INTERNATIONAL BLESSING OF 400 MILLION COUPLES, FOURTH PHASE

WCSF 2003
• Korea p. 2-5, 14-15

Blessing 2003
• Chicago p. 10-13

Ambassadors for Peace
• DC p. 7-9
I sincerely welcome you to the Republic of Korea and the ninth World Culture and Sports Festival. The Korean Peninsula is my homeland and also the place where God will bring His providence of restoration (providence of salvation) to its final conclusion.

From when I was a boy, I had amazing spiritual experiences that enabled me to know God and commune with Jesus and other saints. Through profound spiritual experiences, I plumbed the depths of God's will and heart, and examined the heavenly way and the original path of human life. Human life does not end with the death of the physical body on earth. In the heavenly world, the same sages and also all of our ancestors live as spirit selves, which is a form of human existence that is of a higher order than the physical body. Compared with the fundamental world that God created, that is, the infinite and eternal world, this world of nature where our physical bodies dwell is nothing more than a minute part. The spirit world is an eternal world, and it is also the fundamental and essential world that is the subject partner to this world of reality. I have invested a great deal of sincerity and dedication into the effort to recover the principles of community and linkage between the earthly world and the spirit world, which was severed by the human fall. This has been a truly difficult task that would not have been possible unless the appropriate conditions had been set on earth and in heaven. Recently, in accordance with God's will, I am able to work through mediums to send instructional messages to spirit world, and receive exact responses to those instructions and reports on the actual situation there. What is even more amazing is that the representatives of the five major religions gathered in one place to declare, that God is the Parent of humankind, declare that I am the savior and messiah of humanity, affirm that the Unification Principle is a message of peace for human salvation, and affirm that the peaceable life will be accomplished through true love and through the “life lived for the sake of others” on a level transcending religion, nationality, and race. They further resolved that they would attend the True Parents and harmonize, unite, and devote themselves for the sake of God's Kingdom and world peace.

These events happened in the spirit world as the new millennium was beginning. God's will in the providence of restoration has been extended through the Old Testament Age, New Testament Age, and Completed Testament Age, but now I am indemnifying humanity on God’s part in the ground. That is why good spirits in the spirit world dwelling on the five great sages are cooperating with God in the true culture of heart. You should use your open minds in the ground.

The true love culture of heart possesses those qualities, such as youth, fervor, purity, righteous spirit, and bravery. The more this God desires to be with you. You should use your open minds to go beyond the barriers of exclusivity, antipathy, conflict, and hatred to set the roots of religious harmony firmly in the ground. One who has practiced and taught through my life is the breaking down of barriers. We must rise above differ
enches of race, religion, and nationality and live togeth-er. We are all members of a “one world family living in brotherly heart” cen-tering on God. This must not be a mere slogan or rhetoric; we must actual-ly live this way. God places His greatest hope in the young university students. We must transcend the consciousness of belong-ing to an exclusive race, language, religion, coun-try, or culture.

I would like to give you a truly precious teaching today. People, particular-ly young people, must understand correctly about the value of the love organs, and treat these precisely.

The love organs in their original purity are the cen-ter and origin of love, life, and lineage. The consum-mation of love, as well as the conception of new life, is possible only by means of the love organs. With-out the proper use of the love organs, the parent’s lineage cannot be passed down to the next genera-tion. For this reason, the love organ is the most important part of the human body. Unfortu-nately in the fallen soci-ety, the love organs are un-used in too many instances.

The worldwide trend of the current social and cul-tural environments, par-ticularly through movies, music, journalism, and the Internet, is misleading peo-ple to mislead the love or-gans. Young people are easily swept away by the waves of free sex that are running countries, and break-ing apart families. This is a tragic reality. It is time for religious leader and other leaders of conscience to raise their voices loudly in support of what is morally right.

In every culture, the preciousness of the family must be recovered, and a proper standard of ethics for love relationships between men and women must be estab-lished: It is here that we find the reason for the mar-rriage blessing ceremony of true love through True Par-ents and why a movement of young people for pure love must spread throughout the world in a manner that transcends nations and religions. The precious signif-icance of the inter-religious and international Holy Blessing Ceremony that will be held on July 13th can be found here.

I have encouraged people to participate in marriages blessing that transcend nationality, race, culture, and religion. I particularly promote the exchange marriage blessings between peoples of nations that were formerly enemies. I have done so for Koreans and Japanese, white and black Americans, Christians and Moslems, and Israelis and Palestinians. When this effort becomes universal, think how much it will shorten the path to the world of peace. By practicing love for our enemies, we can make our leadership manifest, tear down the barriers in our minds and bodies, and bring about God’s world of peace in which sincerity and dedication are offered in true love.

Respected world leaders, we have long spoken of the United Nations as the most represen-tative organization for peace. As we can see in the U.N.’s growth from 51 member states to its current 191 over the past 58 years, the internal and external environment of this organization has changed enormously. The U.N. has many accomplishments, but it now faces many challenges both from within and from outside. There are many limitations and prob-lems, including the issues concerning special rights in the Security Council, fairness between powerful and weak countries, the power of imposing compulsory sanctions, and budgetary issues.

If the U.N. in its activities ignores the spirituality and importance of religion, it will bring on itself a fate similar to that of a body without a conscience. In a multipolar world, the U.N. has become a body without a mind, become unable to deal effectively with the prob-lems facing the world, and has lost its impartiality in analyzing world issues, causing it to favor one side over another. If the U.N. continues on this path, it will not achieve the purposes for which it was originally founded, and, far from developing further, may face a cri-sis that will decide whether it will con-tinue or be forced out of existence.

For past years, I have watched the U.N. with hope and concern to see whether it would become an organiza-tion for true world peace, and over the past four years I have taken every oppor-tunity to call for the renewal of the U.N. My plan for the renewal of the U.N. is to establish an inter-religious council within its structure as an organ of superi-or position. Fortunately, the represen-tatives of the Philippines and the Unit-ed States, with the support of several countries, are going to submit a plan for the renewal of the U.N. to the 58th General Assembly in September. I am confident that many countries will coop-erate so that the United Nations can become an energetic structure centered on God bringing about true peace.

In the spirit world, the five great saints and other leaders have already resolved that they will cooperate. Del-eogates to the inter-religious council that will be created within the U.N. will have the opportunity to accomplish the ideals the founders of their religions attempt-ed to achieve, but to do so they will need character and wisdom that are models of true love. To do this, religion itself must stand firmly on the path of altru-ism. If religion cannot do this, the inter-religious council will have no value. Today’s world needs religious leaders who go beyond denominationalism, the self-interest of their own religious groups, and fanatical extremes to practice true love.

The events that make up the cultural festival – the international and inter-religious marriage blessings ceremony, inter-religious youth peace athletic festival, international peace conference, World CARP Conven-tion, Service for Peace – are all for the purpose of world peace. I have also built worldwide foundations in the areas of education and the arts. The Sunmoon Peace King Cup on the 15th of this month, brought famous clubs from around the world aimed at building a peaceful world of the culture of heart. I believe that over the next few days, under the watchful eyes of the spirit world and this earthly world, we will make manifest for all to see our vision for peace, our resolution, and our lead-ership. I am confident that we will inspire the people of the world, and create a common bond of heart plant-ing a message of hope.
A highlight of the WCSF is the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival (IPSF), in which athletes representing various religions meet in friendly competition and a spirit of unity transcending their religious differences, thus planting the seed of peace. Last July 10, 2003 marked this significant event. It was held at the Yu Gwan Sun Arena, in Chugnnam City, Korea. IPSF is one to be the first in the history of sports initiated and guided by the founder of WCSF, Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon in their noble quest for true and lasting peace.

The chairman of the WCSF, Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, gave the main address. This event was attended by significant guests namely, the Governor of Chungnam Province, Mr. Dae Pyung Shim, the Former President of Costa Rica, H.E. Rodrigo Carazo, and many other foreign dignitaries. In the founder’s keynote address, Rev. Moon said that God places his hope in young university students. The youth must understand this point correctly. God does not like free sex; many young people are being misled by the movies, music, and many bad publications present in the society. Therefore he encourages young people to have mind and body united in this cause of establishing the true ideal of peace, which is beyond religions and nationality. Young people need character and wisdom to achieve this and thus must practice true love. Young people, being the central figures of IPSF, will establish the hope of humanity as the seeds of peace. Youth organizations such as World CARP will bring a chance for new personal resolutions and inspiration to bring substantial peace and an ideal world. After his speech Rev. Moon received a resounding applause from the audience and all the participants together shouted cheers of victory!

World CARP President, Hyn Jin Moon, received the Oath of Athletes, handed over by two representative athletes, Il Jae Kim and Akina Nakagawa.

In his congratulatory remark, the Governor of Chungnam Province, Mr. Shim, said that we are now entering the global village where the world is becoming one family. As we try to realize we are all brothers and sisters, we must have true friendship and noble love. He is deeply moved by this cause of WCSF centering on IPSF, the sacrifice and service it brings and the sight of the participants and members’ unity and peace efforts.

The former president of Costa Rica also spoke. He said, “This is a good example of living together, working together, and building efforts to achieving peace. Achieving peace is a personal and permanent responsibility that should come from within. When you come and participate in this event, you are making peace.”

During the second half of the program were outstanding performances by the Colors of Love. They are four young girls coming from four different races and nationalities – Korea, Japan, America, and Europe. They sang two of songs entitled, “Come to me” and “Peace in the Hearts of Men.”

Other performances were the Aewon Girls Marching Band, a Korean traditional dance of “Mugunghwa” (Korea’s national flower the Rose of Sharon), and a Japanese traditional dance “Hana-gasa Ondo.”

World Culture and Sports Festival Opening Ceremony
Unification News

With True Parents on WCSF Opening Day
(by Rev. Michael Jenkins)

Icon dok hee was very spe-
cial the morning of July 11 at Hannam dong. Only 8 leaders were there. Mrs. Wen Jun McDavitt read True Father’s keynote address for the opening of the WCSF. Then Rev. Peter Kim read it in English. Through this True Father was practicing for his speech.

Religious leaders and religious youth must take central leadership towards a world of peace. They must cooperate with political leaders and bring the blessing to every nation. Peace must be achieved through the blessing of marriage, and the intermarriage of different religions, races and cultures. Especially representatives of enemy countries should be blessed together. This is the key that will finally reconcile all humanity. Father clearly calls for the responsibility to liberate God and True Parents by healing ourselves. We can lighten the burden on our True Parents and hasten the expansion of CIG.

We attended breakfast with True Parents, Rev. Im, Rev. So (the former continental director of Europe, now presi-
dent of Seygolbo), and several others attended with Rev. Peter Rim, Dr. Yang and I. Somehow, though I had much to share from the recent American Leadership Initiative, the 4-day Divine Principle workshop for Christians, Jews, and Muslims, the Middle East Peace Initiative, and the clergy blessing on July 5th, I felt I should quietly attend True Parents. Dr. Yang was able to give exten-
sive reports the night before so I was confident Father was briefed in detail.

Father’s heart is so rich. Omanim kept appearing and encouraging Abon-
im to get ready for the trip to the stadi-

um in Asan. Because of traffic the trip would take 1.5 hours and it was already 7:40. Father was to speak at 10 a.m. and he was still guiding us dressed in a red Izod cardigan and light-colored pants. Mother then appeared again dressed in a most beautiful white dress suit with silver trim and sequins, ready to greet the world leaders. Father said, okay, and went on to make one more final point to the leaders gathered.

