



THE DIVINE PRINCIPLE

Introduction to the Teachings of Rev. Sun Myung Moon

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

THE PRINCIPLE OF CREATION



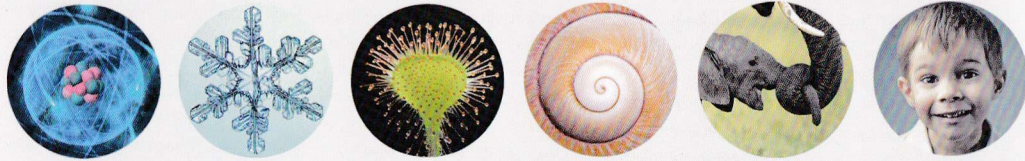
Where do we come from and why are we here?

We did not create ourselves. So how, then, did we come to exist? Looking at the complexity, order, beauty and interdependent nature of everything in the universe, it is hard to believe that it all came about by accident. But if there *is* a conscious mind or Creator behind the universe, how can we find out about it?

The first part of the Divine Principle—of which a brief overview is presented on the following pages—describes the fundamental characteristics and principles that are common to all forms of life. Studying these characteristics helps us to understand the nature of the cause or Creator, God.

Why does the universe exist at all? What is humankind's purpose in the universe? A clear understanding of God's motivation for creating is essential in order to know our own purpose of life. The Divine Principle clarifies these universal principles.

The universe is a reflection of God's nature



Harmony, precision and order are evident throughout the universe. For millions of years the cycles of life have repeated themselves with remarkable consistency. Everything that exists, even the smallest particle or cell, has some meaning and purpose. For example, every part of the human body has a distinct, unique function and interacts with other parts of the body to achieve the higher purpose of sustaining and developing the complexities of life.

There must be an origin, with a universal purpose and design, a First Cause, which gives meaning to everything and maintains harmony in the universe. **We call this First Cause "God."**



Illustration: depositphotos.com @ red_fenike

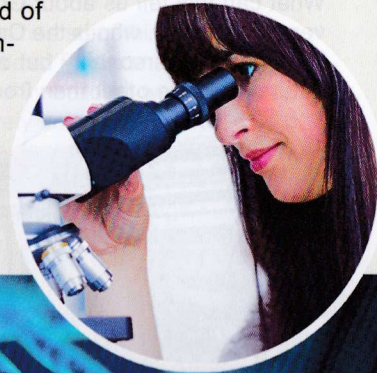
Throughout history, humankind has tried to understand this First Cause. Religions have sprung up and guided people on how to connect to the source of life. A common theme in religion is that there is one God, the Creator and sustainer of life, who is also **a being of love**. Let us dwell on this for a moment.

Without knowing God we cannot know ourselves

We may wonder how we can know anything about our Creator if He is invisible and intangible. According to the scriptures of many faiths, God's character can be understood by examining the world He designed—the world all around us.

Indeed, just as the paintings of an artist reveal something about his or her character, so too God's character is reflected in the things that He created. This is the principle of cause and effect. Could a chaotic source create a harmonious universe? A world of such diverse beauty, and human beings who can demonstrate such great love, wisdom and creativity, must spring from a Creator with an even more extraordinary mind and heart.

Therefore one way to learn about the cause, God, is by studying the effect, the creation.



» *Ever since the creation of the world, His invisible nature, namely, His eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. (St. Paul, Romans 1:20)*



» *For each and every form He is the Model; it is His form that is to be seen everywhere. (Rig Veda 6.47.18, Hinduism)*

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Complementary pairs can be seen throughout the creation.

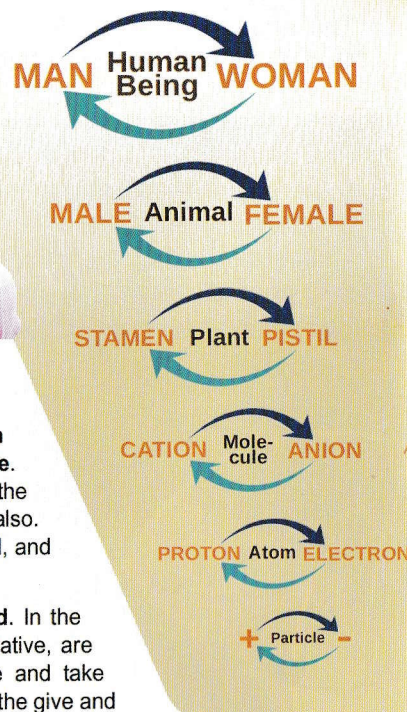
Human beings and animals are either male or female. The Divine Principle calls these types of paired attributes “dual characteristics”. Plants have their own forms of masculinity and femininity (stamen and pistil), either in separate plants or within the individual specimen. In the mineral world there are the polarities of protons and electrons, cations and anions, and plus and minus charges. The world is made in such a way that everything exists, multiplies and acts through the reciprocal relationship of give and take action between complementary partners. These partners PRESUPPOSE the other, they NEED each other, of necessity they are in a harmonious relationship with each other.

