

# Kodan News 2-0307

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## Stony Path of Tears (3)

Reverend Moon's Message to 300,000 Christian Pastors in America  
from the Danbury Prison in February 1985

### We Meet God in the Place of Tears

Who is true God? God is the One who is searching after His true object to whom He can give true love. God forgets Himself completely and only works for the wellbeing of the entire creation. Visualize God going after this fallen world. Is He coming with joy, laughing every day and calling "Here is true love. All my fallen children, please come"? Or is He grieving, going after fallen man with tears? Why is the true God the one who is seeking His children with tears?

It is significant that tears come to our eyes on two different occasions -- when we are utterly happy and joyful, and when we are utterly sad and sorrowful. God has been crying as a broken-hearted God. When He suddenly finds absolute joy, will He start laughing or keep crying? Imagine lovers who have been separated by war, tearfully searching in hopes of finding each other. They shed tears because of sorrow at having lost each other, but suddenly upon finding each other their tears become tears of joy and they cry even harder.

Then in what circumstances does God want to meet His loved ones? God will meet His loved ones in a tearful place, in a tearful way. If you are absolutely sorrowful and are shaking with sobs then you are not only shedding tears, but fluid is coming from your nose and mouth as well. Have you ever cried in that fashion? If you have never experienced such tears, you have not yet tasted true love. If your expression of tragic sorrow is so deep that it cramps your insides and almost chokes you, in the moment you find your long-lost loved one, what happens? The shock of his return might be so dramatic

that you would pass out! That is truly a dramatic encounter. Is that the most dramatic love of all, or is it still not quite at the center of true love?

When you know God's true characteristics do you think He is a God of glory sitting on a throne looking down on the world, happily dispensing His blessings? So far, the Christian world has described this kind of benevolent God, but we in the Unification Church are not looking for such a God. We are seeking the God who is desperately looking for a dramatic encounter with His loved ones. When God is heartbroken and sorrowful and tearfully searching for His family He has no time to think of Himself, and He certainly doesn't worry about His own fame or honor.

God looks very miserable in His search for true love, but that God is truly noble and loving. No one could see God that way and scoff, "What kind of God are you? How can you be so miserable and foolish?" A God of that heart must be praised for giving Himself in an utterly sacrificial way for the sake of His children.

Imagine a loving couple who truly care for each other unselfishly. If suddenly the wife dies then her husband is completely heartbroken and really cries. If that man happens to be the President of the United States, do you think the citizens will say, "What kind of man are you? As the President how can you show such deep sorrow?" Will people criticize him for showing his genuine grief at the loss of his wife? No. That pure expression of love is a thing to be praised.

We said we are working toward better and higher goals. What are they? The best goal is the desire to be wherever true love

can be found. We cannot find true love in the place of glory, however, because God never found it there. We must find it in a tragic situation.

What way of life did Jesus Christ live? He lived the life of the cross and was finally crucified. For whom did he die? Did he die on the cross aspiring to become a Roman emperor or governor of Israel? No, he died gaining salvation for others. All his effort was only to save people. Jesus lived the life of God, desperately seeking His loved ones. Although he gave out his very life for the people, by living in that way he fully occupied God's true love.

### **Among All Possible Roads, Choose the Road of the Cross**

There are many roads meeting at the crossroads. How can we distinguish whether a certain road is wrong and not leading to the ultimate goal? We look at every road from the point of view of true love. If true love doesn't come alive on a particular road, you won't find any satisfaction and you will know it is the wrong direction.

If a child is drowning, a parent jumps into the water to save his child and will even die in his place. What kind of love is that? It is sacrificial, true love. Suppose a friend is drowning and another friend saves him and dies in his place. What kind of friend is that? Of course, he is a true friend. Is this the same on the national level? If America is sacrificial in trying to save a small nation such as Vietnam, does the same theory apply? Did America meet the standard?

Where is the Unification Church? Established churches have lots of money, honor and fame, but all of a sudden the Unification Church has emerged and challenged them all, saying, "We want to go in a completely different direction." Usually churches take a collection at service on Sunday mornings and a devout Christian tithes one tenth of his income, keeping his home and whatever extra money he needs. We don't have any extra money, however. We go out to raise money, giving our blood, sweat and labor to save the world. Just like Jesus, we want to give ourselves to save the

world, and in the process we are willing to sacrifice and die. We know how to live comfortably like anyone else, but we gave up that life. We are here to sacrifice. We live the simplest way of life and eat humble meals. We don't spend money but work hard, and the fruit of that labor is given for the sake of the world.

