

Letter to True Mother: When I entered the House of Slaves on Goree Island

Archbishop George Augustus Stallings, Jr.
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My beloved True Mother:

I am eternally grateful to God, our Heavenly Parent, and to you, as the Only Begotten Daughter of God, for shedding a new light on Africa and for showering the healing and radiant love of True Parents upon the sons and daughters of a continent in desperate need of restoration, education and spiritual regeneration.

I am a descendant of slaves who were captured and transported in chains from the West Coast of Africa. My ancestors endured the atrocities of the Middle Passage and landed in America many centuries ago against their will. For them, Africa was only a distant dream and a history lost. Returning to Goree Island as a free man, I brought the spirits of my dark past with me. My heart was overwhelmed by a sense of man's inhumanity towards man that could allow such an act to happen in the first place,. Yet I experienced, at the same time, the power of true love that transforms us to see and recognize that we are all equal in God and True Parents' sight as brothers and sisters, One Family under God. Visiting Africa and Goree Island gave an even more powerful meaning to the teachings of True Parents to "live for the sake of others" and to love one's enemies.

When I entered the House of Slaves on Goree Island and stood at the "Door of No Return" my heart wept. Yet, in that moment, I had a reason to rejoice. I said to myself on behalf of all the descendants of the slaves of Africa: "I'm back!!!" Yes, I had accomplished the unthinkable, the unimaginable! And I knew that it was a victory not only for me but for all of my ancestors who kept hope alive by refusing to allow bitterness and hatred to prevent them from trusting in God and creating a pathway, through the Lord of the Second Advent, for deliverance and restoration!

Thank you, True Parents! Thank you, True Mother, for reuniting Africans on the continent with the sons and daughters of the Diaspora and for restoring us to our original greatness!

True Mother, not only are you the hope of a nation or continent. You are the Hope and Light of the world! I can never begin to thank God and you enough for having made this day possible, for making a dream come true!

With a filial heart full of love, I am your true son,

Archbishop George Augustus Stallings, Jr.