



# New Hope News

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November 1

## "Our Goal: A Day of New Birth"



On November 1, Father inspired the state directors and the New York area membership with his address, "Ourselves Reborn," detailing the process of resurrection.

"The central principle of Christianity is resurrection, which in new-born life. Rebirth is the central thought of Jesus, as evidenced by his conversation with Nicodemus, and therefore is also God's central principle. Thus it should be the ideology of all mankind," Father began.

We need rebirth because of the fall, explained Father. Everyone must understand, he said, that mankind started from a false beginning, being born under the fallen parentage of sinful Adam and Eve. All good religious adherents must recognize that they are the product of a sinful history.

"Without resurrection, we have no life," Father said. "We cannot be forgiven as is; we must pass through the judgment. We betrayed God, especially in the area of love, the greatest gift of the world. When Adam and Eve betrayed each other to Satan, the original value of life and the creation was lost. We must restore all things one by one. Satan was the mastermind of this crime when he attacked our selves and our love. As a result, the world has become the realm of death, with Satan as its master."

Where do we find life? asked Father. We must cut through all levels of the realm of death. Our hope is new birth and new life, which we can receive after coming out of the realm of death. There are two ways to do this, Father explained. One is to lift the whole weight of the Satanic world, and the other is to go through each layer one by one, which is the better alternative.

The role of religion, he continued, is to assist man in this process. "You are the decisive factor," he said. "You must not be oppressed by religion, but rather, you should be on top of it. With true man, religion is not necessary. If your resurrection is total, you no longer have a need of religion because religion came about only due to the fall. But you do need religion until you break through and recognize God as your Parent. Thus the purpose of the Unification Church is to help you find God. In doing so, the Church and I have the same concerns about you as do the parents of a newborn baby -- nourishment, growth, and building

character."

We will always face persecution along the path of resurrection, Father reminded us. While most of the persecution comes from the world, God also adds to it to strengthen us. "The one qualification to

become resurrected is to be victorious over the world of temptation," Father said. "God can trust the victorious person." Father explained that self-denial is an important part of the religious way of life. We can particularly see this in Buddhism and Christianity. "After you become resurrected, you can have everything. But until then, the things of the world are obstacles. All religious teachings start from denial, especially self-denial. Yet their goal is the liberation of your self. With will power, you can go forward, denying all worldly pleasures, to become victors."

Father summarized: "You must pass through the Satanic world and then confront it to expand God's territory. Then you can generate power within yourself. We can pass God's criteria only through persecution. Therefore, good religions are destined to be persecuted. We see in history that religions come from the grass roots and ultimately come into conflict with those who hold power. Jesus was nailed to the cross by the power of the Roman government."

Father continued to say that throughout history God has had no choice but to

deal with the fallen world in order to realize His providence. We must work to that soon God can deal with the pure world. "Thus, the ultimate duty of man is to uplift God," said Father.

"God wants you to give up the selfish America and love the America which has love for the world. Give up destructive and corrupt things. Keep that which is resurrected and permanent. You are different kinds of Americans, the Americans of the future, belonging to the new America, the America that can be loved by God and by every man on earth. Are you heading towards that goal?"

Father spoke of the persecution which Jesus had to endure. Even while he was on the cross, he was not saved by God. The reason why He could not intervene in the midst of Jesus' persecution was that "the Messiah had to come victorious out of the valley of death... As a man on earth, the Lord of the Second Advent must be victorious over the temptations of the entire universe. In fact, the Messiah will draw the tensions of the entire world. The organization of the Messiah will draw the world's attention and receive untold

### Directors Conference

## Father Urges Membership Drive

Belvedere hosted visiting State Directors for their monthly conference with Father after his address to New York area members on November 1st. Following the early morning speech, the directors shared breakfast and news of activities in their states with one another. After the visiting leaders assemble for the conference, Church President Neil Salonen met with them to discuss witnessing strategies and ideas for future evangelical programs in the states.

Father's arrival signified the official opening of the conference. His first question to all of the state leaders concerned their progress in showing the new television special "Reverend Moon in America" in their states. He gave them advice on how to use the T.V. program most effectively and how to follow up with people who respond to the program. He suggested that each state keep a supply of Dr. Sontag's recently released book, *Sun Myung Moon and the Unification Church*, on hand for supporters and opponents of the Church.

In the near future, Father would like to see television programs developed to teach the Divine Principle to the general public. He pointed out that everyone, even the most famous or important people, are reached by television every day. Now, the first television special is just an "eye-opener" -- and only the beginning.

Following his opening remarks, Father took reports from the State Directors. Their reports revealed that the television special has shown all over the country, and continues to be booked in more and more locations. One state leader related the story of his appointment, as a police chaplain,

and several reported meetings with state officials, press conferences, television and radio appearances, and major programs on college and university campuses during the month of October.

