

## The dream of God has been the consistent passion and goal of our True Parents

Michael Balcomb

September 6, 2020

Sunday service in honour of the 8th Ascension Anniversary of Sun Myung Moon



*Photo date and location unknown*

Good morning everybody, thank you so much for joining us for this special commemorative Sunday service in honour of the 8th Ascension anniversary of our Father, our founder the Reverend Doctor Sun Myung Moon. Also, this year is the 60th anniversary of the Holy wedding of the True Parents.

The first time that I met True Parents was in 1976 in New York and we were in the middle of a battle for the great rally at Washington Monument. At that time Father declared America's responsibility. He spoke of America and God's will. He said that America was the chosen nation but that all of Christianity and indeed all religions were called by God to establish the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth.

A few months later we had a chance to celebrate and I remember that there was a performance of the musical, the Man of La Mancha. Some of you may know it tells the story of Don Quixote and his pursuit for love and the ideal but at least you may know the most famous song, The Impossible Dream. The musical was written in 1965, that was the year that True Father first came to the western world, not just to America but also to Europe and he established holy grounds, places where people could go and to pray. We have one here in London and just a few days ago I went to the Holy Ground and stood under the very same tree that True Father had dedicated, now 55 years ago. The tree hasn't changed much and I could imagine in my mind's eye that I could open my eyes and see Father walking across the grass with a big smile on his face, coming to pray and coming to reinvest himself in this task of establishing the dream of God.

The dream of God has been the consistent passion and goal of our True Parents for the last 100 years and to understand what that means we have to know about the three core realisations that True Parents have taught us about God. The first is that God is our Heavenly Parent, a father and a mother and God is a grieving Heavenly Parent as the relationship between God and the children has been lost right from the very beginning of history by the fall of the first human beings, our ancestors. The second thing to know is that God is the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end, therefore God's ideal, God's dream must one day be restored. It cannot be abandoned. True Mother spoke about this in her address at the Seung Hwa celebration a few days ago.

But for that dream to be fulfilled human beings have to take responsibility and the teaching of our True Parents is that this has happened already with the coming of True Parents and now with the expansion of

the Heavenly Parents holy community. In fact, this is something that has already happened and is now growing and flourishing in the world. Jesus was once questioned by the Pharisees and he said that the Kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed and certainly when we look at today's world we may not see outward signs of the coming of God's Kingdom. But in their devotion Father and Mother see it differently. They see that that time has come. In his speech, The Owner of Peace and Owner of Lineage which we studied earlier this morning, we heard Father explain that it is very difficult without a clock to know the difference between one day and another and without a calendar to know the beginning of spring and the end of winter.

But nevertheless, that moment comes and without knowing the providence of God it is hard to know when that transition takes place between the world of sorrow and suffering and the world of the ideal. I think it is very important to recognise in that transition the Word, the proclamation has an important part to play. Looking back at the book of Genesis and indeed the gospel of John, we remind ourselves that God created the entire universe through the power of the Word. In human affairs too words have incredible power. I think of the Declaration of Independence that put America on a different path from the United Kingdom or the Declaration of Emancipation where Abraham Lincoln declared his intention to release the slaves. There have been declarations of war of course and of peace.

In 1985 Father Moon declared famously the end of the Soviet empire at a time when it looked that communism was stronger than ever before. He explained back then by declaring it with confidence, that set into motion the very change that he wanted to see. Therefore, I am not surprised that over a decade ago Father and Mother declared the end of the era before the coming of heaven and the beginning of the era after the coming of heaven. Sometimes we call that era the age of Cheon Il Guk, meaning the Kingdom of God. More recently Mother has explained this is not simply a place or a destination, it is a community, Heavenly Parents' Holy Community, a community of all believers, people of every race, religion, culture and nation join together in the recognition that if God is our Heavenly Parent we really must be brothers and sisters.

Now the thing is after the declaration there is work to do. In fact, maybe most of the work comes after the declaration and not before and I feel that True Mother is calling us to renew our commitment to that vision and to that goal. She is reminding us of the 100 years of devotion that True Parents together have already invested but she asked us what is our responsibility as chosen people. She made it very clear we are all chosen by virtue of living at this time and in this moment. We have a special obligation before God and if we fulfil it and we will, then God's dream can be realised at long last. In fact, it is not an impossible dream. It might be impossible without God, and True Mother never tires of telling us that the solution to the world's problems do not come from human effort alone.

But that doesn't mean they do not come it means that we have to cling on to God, our Heavenly Parent. We must have renewed confidence that this is indeed the time. God is tired of waiting and is ready to see his Kingdom come. No matter what happens outside, no matter the troubles that exist in our world and in our nation, God is ready to establish his Kingdom.

Brothers and sisters, I thank you for joining us on this important day. I think it is not just a moment to look backwards over the last 100 years but to look forward to the years to come and in particular to 2027, a seven-year period. True Mother has challenged us to reach out to the entire world population. She has shown us through the power of the internet and social media, augmented reality, and the like, it is possible. It is possible to do things we never dreamed of before. But to do it we must have faith in the Word and in the declaration. We must make it our own. So today as we honour the 8th Ascension of our Father, our founder, let us pour out our hearts in dedication and let us show that we truly are the sons and daughters of the Heavenly Parents' Holy Community. Thank you True Parents. Thank all of you for your love and devotion.