

THE DIVINE PRINCIPLE

Introduction to the Teachings of Rev. Sun Myung Moon

Part 1 Part 2 Part 3 Part 4 Part 5 Part 6

WHY WE NEED THE MESSIAH

AND THE PRINCIPLES OF RESTORATION OF HUMANKIND



To save human beings from the yoke of their false descent

We experience a lot of suffering in this world. Suffering that is caused by ourselves and our fellow human beings, even in the 21st century. We have within us the potential to express fully our true innate humanity, yet we find ourselves trapped in ways of destructive self-centeredness. Why is this so? Many of the existing attempts to explain the human condition disregard the root of the problem, our fallen lineage. We are the children of the Human Fall. From the time of our birth, we live distant from God, the source of love and goodness, and are influenced by evil.

The scriptures tell us of God's promise to send the Messiah in order to end Satan's evil reign over humanity, and to establish God's reign of goodness. The Christian world sees Jesus of Nazareth, who came 2,000 years ago, as this promised Messiah. Why then do we still see so much suffering and injustice in this world? Was Jesus not the Messiah? Or are there things we still need to understand about the purpose of his coming and the process by which God's original world of goodness will be realized?

SALVATION AND RESTORATION

God's purpose and ideal for His creation are unchanging

The Human Fall was not part of God's plan. The commandment from God that is mentioned in Genesis 2:17 was the warning from a caring and loving God to have our first human ancestors avoid making a fatal mistake. The Fall caused God to grieve and human history to be characterized by sin and suffering. However, as a loving parent, living totally for the sake of His children, God set out a path by which things could be put right – His Providence of Restoration.

From the hour the first humans left Him, a heartbroken God worked to bring His children back to their original state. In Isaiah 46:11 God expressed it this way: "I have spoken it, so I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, so I will also do it." **God's goal before and after the Human Fall has been the same: to realize His ideal of creation** – a world of beauty, truth and goodness – in which human beings live in total oneness with His heart, reflecting His true love through their thoughts, words and actions, unable to deliberately hurt one another. In such a world there are no evil influences. There is no need for criminal courts, judges or prisons. In God's ideal world there is also no need for religion, which has a restorative role, and no need for a savior. This is God's unchanging desire and our hope.

The laws and principles that govern this "return home" have long remained hidden. But in our time the goal of human history and of God's work behind the scenes has been revealed to us.



Every human being is precious and worth being saved

Human history from God's perspective is a long and difficult process during which fallen human beings eventually will be restored to their original state. The way of restoration is a step-by-step process in which people are guided and receive help, so that they can overcome the separation from God which resulted from the Fall.

In His providence God worked through various individuals, families, peoples and religions to reverse the process of the Fall. The principle that is applied to reverse the original crime is called restoration through indemnity. Disbelief was to be indemnified through faith, selfishness through self-denial, arrogance and hatred through service and love, even for an enemy. Fornication was to be indemnified by abstinence, greed by living for the sake of others.

The goal of human history is very clear: complete and irreversible oneness between God and humans. All people ever born on earth are God's children for eternity. None of us could escape from the universe, even if we wanted to, because we all have an eternal spirit and therefore our existence is eternal

God and human beings are supposed to be eternal partners of love. With our unique, individual character we represent a similarly unique and irreplaceable aspect of God's heart and personality.

Not a single human being can remain in a state of sin forever, and the separation between God and humans is, therefore, a temporary one. Eternal damnation would be utterly contrary to God's Principle of Creation

God, who loves us with a forgiving and parental heart, simply cannot bear to be separated from His children. The fact that God feels this way about us is shown by Jesus in the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32) and the parable of the lost sheep and the lost coin (Luke 15:1-10).

