



God's Hope for America

by Reverend Sun Myung Moon

(Excerpts from a speech given at Carnegie Hall on October 2, 1973)

The Christian tradition in America is a most beautiful thing for foreigners to behold when they come to this country. When I first came to America, I went to New York and stood on Fifth Avenue during the rush hour. Suddenly tears began pouring down my face. I looked at the wonder of the Empire State Building and the magnificence of the new Trade Center—the tallest buildings in the world. But I asked myself, "Does God dwell in those buildings?"



Wall Street Rally for God and America.

New York is becoming more and more a city without God. It is a city of crime. Such a beautiful city is now crumbling. I can see so much immorality and so many signs of godlessness in that city. It was shocking to my eyes as I stood watching during that rush hour. I could see so many things at once that are all intolerable in the sight of God.

I asked God, "Is this the purpose for which you blessed America?" I know God wants to see His spirit prevail in those great buildings. In those beautiful automobiles He wants to see young people bubbling with enthusiasm for God and the love of others. It doesn't take a 1975

automobile to glorify God. Even if you have only a rock as your altar, when you pour out your hope and your tears upon it for the service of God, God is with you. I can really see that God is leaving the great city of New York. New York is instead becoming the city of evil.

America could only achieve true brotherhood through the Christian spirit, but when you begin to lose this foundation, America's moral fiber will deteriorate. Today there are many signs of the decline of America. What about the American young people? What about your drug problems and your juvenile crime problems? What about the breakdown of your families? I hear that four out of every ten marriages end in divorce. The California state government is issuing more divorce certificates than marriage licenses.

What about racial problems and the threat of Communism? And what about the economic crises? Why are all these problems occurring? These are signs that God is leaving America.

For the last ten years American churches have been declining in spirit; American churches are becoming senior citizens' homes. The future of America depends upon the young people, and the churches are failing to inspire American youth. We need a spiritual revolution in America. A revolution of heart must come to America.

CALLED BY GOD

I know that God sent me here to America. I did not come here for the luxurious life in America. Not at all! I came to America not for my own purposes, but because God sent me. For 6,000 years God has been working to build this nation. The future of the entire world hinges on America. God has a very great stake in



America. Somebody must come to America and stop God from leaving.

My followers in Korea bade me farewell in tears. I know there are still many things to do in Korea. But working with only Korea would delay world salvation. America must be God's champion. I know clearly that the will of God is centered upon America. I came from Korea, I gave up my surroundings in Korea, just as many people have in the history of God's providence. I do not come to this country to make money. When I came to America, I committed my fortune, my family, and my entire life to America. I came to a new country where I can serve the will of God.

We must be humble. We must initiate from this moment the greatest movement ever on earth, the movement to bring God back home. All of your pride, your wealth, your cars and your great cities are like dust without God. We must bring God back home. In your homes, your churches, your schools and your national life, our work for God's purpose must begin. Let's bring God back, and make God's presence in America a living reality.

NEW PILGRIM MOVEMENT

I have initiated a youth movement

which is probably the only one of its kind in United States history. This is a new Pilgrim movement. Does it seem strange that a man from Korea is initiating an American youth movement for God? When you have a sick member of your family, a doctor comes from outside of your house. When your house is on fire, the fire fighters come from outside. God has a strange way of fulfilling His purpose. If there is no one in America meeting your needs, there is no reason why someone from outside cannot fulfill that role. America belongs to those who love her most.

BRING GOD HOME

Someone must give himself up for the purpose of God and bring God back home. We must have our churches filled with fiery faith; we must create new homes where our families can be really happy, and we must finally create a new society, a new spiritual nation where God can dwell. This is God's hope for America.

This is my deep desire, from my heart, that America will see the glorious day of renewal. And for this reason I came to speak to you with God's hope for America.

Last spring the Unification Church sent representatives to countries around the world, and now we are in 120 nations. We would like to share with you excerpts from some of the letters sent to us by those brothers and sisters overseas.

