

The Messiah You Want vs. the Messiah You Get

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With absolute faith, you will find one position. You will find the absolute position, the place where God resides. From there everything will start to be resolved. SMM, CSG p. 160

Greetings!

In yesterday's profound Sanctuary sermon called "Deep Faith with God," Hyung Jin Nim talks about the difference between "belief" and "faith." All of us will have "dark nights of the soul" in our life of faith which are opportunities to go deeper in our understanding of God.

Instead of desperately trying to "pull the weeds" of doubt, he explains, we should GO INTO those weeds *with God*. Instead of being "addicts" always seeking the "spiritual highs," we should seek a complete relationship with God, which also includes the low points where a fuller experience with God can be encountered.



Deep Faith with God

During the past several weeks I have been thinking about the difference between the "Messiah I want" vs. the challenges of understanding and accepting "The Messiah as he really is," which led to the following essay....

The Messiah You Want vs. the Messiah You Get



Let's do a thought experiment. Imagine there were an election to choose the Messiah. Who would win? The Dalai Lama? Or perhaps Pope Francis? Both seem to exemplify admirable qualities such as humility and kindness. Pope Francis has even jumped on the global warming bandwagon, so wouldn't he likely get more votes? Wouldn't he receive the support of even secular people who believe global government intervention is urgently needed to solve "climate change," the greatest "crisis" of our age?

What about the Messiah believed in by Christians around the world? Jesus had a way of stirring up opposition with such statements as, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee God's coming wrath?" (Luke 3:7) If he had hired a PR team, they would surely have advised him to tone down the rhetoric.

We all know, though, that the Messiah is NOT elected, that he comes not to meet our expectations, but to lead us out of Satan's domination into the freedom of God's world, which is not a quick stroll in the park...

What about the Lord of the Second Advent believed in by Unificationists around the world? Sun Myung Moon was not an easy man to follow. He relentlessly pushed himself, and consequently those around him, to extreme limits. While it is true that he had a sensitive and poetic side, he could be extremely demanding, and often made broad sweeping statements that could be labeled as dogmatic and intolerant.

American women think of their organs as belonging to them. As a result, they act freely and do whatever they want with them. This is also the case for the men. But you are only the caretaker of your sexual organ. In other words, the caretakers are passing themselves off as the owners.

I ask the women: When did you meet the owner of your sexual organ? The owner is your husband. And you men: Do yours belong to you? Then what is marriage? Through marriage men and women are to find the owners of their sexual organs...If man and woman are meant to marry among themselves, how can there be gays or lesbians? They will cease to exist. In less than a century, they will be gone in one generation. In light of this, should you get married or not? Why get married? Because this is the way it is, you need to get married. You must absolutely get married. (162-50, 1987.3.22) CSG 1750-51

In Father's later years, he started speaking about the "God of Day" and the "God of Night," concepts which were not so easy to understand. He directed all members to hear a new series of lectures called the "Original Substance of the Divine Principle" that also had challenging content. After Father's passing these are no longer being taught much, but aren't they still worth our attention?

The slide features a blue oval labeled 'Adam' next to the text 'God's son and God's body'. Below it is a pink oval labeled 'Eve' next to the text 'God's daughter and God's partner (Adam's wife)'. A large rounded rectangle contains the following text: 'Adam and Eve's marriage is God's marriage. (Appearance of the substantial God) Adam and Eve's first love is God's first love. Until now, God couldn't give love substantially while in a body. With the appearance of the True Parents, He was finally able to.'

OSDP slide- God's Body and God's Partner

In this OSDP slide (1), Adam is portrayed as "God's body" and Eve is portrayed as "God's partner," the idea being that when Adam makes love to his wife, God is experiencing the act of love from a male position with Eve as his "wife."

This is challenging content to understand, both from the perspective of the dual characteristics of God, which include both masculine and feminine elements, and from the perspective of many westerners who could find it sexist that God be described as being in a "male" position. But this was Father's teaching in the final stage of his life.

There are at least three different ways to respond. We could think:

- 1) Father is an old-world sexist;
- 2) Father was getting old and even perhaps somewhat senile; or
- 3) Father knows more about God than I do and I need to prayerfully make effort to understand his meaning.

UTS professor Dr. Andrew Wilson, has given a presentation about Hyung Jin Nim's disagreements with Mother's "Only Begotten Daughter" declarations.(2) While much of what he says seems reasonable, in one of the concluding slides, "True Children Also Carry Their Cross," he discusses the tasks that must be faced by the True Children, "including to fully respect their natural mothers as wise and capable parents."

As examples, Dr. Wilson cites Jesus' relationship with his mother, Mary, and in particular Jesus' objection to her asking him to change water into wine at the marriage feast in Cana:

When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine" and Jesus replied, "O Woman, what has this to do with me? My hour has not yet come." John 2:1-11

True Children Also Carry Their Cross

- Childhood bereft of natural parental love
- The heir sacrifices with the thought, "Someday I will be the king."
- Recover what their parents were unable to do...
- Including to fully respect their natural mothers as wise and capable parents
 - Jesus and Mary
 - Father and his mother
 - Hyung-jin Moon and True Mother

Dr. Wilson "Only Begotten Daughter" presentation, 5/28/15

Dr. Wilson gives this as an example of how the son, Jesus, failed to fully respect his natural mother as a "wise and capable parent." What does True Father say about this event?

When we took at the Principle of Creation, God first created Adam and then created Eve centering on Adam. Therefore, Mary should have supported her son and should have looked for a bride for him. Mary should have done this, not only Jesus. Mary had to support Jesus and had to look for the bride.