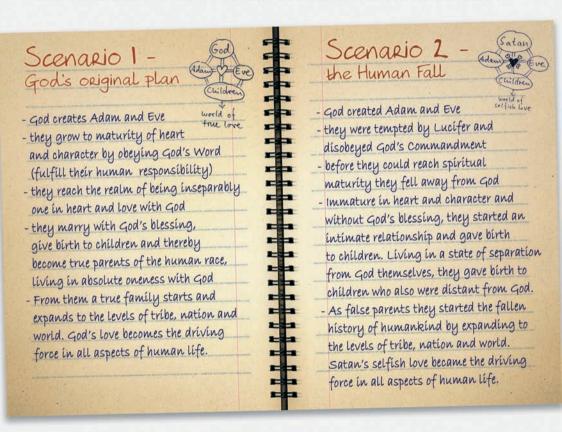
So it is not God who judges us: rather we judge ourselves when we go against His principles of creation.



Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, "The Return of the Prodigal Son"

God needs a pure point of origin

Why does God need to send the Messiah? **The Messiah only became necessary because of the Human Fall.** Had the first humans, Adam and Eve, fulfilled their responsibility and established God's ideal of creation, there would have been no need for God to save us or to send the Messiah. We can understand the purpose of the Messiah by comparing the following two scenarios 1) what God originally wanted and 2) what was lost when Adam and Eve failed in their responsibility.



When Adam and Eve separated from God in the Human Fall, God lost the very starting point of His ideal – true parents. God cannot save humanity through a fallen person. He first must prepare a couple as true parents – a new point of origin. This is the Messiah.

There is, however, a difference. The first Adam and Eve were born into a sinless world, and all they needed was to have faith in and obey God's Word. The new Adam and Eve, however, are born amidst a fallen, sinful environment and additionally must overcome the mighty, evil sovereignty of Satan. Let us look more deeply into what the Messiah has to fulfill in order to accomplish his mission.

The Messiah realizes God's ideal, the 'Three Great Blessings'

Our first ancestors, Adam and Eve, originally should have realized God's purpose of creation by fulfilling His Three Great Blessings: "Be fruitful, multiply, and have dominion over the earth" (Genesis 1:28).

The fulfillment of the Three Great Blessings is the purpose of creation for all people. The First Blessing (be fruitful) means growing up into individual maturity by fulfilling one's own responsibility centered on God. The Second Blessing (multiply) means getting blessed in marriage, giving birth to children and creating a family and a society of true love, centered on God. The Third Blessing means using one's creativity and talents in loving and taking care of the creation as a good steward.

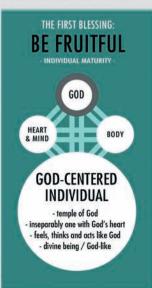
Just like the first Adam, the Messiah needs to fulfill the Three Great Blessings. He must fulfill the First Blessing: growing to individual maturity, becoming a person who fully unites with God's heart and loves as God loves. Next, he needs to fulfill the Second Blessing, being engaged to a God-prepared woman, as it says in the book of Revelation 19:7: "for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready." On the basis of realizing the first two Blessings, a person then is entitled to inherit the position of lord of the created world, thereby fulfilling the Third Blessing.

The Messiah and his bride stand as the new Adam and Eve, – the True Parents of all humanity. With them starts a new, God-centered lineage. Their mission is to connect all fallen human beings to this original lineage of God's love and life, thereby opening up the way for every person to realize God's Three Great Blessings in their own life. In Romans 11:17 Paul describes how the wild olive trees (fallen humankind) are being grafted onto the true olive tree (the Messiah).

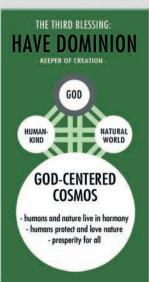
In this process of purification and rebirth, human beings will be separated from Satan's evil lineage of false love and life. This is the removal of original sin. Original sin has been the base for the governance of evil throughout human history, and it is the cause of all suffering, selfishness and conflicts.

God's 'Three Great Blessings' to Adam and Eve reveal His eternal purpose and ideal for His creation.

