

Lessons from our future: can this not be a Golden Age of Unificationism?

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"Heavenly Parent, True Father and True Mother are now and forever the original Trinity restored: inseparable and immutable."

I saw someone make the above profound comment a few days ago and it moved me to write now to you. Forgive the length of this post but it may be my last for a while. I expect my words to upset a few but so be it. It will go out to the various UM-related sites in order to gauge the different responses I get.

What makes the Unification Movement stand out from all other belief systems? It is that for the first time in human history we have a restored Adam and a restored Eve that the God of Parental Love can now claim back from the God of Evil. We also have formal recognition of God being both Heavenly Father and Heavenly Mother. With roughly half the world's population being female, is this not an idea whose time has now come, and that the Messiah is not just a man but a woman too? True Parents are the 'first among equals' because their task will also be our task, to achieve oneness with our Heavenly Parent's heart and to bring True Love (God's parental love) to all those around us.

This is truly the 'Golden Age of Unificationism' and the world is crying out for our message that God dwells within family structures, in whatever shape or form they express themselves as, and that God can now walk the 'Homeland' with His/Her children at this age of Cheon Il Guk, which is beyond the Completed Testament Age. Because of the success of our True Parents, God can now walk the earth through us and with us. The Holy Spirit is now enlightening many non-Unificationists to this ideal and many are now being prepared to receive our simple message of God wishing to reconnect with us as His/Her long-lost children. If God had to wait around for some of us to get our act together then the providence will be set back indefinitely. I believe there are many prepared people out there, even humanists and atheists, who are closer to God's heart than many who profess beliefs. The core of our message is absolute and enduring, even if we as messengers are flawed.

It will become easier to achieve oneness in heart with God, with each succeeding generation because the Holy Spirit will come among our children, and future descendants, and gradually separate them from tolerating and accepting that which has gone before. All the negative attributes from this 'fallen world', such as inequality, injustice, conflict, as well as hunger of the body, mind and spirit will seem like the Dark Ages in 50, 100, 200, a 1000 years from now. That is why it helps to look ahead to what a restored world is supposed to look like, which is something I am more personally interested in than in any present crisis or schisms. Lessons from history may be an important guide so that mistakes do not repeat themselves, which unfortunately too often happens anyway. Might it not be more useful to put on our 'visionary hats', imagine the kind of world we would like to see, and then work backwards to how that can be achieved, both collectively and individually?

What I am sure about is that restoration back to any biblical 'Garden of Eden' will likely take many generations from now. This is a gradual process that does not happen overnight, as our future descendants move in their lineage and in their thinking from a God of Evil to a God of Love. Therefore, rather than focus on the details of who said or did what, and how it has affected our perceptions of whatever it is we now currently believe in, is it not more wiser to instead focus on what our world could and should look like 5, 10 or 15 generations from now? The big picture is the message and not just the messengers. There will only ever be one set of True Parents, Father and Mother Moon, who have been more than mere messengers and who actually have lived the message – otherwise, why would we follow that message?

The essence of that message is the Principle of Creation. The rest of the Divine Principle is specifically for restorative purposes, to show how God has worked through key people and events in history. What True Parents have achieved goes beyond religion and all the negative aspects associated with restoration history, such as guilt, indemnity, trial and tribulation. They have symbolically and spiritually created the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth or God's Homeland – the physical realization of that is now all down to us. Better to be a participator than a bystander, or worse as cynical begrudgers of other's alleged faults.

That is why, as Tribal Messiahs, we should now see ourselves as 'cut adrift' in order to make our own personal foundation of faith and substance. It is time we go out and create our own Home Church, among our local communities, as Father encouraged us to do 30 years ago. In other words, do not rely on others to fulfil their 5% Portion of Responsibility first before acting ourselves. Go out to your local communities and religious centres and share the message that God is our spiritual parent and wishes no more than to be among us as parents would in wishing to embrace their long lost children, who are now wandering the wilderness like spiritual orphans.

For sure, we are carrying the burdens of history on our shoulders, the 'sins of our fathers' and the realization that evil is having its last hurrah in quite dramatic ways such as to make people wonder if this 'homeland' is just a pipe dream. I would add that unity of purpose is actually quite hard to achieve, especially when the larger than life founder of our beliefs has passed away. Let us be inspired by our leaders but let us not be led by them – our Tribal Messiah missions require us to stand on our own two feet and lead others in our local communities to God through our direct and indirect witnessing. Unity among us will only be achieved when we look outwards, rather than inwards, to the 7 billion out there who need to embrace this message from God.

The time for religion itself will come to an end, hopefully sooner rather than later, to be replaced by a fellowship of spirituality that caters to both our individual and our collective needs. Religion is a means to an end and not an end in itself, which is why it has often been so unnecessarily divisive. If God is no longer religious because of the successful foundation of what the Messiah as True Parents has achieved, why should any of us be?

