel fought to occupy their husband Jacob. At the time of Jesus this had to be indemnified. The original wife, Elizabeth, was in the position of Leah to Mary, who was supposed to become the second wife or concubine, in the position of Rachel. However, for restoration to occur, Mary had to gain the position of plus and unite with Elizabeth, in the position of minus. In the position of Leah, Elizabeth introduced Mary as a second wife to her husband, Zachariah. This was completely opposite to what occurred in Jacob's family. Behind God's providence lies this complicated situation. Many people were unaware of this. Only my appearance on earth can make these things clear.

Mary gave birth to Jesus, and Elizabeth gave birth to John the Baptist. John the Baptist was in the position of Cain and Jesus was in the position of Abel. Centered upon their mothers, this Cain-Abel relationship was supposed to be restored. When this happened, Jacob's position could be restored, representing God's position. Only on the foundation of the unity between Cain and Abel could this occur.

Suppose Mary revealed whose baby she was carrying. According to the law of Israel at that time, any unmarried woman found pregnant was supposed to be stoned to death. Therefore, Jesus would have lost his life even before he was

Mary had to set a condition similar to Tamar's, because many things occurred during the intervening years to cause the blood lineage to become stained. Mary had to purify the lineage once again, following the same pattern on the national level.

born. Eve betrayed God and her husband. To restore Eve's position, Mary prevailed in faith over father and husband. Through following this indemnity course she could stand victoriously in Eve's position.

TAMAR'S MISSION

Adam lost his position to the archangel, but Jacob fought the angel and became victorious. The Bible tells us that he wrestled with God and won the victory. The archangel represented the internal, spiritual victory which Jacob had to gain in preparation for the substantial victory over Esau. Only after these spiritual and physical victories could the true blood lineage begin through Tamar.

The twins in Tamar's womb struggled to be born first. After Tamar's husband died, she was supposed to marry the second son. However, he died. When the third son was not given to her, she disguised herself and slept with her father-in-law. In other words, she prevailed in faith over the father and husband to inherit the lineage of God. It was a revolutionary act on her part. From her womb, the elder brother-younger brother relationship was restored, and God's purified blood lineage began on the family level. This was extended to the national level through the Israelite people and culminated with the birth of Jesus.

THE FAITH OF MARY AND JOSEPH

God's nation was supposed to appear at the time of Mary. Mary acted in faith in deference to Joseph, her husband-to-be. Joseph's parents prepared everything in the hope that their son would have a happy family. When they were told that Joseph's fiancée was pregnant, Mary was in danger. However, instead of betraying Mary, Joseph saved her by embracing and protecting her. Joseph's parents strongly criticized Joseph and accused him for his actions; nevertheless, he protected Mary by telling his parents that he had caused her pregnancy.

Because of Joseph, Mary was resurrected from the dead. This symbolized the restoration of what occurred in the Garden of Eden where Eve spiritually killed Adam. However, this time, Joseph saved Mary's life.

In order for Mary to be qualified as Eve on the national level she was supposed to prevail in faith over a father figure, husband figure and son figure. That is what occurred. Mary had to set a condition similar to Tamar's, because many things occurred during the intervening years to cause the blood lineage to become stained. Mary had to purify the lineage once again, following the same pattern on the national level. Because of this condition, Satan had no claim over Jesus. Due

to that purification and condition set by Mary and Joseph, Jesus was the first begotten son born in this physical world throughout human history.

Jesus would have become the King of Kings and established the Kingdom of God on earth within his lifetime if he had not been crucified. Because of the failure of the people of Israel, this task was postponed for 2000 years, until the Second Advent.

MARY'S DILEMMA

I want you to clearly understand the relationship between Elizabeth and Mary and the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. If Jesus had found his bride, history would have totally been changed. In those days it was customary to marry as young as eighteen years of age. Therefore, Jesus could have been married at eighteen. Why did he not do so? There were many brides, but he was unable to find the bride who could fit God's providence.

The fall took place around the age of sixteen years. At the age of seventeen, Jesus honestly told his mother Mary all the providential details that were needed in order for him to marry. He spoke to her later when he was twenty-seven and again at thirty. However, the family could not accept his proposal.

After Jesus realized that his goal for marriage could not be accomplished through his own family, he went out and walked the public course for three years. Finally he was crucified.

In the Garden of Eden, the archangel took away Adam's younger sister, Eve. In order to restore that relationship, Jesus was supposed to take the younger sister of John the Baptist and make her his bride. However, John the Baptist's younger sister would have been Jesus' half sister, and the law of Israel did not permit marriages between close blood relatives.

After Joseph saved Mary's life and they became officially



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Due to the confusion in Jesus' family, many people have more than one wife, and the children from the second and third wives are even brighter than those from the first wife. Because of the failure in Jesus' family we see a lot of confusion in our world.



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Father serenades Mother at the celebration of their wedding anniversary, April 15, 1995, at East Garden.

married, don't you think that Joseph kept asking Mary whose son Jesus really was? Yet Mary could not reveal the secret, because if she did the entire family, including Zachariah and Elizabeth, would be condemned by society and might have been stoned to death.

Suppose Jesus had married John the Baptist's younger sister, restoring the phenomena in the Garden of Eden. Even John the Baptist knew that Jesus was his half brother. Although Jesus wanted to marry his own half sister, Mary could not allow that because she knew the consequences. Even if Mary had agreed, Elizabeth would not allow that. If Elizabeth agreed, then Zachariah would have refused. It would have created so much trouble with all of the family. It was a doubly difficult situation at that time. You have to understand this hidden secret clearly.

If everything could have happened according to God's will and Jesus could have married his half sister with the agreement of Mary, Elizabeth and Zachariah, the heavenly family and tribe would have been established. This would have been the beginning of the Kingdom of God on earth.

If John the Baptist had brought his family and 7000 of his followers to Jesus Christ, that would have been the foundation to build the Kingdom of God on earth. It would have indemnified the failures of the Northern and Southern Kingdoms of Israel.

In the last days, due to the confusion in Jesus' family, many people have more than one wife, and the children from the second and third wives are even brighter than those from the first wife. Because of the failure in Jesus' family we see a lot of confusion in our world, including incest. Had Jesus been able to establish his family and tribe everything would have gone well. But Jesus was crucified.

Centered upon the bride culture of Christianity America should have accepted me in 1945. Because of America's failure, sexual problems and even incest are rampant. It is like a living hell. This is how history reflects the course of indemnity.

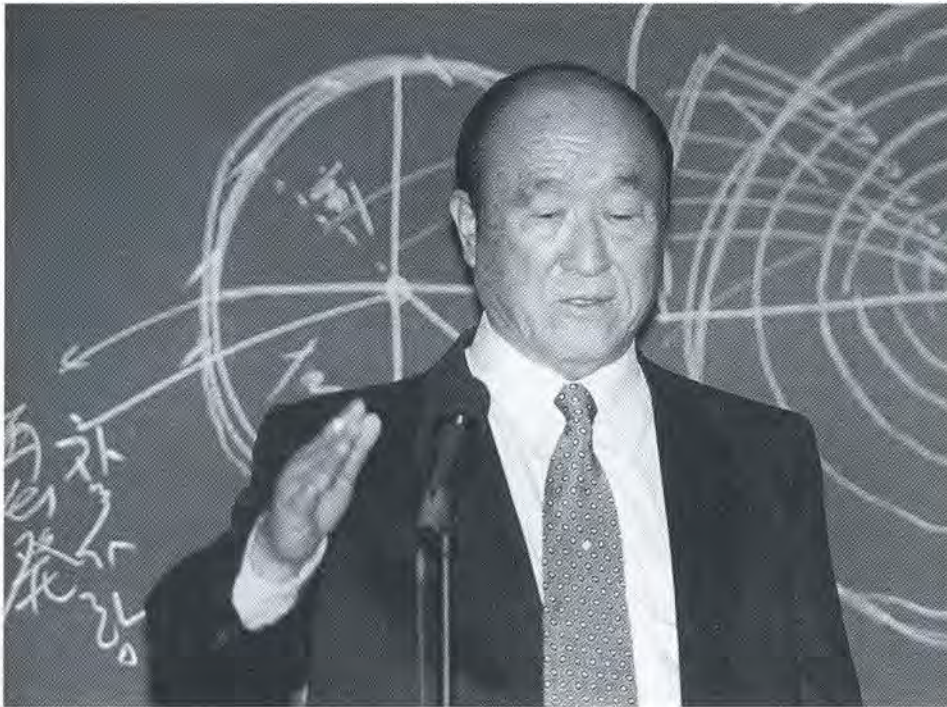
After the rejection of Christianity and America, I spent forty years laying the foundation. I am expanding my foundation in North America to South America.

UNRESOLVED RELATIONSHIPS IN MY FAMILY

Because of Satan's interference and invasion, my family still has some tasks to be completed. Sung Jin Nim's mother, my original wife, and our True Mother have never met. They are strangers with no relationship whatsoever. However, Sung Jin Nim may wish to come to my house and live with me. As my true son, he has the right to bring his own mother. Not even

Do you realize that during the two years since I declared True Parents and the Completed Testament Age, there have been more dramatic changes than during the previous forty years? The world has been totally changed.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP



reveal this truth to Eve first. Korean women are in the position of elder sister and Japanese women are in the position of younger sister. American women are in the position of the third daughter. All this is for the purpose of indemnifying history.