Because Adam and Eve failed to fulfill that ideal, God must prepare a new Adam and Eve - the Messiah.







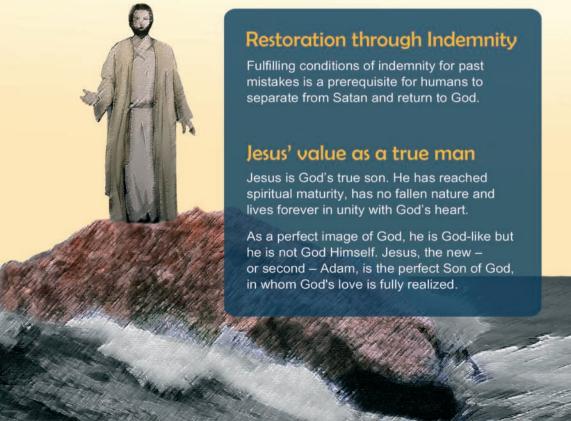
NO FOUNDATION, NO NEW ADAM

How could God bring forth a new sinless human ancestor from a humanity entirely connected to sin?

The Messiah comes with the mission to end the historical pain of God, humanity and creation. His purpose is to realize God's dream for all eternity, which is also the dream of all humanity and creation. He is the most important person in the history of humankind. He comes to fulfill the promises of all religions.

Two thousand years ago Jesus came as the Messiah. He was the "second Adam." Like the first Adam, Jesus was born sinless. He could be without sin because he was born on the foundation of a prepared lineage of faithful ancestors. For a period of 2,000 years, since Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the Jewish people endured a difficult course. It was a course of many trials, during which they developed an increasingly strong bond with God. By being obedient to God's law the Jewish people built a foundation of faith. Moreover, God prepared a special lineage within the people of Israel. In the process of gradually building up this pure lineage many people of deep faith were ready to risk their lives. It was a process in which all aspects of the Fall were reversed step by step.

On the foundation of both, the chosen people's faith and this special lineage, the Messiah could be born – completely pure, without any connection to Satan's lineage. This was Jesus of Nazareth.



The Messiah and human responsibility

The Messiah cannot fulfill his mission all by himself. His appearance is not in itself a guarantee that God's ideal will be realized. Why? Because we have our **human responsibility!** Evil and sin came into the world because humans (our first ancestors) failed to fulfill their responsibility. Can we expect that all the misery caused by the Human Fall can be resolved without human beings fulfilling their responsibility? Of course not! If this were possible, God could have liberated humankind at any time! Why would He have waited?

To fulfill his mission, the Messiah needs the right response of the people. It is crucially important that people connect with him in faith, and work with him to accomplish God's ideal. The building of God's Kingdom is a "joint venture" of God, the Messiah and the people.

SAL C VAT > ION

GOD'S RESPONSIBILITY

- to raise humanity's level of heart and understanding
- to prepare an environment and prepare a people who will long for and receive the Messiah
- to send the Messiah

MESSIAH'S RESPONSIBILITY

- to fulfill God's purpose of creation (Three Great Blessings)
- to end Satan's dominion
- to bring salvation to all human beings (solve the problem of the Original Sin)
- to establish the pattern of true love in all relationships

HUMAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

- to show faith in God's Word
- to repent for our sins
- to long for and prepare for the Messiah
- to recognize, accept and support the Messiah
- to realize God's Three Great Blessings in our own life

To understand the purpose of the Messiah, we must know God's original ideal of creation, which the Messiah must fulfill. Without this understanding we might harbor **unrealistic expectations** and fail to recognize and support the Savior when he comes.

The Messiah has an extremely difficult mission, as he needs to **overcome the entire miserable human history**. He has to **win over Satan**, who absolutely clings to and defends his long-standing evil sovereignty. Satan will try anything to destroy the Messiah and everyone who follows him as they work to overcome his evil dominion. The Messiah must have an indomitable character with an absolute determination to be victorious. At the same time he needs extreme patience and unconditional love to **win the heart and trust of fallen people**.