What does any parent wish more than anything else? It is to be able to walk alongside their children and watch as they interact with others around them. Is that any different to how our Heavenly Father and our Heavenly Mother wishes as well with us? To God, (or 'MaPa' as I prefer to say often in silent prayer), each of us is a uniquely individual truth body with each of us capable of bringing uniquely different sensations of love and joy back to God. The GTA, give and take action, between parent and child is what brings greatest joy to both. To a young child, the Face of God is ideally in our parents. From there, as they grow older, they will see the Face of God in each person they meet. With each of us being a uniquely individual expression of God, then God, our heavenly parent, will walk the earth through us and with us and spreading True Love. This reciprocal relationship of GTA is what can bring us and God greatest happiness.

Our future will be neither patriarchal nor matriarchal but a harmonization of equal relationship and value between men and women, where husbands and wives allow each other to fulfil their potential and perform to their individual strengths within a family. It is model, God-centered families that will turn this world around more than individual efforts. Embrace your local community as your extended family, just as Father did way back when he started his mission and the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

Moving now to any present preoccupation that some may have with judging the quality of life and service that Father and Mother Moon may have experienced, is it wise for us to blame the messenger when the above is essentially the message they bring? Is it not more a fault of ours that we place too high an expectation on them? Does not a recognition be deserved that, despite any fallibilities or human frailties they may share with us, that they could still achieve so much in their lifetime? Could any of us have gone the same course, knowing what lies ahead? Judge not, lest ye be judged and let he who is without sin cast the first stone. These words of Jesus may also remind us that his first 30 years were unrecorded (except for the incident at the temple when he was 12). Why is that? Are there aspects of his private life that have been sanitized for future posterity? It is Jesus' and True Parents' very humanity and even human frailties that should draw us closer to them. My son has seen many human weaknesses in his parents but that has not stopped him loving us unconditionally. Why should it be any different to us in our relations with our spiritual True Parents?

The Old Testament reveals a great deal of unconventional and unorthodox acts which would have seemed strange to the objective observer, even back then, but which were deemed necessary for providential and restorational history purposes. As humans, we don't just make mistakes, we may sometimes make evil or 'sinful' mistakes. There is the saint and the sinner in all of us, and it is often by good fortune or circumstance that the good in us tends to rule over the bad in us. If we didn't have the devil on our backs then how would we recognize good when we see it?

Those of us, like myself, who were raised as Catholics will remember the Confessional Box, where we confessed our sins to the parish priest. As a child, there was a sense of cleansing as the priest absolved us of our misdeeds as long as we said our 'three Hail Marys and three Our Fathers' as a form of repentance. However, as a man or woman, how likely are we to confess to committing more 'grown up' sins like committing adultery, violence to another or theft, fraud etc? Perhaps these are things we might hope to take to our grave rather than confess to anyone, even if known only unto God. On the other hand, do we wish to carry that baggage with us on our death-bed without seeking to remedy any wrongs done, to go to the next life with a 'clear conscience'?

Mother has recently said that she wants to clean up any past wrongdoings and actions, and wishes for members to come forward with information about any alleged corruption or misuse of money, so that the movement can move forward with full transparency and accountability. Rather than point fingers of blame at anyone, I would hope and pray that those who need forgiveness and healing will do so of their own accord, rather than be forced to the 'confessional box' by others. As a 1st Generation follower for nearly 40 years, I could be in that box for a very long time, but in the meantime my enduring wish is that my son and other 2nd Gen followers will take up the mantle of messiahship that has been left to them from Father's great legacy. With both symbolic and substantive change of blood lineage, the 2nd Gens, whether they realize it or not, are God's chosen people to take us out of the wilderness into the land of Canaan. We 1st Gens need to support them in every way we can to fulfil their great potential.

This might come across like I'm rambling a bit but what I want to get across is that the greatest judge of our wrongdoings is often ourselves and it should not be for others to cast judgement. When people judge others without having walked in their shoes, then it reflects badly on their character. Father and Mother Moon are as human as the rest of us, and they may have made mistakes, even grievous ones, but my goodness I wouldn't have lasted a day walking in their shoes! What great things have they achieved and how lucky are we to have lived at this momentous time in history when God truly walked the earth through and with them, just as He/She would wish to do the same with us.

So let us arm ourselves with Father's words, our Divine Principle teaching, our understanding of True Love (showing God's parental love to others) and our conscience, where God dwells closest to us, and we won't go far wrong. Perhaps also, FaceGod time is more valuable to me now than Facebook time, even though I have been immensely grateful, enlightened and inspired when reading brothers and sisters' posts and comments, both positive and negative, over the past few months – let True Love reign supreme! Thank you.