Col. Pak, who recently accompanied Father and Mother on a trip to the South, told the Directors the heart-warming story of a family they met while visiting there. Not knowing who Father was, this family invited him into their home and to share Sunday Fellowship with them. The family has been in the shipbuilding industry for many years, and shared deeply with Father about ships and shipbuilding. Originally, Father and Mother had planned to make their trip in less than a day, but because of the warm hospitality and openness of the family, they extended their stay to three days. Col. Pak said that Father was particularly impressed because even though the son had his own wife and a family, he got up at 4:30 every morning and walked to his 71-year-old father's house to have coffee with him before going to work. When the family learned that they had been hosting Reverend Moon, they were really thrilled, and wanted to have their pictures taken with Father and Mother. Even in their humble home, they did their best to make them comfortable.

Following his report on the trip, Col. Pak delivered a most inspiring testimony to Father's vision and faith. "The power of God is with him. To believe wholeheartedly in him, that is the secret! With that vision, you can create a miracle and I can create a miracle." Then he read and translated a

lengthy letter to the editor which appeared in a Korean magazine published by one of the Unification Church's most outspoken opponents in Korea. Mysteriously, Col. Pak said, the letter, entitled, "In Praise of Rev. Moon," was one of the most complimentary and inspiring pieces printed on the Church. The letter pointed out that in light of his achievement, Father is certainly one of the world's greatest prophets. Col. Pak explained that it indicated the trend of popular thought among the Korean population, particularly the non-Christian majority. In all of Korea's history, he said, there has never been a man like Reverend Moon.

Col. Pak also delighted everyone by reporting the joyous news that Mother is going to have another baby.

Father continued to hear reports from various State Directors, then surprised everyone by assigning some members from large centers to smaller ones. All of those receiving members pledged to double their membership in the coming month. He also gave each state 20 copies of Dr. Sontag's book for use as a "lending library." Father expressed his feeling that of every ten people who read the book, one may become a Church member.

In closing, Father reiterated his desire to send IOWC teams and performing arts members throughout the country after the first of the year to create a new evangelical wave. He encouraged the directors to show the television special three times before Christmas, work hard to double their membership, and to visit top-level state officials to acquaint them with the work of the Church in their respective states.

## Preparing for '78

## Evangelical Meeting Features Mr. Salonen

On October 30, New York members and hundreds of guests enjoyed a program at the Manhattan Center featuring President Salonen speaking on "An American Looks at Reverend Moon." The program had significance, said Father, because it marked the beginning of evangelical meetings which will tour the country with the IOWC's in 1978.

The program, entitled "An Evening of Entertainment and Inspiration," was hosted by IOWC leader William Bergman. Before Mr. Salonen spoke, the New York City Symphony Brass Choir, under the direction of David Eaton, performed four compositions. The choir consisted of thirteen instrumentalists who played the trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba, and timpani. They first presented Gabrieli's two antiphonal canzonas for brass, followed by Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man." Next came Samuel Barber's arrangement of Bach's "Christ, Thou Lamb of God." The musical portion of the program concluded with the powerful "Symphony for Brass and Timpani," by the American composer Haufrecht, who is currently living in New York. The symphony was written in 1956, in the wake of two major wars in Europe and Asia. It was his intention to express the feelings of those involved in the cataclysmic events of the forties and fifties. The symphony consisted of three movements: "Dona Nobis Pacem," "Elegy," and "Jubilation."

President Salonen was introduced by Dr. Bergman as "the American who has had the best opportunity to observe Reverend Moon closely and therefore in a unique position to share his reflections."

Mr. Salonen began his talk, "An American Looks at Reverend Moon," with the observation that the basic

things that members of the Unification Church know about Reverend Moon become unclear and distorted at a distance. "Therefore we have the responsibility to correct these impressions," he said.

The first observation of many of the guests during Reverend Moon's Day of Hope tours, Mr. Salonen noted, was that our members were very enthusiastic. "I am glad to hear that," he said. "It is what gives our members a spirit of vitality that makes all things new." He also mentioned that a sense of purpose sadly lacking in our times, as the statistics show that the suicide rate among young people has skyrocketed in the past decade.

The next question people usually ask, he said, is "Why did he come to America?" Mr. Salonen responded, "What is an American? If I were to describe each one of you, none of the descriptions would match. Two hundred years ago, the most striking characteristic of this new nation was that the colonists had no common background and were often torn by strife among themselves." He went on to explain that they wanted to create a new kind of country based on the commitment to the ideal that God created man, who therefore had the right to be free.

