Beyond the Limits of Spiritual Salvation - Part 6

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'The Mystical Marriage of Saint Catherine' (c. 1555), housed in the Gallerie dell'Accademia in Venice. By Paolo Veronese. It depicts the legend of Saint Catherine of Alexandria (287 - 305 AD), who possessed both intelligence and beauty, being betrothed in a vision to the infant Jesus with a ring. Having resisted Christian persecution before being martyred on a breaking wheel, she is depicted in this painting as a noble saint under the watch of angels

[The Limits of Paternal Civilization, The Vision of Maternal Salvation]

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Beyond the Cross: A New Civilization Opened by the Only Begotten Daughter

Christian civilization, a monumental pillar in the history of human thought, planted within us the noble values of "sacrifice" and "love." At its core lies the bloodstained course of Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son, who bore the cross on Golgotha's hill on behalf of humanity's sins. Yet, behind two thousand years of Christian history, there remains an unresolved, fundamental thirst. Why does the pain of original sin persist even in the lives of those who believe in Jesus? Why, despite the advance of civilization, does the world remain unable to break free from the whirlpool of war and hatred? Now, we must face the ultimate destination to which the Christian providence must reach, guided by sober theological insight and civilizational critique.

The Cross: Spiritual Victory and the Remaining Homework of 'Physical Restoration'

Jesus Christ came to restore the position of the "Heavenly Father" lost by Adam, the ancestor of humanity, and to reclaim fallen humanity as God's children. However, the disbelief of Mary and Jewish society at that time shattered the foundation to establish the ideal of "True Parents," wherein Jesus was to receive a substantial Bride on earth. Ultimately, Jesus had no choice but to walk the path of the cross, offering his physical body as a sacrifice to Satan, thereby securing spiritual victory.

As a result of this suffering, humanity was granted the path of spiritual salvation. Anyone, through faith in Jesus, could be resurrected spiritually. However, this was a half-victory. Remembering that the Human Fall occurred across both spirit and physical body - and especially that Satan's lineage is passed down through the physical body - the spiritual work of the Holy Spirit alone was insufficient to fundamentally cleanse humanity's original sin. The reason Christianity had no choice but to walk a tearful "history of indemnity" marked by suffering, persecution, and martyrdom over the past 2,000 years is that it was a painful journey to reclaim this lost "physical foundation."

Two Thousand Years of Christian History: A Record of Waiting to Find the 'Bride'

From the perspective of Heavenly Parent, Christian history was not merely about expanding church membership. It was a process of laying the spiritual foundation to welcome the counterpart to the Only Begotten Son, Jesus, who had walked alone on the cross - that is, the 'Only Begotten Daughter.' It is by no means an accident that medieval mystics dreamed of a "spiritual marriage" with Jesus, and countless believers cultivated a "bride spirituality" attending the Holy Spirit as the "Comforter" while awaiting the Bridegroom.

Heaven prepared a bride-type cultural realm capable of welcoming the Only Begotten Daughter through Western European Christianity, allowing that refined spiritual river to finally reach the Korean Peninsula in the East during the 20th century. Thus, the advent of the "Only Begotten Daughter" is not an abrupt, out-of-nowhere event. It is the brilliant crystallization produced after 6,000 years of providential history - 4,000 years of the Old Testament Age and 2,000 years of the New Testament Age combined - poured out every ounce of devotion to give birth to this single woman.

The Manifestation of the Only Begotten Daughter: Concluding the Era of Suffering on the Cross

The ultimate goal of the Christian providence is not the shedding of blood on the cross. Heavenly Parent's original dream was for His/Her Son and Daughter to fulfill the Holy Marriage on earth and become the "True Ancestors" of humanity. Here, we confront the providential necessity of why the "Only Begotten Daughter" must manifest as a substantial reality in the flesh at the time of the Second Coming.

Upon the spiritual foundation laid by Jesus, the Only Begotten Daughter born with a pure body free from original sin appears, enabling the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb" foretold in Revelation to transcend abstract concepts and become a reality of history. The event in which the Only Begotten Son and Only Begotten Daughter ascend as "True Parents" through their Holy Marriage is a civilizational declaration opening the doors of "Cheon Il Guk" - the direct dominion of Heaven where Satan cannot invade for the first time in human history.

While a father instructs the world through law, a mother conceives and brings forth life through heart (shimjeong). The appearance of True Mother, the Only Begotten Daughter, is the substantial presence of "Heavenly Mother," whom Christianity kept safe within the symbol of the Holy Spirit for 2,000 years. This signifies an end to the era of suffering and condemnation represented by the cross, ushering in the "Era of the Festival of True Love," where humanity is reborn as Heavenly Parent's direct children and enjoys true joy.

Integrating Eastern and Western Civilizations: Toward the Forest of Wisdom

In conclusion, the panorama of the providence of salvation witnessed by the Christian Bible reveals its completed form only when fitted with its final puzzle piece: the "Only Begotten Daughter." Restoring the feminine divinity lost through the Fall in Eden and settling on earth the foundation for "True Parents" that Mary was unable to fulfill - this is the very essence of the "One Family Under Heavenly Parent (One Family Under God)" vision that Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, the Only Begotten Daughter, is proclaiming on the world stage.

Now, humanity must move beyond the sorrow of the cross and advance into the substantial peace enjoyed within the love of True Parents. Christianity must now break out of the framework of a religion trapped inside dogma and reach completion through a maternal leadership that embraces and heals all creation.

Remarkably, this "Path of the Mother" pointed to by the Christian Bible was not the exclusive property of Western civilization alone. The scriptures flowing through the long history of the East have also preserved, across different eras, an astonishingly consistent code pointing toward a "Female Savior."