

FATHER VISITS BARRYTOWN

June 8, 1990

(Students and staff gather in Father's dining room.

Translator: Mr. Dong Moon Joo)

Father asks how many Juniors are here - "please raise your hands. How many of you know how much I visited the Seminary in the beginning? In the beginning I visited here almost every day for almost three years. So you know that I have loved this place and you so much.

...Do you have any questions for Father? (Stephen Stacey raises his hand: "Father, to look through your eyes and see things with a parental heart is very difficult, how do you see things so clearly?") You must get help from the spiritual world. If you want to have a good connection with the spiritual world you must know that true love is the key.

I know that many of you students are studying hard at the Seminary, but don't ever believe that earthly knowledge is superior to knowing the spiritual world. Earthly knowledge can rule over the moment, but knowledge of the spiritual world can rule over eternity. So you not only need different kinds of knowledge of practical matters or academic knowledge, but you need to express more mystical experiences in your life...

Today in American and European societies cultures are breaking down. You should be clear why you study theology - what is it good for? In order to diagnose today's religions and societies; that is the main reason why you study theology.

I am mostly concerned about you, about what you will be doing after you graduate from the Seminary. I am finding out that seminarians want to "go away" or "go up".(to study more) You must suffer and sacrifice more, "go down" so that you can make a foundation to jump up to a higher level. You should "resurrect" through a serving and sacrificial life, otherwise there is no hope.

...Since I gave you a chance to study theology, I had much hope for you. I waited to see what you graduates from UTS would do... I would like to gather all the Seminary graduates in one place so I can see what they are like.

...There are thousands of people who are dying each day of starvation in the world. Did you ever suppose what you would do (or feel) if you were the fathers or parents of those who are starving or dying? I'm thinking that rather than you going out to establish or pursue a spiritual life that I'll send you out to save those who are starving and dying physically. If you really dedicated your life to taking care of people who are starving and dying, don't you think that you could then save them spiritually?...

You should clearly understand the concept of a true spiritual leader. You should attempt to take some kind of difficult and sacrificial mission first - a life of hardship or danger - to serve through suffering and persecution first....The people that are dying from starvation, with no one to take care of them, are also dying spiritually.

...You cannot find the real "heavenly world" by trying to go "straight up", you must go to the "depths of hell", before you can go up to the real heavenly world. Why does the Bible say that you must "...lose your life in order to save it...?"

...You have to understand clearly why I have you study here. It's so that in the future you can dedicate yourselves and restore a thousand or more people. Why did I set up the Seminary? To include more people in the future in salvation, that is why, that is the purpose. I have wanted to count on you seminarians to do it.

...What is the purpose of your physical lives? It is so that everyday you can try to conquer or get rid of your physical evil or sinful passions. As you do this your spiritual life will be raised up.

...To save the world - not only America - is the reason that I built this Seminary. Now you understand why I try to really stir you up, to get you upset. Father has been crying out all his life, going a sacrificial course in order to try to save, not merely this nation, but the entire world. But I need manpower, I need people to save America. That's why I want to "push you down" - to make you strong.

...So I have to lean against you, otherwise how can you grow strong and survive the satanic world? How do you feel? (Good!) Without the strict word that I give you, you wouldn't feel so good. But when you hear this "word" you feel very good.

...Put yourself in the most lowly or humble place like you were actually being sent to the African jungle. You have to travel through the "8 stages" for seven years. Does everyone understand the meaning of tribal messiahship? To go the difficult way is not a natural inclination for you, it's not an easy thing, is it?

...Rather than complaining about your own environment, you mustn't do that, but put yourself in the lowest place you can find to serve and suffer. How much you can connect to true love should be your goal. The American modern tradition is to look for "enjoyment", to always be in a comfortable place. You have to be different. How about it, can you do it?" (Yes Father!)

(Unofficial notes by Shirley Stadelhofer)

14th Commencement Address
(Be a True Master of All)

by

Reverend Sun Myung Moon

June 30, 1990

Unification Theological Seminary

Barrytown, NY

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to extend my warm and sincere congratulations to the FORTY-TWO graduates on this special 14th graduation ceremony of the Unification Theological Seminary. We look upon them as not merely graduates of a theological school receiving the masters degrees of Religious Education and Divinity, but as future leaders who are willing to follow God's will in solving the crucial problems of our society and world today.

First of all I would like to extend my heartfelt acknowledgement and recognition to the President, Board of Trustees, Administration, Faculty, Staff and Students of the Seminary for your participation in the long-lasting effort of obtaining the Absolute Charter.

Secondly, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to the graduates. Today we celebrate the culmination of two and three years of hard work, not only academically, but physically and spiritually as well. Now you are ready to take what you have learned here and apply it to the world.

When we look at this world-wide situation, in this providential year of 1990, we perceive the obvious truth that there is no real, authoritative sovereignty behind any system based upon socialism, secular humanism or joy-seeking individualism. There is no true master over any of these ideologies and systems of thought. What about the democratic and communist worlds? Are they creating harmony and unity among their peers? Centering on humanity, are they really united into oneness and forming unity? No, absolutely not. For that reason we cannot put any hope in the world as it exists today. It is a fact that every exploitative power will ultimately decline, while whoever suffers persecution for the sake of Good will ultimately be raised up by God.