Suddenly Father got up from the table, and stuck out his closed hand, palm down and waved for me to come over. Father motioned for me to open my hands and then he opened his hand and gave me two chestnuts and five raisins. I felt only one thing—Father loves America and he’s counting on us to fulfill our responsibility. Because blessed couples in America are rising up, uniting with the regional directors and their leaders, Father could express such love. Father loves America and he longs for us to become the nation and Hill. He presents it all to Father.

At this point Father left. To my sur-
prise, Father and Mother were already at the door going to the car. We drove from Seoul to the WCSF. Father gave the opening address at 10:00 a.m. at the stadium in Asan. Also in procession participants representing Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Confucian-

ism, Sikhism, and all major religions marched onto the main floor of the sta-
dium. The stadium was absolutely packed with people, including especially 400 world leaders brought by the IFWPP. All of these secular and religious leaders were there. Father and Mother gave a welcome address. Rev. Kwak gave a special address, and True Father deliv-

ered his message with boldness, love, and tremendous power. Father stuck with the text this time. The content was so deep and powerful. Three giant dig-

tal screens allowed everyone in the sta-
dium to see everything on the stage.

Father’s message conveyed the need for the holy blessing of marriage as the path to peace, and that the Inter-religious Council must now be established at the United Nations.

He called on all delegates there to understand this is the hour of the sub-
stantiation of the Kingdom of God on earth.

The program concluded with six dif-

c ertent performances, bringing in the be-
auty of the cultures of the world, including a Korean marching band, Kore-
an folk dance, Japanese folk dance, and entertainment from all over the world. It was truly a grand opening to the Inter-

Religious Peace Sports Festival and the WCSF.

Father’s next major concern for America is that we fulfill our responsibility to bring young students to the Lasting Love Confer-

ence in Korea on August 1. This is anoth-

er historic and provid-

tential event. Let us bind our hearts togeth-

er as one and go for-

ward with absolute faith, love and obedi-

e.
In the 3rd year of Cheon Il Guk, the 13th Chil Il Jeol celebrations were held on July 1st, 2003, under the True Parents' auspices at the central training center located in Guri. More than 3000 people were in attendance, including church officials, district leaders of the Family Party, Ambassadors for Peace and leaders and members from Korea, Japan, and other countries around the world.

The pledge ceremony began at 7 a.m. with Rev. Kwak, the international president of IFWP, as the MC. First, the Kyunghaes (full bows) were offered in the following order: True Parents, True Children and the representatives of the Five Great Saints, the Second Generation, blessed couples representing both the spiritual and physical worlds, representatives of the Three Central Nations of the Providence, representatives of the Six Continents, representatives of the central religious gongs of the providence, representatives of the national messiahs to 185 nations, representatives of True Parents’ clans, representatives of the Abel realm of the whole world, representatives of the Cain realm of the whole world, and finally the representatives of the spirit world.

The bows were followed by the recital of the Family Pledge, the reporting prayer of the family of Reverend and Mrs. Chung-Iwan Kwak, True Parents’ celebratory cake-cutting and the three-fold mansel led by Rev. Jung-Kwon Yoo, Chairman of the Citizens Federation for the Unification of the Fatherland.

Right after the pledge ceremony, True Father told Rev. Kwak to read his speech following the declaration of Chil Il Jeol on 1 July 1995, the May 4th Declaratory Prayer of the Great Transition to the Realm of Dominion of the Ideal of Creation, as well as the report given on May 2nd, 10th and 17th for hoondokhae.

After the reading, True Father spoke as follows:

**Father speaks**

Centering on the peace ambassadors of 190 nations around the world, carry out the education of 180-300 leaders before the end of August.

In order to be number one, lineage is most important. God’s love and life are connected together and the flesh and blood of the mother and the father become one and connect to God. There is no one in the fallen world who wants to be connected to God’s love, life and lineage. The people clad in white means the people who have inherited pure love, life and lineage. It centers on one of God’s main attributes, God’s true love, and this love is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal. That is why God’s lineage is also absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal.

What is the most precious thing? Love and life are also important, but the true sons and daughters of a lineage formed by the union of true lives centering on true love are more important.

The person in the subject position should be able to take responsibility, and protect others in the object position.

In the word “Gyohwe (church),” the first Chinese character Gyo is made up of two basic Chinese characters: the character for father over the character for filial piety. In other words, a church is a place that teaches how to be true sons and true fathers.

In unification, there must be a center of command.

How can one unite one’s mind and body? I have never felt that my body and mind ever fought, because I was too engrossed with knowing God, knowing God’s Will, and following it. This is the way to unite mind and body.

Where does God want to live? Should He live in a house along with his sons and daughters? God can live anywhere He pleases forever, and so we should consider in which center He wants to live. He lives in the center of true love, true life and true lineage.

The people who can connect bloodlines are the daughters and sons-in-law.

There should be weddings of opposites, such as the wedding of an enemy and a saint. From August 12th to 16th, we will hold the World Peace Conference and the wedding of opposites for the Seoul Declaration.

Kinship changes as true love, true life and true lineage develops. As it changes, the love, life and lineage of both men and women improve as well.

What does God like the most? Love? Life? It is having true sons and daughters by establishing a true lineage through true love and true life. How about you? You should all become families where God can reside, by centering on true love, true life and true lineage, just like Him.

In particular, True Father gave a short sermon entitled “The Renewal Movement for the Peace and Unification of the First Realm of Israel is the Ideal of the Establishment of God’s Fatherland.” He especially emphasized that, because the second and third realms of Israel arose out of the fact that the First Realm of Israel did not fulfill its mission, even the Third Realm of Israel cannot fulfill the ideal of the establishment of God’s Fatherland unless it regenerates peace and unification of the First Realm of Israel.

At 11:40 a.m. True Father concluded his sermon, and from 1 p.m. there was a reporting meeting, in which Rev. Kwak gave a report on the providence, and Rev. Chang-shik Yang also gave a report on the major providential activities in America, including the “ceremonies to take down the cross” and the Movement for the Unification of the First, Second and Third Israels. The Chil Il Jeol evening entertainment kicked off at 6:30 p.m. at the Little Angels Performing Arts Center.
We are pleased to report that the American Leadership Initiative was launched successfully in Washington D.C. on June 22–25. Two hundred Ambassadors for Peace representing all 50 states came together for a national conference on the American Leadership Initiative: The World at a Turning Point: The Role and Responsibility of America in a Changing World. The Conference represented the launch of an historic coming together of all the divergent organizations and professions within that were founded by our True Parents. Co-Sponsored by the American Freedom Coalition, the American Clergy Leadership Conference, the Washington Times Foundation, the United Press International Foundation, the effort worked through a “Council of Affiliated Organizations” which includes the World Media Association, FFWPU, WFWP, CARP, SFP and the Summit Council for World Peace.

The Chairman of this educational effort is Rev. Chong Hwan Kwak. The Vice Chairman are Dr. Chang Shik Yang and Mr. Douglas M. Joo. The Steering Committee is Co-Chaired by Dr. Thomas Walsh and Rev. Michael Jenkins. The IIFWP, through the American Leadership Initiative has received the support of the 200 Ambassadors for Peace of its proposal for an Interreligious Council as an advisory body for heads of state and parliaments throughout the world as well as the UN. The Interreligious Council is functioning in an Ad Hoc developmental stage in the U.S. primarily through the American Clergy Leadership Conference which has Christian, Jewish and Muslim clerics as the body of it 14,000 religious leader membership.

Congressman Davis was inspired by the ACLC and their work with IIFWP in Israel. Many Jewish leaders are feeling that the ACLC “Take Down the Cross Movement” and effort to repent and reconcile is genuine. One Jewish leader expressed that this the “First ray of light in 2,000 years !!” This movement is touching the heart of Jewish pain with a experiential vision of the cooperation between Muslim, Christians and Jews in an advisory relations to the political leaders concerning Freedom, Faith and Family. The IIFWP Chairman Rev. Gi and the IIFWP Pres. and VP Rev. Abe and Hod Ben Zwi are to be commended for the effort they made that allowed the Rabbis and others not only to embrace the Christians in Israel but once again in Washington D.C. at the Middle East Peace Initiative. The impact has been enormous.

The Ambassadors for Peace are focused on three key areas: 1. Living for the sake of others, 2. Transcending religious and racial barriers and 3. Strengthening marriage and family as the basis for a healthy moral and peaceful society.

Led by Congressman Davis and many other key Congressional leaders Co-Chaired with Congressman Weldon the American Leadership Initiative banquet attracted over 80 key congressmen from the U.S. and celebrated Excellence in Leadership for the Ambassadors for Peace. Over 120 Congressional Offices were represented. Congressman Davis at the end praised the courage and vision of the founders of the Ambassadors For Peace: Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon.

Congressman Davis who serves as Co-Chairman of the IIFWP USA earlier that week took action in the Congressional Record and is encouraging all Ambassadors for Peace to take similar action as well as his counterparts in the parliaments of the world. Lift up the Interreligious Councils and the advisory body will provide insight and understanding to heal not only the Middle East but the religious tensions that now exist worldwide in the Post 9/11 Era. These tensions can be alleviated. The Ambassadors for Peace have the power.

Resolutions from the parliaments of the world should pour down like a rushing mighty stream because there has never been a time when the sensitivities of religious views and understanding must be understood and respected for there to be lasting peace in any region of the world. May God bless and strengthen you as the Religious leaders join hands with those who are seeking peace as heads of state and leaders of different fields come together with the Interreligious Council.
This is from a speech given on June 24, 2003.

The world situation at the present time is filled with both danger and opportunity. On the one hand, the shocking and tragic events of September 11, 2001 rudely awaked us from any illusion that the world is at peace in the post-Cold War era. It is true that it is very aware that we in America cannot understand our own security outside the framework of the international situation. Both global terrorism and nuclear proliferation are serious matters that threaten our security. Recent tensions in both the Middle East and the Korean peninsula evidence the dangers we face at this time. But while we face profound challenges and threats, our time is also one in which we can hope for a brighter tomorrow for our children. Human history does not follow a course laid out by God as a necessary predestination, but, rather, human history unfolds according to the ideas and actions of human beings. When good people, who live according to their conscience, work together, that is to say, act courageously and righteously, the course of history can be set on the correct path to peace and universal well-being. In this way, goodness and peace may prevail, where evil and tyrannical powers have ruled.

Within human history, even after the centuries and decades of noble accomplishment, there can be no time of moral relaxation. Surely this principle applies at the present moment. Historically, most civilizations have embraced worldviews that affirm a divine and guiding force in human history. This divine power does not seek to totally control the outcomes of human history, but does seek to fulfill the divine will. Hence, America, we say “one nation under God.” That is truly a beautiful and correct expression of God’s ideal. But, God also seeks a unified world under God’s blessing.

The ancient people of Israel, as recorded in the Bible, stood themselves to be a covenant community, called to live according to God’s will and called to establish a God-centered nation. As the ultimate origin and source of all life and love, God’s heart is not for the well being of any single nation or people. God seeks universal joy, happiness and peace, through true love. At the same time, in order to achieve this ideal, God works his will through an individual, family, society, and nation, all for the sake of creating one harmonious world and true love. Individual’s and groups, even within God’s providence of salvation, have their portion of responsibility. When we fail short or fail, we must repent.

Christianity emerged on the foundation of the Christian community. It has its roots there. Unfortunately, owing to the rejection and crucifixion of Jesus, along with the history of Christian anti-semitism that followed, there has not been enough mutual respect, appreciation, and cooperation between Jews and Christians. This is one of history’s tragic realities, a fact which has been harmful not only to Jews and Christians, but to the world. If we had Jews and Christians united and worked together, they could have done much more to help the entire world.