COMPLETING JESUS' MISSION

Jesus was supposed to restore the failure of the first Adam, restoring the family and tribe, and establish the foundation up to the national level. The mission of the Lord of the Second Advent is the extension of what Jesus was supposed to accomplish. The completion of Jesus' mission is the mission of the Second Advent.

However, the Lord of the Second Advent has to extend the foundation to the worldwide level. I restored the failures of the first Adam's family and the failures of the second Adam. I have established the foundation for victory on the world-

wide level, the national level and family level. All three levels are completely perfected. True Parents have appeared on the family level, the national level, and the worldwide level.

True Mother has paid a tremendous amount of suffering indemnity, because unless she offers more love for Sung Jin Nim than her own children, she cannot go over the hill of the indemnity course. If Sung Jin Nim's mother passes away and leaves a curse on the True Children and me, restoration could not be accomplished. You have been ignorant of these facts, but this is a historical formula. It is like a cancer in God's heart and my heart.

Knowing this, I have been working on this matter quietly this last forty years. That is why our first son and first daughter are in trouble, in a way. Some of you, instead of helping True Children to stay away from trouble, have supported their deeper involvement.

True Mother has paid a tremendous amount of suffering indemnity, because unless she offers more love for Sung Jin Nim than her own children, she cannot go over the hill of the indemnity course. If Sung Jin Nim's mother passes away and leaves a curse on the True Children and me, restoration could not be accomplished. You have been ignorant of these facts, but this is a historical formula. It is like a cancer in God's heart and my heart.

You must understand the foundation upon which I have appeared. You all have been born upon the foundation which I established. You did not appear from nothing. You have to realize this.

Right after World War II America had the opportunity to accept me, turn around, and be liberated from the problems of free sex and incest. However, because America failed to unite with me, it is going down the drain. It is like a living hell. I came and put on the brakes to this trend. To do so I even had to endure Danbury.

History is living with you. If you are sick, you have to be healed or you may die. Without knowing this formula, you have no way out.

I revealed this truth to the Japanese women who came to Korea, but this is the first time I am revealing these things in America. I revealed these truths to the Japanese women because Japan is in the position of Eve. In the position of Adam, I should

reveal this truth to Eve first. Korean women are in the position of elder sister and Japanese women are in the position of younger sister. American women are in the position of the third daughter. All this is for the purpose of indemnifying history.

My victory at the worldwide level automatically includes the family and national levels. Therefore, if I wish to share this victory with Adam at the family level and Jesus at the national level, Satan cannot oppose it. The goal of the Completed Testament era is the same as that of the Old and New Testament era.

Because of the proclamation of True Parents and the Completed Testament Age, all of the spirits in the spiritual world from Adam's time on are able to come down to the physical realm and work with us. Adam's family is like the fallen couple who married by themselves without concern for others. Jesus' time is like the couple who live together without being married but who produce children. At the time of the Lord of the Second Advent pure men and women can establish pure families.

RESTORING REPRESENTATIVE FAMILIES

In the Unification Church history I extended this vertical relationship from Adam down to the Second Advent to the horizontal level. At the blessing I gave different titles to certain couples as representatives of Adam's family, Noah's family and so on.

Today's World

To inherit my mission and victory, the second generation has to clean up the mess of this world and save humanity. The second generation has to go all over the world and plant True Parents' tradition.

Do you realize that during the two years since I declared True Parents and the Completed Testament Age, there have been more dramatic changes than during the previous forty years? The world has been totally changed. Even in America, those who opposed me have disappeared, because they are challenged by others who know my foundation.

I am sharing horizontally and vertically the glory and victory I have won on the worldwide level. Because of my distribution of the glory to the different levels, such as Adam's and Jesus' levels, all the ancestors who are related to those levels can work together. Satan's power cannot come against us now.

False marriage caused the problem at the beginning of human history. Now, centered upon True Parents' love, every one is being engrafted into the true lineage. Children automatically inherit their parents' property. Therefore, centering upon True Father all humankind has the opportunity to become true children and achieve perfection.

The crossing point where you can deal vertically with the spiritual world and horizontally with the physical world is where you connect with my victory. If you are centered upon True Parents with absolute faith, you can restore the love and blood lineage that were lost in the Garden of Eden. Once this is accomplished, this true lineage will last for eternity.

We held a holy wedding ceremony for 36,000 couples in 1992. Next year [1995] there will be 360,000 couples. If 3.6 million couples are blessed, would the world remain calm? (Laughing.) In the future, five billion people can be blessed within seven days, utilizing mass media.

You can now travel to every corner of the world in one day. You are not qualified to pass into the spiritual world unless you have the experience of living together with True Parents. Through highly advanced mass media, five billion people of the world can now discover what I am doing every moment of my life.

Do you know that I have a very substantial foundation in the media world? Once television channels compete to introduce Divine Principle through the mass media, it will take only forty days to educate the world's five billion people.

Four thousand years of history culminates with my presence here. This is the final evaluation of God's providence. We are all living in the same period, and all people are now brothers and sisters. I have been working to save all of humanity for forty years, and now I have won the worldwide victory. To inherit my mission and victory, the second generation has to clean up the mess of this world and save humanity. The second generation has to go all over the world and plant True Parents' tradition.

It is a miracle for you to be totally welcomed and accepted as True Parents' true children and establish the Kingdom of God on earth. If I tell all those American

members who have been following me to turn around and revert back to their old life, would you do it? If I tell the Japanese brothers and sisters to go back to Japan and return to their old lifestyle, would you do it? Because of this victorious forty-year course, restoring the world should be easy.

CAN YOU OUTDO ME?

I am returning to Korea tomorrow. Do not expect me to come back to America. I wish to see you after you become qualified by offering yourself to the underdeveloped countries of the world. Suppose the grandchild of a Rockefeller becomes our member and I tell him to sell his property and go help the starving people in Africa, would he do that? Can you take that kind of action? (Yes.) You American members are proud of being the best. Suppose you all sell something you own to buy a piece of land in South America or Africa; then you will become the savior of that particular land. Will you do that? (YES!)

I am almost eighty. Suppose I become sick and tired of this mission. Will you still do it? (YES!) Even if I am not around, you will do that, right? (YES!) When I went to South America recently, even those young members lagged behind me. Nobody could beat me in fishing. They were unable to endure hard work without eating. Of course, without sleep, no one is able to catch up with me.

Will you be beaten by me or will you outdo me? (Outdo you, Father.) Your voices have been recorded on tape. How wonderful it is that in your lifetime you have been working together with True Parents! That is my conclusion and blessing to you on this special Christmas Day. ■

[Edited for Today's World.]

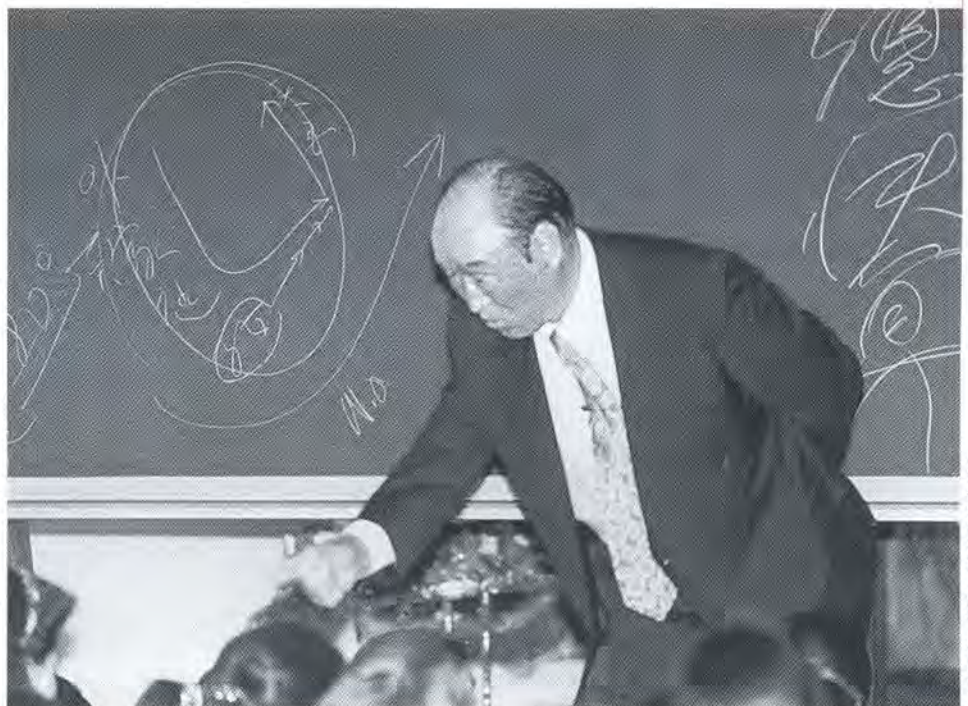


PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Do Not Lose Hope

Hyun Jin Moon

October 23, 1994

Belvedere International Training Center

Tarrytown, New York

WHAT should I speak about? What would you like to hear about the most? True Family? About True Parents and True Family? When representatives of my family come here, we represent not just ourselves but our whole family. That statement implies that being sons and daughters of True Parents, we are a reflection of them. As a reflection of True Parents, it is our five percent portion of responsibility to try to reflect their image in the best way possible.