TO PUT OUR FAILURES RIGHT

It is God's promise and responsibility to send the Messiah, but human beings also have to do their part by fulfilling certain conditions in preparation for his coming. The first condition is to restore faith in God; the second is to restore the proper order in their relationship centered on God.

God's Principle of Creation defines a certain order in the relationships within creation, i.e. between God, human beings, angels and all other things. Adam, Eve and the servant Lucifer violated this principle and created a world of distorted love and unprincipled relationships.

Originally Adam and Eve should have grown to perfection through having faith in God's Word and inheriting His love. On that foundation they should have established, through love, the dominion over all creation, including the angels and the archangel. However, Adam and Eve disobeyed God's Commandment and succumbed to the archangel, allowing him to take dominion over them instead, thereby losing their position and substance as God's son and daughter.

The Principles of Restoration

The basic Principle of Restoration is that the results of the Human Fall can be eliminated only when humans themselves reverse the feelings, attitudes and behavior that led to the Fall.

Therefore, in the process of restoration they must reverse this failure by demonstrating absolute faith in God's Word, which is called the Foundation of Faith, and restoring the original order in their relationship centered on God, which is called the Foundation of Substance.

To carry out this restoration work practically, God puts someone in the **position of Lucifer** (who was elder) and someone in the **position of Adam** (who was younger).

The person in Adam's position is supposed to restore Adam's faithlessness through a demonstration of faith. The person in Lucifer's position is supposed to indemnify Lucifer's mistake of having left his proper position as a servant and having exalted himself over Adam. He, the elder, therefore should humble himself toward the younger, showing respect, trust and love for him.

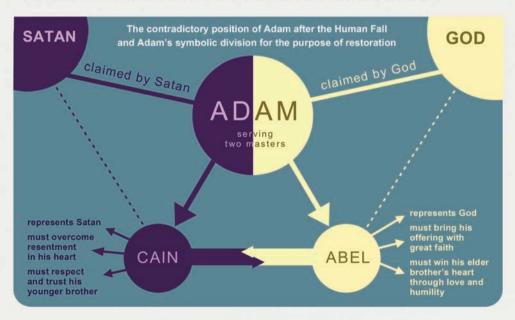
By fulfilling their respective responsibilities, they lay a foundation for God to send the Messiah (the new Adam).



Immediately after the human fall, in Adam's family, God began His efforts to bring us back to Him.

Because it was Adam who failed, we would expect that he personally would make an offering before God. But instead God had the next generation, Cain and Abel, make the offering. Why was this so? A major problem was that fallen Adam had placed himself in an unclear position, being ruled by two masters. Adam had inherited Satan's lineage, and therefore Satan could claim him as his own. On the other hand, Adam was created by God as His child and therefore still could be claimed by God as well.

In order to overcome this contradiction, God had to "separate" Adam into a relatively good side claimed by Him, and a relatively evil side claimed by Satan. How did this take place? As it is not possible to literally divide a human being, God "divided" Adam by assigning his sons Cain and Abel into two opposing roles. Cain, as the firstborn, was to represent Satan's side and Abel, the second-born, was to represent God's side. Each was now in a position to deal with only one master. In Genesis 4:7, God said to Cain, "Why are you angry and why has your countenance fallen? If you do not do well, sin is couching at the door." This shows that Cain was placed in a position to deal with Satan and resist his jealousy and anger.



God placed Cain and Abel in their relative positions of evil and good. From these positions they had to make their offerings. God could accept Abel's offering (Genesis 4:4) as Abel made the offering acceptably (Hebrews 11:4). Thus, in this restoration process God accepted Abel's offering but rejected Cain's. This didn't mean that God hated Cain. Cain, by his own effort, had to fulfill a condition to separate from evil by overcoming his feelings of hate and jealousy toward his younger brother.