Christianity, building on the foundation of its roots, spread beyond the boundaries of ancient Israel. Moreover, through the early Pilgrims and the many devout God-seeking human communities who came in search of religious freedom, America sought the opportunity to establish a “holy city on a hill” or “new Jerusalem.” America was born with a religious vision at its center. As the representative and largely Christian nation, America stands in the position of a central nation in the province of God. America, one with a similar responsibility to the people of early Israel. That is, America inherits as a largely Christian nation, the mission to receive and follow the Lord and, in turn, serve the world with true love.

Of course, American leadership in the world today is unquestioned. The present day force of both Afghanistan and Iraq, aimed at undermining both terror and tyranny, has made clear the military superiority of the United States. America’s position and power, however, are rooted in deeper conditions and qualities. If America departs from its moral and spiritual foundation, and fails to serve the world with a heart of love and sacrifice for the sake of others, it cannot stand as a true “elder brother” to the world, a true “second Israel” in a covenantated relationship with God.

There are internal purposes related to the rise of America. Just as the first Israel understood its mission in relation to the coming of the Messiah and the establishment of a kingdom of righteousness, America, too, has been blessed by God in order that it may create a nation of goodness, and stand as an example of God’s true love for all the world.

America’s history in the 20th century is remarkable. In both World War I and World War II, America played a unifying role. After World War I and World War II, these situations of global crisis gave rise to major peace initiatives such as the League of Nations that comes from religion. This situation weakened the United Nations as it seeks to carry out its most crucial mission. To correct this imbalance, the United Nations should develop a council of men and women who are unique and specific with a purpose to the task of representing universal, spiritual, and moral principles that are related to the issues under consideration by the General Assembly. Many of these representatives can be religious leaders, and others may be lay professionals in various fields, but who are known for their spiritual wisdom and exemplary character. Some could be nominated for a position on the Council by United Nations member states and others by their religions. The selection process should be untainted by narrow or special interests, and, if necessary, the final selection should be carried out by a lottery system of some kind. The process should stand above any nationalist or sectarian self-interest.

Dr. Moon, from Korea, a land where Christianity thrives, and a place where Rev. Moon’s own worldview took shape, stands God’s seer from the birthplace of the three Abrahamic faiths: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Yet, he understands God’s imbalance, the three Abrahamic faiths. For this reason, for nearly thirty years, he has devoted himself to promoting peace in the Middle East, especially by encouraging dialogue, respect and cooperation among religious leaders and believers.

Traditionally, and in part because of the closeness between Judaism and Christianity, America has a very close relationship with Israel. America also has a close relationship to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, remains committed to South Korea’s protection, and people and Korea are in many ways at the center of the world’s current crises. In this respect, America is looking both East and West as it considers its global responsibilities. It is my hope that these three nations are at the center of the current world situation. These three nations have a unique role to play in the providence at this time. They are each related in very significant ways to God’s providence to establish an ideal nation and world of peace and goodness.

The de-militarized zone [DMZ] that stands between South Korea and North Korea is symbol of the suffering caused by conflict and war. The pain and misery of that place is too deep to be fully comprehended. This situation should be reversed, and a place of war converted into a place of peace. The DMZ should become a peace zone that provides a model of peace, harmony and cooperation among people. Three nations, religions, and cultures, living together as one family. Rev. Moon and the IIFWP have encouraged the UN to consider making the DMZ into a peace zone.

Both the United States and the United Nations need to address the critical keynote on page 10

World peace and the renewal of all America and all nations is the fundamental goal of the IIFWP and is the co-sponsor of this conference. This has been the life-long mission of our Founder, Rev. Moon. He sees America as the central nation to lead all the nations of the world toward peace. Throughout his entire life he has devoted himself to the objective of achieving lasting peace. His strategy has been straightforward and unchanging. Urban, western, beautiful, the personal transformation of individuals who are renewed in their personal relationship with God. Science, academia, media, its foundation in the family where the most basic personal and public virtues are learned. The way is only by the study of love and morality. Third, peace will only emerge as people learn to live for the sake of others, overcoming selfishness and practicing the ideal of true love. Fourth, the barriers that made people misunderstand and overcome, that is, barriers created by race, nationality, religion, language and culture.

This can only be accomplished through the teaching of Jesus that one must “love your enemy.” Father Moon has lived by this principle all of his life. God has prepared religious leaders and people of faith to break through these barriers. These basic principles lie at the heart of the IIFWP vision, guide its worldwide program, and shape its approach to our current crisis. Ambassador Peace are central to the accomplishment of such a vision.

Father Moon envisions two basic groups as being crucial to provide leadership for the nation—the religious leaders and secondly people of faith—men, women and youth who are called by God to work in the mission to bring about a new era of freedom, media, non-governmental community and social service fields. Religious leaders and faith based professional leaders make up the Ambassadors for Peace. The religious leaders here are presented in great part by the American Clergy Leadership Conference. Archbishop George Augustine Stallings and Pastor T. L. Barrett Jr. and ALCCLc have been leading a most historic move of Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders. These Clergy together with IIFWP and its affiliated organizations have been tearing down the walls between denominations and religions. They have joined with leaders of other faiths to spark a world-wide Interreligious and International Blessing of Marriage movement in which marriages are blessed by True Parents. Last year 144,000 clergy participated in the blessing expanding throughout the year to many other religious and international leaders of all faiths.

President Wahid, the former President of Indonesia who is also a religious leader blessed over 100,000 couples with IIFWP. These blessed couples are pledging to become True husband and wife, based on a covenant with God that there will be no divorce or infidelity. The movement of the Blessing is for all Ambassadors for Peace of all faiths and has become one of the most solid foundations upon which religious leaders can stand together in harmony. Through the common ground of marriage and family unbreakable bonds have formed between Christian, Moslem, and Jewish leaders as well leaders of all the faiths of the world.

Their recent Pilgrimage to Israel sponsored by IIFWP and ALCCL opened the door to begin the healing process of the ancient division between Christianity and Judaism. In this effort an explosion is occurring in which the Christian churches are removing their crosses as it is an impenetrable barrier to the reconciliation process between Christians and Jews. Theological work at a recent conference at Georgetown University entitled “The Cross Reconsidered: Historical Perspectives” reexamined the cross and are now discussing what would have happened if Jesus’s family and friends had been present. The question is: What would the main character do in the story if you were the main character in the story? The answer is: Jesus would have said: “I forgive your sin, and will heal your land.” (II Kings 1:14-17)

It is true that America is the religious leader of the world. Now is the time to lead. God has touched your lives in a special way. We, as Ambassadors for Peace, are God’s Ambassadors. 200 are here representing the United States have been appointed by the United Nations as Ambassadors for Peace. 200 are here as Ambassadors for Peace. For Peace Now! is the time. The time has come to end the hatred, religious conflict, violence and bloodshed that is occurring on this occasion we go forth to the halls of Congress to bring a message of hope and vision for the entire world. The time for America is now. We not only bring a message, but also a commitment that from this day forward the United States will work together with our elected officials to realize the vision of God for America and the World. A vision of faith, family and freedom for a prosperous and successful society. This is from an address given to the United Nations. Dr. Chang Shik Yang, is the Continental Director of the Church in North America.

We pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to the world. This commission originated in the Bible. In Corinthians 5:20 St. Paul wrote, “Now therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you on high: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to the world.” A central theme of IIPWP is that the key to peace is linked to the relationship between America and the UN, America, to be secure, must cooperate with the nations of the world. Recently Father Moon gave a special message for the Ambassadors for Peace concerning the international dimension of their mission: In order to realize the ideal of a world of peace in a fundamental and comprehensive manner, I once again advocate that the United Nations establish an assembly consisting of representatives from all religions. At that time, the representatives must implement the central ideal that their followers sought to realize, and they must do it with wisdom, exemplifying in their personalities a true love that can serve as a model for everyone. I hope that many leaders will take this matter seriously and continue to strive to establish an assembly of global religious and spiritual leaders within the UN.

I have worked without ceasing my entire life for the sake of realizing the one proposition and determination that is the will of the true love of God. I did not teach concepts alone, but I led the way and provided examples.

On that worldwide foundation, I established the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace and appointed Ambassadors for Peace throughout the world. That was in order to cultivate leaders who will realize the world of peace and harmony by eliminating the boundaries that cause conflict and struggle and by serving as a bridge between all religious truths.

In America, I established the Peace Ambassadors. I did not consider: Historical Perspectives reexamined the cross and are now discussing what would have happened if Jesus’s family and friends had been present. The question is: What would the main character do in the story if you were the main character in the story? The answer is: Jesus would have said: “I forgive your sin, and will heal your land.” (II Kings 1:14-17)

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It is also most important that Americans are aware and sensitive to the views and feelings that many, many people around the world hold about America at the present time. Suffice to say that, fairly or unfairly, there is, in many places, a deep hurt, anger and resentment toward America and Americans. Of course, what is most important is not how you or I view this situation but how God views this situation. Based on all we know of God, through the founders and the scriptures of our world religions, God seeks peace and harmony. Thus, war is to be avoided. But, when it occurs, suffering must be minimized and the peace must be quickly restored.

At this time, the United States can take an unprecedented step toward world peace. While it continues its loyal support of both Israel and South Korea, it should show the world its global compassion and desire for justice. But more importantly, America should show the world the secret of its success. That secret is not simply the freedom we value. Rather it lies in the religious and spiritual life of the people. The roots of America can be seen in the Pilgrim Fathers who sacrificed everything for their faith in God. They put God’s will for the establishment of his Kingdom above their own comfort or desire. In particular, they remained open to God’s providence. This same heart and commitment must be renewed in America today. For we stand at a turning point. It is with this in mind that the IPFW has been working since 1998 to share its vision and build support in every nation around the world for Rev. Moon’s proposal to establish an Interreligious Council at the United Nations. Recently, the Republic of the Philippines has indicated that it is preparing to submit a formal resolution to the 58th General Assembly of the United Nations. This September 2003, advocating the establishment of an Interreligious Council at the United Nations. I hope that the United States, and many of you will support this very important initiative. The time is right and the need is great. There is too much at stake to allow for delay. This is an historic moment—a turning point.

Truly, if America takes a stand to support this initiative it will be making a significant step, demonstrating its true spirit and character as the leading nation of peace. In this way, it can stand as a loving elder brother to the nations of the world. God’s desire is much broader than for “one nation under God.” God’s eternal longing is for one worldwide family of true love, where all children live together in mutual respect, harmony and cooperation: one world under God. The era of interreligious conflict and disharmony must come to an end, just as the quarrels among nations must come to an end. In this respect, all religions and all nations should repent for past mistakes, and make a new determination for peace. It is precisely through the establishment of an Interreligious Council at the United Nations that the entire world can show its resolve in starting a new history of peace, and ending the suffering caused by war, disease and poverty.

America, together with the United Nations, can lead the way to a new era centered on God’s will for a unified cosmos of universal love and joy. In God’s ideal, wealth, technology, and quality of life should be enjoyed by all his children. There should be no discrimination based on race, religion, nationality, geographical location, etc. In order to realize this ideal, an institution such as the United Nations is essential. As technology, communications, transportation, and international trade develop, unification will occur more and more around the world. We see evidence of this in the increasing tendency toward regional cooperation, for example, in the development of the European Union. This trend will continue. It is unrealistic for developed nations to think they can continue to prosper in isolation from the teeming masses of the world. The United Nations can be the turning point. However, and this is so very important, any institution dedicated to peace and global governance, such as the United Nations, must inherit the vision, heart and love of God if it is to successfully carry out its mission. Hence, the Interreligious Council is imperative at this time in history.

