

FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Grand Opening of Cheonwon Temple in Korea

Knut Holdhus
April 15, 2025



[Holy Mother Han](#) during the entrance ceremony of the Cheonwon Temple and the Cheonil Sanctum April 13, 2025. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.

On 13th April, a spectacular event took place in Gapyeong, South Korea which according to the [Family Federation](#) carries profound spiritual meaning and represents a significant milestone for the movement. It was the entrance ceremony into the Cheonil Sanctum at the Cheonwon Temple, which will be the central temple of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) (formerly known as the [Unification Church](#)).

Monument to peace: Entrance into Cheonwon Temple celebrated as "culmination of 6,000 Years of providential history"

The [federation](#) founded in 1996 by [Father Moon](#) and [Mother Han](#) has described the event as the "culmination of 6,000 years of [providential](#) history" and the realization of the

"ideal of one human family under our Heavenly Parent."



The Cheonwon Temple during the entrance ceremony April 13, 2025



From the entrance ceremony in the Cheonil Sanctum inside Cheonwon Temple April 13, 2025

Towards the end of the ceremony, [Holy Mother Han](#) read a proclamation, announcing the opening of a new era and new history,

"Our Creator, the Owner of the heavens and Earth, our Heavenly Parent, for you to be able to usher in and

welcome this day - due to the fall of humankind - for 6,000 years you endured and waited for this one day.

Oh, Heavenly Parent, thank you very much! Thank you very much, and I am very sorry as well.

However, you are the true Owner of this earth. Through the [True Parents](#), many [blessed](#) families emerged, and many second and third generation "pure waters" could be born. In order to reveal and demonstrate the [Kingdom of Heaven](#) on earth to all people, they're all advancing forward. So, from today on, dearest Heavenly Parent, please embrace your children to your heart-felt desire.

Now this world is under your sovereignty, your dominion, and as every aspect of this world comes to order, all people will become one big family under you, and this will come to realization.

And in Holy Mother Han's name the door to [Cheonil-guk](#), to the [Kingdom of Heaven](#) on earth has opened wide. And I proclaim this to all peoples of the world." (From simultaneous translation)

MBN MBN News [published on 14th April](#) an article produced by its culture desk, headlined, "Opening of 'Cheonwon-gung Museum' - 'Realizing an Ideal World of Peace Through Love'."

The news outlet described the grand building as "equipped with a multipurpose hall, museum, and art gallery. It is presented as a cultural space that transcends religion and aims to share universal love and human tradition."

YTN YTN News [reported 13th April](#),
"The Cheonwon-gung Museum was built on a land area of approximately 56,200 square meters, with a total floor area of 90,400 square meters, and consists of four stories above ground and four below."

세계일보 The Segye Ilbo (세계일보) writes in an in-depth [report 13th April](#),

"Built as a 'one-of-a-kind architectural symbol of a peaceful world', the museum is a domed rectangular structure inspired by Renaissance architectural styles."

The paper reports that Cheong-woo Lee, a spokesperson for the [Family Federation](#), states that the large temple will "serve as the central office of [Cheonil-guk](#) (a peaceful ideal world where the Creator's vision is realized) and become a sanctum of education for all humanity."

중도일보 The regional daily Joongdo Ilbo (중도일보) [reports 15th April](#) that [Hak Ja Han](#), the co-founder and head of the [Family Federation](#), said at the solemn ceremony,

"This world is now being brought into order, and a world of one human family through [true love](#) will surely unfold. [...] The gates of heaven, the gates of [Cheonil-guk](#), have now been flung wide open for all to see."



From the Cheonil Sanctum inside Cheonwon Temple April 13, 2025

The paper describes "[Cheonil-guk](#)" as "an ideal, peaceful world where the purpose of creation is fulfilled."

In a brief video message from the temple in South Korea straight after the opening ceremony, Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of the [Family Federation](#) in Europe and the Middle East, described the historical event,

"That was amazing [...], very solemn, very beautiful. [True Mother](#) was giving to [God](#) the 'authority of ruling over the world', whatever that means. I hope it means a time of peace is really coming!"