Many times we try to simplify things and state that if you create a certain type of action, this type of effect will always happen. That is not necessarily the case with human beings, though, because people have free will. Regardless of the circumstances in which people live, they still have the capacity to choose. Why has it been so difficult, then, for people to do the right thing? Why is it so hard to follow God's will and purpose? The fall created a world which was completely opposite of God's ideal. Strong forces interacting in individual lives cause them to deviate from God's will. Furthermore, people generally choose the simpler path, the easy way, rather than the difficult way. Assuming that it is impossible to achieve the ideal, people surrender to circumstances.

Self-sacrifice

However, throughout history there have been extraordinary, noble people worthy of being emulated. They saw the reality

beyond their circumstances and were often called crazy. What message have they been echoing all throughout history? The root of the ideal stems not from the individual, but it embraces the whole.

That assumes a sacrificial viewpoint, because if you want to have a holistic concept, you cannot be self-centered. You have to take others into account. People such as Socrates, Moses, Mohammed, Jesus and Buddha made a tremendous impact on the world. Their impact transcended the time in which they

Something that is going to last for eternity always has to go through the deepest part of people and answer the most vital questions.

lived. Their hunger for truth and righteous living has connected them to people from generation to generation; people come back to what these individuals had to offer to find truth, greater understanding and insight.

God has been utilizing this very formula, because He understands the restoration providence very clearly. He realizes that things do not happen immediately. The seed that is sown will mature. Something that is going to last for eternity always has to go through the deepest part of people and answer the most vital questions.

Where to get your next meal, what kinds of clothes to wear, what kinds of social activities to engage in are not the deepest questions of life. Life's deepest questions include: What is the meaning of my life? Why am I here?

Throughout history, people have always tried to connect with some type of religion, because religion tries to answer those questions that gnaw at the individual. The original mind wants to grasp God's ideals and expectations. Heavenly Father and the good spirit world have always been trying to nurture human beings and to connect ultimately with key figures throughout history.

Is what we are experiencing right now any different from what the Christians experienced 2000 years ago? Do you feel that the opposition is totally overbearing? How about the Christians who were sent into the Coliseum as food for



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP



In Jin Nim and Jin Sung Nim pose, prior to Jin Sung Nim receiving his Ph.D. degree from Columbia University, on May 16, 1995.

everything in society is telling you to think about yourself. It is very difficult to live by your principles. However, if you understand that you are only living not for yourself but your actions will have great effects on many people, you cannot think about yourself, regardless of the difficulties.

When you look into the face of your children, you have a certain expectation of them. Do you think that they will necessarily become the way you want them to be? No, they will not. To responsibly stand in the position of a father or mother is to think about the well-being of one's children. You could apply this to all four levels of responsibility that an individual has. To stand in a position of a son and to say, "I am a true son," means, by definition, to be responsible to your parents. To say that you are a true brother means, by definition, to think about your other brothers and sisters before you think about yourself. To stand in the position of a husband means, by definition, to think about your wife. Such attitudes and actions give us the right to stand in those positions. That is how we obtain legitimacy, because legitimacy does not come with position alone but with actions. To be responsible means to do the right thing. You have to understand this fundamental fact if you want to become the kind of individual upon whom history can look back and say: "That is a great person."

When I was young, every time I saw movies or situations where someone sacrificed everything for a cause it touched me. One guy threw himself on a grenade to save his platoon buddies. A Korean wife cut her finger and gave the blood to save her husband. Such sacrifices speak to your original mind, and you cannot but be moved. Sacrifice is the essence of true love.

If you want to be a person of true love, you have to consider your parents, your brothers and sisters, your spouse, and your children. Each of them expects true love. Even a baby knows what love is. If your baby comes up to you and you get mad at him for no reason, how will the child grow up? Do you think that child feels love in that family? No. True love is based on self-sacrifice. Even a child can identify sacrifice as being a

the lions? However, when the Emperor Constantine made Christianity the central religion of Rome, the change seemed to happen overnight. Forty years earlier people were being persecuted, tortured and fed to the lions. Then suddenly, Christianity became the central religion of Rome. What did those individuals think 2000 years ago when they were going through persecution? When they felt the dagger on their necks or faced the lions in the pens, they were scared. Maybe they wondered if this was really the true faith, if it was really worth dying for. Even without knowing their names, we have respect for such people, don't we?

When people look back on the Unification Church, they might not know your specific names, but they will remember you for trying to follow the standards that Father has set, regardless of the difficulties. Will not your sacrifice, your dedication, your blood, sweat and tears, be motivation for them?

Responsibility

I stress the importance of responsibility because we are not living just for ourselves. To come to that kind of conclusion takes a very mature individual, because

Jin Sung Nim pauses for a moment with his sons, Shin Kwon Nim (left) and Shin Myung Nim (right).



demonstration of true love. Self-sacrifice is the key of true love, to totally surrender oneself to another.

Let's put self-sacrifice in the context of giving your life to save another individual. Do you think it is rational to give your life for another individual? A rational person will say, "Do not kill yourself." Although we try to understand things in a logical fashion, some essential things cannot be explained by logic alone. The intellect is only powerful enough to grasp things that we can tangibly understand. In very intricate, complicated circumstances, where you have a tremendous amount of data, the information has to be put into some tangible form. Therefore, people use calculus or statistical methods to make assumptions about the data. Intellect has its limits.

Do you need a Ph.D. to understand true love? No. Every person is inherently capable of understanding true love, because it touches your original mind. It speaks to all of us. Even our ancestors sought answers to questions about the meaning of life and the way to find true fulfillment.

I know that many times it is very easy to be caught up in day-to-day affairs and focus on being realistic. To be realistic means to offer someone a quick fix. You might be able to address a certain circumstance or situation, but others will emerge. The only thing that is consistent and eternal is true love, and true love emerges from self-sacrifice. That is why we are all moved by it.

Consistency and absoluteness

Father looks at this movement as one organic body, living for the sake of the world. He is mobilizing the whole movement to love the world. Jesus did the same thing with the early Christians. Is that a bad thing? It is great, because those disciples

Do you need a Ph.D. to understand true love? No. Every person is inherently capable of understanding true love, because it touches your original mind.

were essentially the cornerstone of Christianity. Yes, they went through difficulties. Yes, they faced hardships, but look what they endured and overcame to create the foundation upon which we stand here today!

If you truly want to be a member of this Unification Church family, you need to maintain a certain level of dedication and loyalty to what you are doing; you need to become consistent, absolute individuals, because love does not change from day to day. Once you say you love someone, the commitment is absolute. The very principles and standards by which we identify ourselves as Unification Church members have been built by True Parents; therefore, those standards and traditions have to be respected and maintained.

Look back in history. History will teach you many lessons. What happened to America when you started breaking down



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

all the traditions which were rooted in Christianity? Yes, certain things were wrong in society, but when you destroy the whole system confusion results. You have to maintain the tradition. That is why coming here for Sunday service is good. Tradition is that important.

Vertical standard

We study the Cain-Abel relationship, because it is a fundamental struggle that we have to resolve before we can establish a vertical tradition. The goal is not just the resolution of the Cain-Abel struggle, but the establishment of the vertical standard. We focus so much on the Cain-Abel struggle, because the restoration process has to work in reverse. Although the establishment of the horizontal foundation is not the most important, you have to achieve horizontal resolution before you can establish vertical resolution. The vertical tradition is the most important.

In fallen history, there is no consistency from generation to generation. The way you grew up in the 1960s is totally different from what kids in the 1980s are going through. Yes, the basic impulses are the same—you are very rebellious, you want to try new things—but the culture you create is different. Either the fashion changes or the times change; because of the fall there is no consistency. In contrast, the Principle viewpoint sees history as a continuous extension of God's expectation, will and purpose. There is no change from generation to generation. That is why we can say, "One world under God." That is why we can speak of the one family of humankind.

God's blueprint was evident in the three blessings. God told Adam and Eve to become fruitful as individuals. Being fruitful as individuals means being absolutely dedicated to Heavenly Father. You will have struggles internally, but you should not fall. When the first man and woman become fruitful, they receive the second blessing, multiplying children of goodness. The third blessing jumps to the end result, which is dominion over the earth. You cannot multiply children of goodness and immediately have dominion over the earth. The lineage of goodness expanding throughout history from generation to generation will have true dominion over the earth.

Restoration is not something that is immediate but a process

through time, because the restorative providence has to take into account not only the horizontal resolutions of conflict but also the vertical resolutions. That is why there are conflicts between parents and children. The horizontal resolution of the Cain/Abel struggle has to lead to a vertical resolution, the establishment of correct relationships between parents and children.

Living with constraints

With that note, I will talk about True Family. You have to have that as a basis to understand True Family. If you are not seeing things from that perspective, you will never understand True Family. You will only see True Family as many different individuals.

What is the meaning of True Family? Why is it so glorious? The victory of True Parents and the creation of True Family is the fulfillment of God's purpose here on earth. However, does that mean that we are now devoid of any responsibility, that we can freely do whatever we want? No. If we freely do whatever we want, that means we lack responsibility. Even in the Garden of Eden there was a condition of responsibility. The fundamental principle of nature is that if you go out and shoot every single elephant in the world, there will be no more elephants. You are not going to bring them back by voodoo or chanting.

There are constraints in our lives which allow us to obtain a level of maturity and become responsible individuals. These constraints include fulfilling the rightful positions of son, brother, husband, and father. In everything that we do there is a certain constraint that we have to acknowledge and live by.