We are at a turning point in history. Let us work together for peace. Let us work together to fulfill God’s will for America and the world, and let us work together to establish an Interreligious Council. In this way we can solve the world’s most critical global problems, and end the suffering of millions around the world.
The July 5th Blessing in Chicago

by Rev. Michael Jenkins

The July 5th Blessing in Chicago was a special moment for the denominations in the dispensation for the Second Israel. Incredible depths of this blessing occurred as Pastor Barrett stood strong on faith. The sanctuary was jammed with couples from the most prominent Christian churches in Chicago. Beloved Bishop Kim and Chicago Family did not hesitate when Father directed that the blessing had to be done on July 4th or 5th.

Because of the International conferences in Washington D.C. June 22-29th the blessing could not be on the east coast, yet. Dr. Yang and I felt the urgent sense that we must fulfill Father’s direction. Bishop Kim, without hesitation stepped up to the challenge. As with the urgency of going on the Pilgrimage to Jerusalem, I can see that this blessing was a key stepping stone to bringing total unity between ACLC and the Jewish and Moslem leaders, centered on the most important thing, The Blessing of Marriage.

The most important thing that we are learning is that when we follow Father’s providential direction, not worrying about whether we can do it perfectly or not, but just that we faithfully follow, a brick by brick foundation is laid upon which the next providence unfolds. Who would imagine that by following Father’s direction to publicly read and proclaim the Clouds of Witnesses testimony of the Saints, there would be such trial where many key clergy, including Pastor Barrett could not stand with us? That through this trial we would be driven to bring the clergy to the Divine Principle, for it is the only way they could understand.

Due to the fact that we followed Father’s direction we have now taken over 1700 clergy through the Divine Principle. This created a spiritual revolution of proportions that is not understood at all. This path is sure to bring the clergy together through the highs and the lows. We introduced Rev. Beverly, Pastor of the Love All People’s Ministries and our ALCCL Co-Convenor in Indiana, had the Youth Dance Ensemble perform praise dancing lifting up True Parents and the Blessing.

The youth ensemble came in praising Jesus and True Parents as one. The led the procession of dance with a 4 x 4 foot banner (like a college marching band) that had the Family Federation logo on it. None of us knew it was going to be like this. These Christians, particularly black ministers have looked at us with that love from their faith in centuries of suffering in slavery. Once they commit to something in faith it permeates everything in their lives, their faith becomes their life. The way the black church raises the children and the congregation, is holistic.

Now that these clergy believe in True parents! This root in America will never be uprooted and will only continue to grow and grow. That’s what I felt when I was looking at over 30 beautiful families from the Nation of Islam. You’ve seen them, they love True Parents and feel in my family together with my cousin Ishmael. We must thank God.”

Then the True Family Values Choir performed composed of Japanese American Christians that came to America. They left their homes and their families with a Mother’s role to sacrifice their lives to give birth to a new Christianity and a new Israel. When they sang the saints and martyrs are summoned and their presence changes the atmosphere. Sacrifice brings the holy spirit and attracts all those who have sacrificed and are holy.

How do we know such things? Personal witness experience. A few years ago, missionaries were singing in Rev. Elliot’s church and suddenly he stood up and asked the missionaries to circle with his congregation and all would join hands. He proclaimed that he knew that they were all giving their lives at home and that many can’t endure the pain of separation and many, especially the children don’t understand why being racked with resentment, only increasing the tears.

Rev. Elliot explained this as he circled us all in his church. Who is Leroy Elliot? He is a Baptist preacher—very popular—yet he observed the ministry of Father Moon for years from a distance. It was during the RPK stadium blessing that the missionaries and our sister Sachyo just kept coming to the church. Finally his heart was touched, he and his wife Kate came to the blessing at RPK in 1997. It was during Father’s prayer that all of the sudden the holy spirit touched his heart and he joined the movement. That’s why he testifies on some of our ACLC videos that blessing changed his life and his marriage.

He says, “I can see better now, I can see the beauty in my children and my wife looks better to me now, my children look better to me now!” This is when you have to come on into the inside to understand. This is the work of God.

Rev. Elliot circled the sisters proclaiming that their suffering was a comfort to the mothers of his church. There was a healing balm that these sufferings brought to his church family at New Great St. John Community Baptists Church.

I’ve been with Rev. Elliot through the highs and the lows. With him preaching to gangs and people looking for love and experiencing the joy of God’s word and salvation, only to return back to the hotel room that night to here the next morning his best members sons had just been killed by a stray bullet from a drive by shoot. The young man had just finished his senior year in high school with a 4 point average. He was working at a drug store and had just locked the front door when the bullet struck him in the head. This precious child, the son of a great mother in Rev. Elliot’s church. He had just been notified that he received a full scholarship to the University of Illinois for being the top of his class.

This is what I mean by the highs and the lows. I saw Rev. Elliot weep for the children. This particular night he was weeping in the pulpit for the missionary, because he could feel that the mother and the others who lost their children to violence could be comforted by the effort to heal and revive the Christian family. It was there that Leroy proclaimed with tears, oh Lord God, we feel that the martyrs of Christian history who shed their blood are now present with us in the church. They have been forth forth because these suffering missionaries from...
Chicago From Page 11

Japanese have come to see us. The martyrs are here family!! At that point the con- gregation was all in tears!! My beloved lovers and brothers do not fathom from the profound and eternal impact that True Parents are having through this day.

That’s why when the True Family Values choir sang at the Blessing at Life Center I felt the spirit of the Martyrs and saints enter the room. All I could feel was that I am sorry that I have not suffered enough and sac- rificed enough to merit their help and presence. I’m grate- ful that though we are not enough True Parents and True Families suffering is covering us with grace. Also, through the suffering of our elders (especially Dr. and Mrs. Yang) to follow God’s direction, a small condition only understands but forged in the fires of suffering base, like the vanguard of suffering love. They are lead- ers who only understands but forged in the fires of suffering base, like the vanguard of suffering love. They are lead- ers who only understands but forged in the fires of suffering base, like the vanguard of suffering love. They are lead- ers who only understands but forged in the fires of suffering base, like the vanguard of suffering love. 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CHICAGO from page 12

ing forward. Representing Judaism was Dr. and Mrs. Joshua Ben Ami, Islam (Palestinian) represented by Imam Dr. and Mrs. Jodeh, Christianity—Rev. and Mrs. John Porter (Pleasant Green Baptist Church and key A/C leader) and a newly matched interfaith couple. The ceremony was blessed by God and brought everyone to a special pinnacle of peace and hope. 40 newly matched couples were present in full wedding attire—white gowns and dark suits. (This is all because of the diligent work of Mrs. Eriikawa.) All the women present—rededicating and those marrying for the first time had beautiful white veils and both men and women had the white blessing scarves.

This is what it is all about. The blessing of marriage, the completion of restoration and the fulfillment of the Purpose of Creation. It is also the central power to heal the rifts of enemies. That's what overwhelming when the Jewish leader from Jerusalem embraced the Palestinian Moslem and proclaimed that they will sacrifice themselves to heal Israel and Palestine. I proclaimed from the pulpit that the Bible had prophesied this day—that the "Lion will lay down with the Lamb". To seal their reconciliation the Christian leader joined the two in the embrace and finally the newly matched couple representing the Cheon II Guk era also joined their embrace. The four vows were affirmed with a loud YES!!! True Parents sealed the blessing through the prayer of Blessing of their representative officiants. Pastor Barrett and all joined in a great moment of rejoicing. Dr. Burkesh Shater explained the meaning of the Blessing. Dr. T.L. Barrett, Jr. was a magnificent host. And he is a great Fundraiser, donating the first $1800 of what turned out to be over a $70,000 offering.

The entertainment was wonderful, including Rev. Daugherty singing a very modern version of Amazing Grace. Dr. H.G. McGhee and Dr. Porter played the piano and the organ and Rev. Daugherty sang with joy a very modern version of Amazing Grace. Dr. and Mrs. Gary Sungil Kim were the officiants. Proclamations and letters of congratulations and greetings were read by Rev. Jenkins from US Speaker of the House, J. Dennis Hastert congratulating our Founders directly by the State of Illinois and our dear friend, Secretary of State Jesse C. White, and Congressman Daniel B. Davis (who just last week hosted 79 members of Congress at our American Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C.)

The entertainment was wonderful, including Rev. Monet Beverly's youth dancing ensemble, "Models of Christ," which included several of our Indiana and generation sisters, our incredible True Family Values (ever growing bigger) Choir and Life Center's own Mime performance. It was topped off by an incredible performance from Mrs. Seko Lee near the conclusion of the ceremony. 50 solid gold rings were distributed to the raffle winners and then Dr. and Mrs. Yang led the standing-room-only crowd on 4 cheers of Ok-Mansei.

We concluded the event with a splended catered buffet while guests remained for hours, as the spirit was so high that nobody seemed to want to leave.

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The pageant begun and the delegates appeared on stage in their respective national costumes. As the MCs introduced each pair, the candidates were very enthusiastic in greeting the audience. The audience in return sent them with a warm applause and cheers of encouragement.

After the introduction of each candidate finished, Ms. Ryung June Lee, President of Sun Moon University, Asia University Federation, and the Co-organizer of this pageant, gave the welcoming remark. Vice Mayor of Asan City, Mr. Dok Jin Yoo representing Chung Nam Province gave the welcoming remarks saying that he warmly welcomes the international participants and guests visiting the city. With this remark it uplifted the gymnasium atmosphere more.

There were a total of 24 participants from 12 countries who joined the pageant this time. They all passed through a thorough screening and competitive judging process. Only 10 participants were chosen at the preliminary talent contest and performed on stage. The audience as well as the candidates were becoming more and more intense as they entertained the audience with their talent presentations such as piano, fusion martial arts, national dance, mixed dance, speech, etc.

The second part of the program started with the performance of the Colors of Love, which is an international girl band consisting of a European, American, Japanese, and Korean. A video followed showing the schedule of participants during whole period of the pageant preparation, the workshop, and service activities. It showed a lot of the participants’ aspects as they are enjoyed in Lotte World in Seoul together with handicapped children and the candidates’ impressive behavior during the preliminary judging. We could also see in the video the scenes where in they signed on the soccer balls of peace that will be sent to North Korea as their symbolic contribution to peace.

The judges were Mr. Thomas Phillips, the President of Service for Peace, Mr. Clifford York, the CIS Director and International Education Foundation, Neil Salonen, the President of World University Federation, Mr. Tae Jin Jeong, the Editor of Unification News, and administrators of Sun Moon University as members of the board of judges.

In the second part of the program, 10 finalists were chosen. They were Mr. Chinese Taipei, Mr. Japan, Mr. Lebanon, Mr. Tanzania, Mr. Thailand and Miss America, Miss Taiwan, Miss Hungary, Miss India, Miss Thailand. All of them had the chance to give their best during the Question and Answer portion with the judges.