What can this tell us about God? If these dual characteristics exist everywhere in the universe, then God, who is the Cause, must embody not only the essence of masculine nature in His divine personality but also the essence of feminine nature. Where would feminine nature originate other than from the same creator and designer of life?



Thus, man and woman are equally representative of the character of God. In fact, **the most complete human expression of the heart and personality of God can be seen in a man and a woman united together in true, genuine love.** Some religions call God our Heavenly Father. But since God is the origin of femininity, God must have motherly characteristics also. Thus we can say that God is the original Parent of humankind, and we human beings are His children.

In God, masculinity and femininity are **perfectly harmonized**. In the creation also, masculine and feminine, and positive and negative, are meant to be in harmony. This occurs through myriad give and take relationships. For example, the body maintains its life through the give and take action of the arteries and veins, and of inhalation and exhalation. Both plants and animals maintain their functions through give and take action among their various organs and systems. Material things come into being and maintain their existence through physiochemical reactions based on give and take action between particles, atoms and molecules. We find that even the solar system exists through the give and take action between the sun and the planets in their orbital movements. ① Additional insights on the topic of give and take action follow on Page 7.



All things have an internal character and an external form

There is a second – even more essential – duality which all created entities share: **everything has an internal character and an external form.**

“The eye is the lamp of the body,” Jesus said (Matthew 6:22). This implies a fundamental truth about all humanity. **We are both mind and body, internal character and external form.** The outer expresses the inner and the inner directs the outer. Though our inner selves are invisible, our thoughts, emotions and will are reflected outwardly in our facial expressions and indeed in our “body language.” To a considerable degree, we are what we do, because we express what we think.

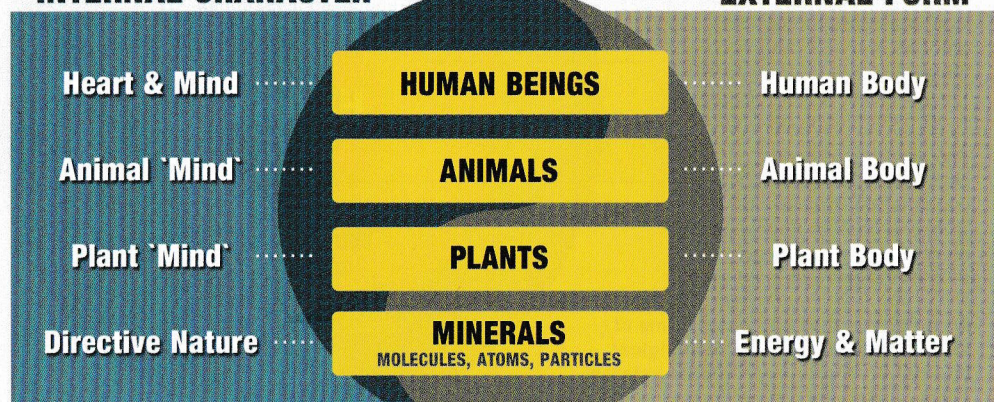
Just as humans have an internal character, the rest of creation has something resembling a spiritual quality. Animals have instincts that direct their bodies. For example, squirrels provide for their winter feeding by storing nuts; spiders survive by building webs to entrap their food; birds migrate across thousands of miles, instinctively knowing when to fly and where to go. Experiments reveal that even plants have a high degree of sensitivity. Since everything visible is the expression of an invisible nature, we come to the conclusion that two aspects—internal and external, character and form—characterize all things.

While it may seem obvious, the Divine Principle reminds us of the importance of the internal dimension. **A person’s value comes from his or her inner self.** No matter how handsome one may be, qualities of dishonesty or selfishness will severely compromise one’s stature in the eyes of God and one’s fellow human beings. On the other hand, even though a person’s body may be disabled, noble inner qualities will earn the admiration and love of all.