Text: Knut Holdhus

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A Heartfelt Tribute To True Parents' 65 Years

• April 14, 2025 • Knut Holdhus



Tribute to Holy Mother Han by Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr. at the large celebration of her 65th wedding anniversary



From the celebrations of **Hak Ja Han's** 65th wedding anniversary in Cheongshim Peace World Center in Gapyeong, South Korea on 12th April 2025. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.

A heartfelt speech by Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr.

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A congratulatory speech by Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr. of the Imani Temple African-American Catholic Congregation in Washington DC. It was given at the celebrations of **Hak Ja Han's** 65th wedding anniversary in Gapyeong, South Korea on 12th April 2025. Stallings served as a Roman Catholic priest from 1974 to 1989, when he founded the Imani temple. He served for several years as an advisor to the **True Parents** in the USA and was **blessed in marriage** to Sayomi Kamimoto from Japan in 2001.

To our beloved "True Parents of heaven, earth and humankind" [\[See editor's note below\]](#).

Dearest **Holy Mother Han** and dearest **True Father** in heaven, we want to congratulate you on the occasion of your 65th wedding anniversary.

To **God** be the glory for the things he has done in and through you, **Holy Mother Han**.

In 1960, **True Mother**, as the "only begotten Daughter", affirmed to **God** that she would join **Father Moon** and together with him create the "True Parents of heaven, earth and humankind" [\[See editor's note below\]](#).



Father Moon and Mother Han at the second part of their Holy Wedding on 11th April 1960 in Cheongpa, Seoul, Photo: FFWPU

God's dream from the beginning was that the first man and woman who were created in **God's** image and with **his lineage** would obey **God's** command and keep their purity until they were fully mature and could receive **God's** blessing. Upon achieving maturity, **God** wanted to see his love perfected in them.

Unfortunately, through following the false words of the archangel, they disobeyed **God** and lost his blessing. **God's ideal** of a true family in his image was shattered, and **God** led the lonely course of restoration to restore the family. No one could ever imagine the depth of **God's anguish** when his children could not fulfill their responsibility, and they destroyed **God's** hope of dwelling with his family.

God carried on in tears and **sorrow** to restore what was lost. After "4,000 years" of restoration history, **God** set the conditions in which a new Adam could be brought forth when he sent his Son as the "only begotten Son".

The path of the "only begotten Son" was to stand as **God's** Adam to set the condition of restoring Adam's position to become a perfected Son of **true love** with the **lineage of Heaven**. Then the "only begotten Son" was to reclaim the family that was lost in the **Garden of Eden**.

Jesus fulfilled all his responsibility as a true Son, achieving perfect love and oneness with **God**. In Hebrews chapter 5, verses 8-9, the Scriptures state,

"Though he were a son, yet learned he obedience through the things he had suffered and having been perfected, he became the author of salvation."

Jesus became the author of salvation. However, the chosen people were to receive him, but his own family couldn't support him. Scriptures state that Jesus's brothers doubted him, and even it is clear that his family didn't understand and support his mission. They could not fully support the course of Jesus, who was to reclaim not only Adam, but also Eve, the marriage in **God's** image and the family he longed for.

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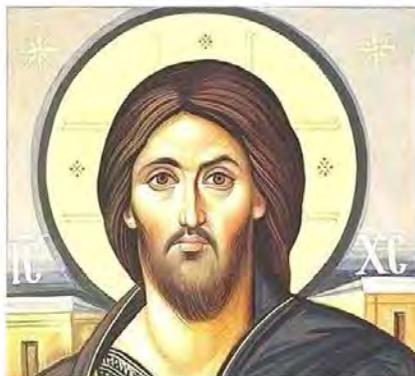
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Even Jesus said unto him that told him that his mother and brothers were outside,

“Who is my mother, and who are my brethren?”

He answered and stretched forth his hand toward his disciples and said,

“Behold my mother and my brethren. For whosoever shall do the will of my Father who is in heaven, the same is my brother and sister and mother. (Matthew 15;48-50)



Jesus of Nazareth. Photo: Nesrine Younes. License: [CC ASA 4.0 Int](#), Cropped

This breakdown led to the rejection by the chosen people, and Jesus had to go the lonely way of the cross. Jesus was victorious on the cross, and he asked **God** to forgive them,

“Forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

The thief on the right hand side believed in Jesus, and Jesus said to him,

“You will go with me to paradise.”