Mature people throughout history have recognized this fact and tried to live in accordance to certain guiding principles. Every culture has a notion of what it means to be a patriot and what it means to be a great person, a sacrificial individual. In Korea, Japan, America, Europe, everywhere, there is always an understanding of what a patriot, a great parent, and a great individual. We have to realize that there are always constraints in our lives. However, these constraints are not bad; they teach us to be responsible and to recognize our connections to others beyond ourselves. That in itself is a powerful revelation. That means we have meaning beyond our own individual

existence. One's value is not determined just by one's self but it is recognized by others, whether consciously or not.

What does it feel like to be loved? What does it feel like not to be loved? Many times I heard from friends at school: "I am not loved by my parents. Society does not care about me. The government doesn't care about me. Nobody cares about me." Without recognizing the fundamental truths which give our lives meaning and value, people feel worthless. Why are there so many teenage suicides? The feeling of worthlessness permeates fallen society, because people have not realized what it means to be responsible, because people have not realized that their lives are connected with others.

Having a clear viewpoint

You have to know True Family's standard of looking at things. No artist is born with the ability to see three dimensions and convey them on a flat surface. You have to cultivate that perception. You have to learn how to utilize this flat plane. You have to see the fundamental nuances. In other words, the perception that you already have is being molded so it has more clarity, more form.

Something that is going to last for eternity always has to go through the deepest part of people and answer the most vital questions.

In the same way, when we look at Principle, we have to see it with some level of clarity and form, not in its ambiguities. We do that by obtaining the right perception. The responsibility of True Family is to educate members about viewing life from a parental standard. The responsibility of the elder brother is to give the younger brothers insight into the parents' viewpoints and standards. It is our responsibility to establish the right type of perception. Some of you are twice as old as me. Some of you may think, "Why should these young people be in the position to educate us about how we should look at things? I have a Ph.D. I have been doing church work for so long." However, you have to understand how Heavenly Father initially planned everything, the mechanics of creating the ideal family.

The Bible implies the centrality of the position of True Parents by showing the centrality of Adam and Eve's failure, which produced the type of environment in which we live today. Why did the first human ancestors play such a central role in God's plan? If they had lived up to God's expectation and fulfilled their responsibility, they would have cultivated a true-love relationship. They would have fulfilled not only their individual responsibilities but their responsibilities to each other. Their children could also have become responsible parents.

Children learn from the actions of their parents. They are empty vessels receiving every nuance of education from their parents. If the parents establish a true-love relationship, the children will also learn to cultivate that under-



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

standing of true love. If those central figures, Adam and Eve, had established true parenthood, the mechanics of creating the ideal world would have been in place.

In restorational history, the mechanics are very similar to those of creation. True Parents have raised us to see things in a certain way, and this is the way that you should see things as well. I am talking about perception, because to be in the same family means to look at things in the same way.

Maintaining faith and tradition

My central message is do not lose hope. You have to maintain faith. You will not always be able to answer questions through intellect alone. There is something in the depths of people, where true love dwells, that makes people noble and prompts them to live a sacrificial life. Although people might not recognize this fact now, history will vindicate your efforts. Become forward-thinking people. You have to see the future, not the present. You have to live for the future, not the present.

There is something in the depths of people, where true love dwells, that makes people noble and prompts them to live a sacrificial life.

With the World Culture and Sports Festival next year and the Blessing of 360,000 Couples, you have to understand your responsibility as a blessed couple. You have to maintain tradition. If you do not follow the traditions and mandates that Father has set, your children will not follow you when they grow up. Children learn from their parents.

I have been hearing many unfortunate things as I snoop around in our movement. Such things happen because you have surrendered to the voice of reason. You have not said, "So what if it does not seem logical? If this is what is asked of me, I shall do it." By surrendering to reason, you have created the holes in the dikes that can lead to a flood. That is no good. We are not here to destroy what our parents have built. We

are here to glorify it and show its true potential.

Remember one thing: you first have to be a true son and a true daughter before you can stand as true brother and true sister, true husband and true wife, or true father and true mother. To stand as blessed parents you have to fulfill the obligations of a true child, a true brother or sister, and a true spouse; otherwise, you do not know the meaning of the blessing.

Everything is connected. To talk about True Family is to talk about blessed couples and True Parents. To talk about True Parents is to talk about True Family and blessed couples. Everything is connected. We are living separate lives, and although we might not see each other every Sunday, the connection is there.

To say, "I am a Unification Church member," has meaning. Although we might not know the names and faces of the early Christians, we understand their deeds and their sacrifice. All those who partook of that sacrifice are recognized as great, historical individuals. Likewise, those of you who partake of this endeavor—building the foundation for the Kingdom of Heaven on earth—and live righteously in accordance to the expectation of True Parents will win the respect of those who come after you. Therefore, the responsibility on your shoulders is great.

Inspiring Father and True Family

I know that you all are working diligently to bring people to the 360,000 Couples' Blessing. Right? How come I only hear one voice answering yes? I hear just a small yes. Is that the kind of strength and determination that I want to see? How come I cannot see it? You have to inspire True Parents and True Family sometimes; it should not always be True Parents and True Family inspiring you. There has to be a give and take relationship. The original mind always wants to go to people who are living exemplary, model lives. Even if I do not know the person's name, if I see that kind of dedication, my attention goes there. The original mind naturally naturally connects with that.

Become the kind of people who will inspire Father the next time he comes here. Father looks not just for your answer but for the deep level of faith and determination in your eyes. Regardless of what type of obstacle comes your way, you should



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP



unflinchingly follow that course. How secure True Parents would feel looking into that type of face! They would feel that such a person has the iron, unchanging, unwavering determination and dedication to make things happen. AMEN? (Amen.) Don't you want to become that type of individual? (Yes.)

Do you want to become somebody who changes with the wind, who lets circumstances push you this way and that, who tries to avoid responsibility? Or are you the kind of person who will not move regardless of the circumstances? Regardless of what obstacle lies in front of you, will you plow through it?

Has Father ever shrunk away in fear? Never. Even in the rotten depths of the North Korean concentration camp, he unflinchingly kept going. That's the type of people you have to become. That is the kind of nobility about which I am talking. That gives us a glimpse of what it means to be divine and what it means to be truly human.

Do not be one of those individuals who surrender and suffer a lifetime of regret. Be someone who accomplishes things regardless of the type of obstacles in your path. That is the type of individual you want to become. That is the type of man and woman you want to become. That is the type of father and mother that your children want to see, and that is the type of individuals that your children also want to become.

Your responsibility is great. Do not ever forget this. There is a noble cause for which we are living. Do not trivialize it. Our efforts are the greatest endeavor in human history. Do not forget this. Regardless of the circumstances in which we live, spirit world is lauding our cause, and all future generations will understand the sacrifices that are made today. Live up to their expectations. If you do not surrender, things will happen. Believe me, things will happen. They are already happening.

Insight into the Korean War

Let me tell you something that really inspired me. It is a true testimony about the way Heavenly Father obtains victory in this fallen, ugly world. I have been studying the Korean War, trying to understand that conflict in more depth. It is amazing what modern scholars who are at the cutting edge of historical research are coming up with. We were led to believe that the Korean War started because of a struggle between the Soviet Union and the United States. However, what modern scholars

are uncovering is that a struggle which existed within Korea itself expanded on the international level to bring the Soviet Union and the US into conflict. This shows how central that nation was in 1945. The world was focused on that nation, and American policy, especially during the Korean War, was molded by that specific conflict.

Modern scholars, whether they realize it or not, are starting to interpret that conflict from the providential viewpoint, the way Father has been explaining it for the last twenty years. History defines our understanding of certain events. If the academics on the cutting edge of historical interpretation are moving toward that direction, then this view will become grounded as a fact. This will be a part of the understanding of generations to come. That is why just on that small scale things will happen.

Look at the struggle between North and South Korea over the last forty years.

Right now North Korea is the center of world concern. That small, unknown country is the center of world concern. When Father said that North and South Korea represent the last conflict between Cain and Abel on the worldwide level, suddenly world attention focuses on the peninsula of Korea. Amazing! Kim Il Sung, the sworn enemy to True Parents who sent a hit squad to assassinate Father, actually embraced True Parents and said to his son, "Follow Rev. Moon." When it came to securing the future for North Korea, the only person he could trust is Father.

Mark my words, something deeper is stirring in the hearts of men, even fallen men. Even though they do not want to

There is a noble cause for which we are living. Do not trivialize it. Our efforts are the greatest endeavor in human history.

acknowledge Father's importance for America, Europe or Asia, deep inside their heart of hearts, when worst comes to worst, the only one they can turn to is Father. Amen. That is the victory that we are talking about. That will bring about change.

Look at Jerry Falwell and the religious conservatives right now. You know that Jerry Falwell went to Kodiak to meet Father. When Father went down to the *Washington Times*, Jerry Falwell flew in just to meet Father. He has 14 million constituents here in America. Many great things are happening. You might not be aware of it, but many great things are happening and more things will happen.

Do not forget responsibility. Do not forget the determination to maintain the tradition, regardless of how difficult circumstances might be. Be a rock of Gibraltar, standing firm regardless of the circumstances. Always follow the straight and narrow way. It is easier to surrender. Do not ever surrender. [To one brother:] Are you ever going to surrender? (NO.) No way. I will never let you surrender. ■■

Sisters for World Peace

Following the ceremony, the sisters attend a reception, spending time learning about each other's lives. Then they are invited to re-enter the ballroom for the evening's entertainment and banquet. A special treat is a special selection of dances performed by students of the Kirov Academy of Ballet. Directed by Oleg Vinogradov, the exceptional young dancers from around the world capture the hearts of everyone.