Cain-Abel-Relationships: The pattern of providential history

It was Cain's responsibility to overcome the same feelings that Lucifer felt at the time of the Fall. Abel should have helped Cain to overcome his jealousy by making efforts to console his angry heart. Had the brothers united in heart, God would have embraced both of them. Through this they would have established the foundation to send the new Adam, the Messiah.

However, in actuality Cain killed Abel and repeated the process of the Fall. This act was not simply the crime of an elder brother murdering his younger brother; it meant that the satanic side had struck God's side, frustrating God's work in Adam's family. Cain envied Abel, just as Lucifer had envied Adam. Abel on the other side did not win Cain's heart and calm his anger. Therefore Cain did not overcome his resentment nor could he see his brother from God's point of view. Instead of reversing the process of the Fall, they repeated it. Thus God could not send the Messiah to Adam's family.

What Cain and Abel failed to fulfill was the necessary basic condition of indemnity for any individual separated from God to come nearer to God; thus, that condition remained to be fulfilled.

The Cain-Abel pattern is the basic pattern of human restoration. Until today this pattern can be seen in all human affairs – from the relationships between individuals, between families up to the complex matters of peoples and nations.

The attempt to build the foundation for the Messiah in Adam's family:



The Foundation of Faith was successfully laid by Abel



The Foundation of Substance was not established, because Cain and Abel failed to unite

Therefore the Foundation for the Messiah was not established in Adam's family

God had to start again.



Seeing from the perspective of the Principles of Restoration, we can recognize a new dimension in the biblical stories. Those accounts no longer can be considered to be unconnected events. They form a progressive report of the history of God's efforts to prepare humanity for salvation.

Painting: "Cain Killing Abel", Daniele Crespi, 1618

Incredible achievement of faith but loss of trust within the family

God's Heart was again in anguish. He had hoped for Cain and Abel to erect a Foundation of Faith and brotherly love. Then they would have separated from Satan, who would have been obliged to acknowledge that both of them belonged to God's side. This tragedy, however, meant that God no longer had a representative and a foothold in this first human family. The misuse of sexual love through the first human parents, Adam and Eve, and their separation from God led to murder and hostility between the first human brothers — Cain and Abel. These conflicts have expanded and multiplied until the present time.

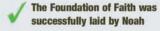
God continued to work with individuals and families. When someone made any good and useful foundation to allow God to draw him or her closer to Him, He worked to strengthen that foundation through his or her descendants.

It took many generations before God found a righteous man whose family could be entrusted with the task of reversing the failures in Adam's family. **This man was Noah**, who faithfully obeyed God's order to build an ark over a long period of time.

After the flood judgment Noah's family – united in heart – was to have marked a new beginning in history. However, Noah's second son, Ham, instead of being loyal to his exemplary father, judged him and felt ashamed of him, even turning his brothers against their father.

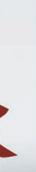
Noah was angry over Ham's disloyalty (Genesis 9:20-23). Because Noah's family failed to inherit Noah's foundation of faith, God's providence again was postponed. God had to search again for a righteous man and family who would correct the failures of the past and establish a foundation for Him to send the Messiah.

The attempt to build the Foundation for the Messiah in Noah's family:



The Foundation of Substance was not established, because Noah's son Ham did not overcome his critical attitude toward his father

Therefore the Foundation for the Messiah was not established in Noah's family





God had to start again.

ABRAHAM, THE FATHER OF FAITH

Abraham's family: victorious cooperation of three generations

Four hundred years later, God called **Abraham**. According to the Bible, Abraham responded by departing from his fallen environment, the city of Ur in Chaldea, and journeyed to a new land of promise. Abraham, however, failed in his offering of birds and animals (Genesis 15:9-10). Finally, **Abraham demonstrated absolute faith** by obeying God's order to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Isaac himself reversed the failure of Ham by uniting with his father, even to the point of offering his life as a sacrifice. God saw that Abraham was absolutely willing to execute His commandment and, through an angel, stopped him from killing Isaac.