While recognizing the polarity in all the creation, the Divine Principle also affirms that the ultimate inner/outer relationship exists between the Creator and His creation. The center of all creation is God. He is reflected in all that we can see, hear or touch. He makes His presence known in all of creation, which could be seen as **the outer form of His being.**

INTERNAL CHARACTER

EXTERNAL FORM



God's essence is His loving heart

Since everything God created has an external form and internal character, **He Himself must have external and internal qualities also**. The external quality of God we call **Universal Prime Energy**, which is the cause of all physical energy and hence is the cause of all matter. God's Universal Prime Energy creates, develops and sustains the cosmos.

The internal aspect of God relates to **motivation, purpose and identity**. To understand this, we can study our own nature.

The main attributes of the human mind are **emotion, intellect and will**. We have the capacity for **selfless love**, the impulse to pursue **truth** and **goodness**, and the ability to appreciate **beauty**. For example, we delight at the birth of a baby, enjoy the harmony of music and dance, and like to express our creativity. We aspire to become knowledgeable and wise. We aspire to do good and to reject evil.

What is the source of these common qualities and aspirations? Since we have not created them ourselves, there must be another origin: our Creator. God is the source of the values we all cherish: love, truth, beauty and goodness. God's creativity is guided by reason and principle, but most fundamentally it is an expression of His desire to love. **Love is the essence of God's being**. God loves each of us individually and rejoices when we return His love and share it with others.

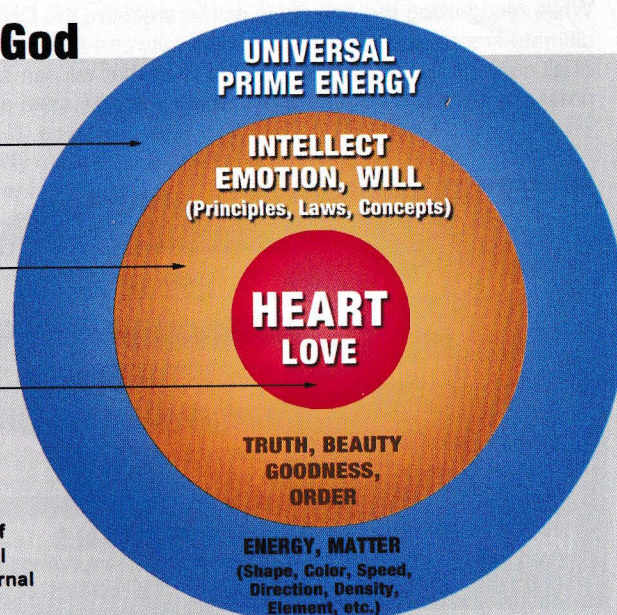
The 'Structure' of God

God's external aspect is the directed energy that sustains the creation's existence, action and multiplication.

God is a being of intellect, emotion and will, which are aspects of His internal nature. They are expressed through truth, beauty and goodness.

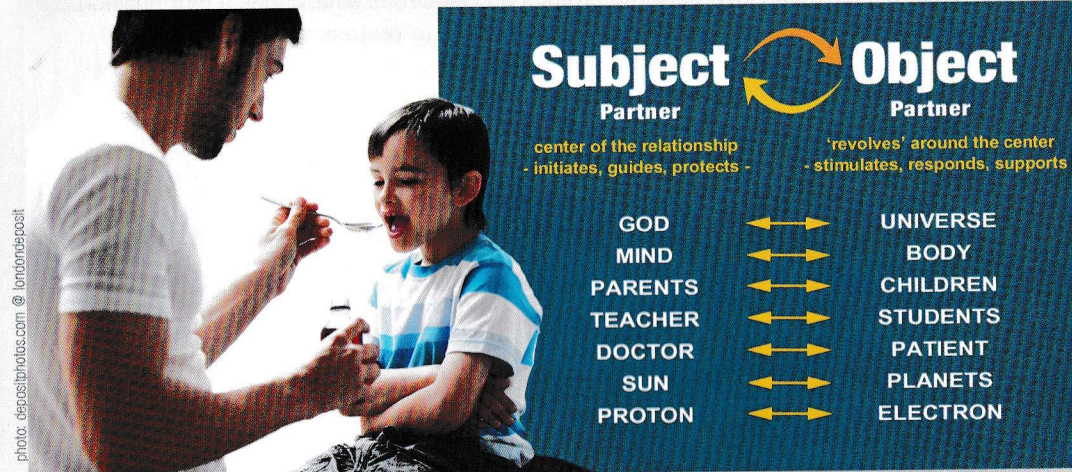
The essence of God's personality is His heart, which is the irrepressible desire to seek to have a partner made happy through giving unconditional love.

All inner qualities and outer forms of created beings resemble the Original Internal Character and Original External Form of God, the Causal Being.