The evening concludes with the dynamic performance of singer and actress Shirley Jones, who seems to get into the spirit of the conference immediately, and carries the audience to an all-time high as she leads the whole audience in "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

Although the ceremony is the heart of this part of the conference, there is another part of the conference which can in no way be overlooked. This is the role of the keynote speaker for each conference.

The conferences began with Dr. William Bennett, former secretary of education and author of *The Book of Virtues*, delivering the keynote speech. Obviously a man who believes in family values, he expressed much concern about America's increasing number of out-of-wedlock births, talked about his wife's work with "Best Friends," a mentoring program for teenage girls. He stated that the federal government cannot perform the father role for America's children, saying, "only men and women can raise children." He expressed the need for men to take more responsibility with their sons, so that the men of the next generation can learn to be fathers.

The keynote speaker for the second conference was Barbara Walters, a co-host of ABC's newsmagazine "20/20," and a woman who has interviewed heads of state and celebrities for many years. Her speech, which was entertaining and informative, focused on leadership. She listed the three things she saw leaders as having in common: (1) a belief in themselves and in a high-power beyond

themselves; (2) the ability to communicate; (3) they have compassion.

She elaborated on the third point by saying that in an interview with Norman Schwarzkopf, he stated, "men who cannot cry scare me." She also talked of the need for politicians to find value after leaving office and the painful transition to private life that must be made.

Every speaker and performer throughout the conferences has been deeply moved by the spirit of the conferences, always leaving with a feeling that they, too, have become brothers or sisters of peace.

The more I work with it, the more deeply I realize that every facet of this program has deep spiritual significance. As we see our True Parents moving to broader and broader circles, we realize that their sphere of influence reaches far beyond our small concepts.

The women from Japan have come here at great cost and effort, traveling great distances, spending long hours in meetings and seeking to understand this country. One participant from Kobe had suffered the loss of her home in the earthquake. In the rubble, she found her luggage and passport and came to the conference—such was her determination to participate.

It is my hope that many American women can experience this deeply moving ceremony and participate in this magnificent step toward world peace and the restoration of heart.

Many of us are still a bit dazed by

our experience at the "Sisters of Peace" ceremonies in Washington, DC. It makes me think that what we do often makes a more powerful impact on us than what we say or hear. This may be a lesson in making plans for future activities. Whether we are addressing world peace, world hunger, health issues, poverty or the problems of youth and the family, we do well to not only talk about the problems, but to find ways to do something, however small.

As we see our True Parents moving to broader and broader circles, we realize that their sphere of influence reaches far beyond our small concepts.

I often think of the power of ceremonies when I remember the awe with which children approach family or religious rituals. Youth and adults often find new power to make and keep commitments through ceremonies. I believe that the "Sisters of Peace" ceremony, beyond giving us Japanese sisters, gave us an unforgettable peacemaking experience. We will be continuing the conferences once a month throughout the year. Do keep your friends informed.

A beautiful thirty-minute video, entitled "Bridge to Peace," commemorating the "Sisters in Peace" ceremony is available. For your copy, please send \$15.00 (which includes postage and handling) to

WFWP
4 West 43rd Street
New York, NY 10036 ■■



Dancers from the Kirov Academy perform at the Sisterhood Ceremony entertainment.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Another Grandmother

Debby Gullery



PHOTO: COURTESY OF DEBBY GULLERY

To my "sister" and me, it was a wonderful example of God's love and healing power.

As I stood along with 500 other American women, applauding the entrance of the Japanese delegates, an older Japanese woman walked by me wearing a gold lamé dress. It caught my eye because it was just the kind of dress my six-year-old daughter would love for me to wear. A few moments later, this same woman backtracked and ended up standing—you guessed it—next to me. We looked at each other, shyly and with some excitement, and then I heard a voice saying clearly, "Your children need another grandmother."

At that moment, my heart stood still. My own mother had passed away less than a year ago, so this message moved me to the depth of my soul,

and I realized how personal God's love is. I desperately wanted to communicate with this woman next to me, but we had

My children needed a grandma and I needed a mom—Shigeko wanted grandchildren and I was a long-wished for daughter!

to wait to find a translator, as neither of us spoke the same language. Once the reception began, I quickly found a translator and explained that I needed to share something very deep with Shigeko. Part

of me was afraid to share such a deep, personal experience, not knowing if Shigeko could understand my heart; but I also felt that I would explode unless I did share it.

So I said a silent prayer and began to tell the translator my experience, tears rolling down my cheeks. While the translator was explaining to Shigeko, she too

Shigeko and I became more than sisters: we were mother and daughter. Needless to say, she completely understood my heart, and I hers.

began to cry, and our translator told me that Shigeko had two grown sons (and no grandchildren yet!) and that she had always wanted a daughter. My children needed a grandma and I needed a mom—Shigeko wanted grandchildren and I was a long-wished for daughter! We each had a longing, and Heavenly Father had responded to our hearts through the sisterhood ceremony

Therefore, Shigeko and I became more than sisters: we were mother and daughter. Needless to say, she completely understood my heart, and I hers. After that, we hardly needed a translator. We hugged, cried and smiled until our cheeks hurt and continued to share heart to heart! ■■

Debby Gullery is regional chairwoman of the New York Women's Federation for World Peace. She and her husband, Jonathan, participated in the 2075 Couples' Blessing in 1982. They have three children. Debby recently published a book of daily meditations entitled Wisdom, Insight & Counsel, available through HSA Publications, 4 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036.

EVERY woman who attended one of the International Friendship Conferences held in Washington, DC and sponsored by the WFWP can surely testify to the presence of the Holy Spirit, especially with regards to the actual sisterhood ceremony, in which American and Japanese women were matched together as "sisters." As the Japanese women filed into the ballroom, it might have appeared to an observer that the seating arrangements were random and that it was all chance and accident as to who sat where and with whom. But those of us who were there we know that there was something else at work bringing these international "sisters" together. There are so many stories of remarkable "matches made in heaven." Mine is just one, and not necessarily extraordinary.

To Ease the Tears of War

Nora M. Spurgin

I WANT to bring my warmest greetings to each of you—women of Japan and America. We would especially like to welcome to America the ladies from Japan who have made a very long trip and much effort to come to America and share this afternoon's ceremony with us. I would also like to welcome the American women who have come from all over this large country to participate in this special peace ceremony.

Within the last month, our hearts have

turned to Japan, specifically Kobe. As Americans, we were deeply touched by the devastation of the earthquake. We wish to express our concern and send our prayers in this time of need.

I would like to share a little story with you. Eighty years ago, 2,000 cherry blossom trees (*sakura*) were sent to Washington, DC from Japan as a gesture of friendship and openness. In 1938, some trees had to be dug up for the building of the Jefferson Memorial. These trees were so prized that a group of American women brought chains to chain themselves to the trees in order to keep them from being dug up. Today over 8,000 trees bloom every spring. People come from all over the world to attend the Cherry Blossom Festival celebrating this gesture of friendship between our countries. When we see the beauty of these trees, our minds always turn



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

to the beauty and graciousness of the people of Japan.

If you look around you, you will see sisters who form a rainbow of colors. America is often called a "melting pot," meaning that people from all nations and races melt together to create a human family which lives and works together as one nation. In being welcomed by America, you are welcomed by the world.

Along with gestures of friendship, our countries have also had a history of

Sisters In a Global Family

Motoko Sugiyama

RESPECTED guests, ladies and gentlemen, we Japanese women are very honored and happy to attend this special event to start a new era of peace and cooperation between Japan and the US. It is a great pleasure for all of us to visit Washington DC. As you know, this tour is designed not only to view the sites of your beautiful capital, but also to help cement a "sisterhood" relationship with the women of America. This, we hope, will strengthen the ties between our two nations.

In the past half century, Japan has risen from the ruins of World War II to achieve its current position as an economic giant

by accepting the miracle of restoration and development.

Obviously, this achievement was possible because of the generous and friendly support from the US. It was based on democratic ideals of the post-war period. Throughout this period, the US has played an important role in every aspect of international leadership.

Today most serious problems facing the world stem from a confusion of morality and ethics. Individuals and families who are damaged by this confusion inevitably lead their nations astray.

We understand that teenage pregnancy, single motherhood and out-of-wedlock children have reached epidemic proportions in the United States. We see the same trend beginning in Japan and other nations as well.

In such a serious situation, you are creating a totally new trend in America called, "purity is stylish." Purity can and should be stylish. It is certainly good news for the world that the American people are rediscovering the value of family, the sanctity of marriage and the value of remaining pure before marriage.

I strongly believe that America has a great mission, which is to help lead an ethical renaissance in today's world. Why? Behind the prosperity America achieved in just over 200 years lies the Christian and democratic spirit of the founding fathers, who were driven to the New World by their desire to worship God.

We hope that by meeting with you American women leaders, who are creating the current of the times, we will also be enlightened and empowered to face difficulties back in Japan.

The world grows smaller geographically, but for humanity to live like a family, transcending race, language and culture, it needs a system of universal ethical values.

Facing the 21st century, many people call this the time of the global family. The world grows smaller geographically, but for humanity to live like a family, transcending race, language and culture, it needs a system of universal ethical values.

The Women's Federation for World Peace believes ethics should be centered on what we call "Godism," a common

hostilities. Sometimes this continues in the heart, arising anew in competition in the business world. Certainly fifty years ago, the wounds of war were fresh in the hearts of each of our two nations. No surrender, no peace treaty, no agreement can ever completely heal those scars. Such healing can be realized only through heart-to-heart relationships—the human factor. Today we stand as friends pledging our unity and commitment to foster greater peace on our planet.