The attempt to build the Foundation for the Messiah in Abraham's family:



Abraham failed to establish the Foundation of Faith in the first attempt



The Foundation of Faith was restored by Abraham, when he obeyed God to sacrifice his only son



Isaac restored the failure of Noah's son Ham by absolutely uniting with his father



Jacob and Esau, for the first time in history, victoriously established the Foundation of Substance - restoring the proper order of relationship between Adam and Lucifer (see next page)

Therefore the Foundation for the Messiah on the family level was laid successfully in Abraham's family



Satan, however, had already expanded his evil dominion up to the level of nations. For God, therefore, this victorious foundation on the family level was not sufficient anymore in order to liberate humankind from Satan's reign. Now God needed to find a people, who could establish the Foundation for the Messiah on the national level. He began to prepare the Israelites for this task.



Painting: "The Sacrifice of Isaac", Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1635

Their reconciliation created a pattern for future generations of how hate and jealousy can be overcome through love and sacrifice.

The reconciliation of Isaac's sons, Jacob and Esau, was a providential turning point. Jacob, the younger brother, was serious about obtaining the birthright and bought it from Esau for a bowl of lentils and bread. Later, as his father lay dying, his mother, Rebekah, guided Jacob to impersonate his brother and trick his father into giving him the blessing due the firstborn son. Rebekah understood God's providence and helped her second son gain the blessing. Esau was furious and swore to kill Jacob, but with Rebekah's help Jacob fled to Haran. After 21 years of servitude, Jacob faced his brother, who was armed with a band of 400 men. By sincerely offering gifts to Esau and bowing in respect, Jacob melted Esau's heart and they united in tears. Thus Jacob and Esau successfully reversed the failure of Cain and Abel. Jacob softened his brother's hatred, overcoming it with sacrificial love. By bringing an end to the resentment of Esau, who, as the elder, was in the position of Cain, Jacob set the pattern for overcoming Satan and restoring true love.



On the foundation of Jacob's victory, God could claim the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who came to constitute a lineage embodying, to a relative degree, the heavenly tradition of living for the sake of others.

The night before Jacob reconciled with his brother Esau, he fought with an angel of God and received the name "Israel" which means "who prevails with God" or "God rules." Through Moses, God began His dispensation to establish the national Foundation for the Messiah. God raised up the Israelites and led them through many trials to create a nation on His side. He revealed to them that one day He would send the Messiah, who would inaugurate a history of love, peace and justice. The Israelites began to long for the Messiah to come.

God's Ideal is Absolute

We have learned that God will never give up His ideal of true love. He is absolutely determined to guide His children toward the original ideal of creation. For this purpose He sends the Messiah.

Messiah = True Parents

Every family starts from parents.
Unfortunately the human family started with parents who had separated from God. Humanity needs a new start.
Many believers expect the Messiah to appear in a supernatural manner, destroying evil with his power. But the Messiah comes as a bridegroom, and together with his bride he will realize God's Ideal, the Ideal Family, for the first time in history, becoming the True Parents of all humankind.

Foundation for the Messiah

It is an extremely difficult task for God to raise a new sinless Adam and Eve from among fallen humanity. A foundation for this had to be laid over a long period of time. People whom God found trustworthy had to reverse the failures at the time of the Human Fall by fulfilling conditions of indemnity: showing absolute faith in God's word and creating unity of heart.

The Human Fall Must Be Reversed

God cannot conduct His work of restoration randomly. He is bound to certain principles. He also needs to find faithful individuals and families who will respond to His call, taking responsibility to indemnify and correct the failures of our first ancestors, Adam and Eve, even at the cost of their lives.