Universal Prime Energy and give and take action

Every created being contains the essential characteristics of internal character and external form, as well as the attributes of positivity and negativity. In other words, each created being reflects God's own form of existence and contains elements necessary to maintain its own existence. However, do things exist as completely independent and isolated beings without relationships? A casual observation would suggest that all things exist as separate entities, but because they were created by God, whose own nature is harmonized, they, by nature, are **designed to exist, grow and multiply through interdependent relationships**.



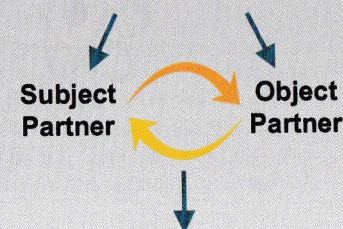
A relationship is established when subject and object partners enter into give and take action. This action supplies all the energy needed for that particular creation. What, then, is the **fundamental energy** that generates this action? The power which serves as the motivating energy causing give and take action is called **Universal Prime Energy**.

Universal Prime Energy coming from God determines the **direction and purpose of all give and take actions**. Because give and take action occurs between subject and object partners only when there is a common purpose, we can understand that the goal of give and take is to **develop into something higher**.

Since all things are directed by **two purposes**—the purpose of self-maintenance (individual purpose) and the purpose of maintaining the whole (whole purpose)—the universe could be said to be one huge organic body, interwoven with the dual purposes of all creation.

God

God's Universal Prime Energy provides power, common purpose and direction to the subject and the object partners and stimulates the process of give and take between them.



Their interaction in turn generates all the forces needed for the existence, multiplication and action of the new entity that is formed through the unity of subject and object partner.

New entity of higher dimension

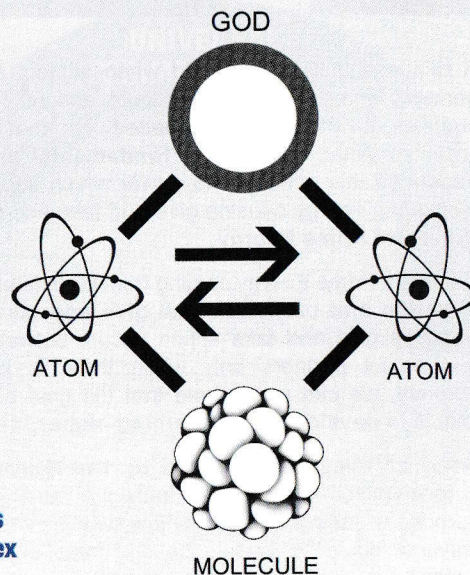
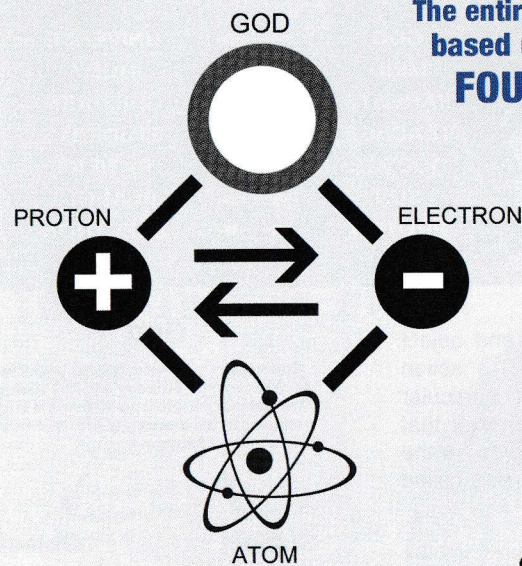
Every process in creation is based on a 'four position foundation'.

Polarity, give and take action, subject and object relationships, God and human beings—all operate within a common system: we call this the "Four Position Foundation," and these form the foundation upon which God works.

When a man and a woman—or any two entities in the role of subject and object—have a relationship of give and take, they form a unit of four positions. We may think of this unit as **the basis for everything that exists**.

For example, give and take between protons and electrons establishes a four position foundation consisting of God as the Source, and the protons and electrons as the subject and object partners, resulting in the formation of an atom. A similar process takes place when atoms join together to form molecular structures.

The entire universe functions
based upon relations that exist within
FOUR POSITION FOUNDATIONS.