Finally the time for the announcement of the result has come and once more all the candidates appeared on stage in their formal attires. The Friendship Awards were given to Mr. Ken Abiru of Japan, and to Miss. Dushleen Mehta of India, as the result of votes by candidates themselves. The Talent Awards were given to Mr. Che-jung Chang of Chinese Taipei and Miss. Volga Sayavet of Belarus. The First Runner-up Awards were given to Mr. Matukio Chuma of Tanzania and Miss Laurel Sayre of USA. Congratulations to all the winners and participants of this year’s MMU International Beauty Pageant!
E ven as the feet of Palestinian and Israeli leaders wobble along the path of the Middle East peace road map, Sunday, July 13, 2003 three Jordanian men — about the age of suicide bombers from the PLO and Chechnya ran steadily to win three of four top spots in a race for peace organized by the widely spreading Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace in the sleepy town of Cheonan, South Korea—442,593 people known for the hard work of its farming population.

Flanked by two of his triumphant countrymen, shortly after clinching the coveted crown for the world’s number one runner for peace, Jordanian college marathoner, Methkel Abu Duras said in Arabic with his coach, Umm-Qise native, Talib Al Rousan interpreting, “We are in Korea to show our people and the entire world the right way to go — the way of peace, love and understanding. Peace and harmonious living are beautiful and attractive. Who says war and violence are not ugly and life destroying?”

Compatriots Sulman al Gdran won the second place, Bashar Rehael took the fourth, while Young Leal of the United States wrested the third position in this ding-dong race of five kilometers that rendered hundreds breathless and others heaving sighs of relief after chesting the tape at the end.

Altogether, 2,000 men and women, representing 43 nations and 10 different faiths—Buddhism, Chondokyo, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shinto, Sikhism and Unification—vied for laurels and “at the same time enhance global peace, cultural, racial and religious harmony, and draw the attention of a world at war with itself to the urgent need for peace and the role of non-conventional means like sports diplomacy and cultural festivals to attain it.”

Hundreds of participants spoke from the podium and in press interviews in similar vein of the “enduring benefits for humankind” of this global peace movement which is the brainchild of Washington Times newspaper baron and United Press International news service owner, Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

One of the ardent believers in this global peace movement, Inderjeet Singh, a Bowling Green University-trained sports administrator from Malaysia said of the race for peace, “The world indeed is one home and humankind is one family. We are seeking to build a new breed of boys and girls, men and women with broad enough horizons to see themselves as citizens of the world, not just citizens of one particular nation.”

Intermittently referring to the immortal words, of India’s Mahatma Gandhi of blessed memory, ‘Do we want the world to be blind? Not! If it were eye for an eye, the whole world would have been blind.’”—Mr. Singh, a Sikh added, “we are here to celebrate peace and the unity of the human race and our Creator, the only one God.”

Others who spoke about the need for peoples and leaders of the world to engage in similar activities and events that may pull down the strongholds of racial and cultural disharmony, intolerance and bigotry include Thailand’s lawn tennis player and Buddhist, 18-year-old, Sukrit Samakketkarn, Russia’s Ecology student, Ksenia Fesenko, Aila Willits, an economist and Christian from Finland, Singapore’s Polytechnic and Muslim student, Airin Astuty Samsuri, Kai-riin Saluste of Estonia, Rev. John Gehring of the United States, Korea’s Kyung-June Lee and Lynne Kim.

Malaysia, with 110 participants, had the highest representation at the race, a total of 104 men and women came from the United States; from Japan came 90, the Philippines 86, Taiwan 70, and 60 Russians and hundreds from about two-score countries took part in the race for peace.
Unification News

ACL/C/TFVM Conference in Boston

by Rev. Ramfo

The June 9th, 2003 ACLC / TFVM monthly conference held at the historic 46 Beacon St. Family Church Center brought another great success to God and True Parents. We had a total of 39 ministers, their wives and Elders attended. Among them were our cores ACLC Minister including those who participated in the Pilgrimage to Rome and Israel.

The MC was Bishop Zell Skwers (Chairman of TFVM, MA). Rev. Richard Wright an Executive member of ACLC in our region welcomed the participants. He gave brief background information about ACLC. Among others were Rev. Father Cecil Cozier of African Orthodox Church, Rev. Bradshaw, Rev. Mathew Edwin, Christ Apostolic Church Mt Zion, Rev. Shola, Dr. and Mrs. Suluki of Islamic Society of America.

Rev. Philip O. Fakiyesi of Christ Apostolic Church, Providence, RI gave a profound testimony about the trip to Rome and Israel. He called all participants to go beyond themselves, their denomination, religion, nationality and race for the sake of world peace. He said, “The outward expression should resonate with what is inside. Suicide bombers externally may look friendly, in the next moment they are ready to destroy life. Let’s repent and love one another especially as religious people.”

The presentation of “Beyond The Cross: The Road to Victory in Jerusalem” a new video prepared by Rev. Philip Schanker established the groundwork for the keynote speaker, Dr. Andrew Wilson, a lecturer at the Unification Theological Seminary, New York. Dr. Wilson explained biblical and Historical conflicts between Jews, Christians and Moslem, the children of Abraham. He also emphasized the role of Christianity to help in this process of reconciliation, the need to help each other to overcome these historical barriers between the children of Abraham. He spent considerable amount of time explaining about why the cross should come down.

The majority of the ministers present, including one Moslem couple (Dr. & Mrs. Suluki) agreed with his presentation. Rev. Wayne Gadie, Rev. Wright and many others requested for a copy of Dr. Wilson’s paper. Rev. Kil Hwan Kim, Regional Director brought the evening to a close explaining about True Parents background activities for the United Nations to consider the inclusion of Upper House Religious Senate in UN. Dr. Suluki closed the event with a prayer.

SFP in Nepal.

World CARP Nepal has begun a national campaign of “Service for Peace” with several programs throughout the country. The first event was inaugurated by the Hon. Kamal Prasad Chaulagain, Minister of Labor and Transport with around 300 VIPS and CARP members.

A second event was held on Feb 22nd in Gorkha—one of the most historical places of Nepal—and was chaired by the Hon. District Justice. Those in attendance included the chief of Police, the Chamber of Commerce, different political parties and NGO’s of the district and representatives of the army and government, and there was great enthusiasm for the vision of changing a whole nation through service.

The keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Ek Nath Dhakal, President of World CARP Nepal, and was televised to more than 5,000 people on a local TV channel that evening. The first stage national tour is aimed to convey the message, vision and plan for the national and is planned for 12 different cities by the end of March 2003 including Dhading, Lalitpur, Ghorat, Bharatpur, Pokhara, and Sarlahi.

SFP: Korea’s First Dandelion Family Festival

This past May 24th, the ACLC’s first Dandelion Family Festival, sponsored by Service for Peace Korea was held at the Little Angel’s Performing Arts Center. The Colors of Love, the cultural ambassadors for Service for Peace Korea was held at the Little Angel’s Performing Arts Center. The Colors of Love, the cultural ambassadors for Service for Peace Korea performed special songs for the participants of the event.

CGL, which stands for “Culture”, “Game” and “Leisure”, is one of Service for Peace Korea’s many cultural enriching projects. During this CGL event, handicapped people, children who must support their families and foreign workers were paired up one to one with regular college students.

Through the harmonious atmosphere created through cultural and athletic leisure activities, the participants, each with their individual differences, were able to overcome racial and social differences and become one. As the volunteers and those being served had previously been participating in a variety of CGL activities such as visiting an aquarium, watching a movie, and snow sledding together, this event became a place in where they could share their hearts and concern for one another like one big family.

The festival, filled with various programs was a new cultural experience in itself for the volunteers and the disabled. There were performances by Sadadarfari, a sign language performance group, activities involving interaction with the audience, as well as special performances by the Little Angels Performing Arts Group.

The Colors of Love, the cultural ambassadors for Service for Peace offered the congratulatory performances at this event. They prepared a special performance for the participants of this Dandelion Family Festival. The songs were “Because I love you” and Atomic Kittens’ “Tide is High”. Their performance was very meaningful as C.O.L. had been directly participating in the CGL activities. They had laughed, talked and shared their hearts with the disabled and the volunteers.
This opened him to a magical world. Discovering your gift opens you to a magical world, a meaningful world. You are dreaming this. Many dreams are given to you until you discover your true identity as a pastor, a counselor, a teacher, a leader, a church builder.

Whenever I can speak to seminar- 

rians about this, I encourage them to discover their gift, their calling, their talent and passion that evokes their heart and zeal. You each have a gift that makes you great.

Most of us do not appreciate the power we have. We are too scared, or shy, or obnoxious, arrogant or obtuse to really become the person God cre- ated us to be. Your mission as a cho- sen person is shaped by five factors: your cultural inheritance, your ances- tral lineage, your innate character, the experiences and education you had as you grew up, and God's dream for your life. (See Exposition of the Divine Princi- ple, Part 1, Ch 6, Sec 3)

Finally add the most impor- tant element of all: your- self.

You have power greater than God does to deter- 

mine your future. You have power greater than Satan to control your life. There is only one way to keep going! Release your gift. Become the person you think of yourself to be sure, then throw your- 

self upon God and let Him carry you. If you are sure, then let God throw Him- 

self upon you, and carry Him with you.

Everything you studied here, you will remember. It will come to you when you need it. Thomas Jef- ferson's glory came not in school, but when he wrote the Declaration of Inde- pendence. Abraham Lin- coln's glory came not in school, but when he wrote the Gettysburg Address. Martin Luther King's glory came not at school, but when he wrote, "I Have a Dream." But none of them could have written those documents if they did not have an education. They would never have been able to pen a great message if they had not read many speeches, and written many poor, difficult, stu- dent-level attempts.

As a student you have learned to discipline your mind as you have made many attempts to capture mes- sages. To be great, you have to learn how to deny a good deal of your own thinking. Writing is just one thing. You're throwing out what you've written and striving to improve it. You have worked hard. The result is not this diploma. The result is what you achieve from now on. The value of UTS is judged not by what happens here, but by what happens out there, in the church and in the world, as a result of you.

You'll see the value of UTS in your lead- ership. UTS will prosper. If you bear fruit, UTS will reap with abundance. As you serve, UTS will succeed. As you teach, UTS is teaching. As you lead, UTS is leading. You are UTS; not this building, not this seminary, but the church that is demonstrating leadership that makes you great.
On June 14, another clean-up was done in Dorchester with over 25 attendees. Through their activities they built a friendship with youth from other churches and building bridges with other races. They are the fruit and testimony to the blessing of God and True Parents. After their 5-Day intensive workshop at Camp Aurora, New Hampshire, again these future leaders are in the hot sun serving others in Worcester, MA.

Self-Help CARP Scholarship Philippines

The World CARP-Philippines and CARP's idea and vision through the introduction of CARP and PTARP Programs. After the introductory seminar in the campus, they were invited to attend advance seminar at the WCARP's Special Outreach Event, which combined the special outreach event, and the introduction about the idea and activities of SFP, by them to lead and host, done and adjusted to match up the need of every CARP Center. The scope of every event was about 100 participants. The circuit had 5 college schools. Every CARP Centers also utilized this event to invite new guests, service organizations, teachers and professors to participate. Chinese Culture University invited teachers of Section of Extracurricular Activities.

The importance of the event, played the short film of WCARP Special Outreach Event, then, their performance and the introduction about the idea of MMU, and the introduction of CARP's idea and vision through the way of RAP that was created by them-selves.