On behalf of my own country, America, I pray that in becoming sisters, we may help erase the bitter tears and memories of the awfulness of the war. As we take each others' hands, we can feel that we are comforting the weeping mother, the dying child, the young widow, the wounded soldier, and the families which were separated.

I hope that, through this ceremony, each of you will meet a sister who can be your channel for love to flow in healing, thus freeing our hearts of any barriers which may have stood in our hearts. I offer my heartfelt regrets for the historical pain which was experienced by the people of both our countries.

It is often women who become the harmonizers, the adhesive that binds lives together in wholeness. It is also often the women who reach out to their God to find vision and strength to help each other build a better world for the next generation.

Our world is changing rapidly. Women

Governments today would do well to call upon the feminine principles of caring and compassion to touch people in need. We believe that laws alone will never end violence, but love and compassion will.

have the opportunity to make a great impact on world events and help shape the future. As women we add a more gentle touch of healing to a world that is often hardened by competition, greed and war.

The founder of WFWP has a vision that women in the 21st century will hold a central role in leading humankind into love, forgiveness, harmony, and cooper-

ation. She believes that governments today would do well to call upon the feminine principles of caring and compassion to touch people in need. We believe that laws alone will never end violence, but love and compassion will.

We look forward to the new millennium, as an opportunity for a new beginning. It is exciting to be living at such a significant time. The turn of a millennium comes around only once in a thousand years. I might venture to say that none of us will see another. This is the age for women to participate in making strategies for world peace.

Eighty years ago, it was cherry blossom trees. Today, you have come from Japan to Washington, DC in a similar gesture of friendship. May we, like the lovely *sakura*, expand our friendships, and become a leading force for world peace. We, as women, East and West, take on the role of "ambassadors of peace" for this new era. Thank you very much. ■■

tial family with one invisible parent."

We believe individuals should make their own consciences straight so that they can become husbands and wives capable of creating a good family, society, nation and world.

From such a perspective, it is clear that women play a huge role in building a family, which, in turn, is the foundation for world peace. It is us women who should lead the world to peace by having a true ethic and a clear vision of the future.

As the scripture says, "Exchange sword with plow and never learn about fighting." Let us cooperate hand in hand to

build an everlasting peace. The women of the US and Japan are uniquely poised to provide leadership in today's world.

Through this sisterhood relationship,

It is us women who should lead the world to peace by having a true ethic and a clear vision of the future.

let us work together to reach out to the global family with a broad vision.

I pray for God's blessing on each of you and your family. Thank you very much for your kind attention. ■■

Mrs. Motoko Sugiyama is the president of WFWP-Japan.



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

ideal for humanity. As historian Arnold Toynbee mentioned, "To realize the final peace of the world, there is no way but to know that mankind forms a substan-

THE experience of my Japanese sister, Shizuko Onaka, stands out vividly in my mind. At one point during the war, when the Japanese were forced to retreat from the Philippines, Shizuko's family left by boat along with many other families and headed for Okinawa. There was so little space that anything considered non-essential was thrown overboard into the water below. The "non-essentials" included babies. As a baby herself, Shizuko survived only because she was hidden under her mother's clothing during the entire trip. There are no words to express the depth of my feelings in becoming Shizuko's "Sister of Peace." ■■

—Janet M. Robbins

God Is Working, Even Beyond Our Own Efforts...

Lynn Mathers

ONE of the peak experiences of the entire series of International Women's Friendship Conferences (IFWC) had to be the conference in which entertainer Jennifer Holliday participated in a remarkable way. Indeed, it was hard for any of the entertainers to not be touched by the spirit of what the conferences were accomplishing. However, an unexpected opportunity was able to profoundly affect the lives of Ms. Holliday, a very special young Japanese woman, and the more than 1,000 participants, staff and even stage crew, who took part in and witnessed that sisterhood ceremony.

Jennifer Holliday was scheduled to be the featured evening performer for several of the conferences. After her initial appearance, she happened to receive a letter from a devoted fan of hers in Japan. Hiromi Okazaki had earlier won an essay contest in Japan, sponsored by a fast-food chain, in which contestants wrote essays about Jennifer Holliday. Hiromi had admired Ms. Holliday for several years, striving to emulate her powerful style in developing her own singing talent. The first prize in this contest was a trip to America, and one of the stipulations was that the trip had to be taken by March 1995. Hiromi's letter begged Ms. Holliday to consider meeting with her while she was in America, if only for ten minutes, and to possibly let her attend a performance. Her ultimate dream would be fulfilled if she could have a voice lesson from her.

Arrangements were made

It occurred to Ms. Holliday that since Hiromi was from Japan, and she was going to come to America in March, maybe her trip could coincide with one of the IWFCs, and the two of them could cross the bridge as sisters. She proposed the idea to the staff, and it was approved.

The background to the story was announced to the audience early in the day of the sisterhood ceremony. Though this meeting was eagerly anticipated, absolutely no one was prepared for the

powerful emotion which swept through the ballroom that day. Ms. Holliday and Hiromi were the last sister-pair to cross the bridge. Helped to the stage because she is blind, Hiromi fell into the welcoming arms of her singing idol amid tears of incredible joy, which quickly spread throughout the entire ballroom. The loving embrace lasted quite a long time, and no one seemed to want it to end! When the ceremony did continue, the audience

was delighted to hear that Hiromi would sing with Ms. Holliday at the entertainment later that evening.

The performance

During her performance, Ms. Holliday shared some of her heart concerning this special meeting, and explained that, more than the ten minutes Hiromi had asked for, they were able to spend large parts

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Each group of Japanese women visited the Lincoln Memorial on their sightseeing tour of Washington, DC.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Japanese and Americans Meet to Heal War's Wounds

Women Bridge Differences on Path to Peace

Cheryl Wetzstein

HALF a century ago, Japan and America were locked in a bitter war. But this past week, in a symbol of friendship and forgiveness for past wounds, former First Lady Barbara Bush and Motoko Sugiyama, the leader of an international women's group, embraced.

The women, both of those whose lives were deeply affected by World War II, were among hundreds of Japanese and American women to walk ceremoniously across a white bridge, set amid cherry blossoms, on stage at a Washington hotel during the past several weeks. At the center of the bridge each American participant meets a Japanese participant in what is hoped to be the beginning of a personal friendship that will serve as a bridge between the two nations.

Miming to the cheering audience, Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Sugiyama descended a set of stairs hand in hand, dramatically illustrating how far each nation has come in fifty years.

"We are sisters now," said Mrs. Bush. Mrs. Bush's wedding day was delayed when her fiancé, Navy pilot George Bush, was shot down in the Pacific in 1944.

"We must work together to reach out to the global family," said Mrs. Sugiyama, president of the Japanese chapter of the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP). Like many of the Japanese delegates in the audience, Mrs. Sugiyama had relatives who fought and died in the war.

Keynote speakers

Former President and Mrs. Bush were keynote speakers at two recent International Women's Friendship Conferences (IFWC), sponsored by the WFWP with support from the *Washington Times* Foundation.

The friendship conferences, which began January 25, and continue through March 8, are being held in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of World War II. In addition to the Bushes, former UN Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick,

former Secretary of Education William Bennett and ABC-TV "20-20" host Barbara Walters have addressed the conferences.

Sisterhood ceremonies

Every week 500 Japanese women and 500 American women have gathered in a Washington hotel to exchange gifts, addresses and pledges to act as "peacemakers" and "harmonizers" in their countries.

The women are paired as "sisters" through random seating arrangements. Dozens of translators roam the aisles to aid conversations, which are otherwise conducted with sign language and pantomime.

"Women today have an opportunity to make a great impact on the world," said Nora Spurgin, president of the American arm of the WFWP. "As women, we have a more gentle touch, and we can give a sense of healing to a world that is often hardened by competition, greed and war," Mrs. Spurgin said.

"Peace comes about through heart-to-heart relationships. If women can be sisters, then our men can never fight a war."

The Washington conferences are the second series of sister-to-sister friendship conferences sponsored by WFWP, which was founded in 1992 by Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Last year, to heal relations between Japan and Korea, the group brought together 160,000 pairs of women from those countries.

The Washington conferences feature performances by members of the Kirov Academy of Ballet of Washington and singers such as Shirley Jones, Phylcia Rashad and Jennifer Holiday.

The sisterhood ceremony, in which representatives of the two countries meet on a bridge surrounded by blooming cherry trees and the poignant strains of

Oriental music, evoked tears from many participants.

"This has been so wonderful. I really love meeting her," the Rev. Doris Wilson, a church pastor from Marion, Alabama, said of her new friend, Sumiko Enseki of Tokyo.

"Two years ago, I had a vision of all

She was touched by the Americans, who she found lived up to their reputation for being "open-minded" and "frank," and the outpouring of concern for the victims of the Kobe earthquake.

women coming together all over, and now it's happening," said the Rev. Babs Phillips, associate pastor of Turner Chapel AME Church in Marietta, Georgia.

Yoshiko Ueda, Ms. Phillips' Japanese sister, said she was touched by the Americans, who she found lived up to their reputation for being "open-minded" and "frank," and the outpouring of concern for the victims of the Kobe earthquake. "Many speakers spoke of their sorriestness that this happened," she said.