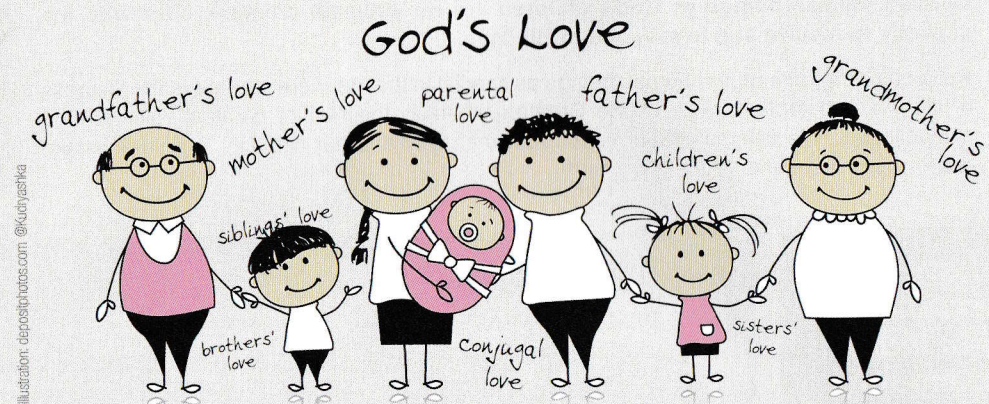


From the smallest entities to the largest,
and motivated by God's original energy
and principle, give and take action results
in the creation of higher and more complex
creations.

The ultimate four position foundation consists of God, parents and children.

In creation there are many examples of four position foundations, but the family is the most important. Only through the family can individuals realize their full potential.

Since men and women were made by God to be the objects of His true love, their most fundamental desire is for love. It is only in the family that we learn **to give and receive true love in all its dimensions**. The natural love relationships within families are all part of God's ideal; so, too, are relationships beyond the family that contribute to a peaceful and God-centered world, such as love of neighbors and friends, and the love for one's society and country.



Any human relationship guided by self-centered rather than God-centered love, such as adultery or possessive parental love, is based on a failure to understand true, unconditional love. The nature of true love is **to live for the sake of others**, whereas false love selfishly uses others for one's own benefit. In a God-centered family the ideal is realized when a husband and wife commit themselves to each other in an eternal love relationship. Only when a family has such a stable foundation can all aspects of family relationships be experienced to their fullest potential. Conversely, relationships based on self-centered love violate the order of God's creation, eventually destroying families and societies and bringing unhappiness.

Children are born with the need for their parents' love. Although children possess the ability to love, in infants this ability is immature and their consciousness is oriented more to receiving than to giving. As children grow, however, they mature in their ability to love their parents, family members and friends. Once a child becomes an adult, he or she has a foundation on which to enter into a conjugal relationship with a member of the opposite sex. On the foundation of a mature husband-wife relationship, a couple develops the capacity to love their children with unconditional parental love.

Just as God's love for His creation is unconditional, **humans resemble God when they practice unconditional love**. The family is the best place in which this kind of love can be nurtured, because the family is the only social unit in which a person is surrounded by child-parent love, siblings' love, husband-wife love and parent-child love.

We therefore can say that **the family is the school of love and ethics** and that it becomes the foundation for a loving and ethical society. ① See also part two of this series, page 13.

Does the almighty, omniscient God need us?

One does not feel joy on one's own, but rather through **seeing one's nature reflected in something or someone else**. An artist feels joy when she is able to express herself in a work of art. An architect feels joy by seeing his building completed. This is because that which is created reflects the invisible character of its creator; we see ourselves reflected and developed in what we create. Likewise, this is characteristic of God Himself.

God feels joy when He sees Himself reflected in the creation. Therefore God wants His love and His ideal expressed through a **substantial** being. God has the power to love, but **He needs someone to whom He can give His love**; otherwise His heart cannot be satisfied. **Human beings as God's children are His ultimate creation, born with the capacity to receive and to respond to His love.**

Religious scriptures regard human beings as special in that we were created in the likeness of God, a substantial image of the Creator, whereas the rest of creation reflects God symbolically. We resemble God most in our creativity and our capacity to love and take responsible ownership.

*I have
breathed
into humans
of my spirit.*

Qur'an 15:29

*Let us make
humans in our
image, after
our likeness.*

Genesis 1:26

*The superior
man reflects
in his person
the glory of
Heaven's virtue.*

I Ching 35: Progress

HUMAN BEINGS

Substantial image
of God



Free will
Responsibility for own maturity
Creativity
Potential for divine love
Eternal spirit

OTHER CREATIONS

Symbolic reflections
of God



No free will
No responsibility for own maturity
Stimulate human creativity
Receive God's love through humans
No eternal spirit

The ultimate joy is that which parents feel through their children, when parents see their own internal and external traits reflected in the child. Furthermore, the child has the potential to develop the parents' qualities to new heights. All parents are proud when they see their children become successful individuals; indeed, they wish for their children to be greater and happier than themselves. This is precisely the heart that God feels toward us, His children. ⓘ See also page 17.