CONGRATULATIONS from page 19

who are you, upon what foundation you stand, and whose authority you are inheriting:

True Father emphasized that to be a true instrument of God to realize our inheritance in this era of Ch'un Il Geuk; we must have an absolutely vertical relationship with God, like the sun at high noon. At this moment, when the sun is shining down from directly overhead, no shadow is cast. We too should cast no shadow, living our relationship with God like the sun at high noon. This should manifest in your personal spiritual standard, and become the foundation for building an exemplary blessed family. To achieve this, I encourage you to follow the words of Jesus, who said in Matthew 6:33; "But seek ye first the kingdom of God (Ch'un Il Geuk), and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

I urge you to remain pure in heart, and you will become a true peacemaker. I challenge you to seek God's kingdom first, and its righteousness, and you will become a genuine "kingdom-maker." Then you will truly know what many Christian leaders are only beginning to understand in the movement to take down the cross... the meaning of receiving a crown.

Now, I challenge each and every one of you to carry the proud tradition of UTIS and the example of our Parents deep in your hearts. Go forward into the world to liberate God, Bless all of humanity and make True Parents proud.
I am truly proud, honored and pleased to participate in such a meaningful event with you, a day that marks an important accomplishment in your lives; a day that represents a significant achievement for the Providence of God. Today’s commencement ceremony has special significance, for we honor the first students to graduate from the seminary’s New York City extension site. This is the first step toward a grand vision, where leaders of all faiths will study together, becoming one body, and work- ing to build the Kingdom of God on Earth.

I bring you the warm congratulations of Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, our beloved True Parents and founders of the Unification Theological Seminary. You may naturally look at your gradua- tion from UTS as the culmination, the climax, of several years of effort. But I am sure that from God’s point of view it is also a beginning, and as each of you depart through the gates of this semi- nary you are entering a new and chal- lenging realm of your life. This is therefore a precious opportunity to make a fresh start, a new beginning in your life.

As you pass through these gates you are now part of a proud historical tradi- tion. You may not realize how profoundly this institution will impact all of human- ity and history as a center of learning for the Completed Testament teaching of our True Parents. Father founded UTS to provide a religious education for the whole being. He personally cared enough to raise to me, a member of the first generation.

This was given on June 28, 2003 at the Unification Theological Seminary, Bar- ronytown, NY by Rev. Dr. Chang Shik Yang

by Rev. Dr. Chong Shik Yang

I began to worry that we would be neglect- ing our studies and upsetting the pro- fessors. As we were walking, I began to share a lot of memories with my wife about Father’s fishing project in a lagoon on the Hudson River, then a farming proj- ect, then a water pond expansion proj- ect, and the hours upon hours he spent talking with us. He said that we did not understand the value of our time with him.

As we walked along the trail, I par- ticularly remembered the day when it was time to set up the long fishing net in the nearby Hudson lagoon during the cold early spring. Many students had to go in the snowly, bricky, cold water and hold up the net in order to properly set it. Father was directing the project. A few times Father had to go through the ice to go to the hospital, including Dr. Her- drich.

As my wife and I approached a rest area, a clearing with a view of the lagoon, several STF teenagers were already there looking at the view. We heard them talk- ing about Father’s fishing project. One of them was asking the others where the net might be and was wondering about the time when Dr. Hendrickx did his hero- ic best to hold up the net. Was it coinci- dence? It was a surprise to me that they were talking about this. Of course I inter- rupted and shared my eyewitness account of the whole fishing expedition with Father and the seminarians. Then a few other STF members came to the viewing area, looked at the Lagoon and started talk- ing about the same thing. Again I shared with them what I had profoundly experi- enced.

My wife and I continued on this inter- esting walk along Father’s trail. A tremen- dous rush of emotion came through my body as I was awash with the meaning of what I experienced at the clearing. I felt God giving a special love to me, a member of the first generation. All the hopes and dreams that Father had given to us, the first generation. He personally cared enough to raise us seminarians up in a special way. Now I see that from the standpoint of that day, it was heartwarming to see our second generation trying to make sense of the true meaning of true faith. They are learning to take ownership of life of faith. There were testimonies during the workshop by our teenagers who have gone through a year of STF. They tearfully said that they experienced God and True Parents and realized and appreci- ated what their parents had gone through in their life of faith. It was so gratifying and comforting to hear this. If there is a generation gap, the STF effort is helping to close it.

Who knows what the small fishing incident may mean to our second genera- tion, that is, the third, fourth, etc.? But if our faith is to grow, I believe it must have a meaning for our children’s life of faith and the large majority of the first generation, who are generally slow to understand our significant times spent with the four gospels. But the testi- monial to our Beloved Parents of Heaven and Earth, from an unworthy person such as I.

I was part of the second graduating class of the Unification Theological Seminary. By now, I consider myself an ancient fossil of the past history of the Unification movement. Now I am thinking of giving a gift to the first generation. I would like to share a few memories that have remained with me during my years as a member of the first generation. Memories of my first encounter with Father came through his door. Sudden- ly, in the middle of the night, Father came to his city to speak. Father stayed in the church center that night. On the next day, I remember several aspects of the program were not prepared well, Father chastised and corrected this leader quite strongly at dinner, guiding him to do better. As a young leader, our brother was quite shocked to receive Father’s strong words, and the burden on his heart was quite heavy.

That night, unable to sleep well, this leader got up to go to the bathroom at around 3:30 in the morn- ing. As he passed the door of Father’s room, he could hear sounds coming from Father’s room. He could not help himself, and quietly put his ear to the door to listen. He heard the unmistakable sound of Father weep- ing in prayer. Although the prayer was in Korean, and our brother couldn’t understand it, he was unable to move from the door. Sudden- ly, in the middle of the prayer, Father called out to him in Korean. The leader heard two words that he clearly understood: Father called out to him in Korean. At that moment, he could understand how Father’s absolute faith and strong leadership was hijacked by his urgent and humble prayer, taking total responsibility in front of God.

The third aspect of the minister’s mis- sion is that of King, to lead with God’s authority. This is particularly important as we have entered the era of Choon Il Geuk, the establishment of the Kingdom, and the reality of His sovereignty on earth and in the entire cosmos. True Parents are bequeathing their sacred heritage to you. Every one of us should realize that we only need to have faith and confidence, live publicly and speak and act in the glory of God and True Parents. You have the power! God will work through YOU to manifest His absolute sovereignty in each situation. You must only realize see CONGRATULATIONS on page 18

A Testimony to UTS

by Chen Lawrence Fong

I never felt so unbecoming and unspiritual during my student days. I never felt so much the atmosphere of love. It was a new feeling for me a gift during my visit to the campus area, a clearing with a view of the lagoon, and Earth, from an unworthy person such as I.

I encourage you as the people encour- aging received your diploma, as a minister of God, an ambassador of our True Parents’ teaching and heart, and a child of Heav- en. Please be true to your chosen path and calling. Like Father, Mother, our early church elders and leaders, and so many others who walked the path of a pioneer. You will be called upon to walk the path of the future of your children, your community, and the universal church. You must know that there is great glory on the road ahead of you, even as history honors those in the past who gave everything for the sake of God’s will. But the path to that bright, shining victory will not be easy. The way of a pioneer is often lone- ly, and you may feel at times that you have no support from anyone—not even family or friends. But as you con- ducted, how seriously you have embraced your training, how deep is your knowl- edge of Principle, how you live your faith; these will determine your strength in times of difficulty. With my whole heart I encourage you as the people encour-

aged Joshua: Be strong, and of good courage.

Each of you may find yourselves in different missions, with different areas of responsibility. But as a Unification minister, what is your main mission? What are your most essential responsi- bilities? Father has taught us that the mission of a pastor or minister can be expressed in three offices: prophet, priest, and king. What do these mean, and how can we fulfill them? The mis-

sion of a prophet is to represent God in front of the people. The prophet speaks for God, his words must be God’s words underwritten with God’s truth, and always convey God’s point of view, main- taining and conveying a vertical per- spective. A prophet must never get side- tracked or distracted, caught up in hor- izontal, personal points. The reason is that the role of the priest is complemen- 

tary to that of prophet, for the priest must represent the people in front of God. The priest must pray for the people, repent for the people, and lift them up, inter- ceding on their behalf with Heavenly Father. Father has taught that a church leader should focus on representing God to the people during the day, leading with conviction, praying for guidance and being confident as you try your best to fulfill God’s direction. But during the night, the leader should be a person of tears, reflecting on the decisions and experiences of the day and repenting for error or wrongdoing. We should repent for ourselves as well as for those we are responsible for.

One of our American teachers and elders tells a story of how he experienced

...
IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Kathy Rigney & Mr. Alan Saunders, IIFWP Director of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Character Education Training Seminars, held a memorial service for the President of Togo. Following the coast, Mr. Saunders and Mrs. Kathy Rigney traveled to Togo in February 1994. The couple was appointed to the Family Federation members in the country. They also met with the Deputy of the HIV/AIDS Prevention Office for Benin. A meeting was held with Ambassadors for Peace at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paterné. Character Education seminars were held at the ‘Complexe La Glycine,’ a half-day conference, which was at the National University of Benin. Over 120 people attended the seminar, which was called, “The Need for Moral Education and Education for Character,” which covered topics that span the human life cycle, including relationships, marriage and family education. The participants were exhorted to receive the Ambassadors for Peace award. Stimulating group discussions were held on the topic of what the future moral education system would need to include in Benin. Other meetings were organized for future events including a follow-up conference in two months.

Nigeria

From this point, the group traveled to Lagos, Nigeria to meet other Ambassadors for Peace and give more presentations and seminars. “The Need for Moral Education,” and other lectures were given to the Family Federation members in Lagos the following day. A meeting that evening was held with Minister Haruna Elashi who is the current Communication Minister for Nigeria. Observation was observed as Nigeria held its first set of elections given by an elected group of officials. President Obasanjo was re-elected to power with his PDP party having taken many of the postesses throughout the country. International observers observed the elections, which were held without major disturbances or riots. The following day, a group of IIFWP Representatives met with Dr. Idego to speak at the World Culture and Sports Festival 2003 in Korea. Later that day a meeting was held at the Institute for the Lagos State Chapter of IIFWP. Many influential dignitaries attended the event including leaders of NGO’s, professors and community leaders. Mr. Saunders presented a lecture on moral education and once again a lively discussion was pursued about the future of moral education for Nigeria. It was decided that a follow-up meeting would be held in the coming months to include teachers, administrators and government officials. From that meeting a Character Education committee will be formed to introduce the initiative formally.

Uganda

Mrs. Rigney and Mr. Saunders then traveled to Nairobi, Kenya and then on to Entebbe, Uganda. Meetings were held with HIV/AIDS Prevention leaders in Uganda. Mr. Saunders gave a presentation to the girls at the Peace High School in Entebbe, and also met many leaders of NGO’s and also representatives of several HIV/AIDS government organizations. Presentations on moral education and relationship education were presented to a select group of Ambassadors for Peace and Family Federation leaders.

Meetings with representatives of the Ministry for Health, Ministry of Education and other NGO’s were the highlight of the final day of the tour in Uganda. There was a lot of discussion on the success of NGOs to combat the HIV/AIDS problem in Uganda and reports were attained to remain positive. They held me in that country. The group met with Dr. Chris Barrowmont of the UN Population Fund and discussed the fact that now the organizations in Uganda were being challenged with a stagnation of HIV/AIDS and discussed the fact that youth no longer want to hear about this issue as they cannot relate to NGOs’ given presentations on this subject.

The culmination of the trip was the signing of the contract of the new Peace Embassy in Kampala. The Peace Embassy is centrally located near the President’s quarters. The Lieutenant General, Moses Ali, formally signed the contract along with Mrs. Rigney and Mr. & Mrs. Rutangye.