Jean Smith Henschel of Fairfax said her new sister, Mayumi Funakoshi, had been in the Kobe earthquake. "Out of ten houses in the neighborhood, hers was the only one left standing," Mrs. Henschel said.

The fiftieth anniversary of the end of World War II was not far from the thoughts of Corinne Delaney of Kensington, who was paired with Dr. Atsuko Tsujiguchi, whose husband is the governor of the Ishikawa prefecture.

"In 1994, our family moved to Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where the atomic bomb was developed," Mrs. Delaney said. "My father was one of the 75,000 people em-

ployed there.... I often think about those days." Befriending Dr. Tsujiguchi "brings it full circle," she said.

Affection and respect for Japan

In their keynote addresses, the Bushes spoke of their affection and respect for Japan. To the delight of the Japanese guests, Mrs. Bush gave a detailed account of the infamous dinner in which the president became ill at the table of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

"Just roll me under the table and go on with the dinner," she quoted Mr. Bush as saying, while he listened on stage with a bemused "here we go again" look.

Such moments had deepened the personal relations, and when the earthquake struck Kobe, "it was like [it was happening] to members of our family," Mrs. Bush said.

Mr. Bush recalled how he was criticized for his decision to attend the 1989 funeral of Japanese Emperor Hirohito.

"Some veteran groups said no, [the president] should not go to the funeral" because the wounds were fresh, Mr. Bush said. "But I felt, 'No, I must go. I want to salute the future, not agonize over the past.' I felt that because I was a veteran, I had the credentials to go."

Attending the funeral was "the right thing to do, and I have never regretted it," he said, as several Japanese women, listening to translators through headphones, wept quietly.

Another keynote speaker, William Bennett, told the gathering that despite massive government spending, the rate of out-of-wedlock births is growing dangerously high—with the possibility that half of American children will be born outside marriage early in the 21st century.

He noted, to applause, that Japan, with its minuscule out-of-wedlock birthrate, has not followed America's pattern. His prescription for the US problem is for government to move aside and let other institutions help rebuild families and strengthen society. "The family is the first, best and original Department of Health, Education and Welfare," Mr. Bennett said.

In yet another keynote speech, Barbara Walters recounted some of her more famous interviews, including the one with Nobel Peace Prize winners Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Miss Walters encouraged the women to remember that they can play a pivotal role in fostering peace.

"There is so much to share, instinctively, by the very nature of our lives," she said. "There's so much we can offer." ■■

Cheryl Wetzstein is a reporter for the Washington Times. She and her husband, Doug, participated in the 2075 Couples' Blessing in 1982.

Holding the Magic Key of Peace

Lisa Lay

KON-ICHI-WA! Wa-ta-shi-wa American no shim-ai desu! Domo ari-ga-to Go-zaimasu! Loosely translated (very loosely!) that means, "Hello! I am your American sister! Thank you for coming!"

Beginning in January and winding up in March, the American chapter of the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) hosted over 8,000 Japanese professional women in Washington, DC in what was called the International Women's Friendship Conference (IWFC).

The conferences were a huge success, not only in terms of the numbers of participants, but also in the enthusiastic response and testimonies of those who went. "It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life," marveled one woman. "I really feel we have found a magic key to unlock the elusive secret of world peace."

The American delegation, which came to meet its Japanese counterpart on the fourth day of each week-long conference, consisted of influential women from all over the country, and hailed from as far away as Texas, California and Alaska. On this special fourth day, each Japanese delegate was matched with an American "sister" with whom she could exchange personal information and conversation.

The conferences were held in several large, elegant hotels, including the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, and the Washington Sheraton Hotel in the heart of DC. Most of the day's activities were conducted in huge ballrooms beautifully decorated for the occasion. As a symbol of unity and sisterhood, the logo for the event was a rose intertwined with a cherry blossom, symbolizing the peaceful unity of Japanese and American women. This beautiful symbol was reflected in the design of the stage, as well as in the gift each delegate exchanged with

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God Is Working ...

of about four days together. As for the singing lesson, Ms. Holliday said that upon hearing Hiromi sing, she responded, "Girl, you don't need singing lessons from anyone! You've got it! You just sing your heart out!" and gave her the stage. Hiromi chose the song, "Climb Every Mountain," which perfectly epitomized her own struggle to overcome the many obstacles that could have prevented her from achieving her ultimate dream.

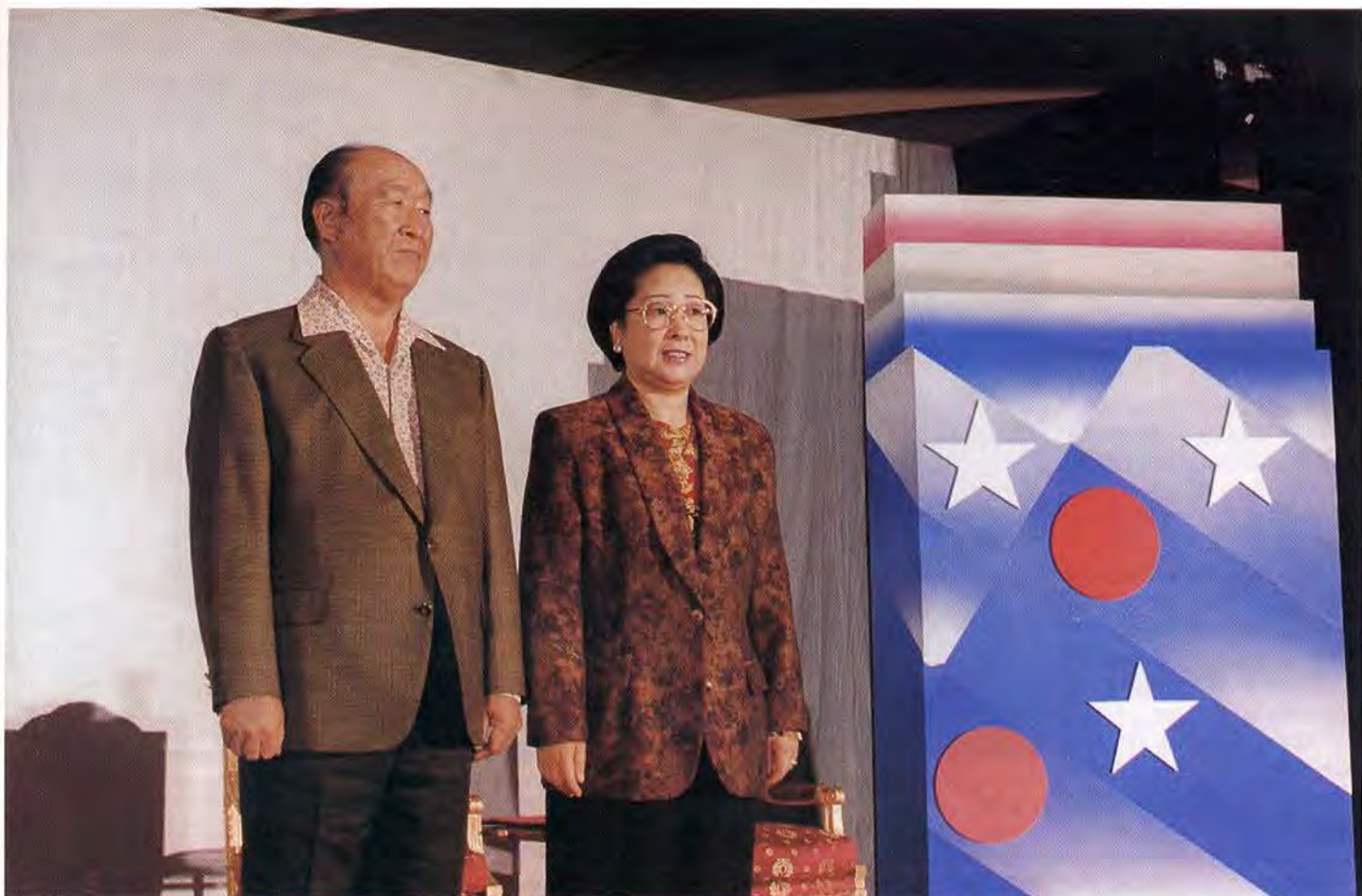
Hiromi's performance brought the enthusiastic audience to their feet amid thunderous applause. Her singing voice every bit as powerful as Ms. Holliday's, Hiromi clearly showed tremendous promise. I think everyone in the audience felt they might have just witnessed the debut performance of a rising international singer. Certainly the audience of over 1,000 people, half from her native Japan and half from America, could see she was on her way.

The crowning moment

The crowning moment came, however, at the finale of Ms. Holliday's set. She invited Hiromi to come up and sing, together with her, the song made famous by the Judds, "Love Can Build a Bridge." It was quite amazing how this song seemed to embody the founding ideal behind this "Bridge Ceremony" event. The performers and audience were totally united in the spirit of love and joy, singing the refrain together, "Love can build a bridge—don't you think it's time? Don't you think it's time?"

It was an experience those present can never forget; and one which showed us all that even beyond our own plans, God is working behind the scenes to bring people together in amazing ways. ■■

Mrs. Lynn Mathers is national secretary for the Women's Federation for World Peace. She and her husband, Daniel, participated in the 2075 Couples' Blessing in 1982. They have one son, Danyln.



Father and Mother greet the women attending the International Women's Friendship Conferences.

her new "sister."