News from our Representatives Around the World

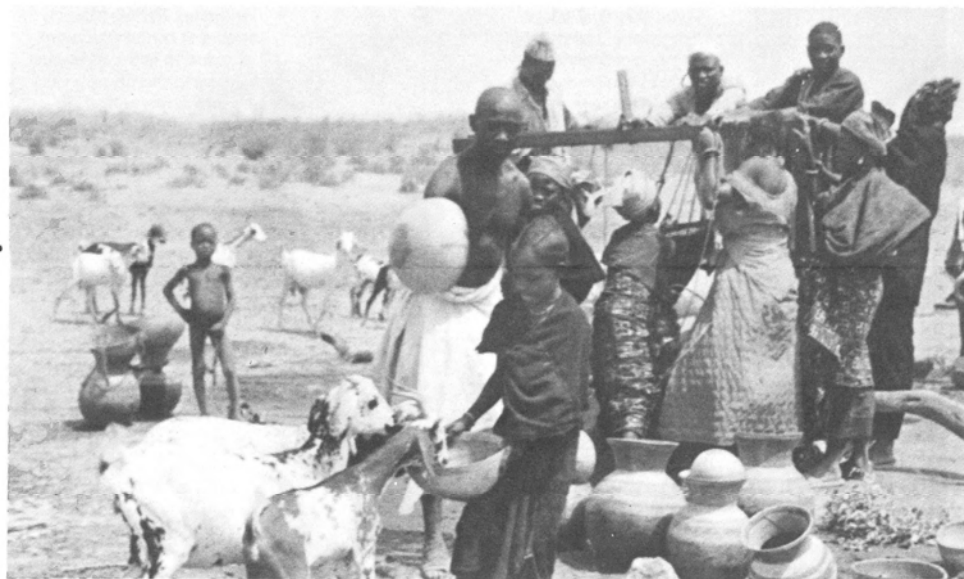
Middle East

As far as our spiritual work goes, we've been teaching many people. We will be teaching a Franciscan monk. He has come over to our home often and spent his birthday with us. Every week he takes us to choir practice and he seems open enough to grasp the truth of the Principle. Tomorrow one of us will visit some German sisters of the Catholic Church who work at the leprosy hospital.

I also met the general secretary of the Student Christian Movement and will be talking more with him. The SCM will hold a nationwide conference soon and they have invited me. We are also teaching a girl who studied to become a nun but then decided to stay with the Moslem religion, so she knows many people of both worlds.

Kenya

I have found, in my preliminary wanderings to and fro in Nairobi, that the Africans in urban Kenya are very aware of God and spiritual matters and are interested in becoming more God-like and righteous. Many perceive that most human problems arise more from lack of faith and love than from the presence of insurmountable physical or material obstacles.



Liberia

Things are developing well. I began a second seminar with Bishop Weah on Monday night and have been spending more and more time with him. Friday and Saturday he and I will taxi to Kakata, accompanied by one of the students in my English class who has begun reading the Divine Principle and is now attending the seminar. Through this student, I'll

probably be invited to teach for one day or for a few hours as part of a seminar for Methodist elementary and junior high school teachers sometime in January.

The bishop and I have planned a trip to the Interior after the close of the university semester in November, for about 45 days of taxiing and walking through the bush to some small churches which are out of the reach of the main roads. We will hold either three or four seminars for five to seven days each on Divine Principle (through Bible study).

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LECTURES ON
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For information call or write to the Unification Church of New York at the above address.

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If you have any questions regarding our news article or the work of our church, we will be more than happy to answer them for you. God bless you.

The Reverend Sun Myung Moon And His Church

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS OF PARENTS & FRIENDS

The Unification Church teaches and practices respect for the rights of others in their religious beliefs and practices. We only ask the same for ourselves in return. In this Bicentennial year, shouldn't we remind ourselves that this is what America is all about? In response to the urgings of many people who recognize the intolerance and prejudice of recent attacks against the Church, we are presenting the following excerpts from letters of persons who are not Unification Church members but who, as parents or friends of members, hold well informed opinions. We urge you to find out for yourself what it is in Reverend Moon's message that has inspired so many intelligent, creative young people to joyfully dedicate their lives to serve God and their fellow man.

The Unification Church has done a lot for our three children. The teachings of the Church have given them a positive direction in life. By studying the *Divine Principles*, they have learned the meaning and purpose of life. They have learned to actualize their teachings, applying them in their daily lives. This has helped to mold their characters, which is evidenced by their behavior in society.

They have grown to be beautiful children, both academically and spiritually. My words do not do justice to the feelings we have for this wonderful organization.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Rechlis
California



I am not a member of The Unification Church.

I am a concerned parent of a son in this new-to-us movement. As this denomination seems to be capturing the hearts and minds of an ever-growing number of our sons and daughters, perhaps it bears looking into.