Man Sentenced to 40 Years for Jin-Joo’s Murder

A 21-year-old Charlotte man was sentenced to at least 40 years in prison in the strangulation death of Jin-Joo Byrne killed while fundrasing. Eugene Evans pleaded guilty in Mecklenburg Superior Court to second-degree murder and first-degree sex offense. He was sentenced to serve consecutive sentences with a maximum of 49 1/2 years. Prosecutors had said they would seek the death penalty against Evans, but apparently decided to accept the guilty plea after the victim’s parents, who oppose the death penalty, raised concerns. “Their feelings played a key role in our decision,” prosecutor Marsha Goodenow said.

Byrne, 18, was reported missing Aug. 28, hours after she began going door-to-door at the Roseland Apartments. Her unlocated body was found the next day in a vacant apartment at the complex. “We visited with the district attorney in October and pleaded for (Evans’) life,” the victim’s father, Martyn Byrne, said. “We appreciate the district attorney’s courage in taking our feelings into consideration.” Legs shackled and dressed in an orange jail jumpsuit, Evans was given a chance to address the court before he was sentenced. He apologized to his family and thanked them for being there. “I hold me in that country. The group met with Dr. Chris Barrowmont of the UN Population Fund and discussed the fact that now the organizations in Uganda were being challenged with a stagnation of HIV/AIDS and discussed the fact that youth no longer want to hear about this issue as they cannot relate to NGOs’ given presentations on this subject.

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I experience of love, beauty and joy on self over and above others. This becomes enclosed in concerns for him-for hell serves himself first, last and person faces toward heaven... The opponents and to be of some use. By this a relate to it. This same spirit of humility and act according to the principles of service and love. As the spirit receives Vitality Elements from the body and Life Elements form God, it becomes vibrant and beautiful. Reciprocally, our spirit selves project spirit elements to our physical bodies. A spirit filled with a divine ideal, hope and love imparts health and power to the physical self. This reason, people filled with spiritual life often need less sleep and food, and generally have more enthusiasm about life.

The character of one’s spirit self is thus determined by the quality of his physical actions. If a person for example has wronged another, or stolen property or exploited someone weaker, he will inevitably be called to rectify such matters during the course of his spirit life. If we fail to right his wrongs while he is on earth, he will enter the spirit world in a damaged state. Jesus encouraged us to straighten out our difficulties with our fellow man before we offer our gifts at the altar (Mt 5:21) is thus not to be ignored.

Heaven and Hell

But, if one neglects to do this, he will be sent to “hell”? The Principle stresses that after physical death we continue life in the spirit world at whatever level we have attained during our lifetime. No one is “sent” to heaven or hell; rather one enters the spirit world at the level of spirit development he has attained on earth. We are the ones who determine our destiny.

The difference between heaven and hell has been suggested by one Emmanuel Swedenborg, a remarkable 18th century Swedish scholar and scientist who in his later years had an extensive series of spiritual experiences in and with the spirit world. For this spiritual giant the distinction is clear: “The soul which inclines toward heaven is in the feeling that there is a higher power...and in the striving to relate to it. This same spirit of humility and respect for the greatness of creation goes with an effort to be with others and to be of some use. By this a person faces toward heaven... The opposite attitude is to put down creation and elevate the self. The one bound for hell serves himself first, last and foremost. By this he is cut off from the opening up possibilities of heaven and becomes enclosed in concerns for himself and his own.

Love and Beauty

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This is the twenty-fourth in a series of excerpts from the book 40 Years in America: An Intimate History of the Unification Movement 1959-1999. The editor is Michael Inglis, the historical text by Michael Mickler. The book is available from HSA Publications for $7.95 + $4.88 s&h. Contact them at: 4 West 43rd Street, NY NY 10036; tel: (212) 997-0050 x250 or at their website: www.hsabooks.com.

Revd. Moon was “his understanding of the seamless web linking family order to world order.” This was apparent in the IIFWP’s first and succeeding International Seminars in Washington, D.C. on “True Family as the Foundation for World Peace in the New Millennium.” In early July 1999, Revd. Moon directed IIFWP staff to convene the first seminar “before the end of the month and to bring together two hundred distinguished participants representing more than forty nations” as well as participants from each of the twenty-two U.S. states in which Mrs. Moon had recently spoken. From each locale, three guests were to be invited: one a religious leader, one a political leader, and the other an academic leader.

Revd. Moon also gave “specific direction that the content of the conference program...should be dedicated to a series of Hoon Dok Hae readings.” These were “gathering for reading and learning” sessions based on passages from Revd. Moon’s speeches. The general membership had been encouraged to practice Hoon Dok Hae between 6:00-7:00 a.m. since late 1997, but it had not been tried at “any previous international conference for VIP contacts.” The program included a series of seven ninety-minute Hoon Dok Hae sessions, each consisting of a reading on a specific topic followed by responses by two assigned discussants and comments from the floor. Despite initial apprehensions, members with extensive experience in dialogues of this type offered glowing appraisals.

Dr. Anthony Guerra, Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies at the University of Bridgeport, commented: “I have been comparing in my heart and mind over the past few days this first Hoon Dok Hae conference with the many other Unification-centered seminars for VIP guests. The strongest metaphor I’m left with is that of the difference between the atomic bomb and conventional weapons. In this first Hoon Dok Hae conference, our guests and also we members, are challenged by the direct words of True Parents. In the atmosphere created...we all seem to be delivered from our old selves....Father has given us the formula for Pentecest.

Given the success of the initial gathering, the movement undertook regular Hoon Dok Hae conferences for the remainder of the year in Washington, D.C. Beginning with the second conference on September 17-20, media representatives were included among the religious, political and academic leaders.

The introduction of Hoon Dok Hae and the emergence of high-level conferences devoted to “reading and learning” Revd. Moon’s words highlighted two important points. First, Revd. Moon’s speeches or excerpts from his speeches were beginning to supplant The Prin-ciple as the movement’s official canon in the Com-memorative theology. Moreover, it was regarded as being reduced in stature from a sacred text to a systematic theology. It was apparent in the IIFWP’s first and succeeding International Seminars in Washington, D.C. on “True Families as the Foundation for World Peace in the New Millennium.”

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Dr. Mickler is vice-president and professor of church history at the Unification Theological Seminary.

During the late 1990s, the movement proliferated a dozen or more world federations for world peace. Some of them were quite specific, i.e., the Artist Association for World Peace (est. 1995), Island Nations for World Peace (est. 1996), Continental Nations for World Peace (est. 1996), Martial Artists for World Peace (est. 1995), Island Nations for World Peace (est. 1996), Association for World Peace (est. 1995). These two federations coalesced a dozen or more world federations for world peace. Some of them were quite specific, i.e., the Artist Association for World Peace (est. 1995), Island Nations for World Peace (est. 1996), Continental Nations for World Peace (est. 1996), Martial Artists for World Peace (est. 1996), Association for World Peace (est. 1995), Korean Buddhist Federation for World Peace (est. 1996), Peninsula Federation for World Peace (est. 1996), Martial Artists for World Peace (est. 1996), Peninsula Federation for World Peace (est. 1996), Martial Artists for World Peace (est. 1996), Peninsula Federation for World Peace (est. 1996), Martial Artists for World Peace (est. 1996), Peninsula Federation for World Peace (est.
The second prong of the movement's three-fold approach to peace was that of forgiveness and reconciliation. Some issues simply transcended the problem-solving capacity of rational discourse and social idealism. Among the most seri- gous global problems in the 1990s were the vicious hatreds among ethnic, national, racial and religious groups. These, in fact, became more pronounced during the post-Cold War period when they were no longer held in check by the competing superpowers. Tutsis and Hutus killed one another in pre- sent-day Rwanda; Serbs and Muslims killed one another in Bosnia; Russian and English killed one another in Northern Ireland and elsewhere; Jews and Arabs killed one another in Israel; Hindus and Muslims killed one another in India; Serbs and Muslims killed one another in Bosnia; Irish and English killed one another in Northern Ireland; Serbs and Muslims killed one another in Bosnia; and, with a much greater toll, Tutsis and Hutus killed one another in Rwanda. Hatreds among ethnic, national, racial and religious groups were created. In the existing order, which discriminates between men and women, you have had to endure much suffering. However, today, you are seeing the age of women which is now dawning for the first time in history.

"If women, who make up half of mankind, cannot enjoy proper human rights, can we have a peaceful world? The mistaken mentality that dis- crimination against women has changed. The role of women must be expanded and corrected within all areas of society in which discrimination against women remains. Women, including the spheres of politics, law and the economy.... A woman, as seen from the viewpoint of the ideal of creation, is not an assistant to a man, but must be a partner... We are in the mission to correctly guide those men who have until now led his- tory through power, and confused the order of love in their lives."

Under the auspices of WFWP, more than 200,000 Korean and Japanese women "came together to create ties" in thirty-eight occasions between March 11 and November 9, 1994. Sisterhood ceremonies conducted in the United States between Japanese and American women did not achieve those kinds of numbers, primarily due to the geographical distance between the two nations. However, they may have had more impact due to the involvement of persons with exceedingly high public profiles, most notably, former President and First Lady Barbara Bush. Numerous other lead- ers of the highest rank and countries—spoke or enter- tained at WFWP-sponsored sisterhood ceremonies in the United States. They included former President of Virtues, William Bennett; Ambassador Jeanne Kirk-patrick; television personality Barbara Walters; former Congressman Jack Kemp; “Superman” actor Christopher Reeves; Coretta Scott King; well-known psycholo- gist Dr. Joyce Brothers; Olympic swimmer Matt Blon- dr; Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale; Maureen Reagan; singers Shirley Jones, Jennifer Hol- liday, and Naomi Judd; and actress Faye Dunaway. Taking part in the ceremonies, many were deeply touched and accepted additional invi- tations. The most prominent were President and Mrs. George Bush who accompanied and spoke in support of WFWP with Mrs. Moon on a six-city speaking tour in Japan. Between January 22 and March 8, 1990, 4,000 Japan- ese women traveled to Wash- ington, D.C. to be matched together, hand in hand. "One participant comment- ed, “It is hard to fully describe how moving this sim- ple ceremony was without witnessing it!” The rich background of cherry blossom trees and roses on stage undoubtedly contributed to the effect. Following the highly successful Washington, D.C. conferences, the movement sponsored Japanese-American sisterhood ceremonies in eight U.S. cities during the remainder of 1995, with several thousand more women from both countries participating. In 1996, the WFWP conduct- ed a number of “African-American/Caucasian-Amer- ican” ceremonies. These activities in America inspired Austrian-Croatian, Czech German, Russian-German, Hungarian-Slovakian, and Italian-Slovakian sisterhood ceremonies conducted by WFWP chapters in Europe.

The movement did not limit its efforts on behalf of forgiveness and reconciliation to women. Members also took on sacrificial lifestyles and volun- tary suffering. Rev. Moon referred to this as going to the “next” point. Whatever the terminology, the group most embodying this and through whom Rev. Moon attempted to work most directly in the 1990s were Japanese women. In much the same way as he pro- vided opportunities and encouraged Mrs. Moon in her leadership of WFWP and world speaking tours, so he looked to elevate the spiritual consciousness and com- mitment of Japanese women. Utilizing messianic imagery, he called upon them to take on an “Eve” or mother’s role in the world. Japan had been sacrificially fund movement activities for years. During the 1990s, the movement deployed thousands of Japan- ese women as missionary workers. Initially, 1,600 went out to the 160 countries in which the movement had missions, ten percent. Later, some 4,000 Japanese women went out to countries in the Americas. At the end of the decade, most of these sisters were deployed in the United States, and Rev. Moon stated his intention of sending 20,000 more. Many of them left husbands and children behind. Their commitment was intended not only to augment movement activi- ties but also to inspire sacrificial efforts in others.

