

“Jesus’ life course and the course that our church must take” April 17, 2017

And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt. (Matthew 26:39)

Good morning, everyone. Today I would like to talk about the course of Jesus’ life and the course that our church must take. Jesus had one single purpose in life; he dedicated his life and he put his life on the line for the sake of that purpose. Jesus had the conviction for absolute victory and he offered all his sincerity and dedication towards it. **When he died, he did not die in the presence of the enemy but rather he had the wisdom to be able to die in the presence of God. He was a person with such wisdom!**

Jesus did everything he could to take responsibility for the future of Israel and to guide it in the proper direction. In the end he went the path that he had no choice but to follow. **Jesus’ disciples abandoned him and were only concerned with maintaining their own lives. Nevertheless, in that situation Jesus was still focused completely on fulfilling God’s Will.**

Jesus showed a level of dedication and sincerity beyond anything that anyone else in the world ever offered, and he went the way of the cross for the sake of God’s Will. Jesus was always with God and even as he was going the way of the cross, he did not feel any discouragement. We can see that Jesus established a world of hope even in the place that was controlled by the enemy.

In Jesus’ final prayer in Matthew 39, we see that he cried out, “My Father!” He had a Father-son relationship with God; there was an incredible relationship between Jesus and God. He prayed, “If it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.” In this prayer are hidden all the situations and all the circumstances that God and Jesus found themselves in.

When Jesus went to the spirit world, he did not go as a shameful son but as a son that God could take pride in. A number of people since then have appeared and said, “I will go this way also.” But there have not been many who have been able to do this.

Even as Jesus was being executed, he asked God to forgive his executioners. Even as he was dying, he promised that he would return, so he left behind hope for this world. **Jesus proclaimed that the final victory would be achieved and that God’s Will would cover all the earth.** It would be the time when the enemy would be forgiven. Even in the hour of death he maintained his conviction, his faith, and hope in the final victory. And he gave his blessing and hope to those who were opposed to Rome.

We can see that Jesus was a person who took control of everything both internally and externally. Jesus was able to forgive his enemies; we can observe his standard of loyalty

and filial piety before God, and the tradition that he established. In every way Jesus was the Son of God.

Jesus' life did not end with the thirty-three years that he was on earth; instead it has continued throughout the course of human history. History has continued towards fulfilling the will that Jesus sought to accomplish and that day of realization is coming. He lived a life focused on that goal; it was the only way he could live.

Therefore, Christianity, which was formed on the basis of Jesus' life, was destined to become a world-wide major religion. No matter how much persecution it received, it was never fated to disappear; it was always fated to become a major religion. No matter how much persecution it received, that persecution helped it to grow even further. As it was persecuted it continued to find ways in which it could permeate the entire world. The same is true with the path that we are travelling today. **When we see Jesus praying, "Let this cup pass from me," we can imagine that his heart was filled with sorrow and filled with desires to alleviate the circumstances that stood behind these words. When Father spoke, he would not speak in terms of individual, family, or clan, or nation, but he would always encourage us to think in terms of the entire world.**

When I look at this verse this morning, I focus on the words, "Oh my Father!" and I realize that Jesus was in a Father-son relationship with God. This was a relationship that no one could tear apart no matter how hard they might try.

This morning I wish that we could have a similar relationship, that we could call out to God as our Father, call out not just in term of words, but from the marrow of our bones, that we could call out to God as our Father and ask Him, "Is there anything You want me to be doing? If there is some part of your work that You want me to accomplish? Please let me know what it is so I can do it for You!"

Father never forgot even for a moment that he was born for the sake of saving the world: that he was born for the sake of giving life to the world. We also need to proceed forward with the same conviction that we are the ones who must bring light to the world and save it. When we moved forward with that kind of conviction, we will be able to establish the Cheon Il Guk that Father desires so deeply.

If we manage to live the life that Father wants us to live, we will be able to take responsibility for all matters of life and death in the world, and we will be able to establish the world that God has desired. If we go forward and work, even willing to offer our lives, even willing to face death if necessary, then amazing miracles will happen in this world. When we do this, we will be able to plant the signs of Cheon Il Guk. We will be able to plant the flag of victory somewhere in the world. That will bring victory to God, to True Father, and Cheon Il Guk. Thank you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzXJxg6p-8Y>