In the course of a short, intense visit, I learned a great deal, and I recommend it to you. If you are alienated from your child, step into his or her world for a weekend, reach out your own hand, give him a chance to join it with his own, in love...for, I found, love is what Unification Church is all about.

For me, it was beautiful. Like stepping from one world into another. The atmosphere was sure, industrious, supportive, clean, nourished by palpable love...each one for the others in his church family, and more important, for the world.

Mrs. Judith Harris Carter
Virginia



Besides being a parent of a four year member of this Church, I have also had a great deal of first hand experience with them and would like to contribute the following observations I have made about the Unification Church:

1. Moral practices are superior to any other group in my experience. The highest standards are taught by Rev. Moon.
2. Spiritual dedication is unparalleled.
3. The Church is trying to turn the United States to better practices and this may be more urgent than some think!
4. The *Divine Principle* (Church teachings) represents an historical landmark of theological analysis and revelation (whether we believe it all or not).

The Unification Church is strong, has substantial means, and member for member is the most dedicated group that I know of. The local levels and headquarters practices are almost unbelievable in religious commitment. They represent a small scale example of the ideal brother-sister relationships advocated by Jesus and the New Testament authors.

Mr. Fred B. Crist
Delaware

Our 21 year old son, Warren, has with our blessings and affirmative support been an active member of the Unification Church for two years. Typical of this age, as a University of Colorado freshman, Warren had little sense of purpose or goals and little regard for society or himself. Upon joining the Unification Church and understanding its principles, vague indifference was replaced by challenging purpose, drifting by productive leadership activity, sloth by the desire to favorably impress, unconcern by a desire to learn about contemporary problems and solutions. Happiness and personal fulfillment are his daily companions.

Mr. Leslie H. Deming
New York

PROTECT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM!

The following is taken from an unsolicited essay by Dr. T.S. Miyaday. The author is unknown to Unification Church officials but his thoughts are deeply appreciated.

Our country was originally settled by people from England who believed in the freedom of religion. Our federal and state constitutions guarantee that freedom. There are also statutory laws that prohibit religious discriminations. To every law-abiding American, the freedom to worship according to one's own belief is as precious as the freedom to express one's legitimate ideas.

The Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who has been busy spreading the Gospel according to his own religious belief, has become the object and victim of religious bigotry, parental selfishness, psychological headline hunters, and sensational journalism.

[Also,] there was and is an unmistakable sign of racial prejudice. This is regrettable and unfortunate since it originates from a source that is normally the loudest in denouncing racial prejudice aimed against its people. It is hoped that it was strictly individual or isolated in character, and not representative of the wonderful people that inhabit a large part of Metropolitan New York.

When a young bird has grown enough feathers, it leaves its nest. It is instinct. It is natural. When a son or daughter becomes old enough to be independent, he or she will leave home. If fathers and mothers will only look back into their own youthful days, they

will recall that they have also left their parent's house, and they should know that they should not deny to their adult children the same right they themselves had exercised earlier in their lives.

It is the consensus of knowledgeable people that the students and followers of the Unification Church are in good hands, and are well taken care of by the Rev. and Mrs. Moon. The atmosphere

The freedom of the press cannot abridge the freedom of religion and the right to worship according to one's belief.

and the teachings are such that they will become good Christians and good citizens. In this modern troubled and confused world, we need more Christians, and even non-Christians, who can spread peace and good will among all mankind.

Generally speaking, most newspapers and other news media are very careful in their

reporting, and make reasonable effort to verify the source of their information. As a rule, they do not publish materials that are based on rumors or prejudiced opinions. There are, of course, exceptions to a general rule.

During the recent months, there were several sensational news media that published erroneous reports about Rev. Sun Myung Moon — reports that were based on rumors, wild psychological opinions, and the "say so" of a self-appointed protector of someone else's fully mature children. The publishing of harmful rumors with malice aforethought is bad. But to mix rumors, opinions, racial and religious prejudices, half-truths, and even untruths to create a journalistic "hash", and to present such a questionable product to the unsuspecting public is downright dishonest, and is criminal in nature.

The freedom of the press cannot abridge the freedom of religion and the right to worship according to one's belief. America is a Christian nation, and no person can be deported from the United States for preaching the Gospel no matter what any sensational tabloid or other self-appointed protector of someone else's adult children may say.