Through his resurrection, Jesus and the Holy Spirit stand as “spiritual True Parents” and give spiritual rebirth to any and all who believe.

Jesus promised he would return and conduct the “Marriage Supper of the Lamb”. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb! The marriage supper of the Lamb!

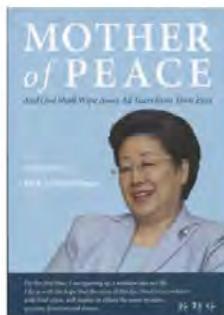
Jesus was totally victorious on the cross as God called him to sacrifice himself as a condition of saving all who believe. However, Jesus said In Matthew chapter 18, verse 18,

“Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven.”

Though Jesus was victorious as the “Second Adam”, he had to return because the family of **God** had not been restored. Because of the disbelief of the people, the “only begotten Daughter” could not appear at Jesus’ time.

True Mother, you wrote in your memoirs, the “Mother of Peace”,

“The only begotten Son is the fruit of Heavenly Parent’s deepest love. The coming Lord is the bridegroom, and he came to receive the only begotten Daughter as his bride. The two must meet and marry. That is the marriage supper of the Lamb prophesied in the last book of the Bible. Then the two must form a family. Heavenly Parent’s hope has always been for one thing: that His only begotten Son and only begotten Daughter form a true family.” (From the section “The true compass in life”, in chapter 9)



The front cover page of **Hak Ja Han's** memoirs *Mother of Peace* (2020)

The 2,000-year history of Christianity was the preparation for the return of Jesus. That preparation included preparing Korea – the “Land of the morning calm” – through a path of tears and suffering to become the nation that could receive Jesus’ return.



From revival with the Holy Spirit in Korea at the beginning of the 20th Century. Here, a regular weekly prayer meeting in Pyongyang sometimes between 1908-1922. Photo: Methodist Episcopal Church / Wikimedia Commons. [Public domain](#) image. Cropped

The fervor of Korean Christianity has been the greatest thing since Pentecost. And that was the case with **True Mother's** mother and grandmother, who were consumed with the faith that Jesus would appear in Korea at his second coming. The fervor of faith in Pyongyang was so great that it became known as the "Jerusalem of the East".

For Jesus, as the "only begotten Son", was to fulfill his course to restore **God's** family back to **God**. In order for that to happen, in order for that to be accomplished, he had to find the "only begotten Daughter". Oh yes. It was on that profound spiritual background that the first "only begotten Daughter" could be born.

Jesus also had to find the person living on earth to which to bequeath this great mission. And he found and anointed **Father Moon**.

This fulfillment came on **11th April 1960**, 65 years ago this week.

What is being revealed for the first time in history is that **Holy Mother Han**, as the "only begotten Daughter", had to fulfill her responsibility on her own. No one could help her. **God** could not intervene with her portion of responsibility. **Father Moon** could not help her also.

She had to make a decision representing the "only begotten Daughter" and decided on her own that she would take full responsibility to create the **True Parents** through the **Holy Wedding** of the **True Parents**.



From the celebrations of **Hak Ja Han's** 65th wedding anniversary in Cheongshim Peace World Center in Gapyeong, South Korea on 12th April 2025. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.

Congratulations, **Holy Mother Han!** We love you, we attend you, we come with hyojeong [Editor's note: "Hyojeong" is Korean for a "heart of filial piety"] filial piety.

We love you and we praise you and we thank **God** for you. As True Parents, as **True Mother**, as the "only begotten Daughter", Mother of Peace, **Holy Mother Han**.

Kamsa hamnida! [Korean for "thank you"]

Slightly edited text for publication purposes.

Featured image above: Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr. speaking at the celebrations of **Hak Ja Han's** 65th wedding anniversary in Gapyeong, South Korea on 12th April 2025. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by Peace TV.

[Editor's note: "The True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind" refers to the sacred union (oneness) of our Heavenly Parent (God) and the True Parents.]

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