Image: depositphotos.com @ VikaSuh

Grief beyond human imagination

In reality, however, human beings have never been able to return God's love fully. We were meant to be the objects of God's love, **but since the Human Fall we have been separated from God, our Parent**. We are not a true reflection of our Creator. Instead, we are often characterized by self-centered love, which is incompatible with God's selfless, sacrificial love. God's immense love remains unrequited. Ever since our first ancestors' mistake at the beginning of human history, God has sat alone amid His own creation, watching helplessly as His children chose a different path. He has watched us suffering at our own hands. Surely God, as a Parent, suffers greater pain than we do when He sees the sorry state of humanity.

God traditionally has been understood as a being of authority, omnipotence and boundless mercy, but **His suffering heart has not been understood fully**. Until now, we have been like children who look up to their parents with a sense of awe but with little awareness of the parents' worries. However, with the spiritual maturing of humankind, we can now recognize the suffering heart of God. Each of us has the potential, through prayer and reflection, to discover the heart of God, the loneliness and grief that resulted from the loss of His children and His longing for an everlasting bond of love with each of us.

The history of humanity up to the present day is the history of God's efforts to help us change ourselves and repair our relationship with Him. God is not a cruel judge who heartlessly watches us suffer and waits for the right moment to condemn everyone for their shortcomings. Rather, He is a **heartbroken Parent** who has been trying to show us how we can break out of our misery. Unfortunately, we have almost always refused to listen, and when we did listen, we usually failed to understand. Today we are challenged to overcome the obstacles of the past and achieve our potential to realize our happiness and the happiness of God. Therefore, we need to understand the ideal that God envisioned for men and women. Through fulfilling our true purpose, we will experience everlasting joy and bring happiness to God and one another.

ⓘ The Human Fall is explained in part 3 of this series.

The biblical account has God blessing the first human ancestors, Adam and Eve, and saying to them, **"Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion."** (Genesis 1:28)

These 'blessings' contain everything we could possibly need for our happiness.

By fulfilling them, Adam and Eve not only would have experienced individual joy of the highest dimension, they also would have found happiness in their most fundamental family relationships: as a husband and wife and as parents to their children. This first true family would have been the foundation of happiness and peace for all future generations, expanding to the levels of society, nation and world—and would have naturally led on to an eternal life in a heavenly spiritual realm.

Adam and Eve also would have secured a harmonious relationship between humankind and the natural world, assuming a responsible and caring ownership and creating an environment that would support the future happiness of humankind.

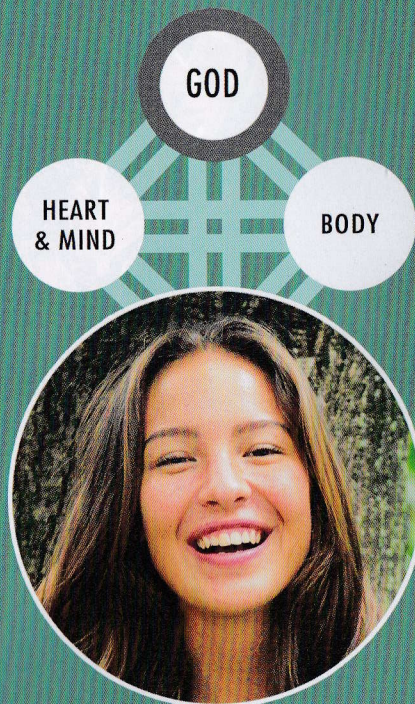
Had the first human ancestors obeyed this divine mandate and built the Kingdom of Heaven, there is no doubt that God would have felt the greatest joy as His sons and daughters rejoiced with Him in an ideal environment. Human beings, through realizing these blessings, would be naturally taking on the likeness of God.

We can conclude that the ultimate purpose of the universe, with human beings at its center, is to realize a state of selfless love between God and human beings; God endlessly gives His parental love to His children and they respond based on the joy they receive through that love.

The Kingdom of Heaven thus realized becomes the physical manifestation of God's internal nature and a partner for His eternal joy.

Our happiness and our God-given purpose in life can, and should, be realized in this way.

THE FIRST BLESSING: BE FRUITFUL



GOD-CENTERED INDIVIDUAL

- Oneness of mind and body through give and take action with God as the center - Individual four position foundation -
- Becoming a spiritually, intellectually and emotionally mature individual, bearing the fruits of love, wisdom and goodness
- Living in total oneness with God
- Jesus: "Be perfect, as your Heavenly Father"; "He who has seen me has seen the Father."