Dr. Thomas S. Miyaday
New Jersey



We are parents of a 25 year old daughter who has been a dedicated member of this church for two and one-half years and we know, first hand, of the positive and beneficial effects of their objectives and diverse worldwide programs.

Anyone with an open mind and a sincere desire to seek new truths would be spiritually impressed with the total and unselfish dedication of all those who are full-time members of the Unification Church.

If one is concerned about their religious credibility then only a brief observation of their programs and member participation would be sufficient to ascertain the most significant manifestations of any worthwhile religion — **unselfish love and a total commitment to seeking God's will.**

We do not believe all of their theology and philosophy. By the same token we do not embrace all the tenets of Catholicism or some other denominations but they certainly have the right to propagate and teach their theology. And the same right belongs to the Unification Church.

Mr. and Mrs. William James Calhoun
Alabama

My daughter, Lynn Doerfler Kim, [has been] a member of the Church for the last six years. I personally visited the Washington Center on two separate occasions, spending one day to two days there at each time. I met all of the people in the Center and found no evidence of any type of activities such as "brainwashing" or exploitation of youth. What I did find was a group of people dedicated to the work of God.



Two years ago Mrs. Doerfler and I visited our daughter in Seoul, Korea, where she was active in the mission activities of the Church. I met many of the leaders of the Church in Korea. I found them to be fine, dedicated people. They have religious beliefs that do not coincide with my personal religious beliefs, but then neither do the beliefs of the Mormon Church, the Unitarian Church, the Roman Catholic Church.

The Unification Church is dedicated to the love of God, to the sanctity of the family, to the avoidance of alcohol, drugs and illicit sexual activities. I must rate them on a very high scale.

Mr. Joseph H. Doerfler
Wisconsin



My husband and I are Presbyterians. Our son, Gilbert, has been a member of the Unification Church for about five years.

I was skeptical about the Unification Church until I had the opportunity to visit it recently. I have never seen a group of young people with higher morals or more dedicated to improving mankind. The opportunity of seeing so much consideration and love for one's fellow man is almost unheard of today. I am ashamed to say that so many of our so-called society of good church goers, both Catholic and Protestant, do not begin to live the real Christian life like this group of dedicated young people do. The change in our son has made us very happy.

Mrs. June Roschuni
Florida



About six years [ago] my daughter decided to become a member. As a mother, naturally, I was quite concerned in the beginning. Rather than sit around at home and worry, I decided to learn all about it. I went to the Church Centers and listened to many lectures, attended services

and participated in the many activities of the Church. I did not depend on hearsay, rumors, news media for my information. I studied the books, pamphlets, [etc.] published by the Unification Church...The Church teaches the members to honor and respect their parents, grandparents and relatives...I have heard Reverend Moon speak three times on his Day of Hope tours, and have personally met him. I can say that I stood in awe with humility and deep gratitude to this great man.

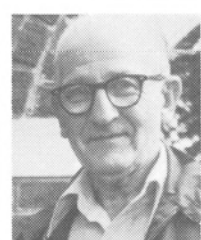
Mrs. Shizuko Nishio
California



My home for a few days was the US Headquarters for the Church. I've never received so much genuine love and attention. The people there were truly wonderful to me. And I can truthfully say that the people I met there are everything we had hoped our young people would be. It is hard to believe God gave me a son that is such a fine person.

They [Unification Church members] are not hypocrites, or puppets, and they are not brainwashed. That is a bunch of hogwash. They really feel deeply about what they are doing and are dead serious that their cause is good. But most importantly, they are doing this out of their own free will and truest desire. They are not made to do anything against their will.

Mrs. Peggy Moffitt
Texas



I am the father of Marilyn Cohen and the father-in-law of Barry Cohen, two members in good standing of the Unification Church. Marilyn's mother, now deceased, was Jewish and I am Jewish as are both parents of my son-in-law, Barry.

I wish to point out that the "hate campaign" letters written [about the Unification Church] are entirely without foundation.

Since Marilyn and Barry have joined the Unification Church they have both come to reach their full maturity and I think that the Unification Church has played an important part in this development.

Mr. Samuel W. Zell
Maryland



THE UNIFICATION CHURCH OF AMERICA

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I would like more information on the Unification Church. Please have the nearest local Unification Church representative contact me. I would like to know how to join the Unification Church. I appreciate your efforts to protect religious freedom. Here is my contribution to help pay for this ad.

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