You know how to live well and eat well. We all know how to wallow in luxury. Let the world live that way. We don't do it, because we are willing to sacrifice for the sake of the world. We embrace the sacrificial way of life that was established by Jesus. We are the people who forget ourselves and cry out for others, praying for heaven to bless them. We want to be in the position to give ourselves up for that purpose. We choose that way of life.

Our life style is parallel to Jesus' life. Therefore, we can evoke such heartfelt passion in the heart of God. As I said, God is coming down to humanity in a tearful, heartbroken way. If you go this way, then the moment He meets you is the moment He truly has hope, comfort and encouragement. God came all the way down and has finally found people who understand Him. Here He has true comrades and champions, and God feels comforted. We want to give God a shock of joy. When He meets you, let Him find someone who suffers and is more sorrowful than Himself. Then He will be comforted. God will want to champion you and comfort you and will no longer be sad. Let us surprise Him by comforting His heart.

### **Repentance on the Road**

Do you pray? How do you pray? If your prayer is centered mostly on personal requests, it is neither valuable nor powerful. When you are too self-centered and only want individual advancement, God just cannot listen to that prayer. The first thing is to determine a righteous direction and to work toward the goal, repenting in daily religious life. God will always listen to the needs of such a person. Actually, ninety percent of prayer is not about doing this or that, because you and God already know what must be done; ninety percent of prayer

is repentance. This parallels Jesus' teaching to repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Repentance is very valuable if you do it correctly.

Since your goal is already set very high, you always know on which days you don't reach it. Repent on those days, saying, "God, I'm sorry about today. I really wanted to come much closer to the goal today but I failed you. Please forgive me. I will do it tomorrow." That's the way you should pray.

Some day you may be witnessing when some big guy strides up to harass you, yanking your necktie and shouting, "You stupid Moonie." At that moment perhaps you can't stand the difficulty any more and you snap, "Yes, I'm a Moonie. So what?" Then you come back and pray, "God, I'm sorry. That was not Your expectation. You want me to do better than that, don't You?"

The next day may find you having to repent again. When you set your goal very high you cannot reach it easily, and every day you repent. That's a beautiful thing. Every day is a new day and a new beginning. You have a lifelong journey and every day is a day of repentance. That's a beautiful life to live. That is far better than feeling, "Now I'm the leader, and I give the directions around

here." The other way is a far more beautiful way of life.

God has never boasted, "I'm Almighty God so you have to listen to Me." Then how could we who are trying to comfort that heartbroken God say that we are somebody? We have not come that far yet. The person who repents every day makes progress, even without knowing it. Anyone who thinks he is a high-standard Moonie and a good example for others has already stopped growing. Would you like to go the road of repentance?

I want you to realize that even after lifelong repentance no one will have paid his debt. On the road of repentance every day is a new beginning. That is the road of your very own cross, on which you are going only upwards and will never fall down. Many times Jesus secluded himself in the mountains, fasting and praying tearfully. Even for him, every day was a new day of repentance. That's the one sure way you can guarantee you will make progress and never falter.

Today my topic concerns the crossroad of life and death. What road do we take? We can choose many, but let's take only one -- the road of the cross. -- *To be continued* -- (From "God's Warning to the World, Book II")

## 石ころだらけの涙の道 ( 3 )

お父様がダンペリー監獄から全米30万のキリスト教牧師に送ったメッセージ

1985年2月

私たちは涙の場で神と出会う

真の神とはどのようなお方でしょうか？神は、真の愛を与えることができる真の対象を探し求めるお方です。神は御自身のことを全く忘れ、全被造物の繁栄のために働き続け

ておられるのです。この墮落世界を訪ねていられる神を思い浮かべてみてください。神は喜びをもって来られ、毎日笑いながら、「さあ真の愛だよ。私の墮落したすべての子供たちよ、来なさい」と呼ばれるのでしょうか？それとも悲嘆に暮れながら、涙で墮落人間を