Reaching unity with God on the individual level is the prerequisite for successfully fulfilling the second and third blessings.

THE SECOND BLESSING: MULTIPLY



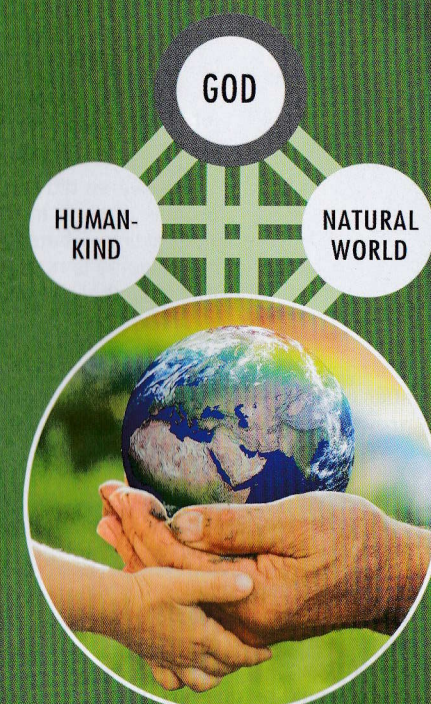
GOD-CENTERED FAMILY

Expanding into God-centered societies, nations and world

- Oneness of husband and wife, grandparents, parents and children through give and take action with God as their center - Family four position foundation -
- Only on the foundation of healthy core families can harmonious extended families, neighborhoods, societies, nations and a peaceful world come about
- Establishing a universal culture of heart and peace with God as the common Heavenly Parent at the center

Achieving unity with God on the family and social levels is the prerequisite for successfully fulfilling the third blessing.

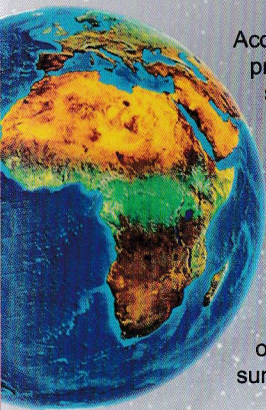
THE THIRD BLESSING: HAVE DOMINION



GOD-CENTERED COSMOS

- Oneness of humans and nature through give and take action with God as their center - Universal four position foundation -
- Developing our creativity and skills as well as technology and business for the benefit of everyone
- Establishing a world of mutual prosperity
- Humankind becomes the owner of goodness and love towards creation: sustaining, maintaining and responsibly governing the creation with love and understanding.

Every created being matures through a growing period.



According to the Genesis account of the creation of the universe, amid the primordial state of chaos, void and darkness God created light. God next separated the waters under the firmament from the waters above the firmament. He then divided the land from the ocean, created plants, fish, birds and mammals, and finally made humankind. All of this took a period of six "days." From this account, we can surmise that the process of creating the universe took some period of time represented by six days.

The universe did not suddenly spring forth complete, without regard to the flow of time. In fact, its origin and development took an enormous length of time. Therefore, the biblical period of six days for the completion of the universe is not to be reckoned by the number of literal sunrises and sunsets. It symbolizes **six ordered periods of time** in the creation process.

All phenomena occurring in the universe bear fruit only after the lapse of a certain interval of time. All things are designed to reach completion only after passing through a **set growing period of three ordered stages of growth**: the formation stage, the growth stage and the completion stage.

A flowering plant, for example, starts as a seed and reaches its maturity when it has grown to its full size, producing flowers and seeds for the next generation. Humans also need a time period in which to grow physically and spiritually.

Ideally a person's spirit and body would grow harmoniously together so that by the time a person reaches adulthood, he or she would be not only physically mature but also spiritually mature. The human body, given proper care and nourishment, grows to maturity **automatically** in accordance with its genetic inheritance. But **spiritual growth is a different matter**.



Our free will makes us special, our responsibility even more so.

God instilled the power of creativity in human beings. He gave us free will and an original mind that is inclined toward goodness and unselfishness. Unlike plants and animals, whose growth is guided and controlled by the laws of nature, we humans perfect ourselves based not only on the principles of biological growth but also on the **fulfillment of our responsibility**.

Why did God give such freedom and responsibility to human beings and not to other creatures?

1. QUALIFICATION

God wanted human beings – His children – to rule the creation with responsible love. To give us this authority, God had to make human beings superior to all other creatures by giving us a responsibility that no other beings have.