In this respect, we can understand that Mary did not fulfill her responsibility. Mary told Jesus at the marriage in Cana in Galilee that they had run out of wine, to which Jesus replied, "Woman, what have you to do with me?" Jesus was saying, what does the other man's marriage have to do with me? In other words, the time for Jesus to have a wife had come and he was asking Mary why she had not realized that. Mary did not fulfill her responsibility. (3)

In Dr. Wilson's view, it is Jesus who must repent for not understanding that his mother is a "wise and capable parent," but in Father's view, it is his mother, Mary, who must repent for not understanding that her son is there to accomplish God's will for humanity and to support his mission she must help him find a suitable bride.

Dr. Wilson also describes Father's attitude towards his own Mother, Hoong Mo Nim, as in need of improvement. Instead of his mother failing to understand his messianic mission, it is Sun Myung Moon who failed to understand his mother's "wise and capable" viewpoint and should have changed *his* perspective.

This is a quite amazing re-interpretation of the Divine Principle. Instead of our needing to repent and to learn from the Messiah, it is the Messiah who needs to repent.

Understand True Parents' Victory

- True Mother on earth and True Father in heaven:
Opportunity to recover gender balance
- Heavenly Father → Heavenly Parent:
Completing God's image and likeness, so that God can find Her voice in womankind
- Basis for world peace

Dr. Wilson "Only Begotten Daughter" presentation, 5/28/15

As baffling as that may be, the 3 pairs Dr. Wilson has chosen are instructive. Just as Mary should have done more to understand and support her son Jesus in his mission, and Hoong Mo Nim could have helped her son in his responsibility, wouldn't it be wonderful if Mother urged all brothers and sisters around the world to listen to her youngest son's sermons, out of awareness of, and pride in, his authentic calling and anointing to teach and proclaim the word of God?

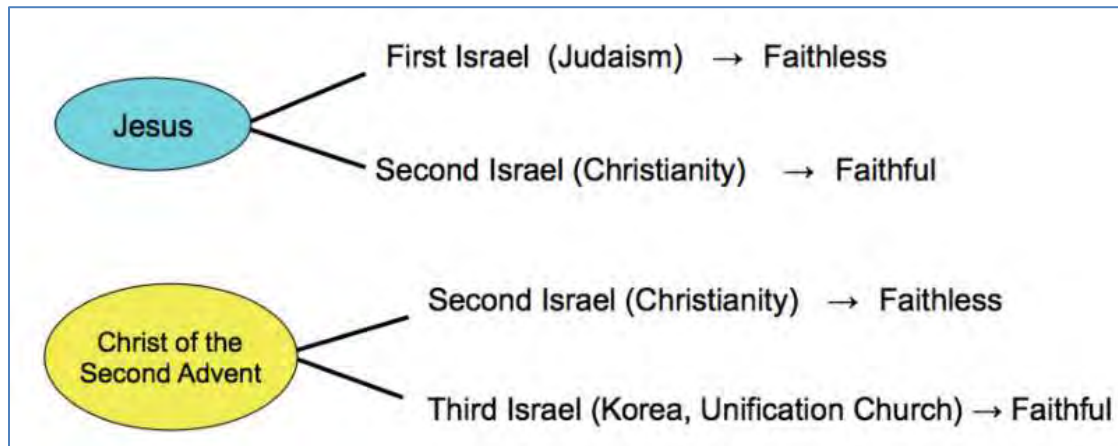
Dr. Wilson concludes his presentation by saying that recovering gender balance and God "find(ing) Her voice in womankind" is the "basis for world peace" and that "it is the women who can bring peace between the fighting and conflicting men." (4)

Respect between the sexes is a laudable goal, but the deeper problem for both men and women is that we have lost God's words, heart and lineage and need to re-graft into those through the Messiah. Sinful men uniting with sinful women does not solve the human condition or bring about "world peace."

If Mother on earth were united with True Father in the spirit world that WOULD be a victory for true "gender balance," but sadly we see that Mother has strongly asserted that "nobody educated me," and that it would diminish her position as "only begotten daughter" to have been educated by True Father, insisting that we "cannot say" she was educated by him. She didn't learn anything from her husband during more than five decades at his side? Really?

Nobody educated me... You cannot say that God's only begotten son educated God's only begotten daughter. (5)

Dr. Wilson's is just one of many troubling theological expressions arising from Mother's declarations after Father's passing. While fascinating to study, we shouldn't delude ourselves that these are not a radical departure from Father's teachings throughout his six decades of ministry.



OSDP Lecture, 2010

ALL of us, men and women alike, find our true, God-given selves through repentance and uniting with the Messiah, not the other way around.

If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 1 John 1:10

Go ahead and repent from the bottom of your heart. If you don't, you cannot receive the inheritance from the Messiah. You cannot inherit the Kingdom of God from the True Parents. That kind of noble tradition of sacrifice is beautiful. In following such a tradition, we can swallow the satanic world. Rev. Sun Myung Moon, World Conference, 2/25/80 (6)

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1. The "Original Divine Principle lecture guide" powerpoint presentation, 2010-01-12.
 2. "The Only Begotten Daughter" presentation by Dr. Andrew Wilson, 5/28/15, https://uts.adobeconnect.com/_a1094290391/p5zxfzkwx4 at 53:00.
 3. Rev. Sun Myung Moon, Blessing and Ideal Family, Part 1, Chapter 5, "The Blessing of Jesus and Christian Thought." <http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Books/BIF1/BIF1-2-105.htm>.
 4. https://uts.adobeconnect.com/_a1094290391/p5zxfzkwx4, at 59:00.
 5. True Mother's Address at Cheon Jeong Gung Peace Palace, World Leaders' meeting October 27, 2014, <https://vimeo.com/110521385>.
 6. <http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/SunMyungMoon89/SunMyungMoon-891000.htm>

Sincerely,

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