George Washington, explained Mr. Salonen, represented the best of the American tradition and set the standard for its coming leaders. George Washington, he said, chose to help an unpopular cause supported by only one-third of the colonists while he could have had an easy life had he remained sympathetic to the British. After the Revolution, many people wanted to make him king, but he declined. "Being not only a good man but a wise man, he realized that who could not be responsible for who came after



Mr. Salonen speaking on "An American Looks at Reverend Moon."

him and rather had to encourage the people to take care of themselves in an environment free of autocratic tyranny." Thus he decided to become president, not king, and limited his term of office.

Since the time of Washington, explained Mr. Salonen, America has survived through a series of political and economic compromises which have ensured that people with different needs and goals could live side by side. But, he stressed, "the genius of the American spirit of compromise was political, rather than moral. In the last decades, we have let compromise slip into the area of morality." The result has been a decline in the American spirit, as churches are silent on moral issues and politicians become weak in facing the challenge of another set of ideals, the Marxist systems governing over a third of the world. "We are being confronted at the gut level of our beliefs, and the world is watching to see if we meet the challenge and fulfill the experiment in democracy which we began 200 years ago. Americans will not have peace of mind until we extend God's blessings to all

mankind. And we have the capability to do that," Mr. Salonen continued. "Most Americans are frustrated to see our country lose its sense of righteousness. Two hundred or twenty years ago, we used to be proud to say that we were Americans, but are we today? God must be heartbroken to see this happen to the nation which He has put so much hope into.

"Reverend Moon came to America to remind us that God has a certain expectation of us -- that we share the blessings He has given us with the rest of the world. Some people don't want to hear that message. But, like George Washington, he has encouraged his followers to take responsibility for this country, not seeking any power for himself.

"...Indeed, our country may not survive until the end of this century unless we are put back in touch with God. The hand of God kept us on the road to greatness, and we cannot expect to progress unless we humble ourselves to Him. This has been Reverend Moon's message to America."

President Salonen concluded this message: "I urge you to give rebirth to the spirit of God to make this country come alive again. This can be done by the effort of the people. As an American looking at Reverend Moon, I do not see one individual, but rather God's hope for the greatness of this nation. Let us become Americans and live up to our tradition, making our descendants proud of us as we are of our ancestors."

At the program's conclusion, many guests and members lingered for close to an hour, enjoying refreshments and lively discussions.



The New York City Symphony Brass Choir.

## Day of New Birth

persecution."

In terms of the enemies of the Unification Church, Father said that we must forgive them and give them our blessings. "Love is the worst kind of punishment we can give them," he said.

Father pointed out the irony of the persecution he is receiving. "I have done nothing wrong. I have rescued many of you from corrupt ways of life and turned you around. What's wrong with that? The United States is now sympathetic to the PLO, the world's worst gangsters, and yet there is no kind word about Reverend Moon."

In the face of persecution, said Father, "you must become tough, strong, and courageous to surpass all iniquities. Wherever you go, feel no shame. You are doing the noblest task. When you are fundraising, remember that you are doing it to keep this nation alive, to keep the world alive. Heaven knows, only the people may not understand. But the time will come when they will understand. Do not get tired under persecution. Remember that God is allowing you to become supremely victorious, expediting the

work of restoration."

Father then offered special words of encouragement to the Japanese members in America, expressing his appreciation of their sacrifices. "You must become one family, even though you are of different nations." Father continued, "...Remember that you are enduring not for my sake but for the sake of God and the world. God and the world shall remain. If you love them, your love will be permanent. Since God is the source of all love, you will receive more and more love, and on the horizontal level, you will acquire a foundation for victory.

"...What is our ultimate goal?" asked Father. "It is a day of new birth. We want to transform the realm of dark into the realm of light erecting the Kingdom of God here on earth. I want you to feel to the bone that as you act, the world turns. This is where you are today. God, Mother and I will give you strength in order for you to be born again, but the most important thing is that you yourself become strong... The good parent is the one who wants his child to surpass him. Jesus' utmost desire was to see his children become better than himself. If you do more than Jesus, he will welcome

it. You must have the conviction that by your own sweat, you will liberate mankind. Is that wrong thinking? That is my ideology, and that is the principle of resurrection. We must keep growing. Every moment, take a step in your growth."

Father paused to describe an experience he and Mother has on a recent trip to Alabama. In a remote area they stopped at a MacDonald's and ate their hamburgers outside. At that moment, a Church fundraiser appeared on the scene and was stunned with surprise. Father described the joyful reunion they had, and said that we can achieve rebirth while fighting and suffering in the most remote areas. "You are going to search after God, and God's love will come to you in a peculiar and dramatic way."

Father concluded his message: "We are going to see the new day, the new way of life. Do you want to go that route? We must attain the realm of victory. As Unification Church members, you are living in a golden time. Persecution is really a blessing. With a little strength, you can go into the new world. With our hands, let us pledge to achieve the victory of resurrection."

## New Hope News

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