Philosophically speaking, the world of the mind could be called the theistic world, while the world of the body is a materialistic world. The ideologies and philosophies of the world are losing their strength. Today, the democratic world and the communist world are both seeking global domination, but there is no righteous direction and true master in either society because they have no true philosophy behind them. Humankind is faced with the task of overcoming philosophical differences and realizing the ideal of a worldwide family of love through international cooperation. When viewing this task on the basis of a restored philosophy, we can clearly see the need for a philosophical renaissance.

Even after the ending of the so-called Cold War between free and captive nations, we still do not see any true, victorious leaders emerging from either group. America, as a dispensational nation, is lacking in leaders who are morally and spiritually qualified to be the subject. To be a good subject, a leader or nation must first be a good object, going the path of unselfish love and service. Such a Godly nation, which could become the basis for a peaceful world, does not exist at this time. Instead, many powerful nations have no connection with God whatsoever. But we know the heart and will of God must become the guiding force behind them if they are to survive.

In a democracy, the head of the nation is elected and given authority by the people to be their leader. Since there are no perfect men and women, we cannot say the leader of the democratic society is a true master of the system. For instance, the United States of America is a gigantic nation with a Christian heritage that is supposed to embody the selfless love of God as the binding source of the nation. What you have now is the opposite. Self-centered love is prevailing in the very fabric of American society, communities, schools and individuals which are tinged by evil. Do you think that most people in the United States today

have any idea that there is to be a loving and reciprocal relationship between this nation and the rest of the world? No. International relationships have been secularized and demonized, treated like a business contract instead of a loving brotherhood of humanity.

Because of the human fall, instead of harmony and peace, there has been struggle in the world and alienation between God and humankind. Human beings are not living within God's ideal. Therefore, there are many problems and disorder in human society. We can observe in the sociological institution of marriage and family that no one shows the way to right conduct or moral leadership. For example, instead of love binding people into one - between husband and wife, parents and children, - it divides them and has become perverted and destructively selfish. The same can be said of the schools, the communities, the societies, the nations and the world.

Why is this so? The answer is simple. In these social systems there is no God. God is left out, God is completely lost. Because of the fall of humankind there is no true ownership over the creation, no one is in the true realm of sovereignty over all. How can this situation be resolved? It is through religion that God is teaching people how to strengthen their God-centered original minds and reverse the body's domination over their lives and personalities. By developing the religious and spiritual aspect of our selves, we can learn how to have God-centered, love-centered dominion over all aspects of our world.

The perfection of dominion over all things refers to the completion of the ability of humankind to dominate the natural world and society through love. In Heaven, our Heavenly Father is automatically the true Master who has true dominion over all things in the universe, but on earth true ownership must be obtained through fulfilling the "Purpose of Creation." In other words, true direct dominion of love can be obtained

by perfected men and women by centering on God and True Parents and becoming one through true love. Only then can we become true masters and lords of creation. This is God's ideal. God wants Heavenly Families to become the center of True Love, thus expanding true dominion from the family to the schools, to the societies, to the nations and to the universe.

I want to see you graduates become men and women who can go beyond your individual selves, your family, your school and your country to love humankind everywhere as much as you love people of your own family. You are representatives of God's providence of restoration. Put yourselves in the victorious position of persons who can restore the Heavenly birthright of true sons and daughters of God that was lost in the human fall. Develop the concept of victorious leadership through the heart of true love.

The right of true direct dominion belongs only to the Creator. Nevertheless, God wants human beings, His children, to have direct dominion over all things of creation. So you must inherit God's parental position and heart in order to govern and lead humankind as heavenly rulers and masters of harmony. Become the masters capable of leading your nation. After that, develop the advanced level of true master of all things, all systems and all phenomena.

Where is the starting point? The natural beginning is at the individual level. It is the fulfillment of the first blessing to form a perfect give and take relationship between the mind and body centering on God and from there gradually proceeding to the family, society, national and world levels.

Only on the foundation of the true dominion of your individual self you can advance to the next higher level. You can go from the family

level, the basic unit of society, to have true leadership in school, the extension of the family; to the world, the extension of society; and finally to the entire cosmos, which is the extension of the world. You seminary graduates must practice this way of life and obtain ownership in the realm of true sovereignty. You must obtain dominion over all levels of development. This is your personal responsibility and you have to be secure and successful in reaching these stages and levels.

Then, why do we need to develop and practice this concept of true mastership? We are living in an age that is called to create a God-centered world. In order to create a new world, we need new traditions. In this new age we must introduce the concept of true mastership as a new tradition in a world that has no idea of such a thing. As future leaders of this world, you UTS graduates should be in the vanguard of establishing and practicing this new tradition in order to build God's Kingdom on earth.

Just as God is the True Master of all creation, you too can become the ones to be masters over the fallen institutions and human societies. Your constant effort and endeavors are greatly needed. If you can go the difficult path of the direct dominion of love, then heavenly providential forces and power will cooperate with you to help you reach the victory.

Once again, my heartfelt congratulations to the FORTY-TWO graduates on your achievements at UTS.

May God Bless you.

Thank you.