2. CO-CREATOR

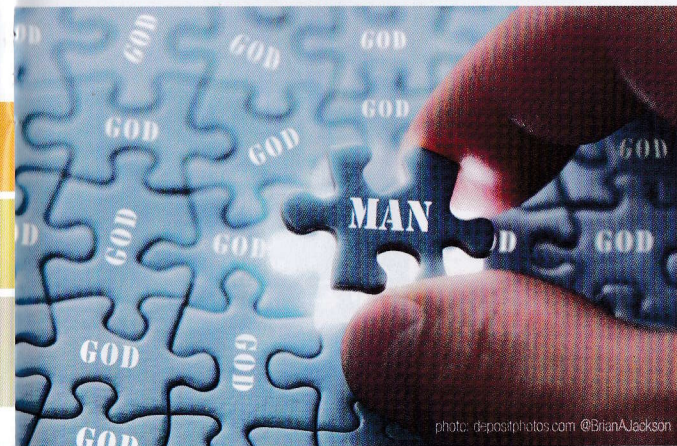
God wanted to give us each the unique privilege of participating in the development and completion of our own character. We are therefore co-creators with God and are to inherit something of God's creativity. We build our character by learning to make the right moral and ethical choices.

3. TRUE LOVE

God wishes for a love that is returned to Him out of freedom and not out of force, law or programmed behaviour. He doesn't want us to behave like robots or puppets. Love that does not come freely from the heart is not true love.

However, if we have freedom, we also have the **capability to misuse that freedom**. Therefore, God gave man and woman a guideline, as expressed in the **commandment to Adam and Eve**, so that they could stay within the Principle while growing to maturity. Adherence to the commandment was their responsibility. Once man and woman fulfilled the first blessing, they would have such a caring and disciplined nature, based on their unbreakable bond of love with God, that they would never betray God. Therefore, a person can act in an unprincipled and sinful manner **only while still in a state of spiritual immaturity**. This is precisely what happened with the first human ancestors. They misused their God-given freedom while they were growing toward perfection.

① More follows in brochure #3 of this series.



God's responsibility

95 %

+ Humans' responsibility

5 %

= Completion of Creation

100 %

God waits for humans to fulfill their portion of responsibility to complete His creation.

There is a Creator

The creation resembles its creator in the duality of its structure – internal and external, positive and negative. God is the source of the unifying purpose and principles that govern the creation. As a result, the universe is a finely balanced system where everything is interrelated, interacting in an orderly fashion, guided by this unifying purpose.

God's ideal of creation

God created in order to experience true and boundless joy. His unchanging ideal of creation is realized when men and women return joy to God by fulfilling the Three Blessings—growing in resemblance to Him in harmony with other people and nature. This ideal is achievable for every individual, family and all of humankind. Fulfilling our own portion of responsibility is crucial in this process.

God cannot force His Will upon us.

God is present where true love is practiced. He exists in any place where partners live for the sake of one another. But love can only be realized when we can give and receive it freely and voluntarily. God therefore endowed us with the gift of free will, enabling us out of our own volition to respond to His love and realizing His Will.

The Heart of Parents

God is a personal God. The core of His being is His heart. The essence of heart is the parental desire to give birth to and love offspring. Hence God's creation of human beings must above all be understood as an act of parental love.

One Family under God

For God, skin color, race and religion are not important. His deepest desire is for His children to live together in peace and harmony as one united human family loved by Him, the Heavenly Parent of all people.

What is next?

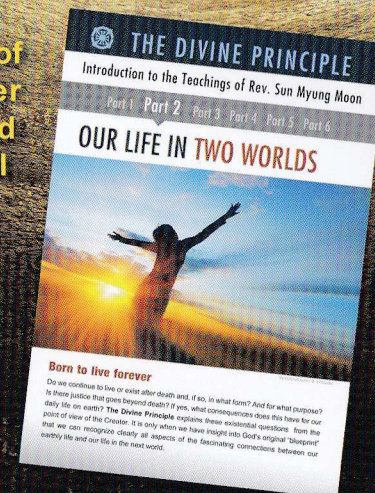
This introductory series comprises 6 brochures covering the essential contents of *The Divine Principle*.



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

Does our existence end with the death of our body? If we continue to exist after our physical death, where do we go and how can we best prepare for our eternal life?

The next brochure of this series deals with the eternal dimension of human life and the existence of an invisible spiritual world - the realm that each person enters when his or her earthly life has expired.



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

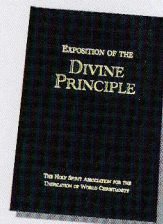
How evil came into this world and how it influences humanity.

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



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