**Blessing 2100**

Stop and watch the clouds drift past ohuile.
Are they headed for some tragic isle?
Even though they may be miles apart,
I belong to you.

Now they brush across the mountain tops,
Dipping down to hidden valleys;
Even though we may be miles apart,
I belong to you.

When the mist descends and clouds my view,
As the darkness closes me in,
There’s a port of you within my heart,
And it warms me through.

When I tumble blindly in the night,
Searching for the everlasting light,
There’s a port of you within my heart,
And it warms me through.

Once we finally meet the dawn tomorrow,
Then we realize what we’ve become.
Now God’s precious gift is this fresh start,
From His love, so true.

Here our lives begin eternally.
Joined together through our family;
Now God’s precious gift is this fresh start,
From His love so true.

Stop and watch the waves roll in awhile.
Are they coming from some distant isle?
Even though we may be far apart,
We belong to you.

Now the breeze comes in so sweet and clear,
Since we see your presence almost near.
There’s a port of you within our heart,
And it guides us true.
Although we all believe in the same God, it is a distorted belief (I hesitate to call it “faith”) that motivated the terrorists to black jets and turn them into guided missiles. Such actions by so-called “religious” zealots makes me want to renounce religion altogether—even Unificationism. But that’s no answer, either.

Something has always troubled me in certain Christian rhetoric, in certain Islamic or other religious attitudes; something that I consider a threat. It is a threat to me, to the nation, ultimately to God and humanity itself: fundamentalism. This is the bane of all religions and of all thinking people. Watching those two jets slam into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 only served to solidify that resolution.

Born out of ignorance and fear—or fallen man’s inability to relate to the Living God—fundamentalism has always been stalking man’s spiritual life like a jealous lover. When one’s relationship with God ceases to be a thriving, growing, life-giving thing, fundamentalism takes over. Then it chokes the believer like Kudzu strangling an Oak tree. It has many aspects, I suppose, but the three main ones I see are: a) it is legalistic; b) it is adversarial; and c) it is blind.

Legalistic

Religious fundamentalism is preoccupied with questions of Authority—presumably God’s. True Father says that God’s love and God’s embracing heart are the ultimate source of authority, but the fundamentalist will have none of it. He understands God as a Lawgiver who rewards the righteous and punishes the “disobedient.” God’s Law is invariably codified in some written document: Bible, Koran, Divine Principle, etc. All authority stems from these documents, thus it is inherently legalistic: the best example of this attitude is the Pharisees at the time of Jesus (who Jesus condemned mercilessly). Rather than embrace the living God in Christ, these characters were worried about what the Bible said. What’s the problem with a legalistic approach, anyway? One thing is, when the book is the ultimate authority, it is too easy to use scripture to justify almost anything. For many years, white Southern Christians used the Bible to support their enslavement of blacks. After emancipation they used those same scriptures to justify segregation and “Jim Crow” laws. That attitude is still prevalent in certain parts of the Deep South today. I speak from personal experience: I worked as a missionary in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and some of the most virulent racists I ever encountered were white “Christians.”

Another problem is that it makes one inflexible and inscrutable. Habit makes cowards of us all, and thus we become resistant to change. If someone should come along with something NEW—ex. Joseph Smith, Mary Baker Eddy, Sun Myung Moon—charges of heresy are brought, and the witch-hunt begins. So, how dangerous it is to think that God’s Authority resides in some book? Unificationists are not immune to this; how many times have I seen someone extract a quote from TF’s speeches to use as a cudgel or battering ram, or as a rift of mandamus when such was never the intent? 2000 years ago, this type of thinking got Jesus crucified.

Adversarial

In its never ending quest to be the “Chosen of God” or the “Elect,” fundamentalism draws a sharp line between us and them, thus it is adversarial. Even though God’s love and will encompasses all humanity, with no exclusions, the fundamentalist insists on a dichotomy between Jew and Gentile, saved and unsaved, Muslim and infidel. Family member and “outside people,” etc. The inevitable result is conflict and daunty, even religious warfare (like the Muslim fanatic’s Jihad against that Great Satan, the USA).

I have never liked the adversarial nature of Christianity—the “believe this or else” mentality. The whole notion of a small, exclusive group of religious people rejoicing in Heaven while the vast majority of the human race suffers in hell for all eternity is ridiculous. If this were true, what kind of God would that be? The fundamentalist God is a terrible, fearsome deity—the master of all cruelty. That being the case, almost any means is justified in coercing unbelievers to conversion, even torture. Read the bloody, barbaric history of European Christianty as a point of reference. The Inquisition especially was an evil, ungodly code of inhuman treatment that inflicted pain on “heretics.”

Unificationists seem obsessed with assigning Cain and Abel roles to people, cultures, and nations—and even members within the ranks—when it is not so clear that this has any basis in Principle. The classic example is leaders who once taught, “I am Abel, you are Cain, so you must obey.” Fact is, Cain and Abel were both fallible men, both human beings. The difference between them was negligible in God’s sight. Divine Principle teaches the universal brotherhood of man under the Father’s eyes. We are all brothers and sisters so there can be no further discrimination. The Kingdom of Heaven is the dwelling of all people—either we all go together or no one goes.

There is no greater form of willful ignorance than fundamentalism. For example, regardless of the prevailing scientific evidence science accumulates to the contrary, many otherwise intelligent people insist that the Bible is literally true. Therefore science must be mistaken. This doctrine of Biblical Inerrancy results in firm belief of the six-day creation, 6000 year-old earth, worldwide Flood, etc. None of these things are scientifically possible.

A theologian once explained, the reason why some Christians insist on the literal truth of Genesis is so that they may preserve the literal truth of Revelation—i.e. the Apocalypse, coming of Christ on the clouds, and so on. My question: why does having faith in God depend upon accepting, without reservation, the “truth” contained in documents written thousands of years ago? Do people actually believe that questioning the literal truth of the Bible is going to jeopardize their “salvation”? Fundamentalists invariably reject other philosophies or traditions that either contradicts their views or exist beyond them. Why else would Christian clergy assert that Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, Islam, or (you name it) is “of the devil” and all their followers are going to hell? Why else would, say, Jehovah’s Witnesses call Roman Catholicism a “cult” and the Pope an Anti-Christ? Why would they want to persecute the Unification Church? Conversely, why do I perceive intolerance in our own movement? Why are persons who “leave the church” reduced by some to persona non grata, to the extent that even if someone wants to return, he knows full well how he is likely to be treated if he does? Thus, most do not return. Other beliefs being what they are, there seems to be a serious matter. But that has little to do with whether you are “in” or “out” of the church. I have met several ex-members who continued to endure the humiliation of returning. If the movement cannot take care of its own (which it cannot), how does it expect to save the world?

What To Do

The core evil of religious fundamentalism is this: it denies the Fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of humanity. It is patently insane to speak of “God’s love” while at the same time believing uncounted billions are going to spend all eternity in hell for every sin. And how are you going to rejoice in Heaven when your brother is in the pit? No, we are all in this life together—the fate of one is the fate of all.

Whence resides God’s Authority, then? It is the Principle that God’s truth be embodied in a human being—and so the necessity of Christ. God’s Authority is in the Messiah himself, not in his speeches or the De’text. Scriptures are meant to inspire faith and act as a guide; they are not statues. The final authority in all matters is the conscience of each individual. So responsibility for one’s actions can never be transferred away from the self and no evil can ever be justified, regardless of what the Bible “says.” Any ideology that pits one against the other, divides human populations into sheep and wolves, or makes me Cain and you Abel should be questioned. The age of blind faith is over.

Unless the religious world neutralizes fundamentalism, it will continue to block the way of God’s providence. The sectarian strife will continue, the divisions and resentments and hatreds will continue, and yes, the terrorism will continue. Because this is an era of evil, the terrorists will continue to counteract terrorism, but how do you fight an idea? Panunism has to be neutralized and exposed for the virus it is. Otherwise, for every Osama bin Laden we liquidate three more will take his place.

Unification News
One lady caught Fred on the street and the improved quality of their cooking. Several husbands complimented them on their 'activated' food containers, and several customers reported their arthritis had improved. The following Sunday, the owner of a local car repair shop, Bill Mixner, sensed it once again. He'd encountered a large elderly population, and they'd been all the rage at his seminary. He'd been all the rage at his seminary, and his self-appointed goal was to help the townsfolk become more enlightened.

Pastor Bascomb had fixed his microwave oven really worked.

Dale and a few others resisted the temptation to buy, as did Ellie May. Her RV had used more gas than ever, and they'd had to borrow money from a cousin just to get home from the lake. The soap and one nodule were sacrificed on Jim's basement work bench. Every test revealed ordinary soap, and an inert lump of metal. Nonetheless, Bill and Fred were making hundreds of sales.

**Organization**

The two salesmen had always been loners; both were unmarried, always on the road. Now they had bigger ideas. If a hundred other MLMs can do it— Bill told Fred, in the privacy of their motel room. They rented an empty storefront downtown. Folks could buy in to the new organization of levels costing anywhere from $10 to $100.

Pastor Bascomb had fixed his microwave oven really worked.

It was proving difficult. Then, as if in answer to his prayers, along came Bill Mixner and his wondrous technology. Pastor Bascoumb was an intellectual man, and when Jim Faircloth had fixed his microwave oven really worked, two months earlier, he'd talked the repairman into giving a short lecture on how the appliance really worked. That afternoon, Bascomb told Jim he'd accepted his invitation to speak. "Irresistibly, science excites the water molecules directly," he enthused.

It seemed to Bascomb that Mixner's products must work on similar principles. Besides, Bill and Fred had started attending church each Sunday—and tithing generously.

**Vibrations**

Meanwhile, the town's leading Protestant minister was generally unknown. He was a young man, just out of seminary, and his self-appointed goal was to help the townsfolk become more enlightened.

Pastor Bascomb had fixed his microwave oven really worked.

The goals of the school are to educate children in the Korean language, culture and history, and to promote the Christian world view in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of True Parents. This mission can be a very rewarding experience for those who are interested in giving and training Second Generation children for their inevitable future roles in the building of God's Kingdom on Earth.

This couple would live in a two bedroom apartment in the dormitory and would receive free room and board plus a stipend of between 1,500,000 and 7,000,000 won per month, depending on educational level and experience. A limited number of places is available for those who have successfully been through the Western Program and/or those who speak Korean.
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DREAMS:
I dream of things that may some day come true, and all I can think of is some nice, new person like you, I hope that someday we can meet and have a friendship that will forever keep!

Nan Young Ladolcetta, 13, Irvington, AL

Useful Internet Addresses

- Unification Church: unification.org
- Family Federation: familyfed.org
- HIFWP: www.HIFWP.org
- HSA Bookstore: www.hsabooks.com
- Unification International: www.tongil.or.kr
- Unification Outreach: www.unification.net
- Bridgeport University: www.bridgeport.edu
- The World Community Journal: www.worldcommunity.com
- UTS: oceanchurch.org
- Ocean Church: www.sunmoon.ac.kr
- Sun Moon University: www.pwpa.org
- PWPA: worldcarp.org
- World CARP: purelove.org
- Pure Love Alliance: www.suntek.ch/edirectory
- Unification Archive: www.Tparents.org
- ICRF: www.religiousfreedom.com
- Religious Youth Service: www.rys.net
- World University Federation: www.wufed.org
- World of Heart: www.sunmoon.com
- Int. Religious Foundation: www.iwef.org
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