

True Mother Kang Hyun Shil

Mother Oak Se Hyun: The Pride of the Unification

Church February 21, 2017

Reading: Romans 12: 1-2 (KJV)

¹ *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

² *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Today I would like to speak to you about a Bible verse that is well known to you. The verse says that we are to make a living sacrifice of our bodies. Today I would like to talk about some people who made the living sacrifice of their bodies, members of the Unification Church who are the pride of the Unification church, people that we can take pride in, in the presence of the entire world.

The first is Mother Oak Se Hyun. Mother Oak is the person who visited Father once a month when he was in the Heungnam labor camp. With each change of season, she would take a new set of clothes to him so he would have clothes that were appropriate for the season. She also brought him food, in the form of a powdered grain substance, and new shoes whenever he needed. She would visit him that way once a month. It is very inspiring for me every time I think of her.

Her husband was an elder in another Christian denomination and he actually studied in the seminary together with me. Every time she would go to visit Father in prison, her husband would order her not to go, her children would oppose, and her church was also against what she was doing; but despite all that opposition, she kept going once a month.

She had to go without her husband's knowledge, so she would sneak away like a thief. She recounted that once she had an experience where she felt, "If I kept this up my husband is going to divorce me; so I need to make this my last visit." That thought came to her as she was coming back from the visit. And right then, she had the vision of an old man, with white hair and white beard, appearing before her, "Why do you think that way? Why are you thinking about not visiting Rev. Moon anymore? He expects you; he is looking forward to your visit, and he is looking forward to seeing you every month, so you need to continue these visits."

She did as the old man in her vision had said, and continued to visit Father once a month. Later she testified that she actually felt grateful because the reason why she could remain such a long time with Father was that she had been given this instruction by the old man to continue the visits; then she knew that she had to remain and she had to continue going.

Mother Oak said to me, "I don't know what would have happened if I had stopped going: I am really grateful to that old man in my vision for encouraging me to go." Mother Oak guided me, "Hyun Shil, no matter how difficult it may be for you, I'd like for you to wait just five years, endure for five years, because in five years the world will change; it will become Father's world. The world will change, society will change, the church will change, everything will change, you will see. Endure for five years!"

I am very grateful to what Mother Oak said, because if she had not given me that period of five years I may not have been able to continue, I may have quit in the middle; but because she encouraged me that way I was able to remain and I am able to be here today.

Mother Oak was from a wealthy family; she had sons and daughters who were doing well. But she had to live with a husband who spoke to her in a condescending way, and her children were opposed to what she was doing. So she had to live separately from them, because they were opposed to her all the time. I am really grateful for the way that she led us.

Mother Oak spoke to me many times about her visits to Father in prison. She did not go there for her own benefit or her own glory, but only because she was making a living sacrifice of her body for the sake of Father. She would wrap the things she would take to Father in a cloth and carry them on her head - as you may have seen Korean women do in the past.

When she would arrive at the prison she would unpack all the things that she had brought, and Father would be so happy and glad to see her. He would talk about how he had waited for her, and how sometimes he could not even sleep at night thinking that she would come to him in a few days. It made her so sad; with such sadness that she felt it would melt her bones. It would give her tremendous pain in the heart to be with Father there in prison, but she was so grateful to have this opportunity to visit him once a month.

The people who went before us on this path of faith are people who did not just go the easy way; they were mocked, they were criticized, they were opposed, they were persecuted, but they continued on this path. It is because of them that we can be here today. Father told me many times that I needed to take care of Mother Oak because she was the person who, even though she was spat on, she was mocked, and she received all sorts of persecution, still regarded it as her mission to visit Father in prison as she did. She continued to go despite all that difficulty.

Mother Oak even cut her own hair and used it to weave a pair of socks for Father. I saw that pair of socks, and I could imagine how, as she was weaving those socks, with each stitch she would shed tears for Father, and how much sincerity she invested in weaving those socks.

One time her youngest daughter came to visit her and wept and hit her mother- Mother Oak. The daughter said, 'Mother why are you doing this? We are not a poor family, we have everything we need; we are not lacking anything. Why do you insist on going every month to

that far-away place in Heungnam, across the peninsula?" It was very difficult to get there in those days; there was no direct train route. But Mother Oak continued in that way.

Father asked me to testify one time, and I testified about Mother Oak telling me to endure for five years and actually at that point it had already been 20 years. I said in my testimony, "I still continue to go this way," and Father laughed about that. "Even after 20 years," I added, "God's will has still not been established, but I continue on the path."

When she would pray, it was deeply, with tears and her voice would crack.

It is really amazing that such a person could be alive; that there could be a person like that in heaven and on earth. I am 90 years old now and I don't know when I will be going to the spirit world, but this morning I felt it was important for me to testify to her before I go to the spirit world.

It is really important for us also to have the same heart as Mother Oak did; to inherit the way she attended Father and served him by herself, going to prison by herself every month, and investing all of her heart, all of her intellect, all of her will in attending Father. I want to plant that loyalty in the heart of everyone here.

When I think of how she would visit Father every month and take to him the powdered grain, and then Father would receive that with joy, and he would spread that joy to the other prisoners who were in his cell- he would also share that powdered grain with them!

She was there; we were not there. She acted on our behalf, attending Father in that situation. Father said that she may not look like an important person, but in Heaven she is going to receive a tremendous prize because she did those things when not one else did.

I think we need to remember that, and also make ourself a living sacrifice in the way that she did.

Thank you,

video source: <https://youtu.be/omk-pd5CAEs?t=1301>