After a sumptuous lunch, the program began officially. Logistically, it was difficult to match exact numbers of Japanese women (who had traveled half-way around the world to attend) with Americans. Although reserving a place for the day was required, there was some degree of sweating on the part of the staff up until the final moments of each conference when the American women found their seats and the Japanese women filed in to take their places by their sides. But it was done, and the matches made seemingly at random were later felt to have been made in heaven!

The same dress

"I noticed that my Japanese sister had on a very unusual dress," said one participant. "We hit it off so incredibly well that I knew I wanted to come to another conference. As I sat at the next conference, waiting for my second Japanese sister, I

couldn't help but notice she was wearing the same dress! It was the daughter of my first sister! Who could have planned such a coincidence but God? We plan to write to each other and visit, if possible, in the future."

After the delegates had taken their seats and chatted with their new partner, Mrs. Josette Shiner, managing editor of the *Washington Times*, opened the program

The famous cherry blossoms, which bloom each spring around the city of Washington, testify to the friendship of our two countries. They also symbolize the unity among Japanese and American women.

by introducing the American and Japanese WFWP presidents, Mrs. Nora Spurgin and Mrs. Motoko Sugiyama. Mrs. Spurgin noted that a time of great change is coming about at the turn of a millennium and how we would see even greater change by the year 2000. Mrs. Sugiyama spoke of the reconstruction of Japan as a

great nation after World War II with the assistance of the United States.

Cherry blossoms

The famous cherry blossoms, which bloom each spring around the city of Washington, testify to the friendship of our two countries. These beautiful trees were a gift from Japan after World War I and have bloomed, even through the war-torn years of World War II, up until the present day. They have attracted visitors to our nation's capital every year and have inspired thousands, especially those who understand their historical significance. They also symbolize the unity among Japanese and American women. There is a story of the time the Jefferson Memorial was being planned and several of the cherry trees were to be moved to make way for the structure. In protest, a number of American women chained themselves to the marked trees. It is truly a sisterhood forged in steel! Fifty years have gone by since the conclusion of World War II and what had been enemy nations are now in the full bloom of friendship.

Mrs. Shiner then introduced the day's special guest speaker. Such political luminaries as President and Mrs. George

Bush, former Secretary of Education William Bennett, Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, television interviewer Barbara Walters and former Congressman Jack Kemp have spoken at the gatherings. Ms. Kirkpatrick noted, in her February 6 speech, the remarkable worldwide events which have occurred since 1980. Who could have predicted the crumbling of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of Soviet communism? These are monumental indications that the time of true world peace is at hand. Recalling her conversations with a generation of world leaders, Ms. Kirkpatrick felt that the reality of a peace conference, such as this, was a significant and fitting result of two decades of change.

At the February 18 conference, President and Mrs. George Bush each offered some words of hope and inspiration. Recalling his military days stationed in the Pacific, President Bush spoke of the changes that have occurred since he flew in WWII. He also stressed the need for religious faith as the glue to keep any peace together. Mrs. Barbara Bush spoke about family values and her own fifty years of marriage to her husband, raising five children to become good citizens and now seeing them take over the reins of leadership of a country.

Crossing the bridge

The highlight of each conference was undoubtedly the Sisters of Peace ceremony in which a group of Japanese delegates crosses over a special bridge,

meeting their American counterparts in the middle. There each bows, embraces the other and then they walk down together, hand in hand. It is hard to fully describe how moving this simple ceremony is without witnessing it! The matches were truly remarkable to see. Elegant, kimonoed Japanese women could be seen matched with noble-looking African-American sisters, elderly grandmothers were matched with partners young enough to be their daughters, as were partners who had everything in common except language. "I am a nurse," marveled one sister, "and my Japanese sister turned out to be one too! We talked and talked until it was time to go home!"

Mrs. Bush, on seeing how the ceremony worked, also wanted to walk over the bridge. The audience was moved to tears as she and Mrs. Sugiyama met, bowed and embraced each other before walking down the steps hand in hand! Mrs. Spurgin, left in the front row with only President Bush for company, sat by his side explaining more about the WFWP and its purpose, as

well as her own dedication to it. "I thought I'd have no match that day," Mrs. Spurgin noted, chuckling, "but as it turned out, I didn't get a sister, I got a brother! I got George Bush!"

After the formal afternoon activities, there was time for each Japanese-American pair to converse, sharing family photos, gifts, and conversation. Flashbulbs went off constantly as pictures were taken all over the place. "My Japanese sister must have taken fifty pictures of me," exclaimed one American woman. "We'll definitely will stay in touch." One mother, who went to the conference after her daughter told her what a wonderful experience she had, said, "I have three daughters who are active in the WFWP. Two of them happen to be married to Japanese husbands so they especially wanted to go to the conference. When one of them showed her Japanese sister photos of her family, she saw she was missing a picture of her younger sister. Suddenly she saw another American woman across the table waving a photo of this younger sister. It seemed that the Japanese partner of the American woman waving the photo was the sister of my daughter's husband! She was meeting her sister-in-law for the first time! Only God could have arranged such a meeting!"

Another woman brought her two sisters-in-law. "They were on cloud nine!" she said. They wanted to go again!" Still



The Japanese groups also visited Lafayette Park, across the street from the White House, on their sightseeing tours.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP



Josette Shiner, managing editor of the Washington Times

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

another woman brought her elderly mother to the conference. "Mom was matched to a fiftyish Japanese woman," she said. "She told me later that she felt as if she had gained a new daughter. She also won one of the scholarship prizes which she is offering to me so I can finally get my degree!"

Wrapping up the day

The conference participants were then treated to a breathtaking performance by the Kirov Academy of Ballet, followed by an elegant banquet. Each Japanese-American pair stayed together throughout the day's events chatting either directly, or through translators provided at each table. A featured entertainer then sang for the group. Broadway and recording star Jennifer Holliday noted that she had not had time to find out what sort of music the audience enjoyed and so hoped they would like what she had chosen. She then sang some of the gospel songs which had been an important part of her life, bringing the audience to their feet, cheering and clapping. The wife of a minister, Ms. Holliday continues to serve as first lady of their congregation while furthering her busy career. One

Japanese delegate, a great fan of Ms. Holliday's because of her work in Broadway's "Dreamgirls," hoped to meet her idol here. A one-on-one meeting was arranged along with a special day on the town for the two. Other performers included Shirley Jones and Phylicia Rashad.

After the day's events, each new sister-pair said good-bye, as if they had always known each other, with hugs and promises of letters and visits. Friendships forged that day will most assuredly last a lifetime! It is the hope of each local chapter of the WFWP to continue communication not only between each Japanese-American sister pair, but among American participants. Please contact your local chairwoman about upcoming "alumni" events in your area. They will fill you in on meeting schedules and provide

access to translators for your letters to be sent overseas. ■

Lisa Lay is the chairwoman of the Long Island chapter of the Women's Federation for World Peace. She and her husband, William, participated in the 2075 Couples' Blessing in 1982.

IN the joyous chaos of a crowded reception hall where Japanese and American delegates exchanged greetings, life stories, family photos and gifts, Mihiko Uchiyama and I shared something very special—the painful realization that we must continue on after tragedy and that others, even halfway around the world, understand exactly how we feel.

Photographs of her sister killed in the Kobe earthquake and three nephews left without a mother, as well as photos of my own two daughters whose father died two years ago, were powerful reminders of what really matters in life—family. Our gift to each other that day was the honest moment of shared tears shed for loss of loved ones and a sense of human connection that allows for hope and spiritual renewal. ■

—Betty Harrington

Deutschendorf Performance

William Lay

SOME mention has already been made of last weekend's WFWP event. I was fortunate enough to have been there. I spoke to the Japanese group in the morning concerning Reverend Moon's work in America. In the afternoon, I experienced the sisterhood ceremony for the first time. It is indeed, as my wife said, a very moving experience, even for male onlookers.

For me, the highlight of the day was John Denver's performance. Of course, I was hoping he would sing the American song, "Country Roads." Not only did he sing it, but he invited us to sing along. In fact, his performance often became a sing-along, with about a thousand American and Japanese women's voices, and a few stray men, joining in. John (whose real name is Henry John Deutschendorf, Jr., but whom I shall call John) was himself truly carried away by the beauty and feeling of the evening. He would stop singing and invite the women to sing

while he accompanied them with a guitar. The sound of a thousand women's voices was truly angelic. John remarked that he must be in heaven.

John played a couple of music videos and sang along to them. One was "They Were Flying for Me," a tribute to the Challenger crew. Another was "Hi Calypso," a tribute to Jacques Cousteau, which had a beautiful video montage of undersea life and ocean vistas. He performed "Annie's Song," referring to it as "probably my most well-known love song." (For those who may not recognize that title, it is commonly known as "You Fill up my Senses.") He also sang a duet in English and Japanese, using a track recorded by a Japanese vocalist. John sang one verse in Japanese. You

can imagine the audience response.

We were all transported. I have never enjoyed a performance more than this one. He performed all the old favorites: "Rocky Mountain High," "Hey It's Good

In the afternoon, I experienced the sisterhood ceremony for the first time. It is indeed, as my wife said, a very moving experience, even for male onlookers.

to be Back Home Again," etc. At the end, he came down in the audience and took giant group pictures.

It was so much fun. A whole bunch of family members singing "Country Roads" with John Denver. ■

In the future scholars from around the world may ask you on which page they can find Reverend Moon's comments on true love or some other subject. If you can refer to the original Korean text, you will have more authority to convey the message. There will be a big difference between those who are able to read the original text and those who can only read the translated version.

Reverend Sun Myung Moon

December 25, 1994