The Necessity of a God-centered Lineage

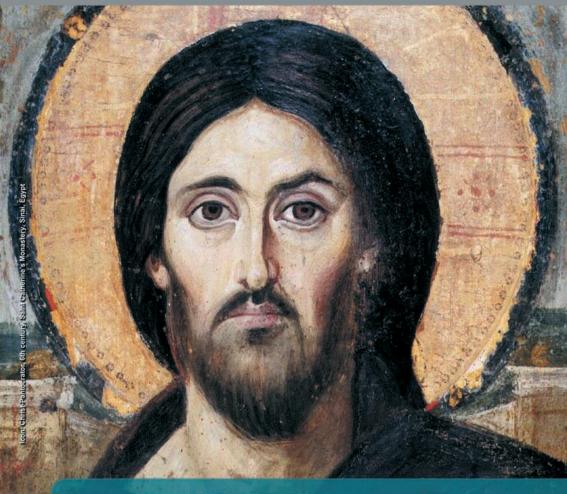
At the time of the Fall Adam and Eve entered into the lineage of Satan, becoming his children. That is the original sin. All humankind has inherited this lineage of evil. Through this lineage Satan can control us and keep us away from God. The purpose of the Messiah, who comes as True Parents, is to bring all humankind back into God's lineage, thus overcoming the results of the Fall.

What is next?

This introductory series comprises 6 brochures covering the essential contents of The Divine Principle.



- Part 1 The Principle of Creation
- Part 2 Our Life in Two Worlds
- Part 3 Why Does Evil Exist?
- Part 4 Why We Need the Messiah
- Part 5 The Tragedy of Jesus Christ
- Part 6 The Turning Point of History



Two thousand years after Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and two thousand years before our present time, Jesus of Nazareth began to proclaim himself as the promised Messiah.

But was he really received and understood as God wanted him to be? What was the role and mission of the prophet Elijah and John the Baptist? And, most importantly, was God's work to save humankind successfully completed through the life and death of Jesus?

The next part of this series deals with the life of Jesus Christ.



THE DIVINE PRINCIPLE GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Divine Principle is a new revelation from God to humankind. It has been received through and was systematized by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. It offers revolutionary new insights into the nature and work of our Creator. Here we have presented an introductory 6-part series covering central statements of the Divine Principle's main subject areas:

The Principle of Creation

God's nature, His ideal and the principles of His creation.

The Human Fall

How evil came into this world and how it influences humanity.

The Restoration of God's Ideal

Revealing God's work of salvation and the principles of restoration in human history.

EXPOSITION OF THE DIVINE PRINCIPLE, the reference book on the Divine Principle teachings, comprises the following chapters:

- The Principle of Creation
- The Human Fall
- Eschatology and the Last Days
- The Messiah: His Purpose and
- the Reason for His Second Coming
- Resurrection
- Predestination
- Christology

- The Principles of Restoration
- The Foundation for Restoration
- Moses' and Jesus' Course in the Providence of Restoration
- The Time Periods in the Providence of Restoration
- The Parallels in Jewish and Christian History
- The Period of Preparation for the Second Advent
- The Second Advent





Sun Myung Moon (1920 - 2012)

Already by age sixteen, Sun Myung Moon had received his commission through encounters with the risen Christ and was continuing his lonely and prayerful search to find the answers to fundamental questions about life – profound insights that now form the systematic teaching known as *The Divine Principle*.

By identifying spiritual principles that reveal the workings of God behind human history and through the world's great religious traditions, a way is opened up to transcend traditional boundaries of race, religion and culture and move toward a truly 'unified' view of life wherein the spiritual and physical dimensions are harmonized.

Local Contact





ORDER INFORMATION

If you want to order printed brochures or need information please contact:

Mr. Øivind Haugen haugen51@gmx.de

THANK YOU!

This illustrated study brochures have been originally intended to be used as printed brochures. And they look best in printed form.

The online-version shall primarily serve as an effective way to advertise the printed version. However, please feel free to share and make use of this online-brochure.