

## **Let Us Become True Children of God**

Message by Kyoshu-sama, Our present Spiritual leader (Yoichi Okada)  
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Hall of Worship, Atami, Japan.

Good morning. Greetings to everyone at today's Paradise on Earth Service.

With a deep sense of awe, I realize that the purpose of the Creation by the Eternal God is to make all of humanity His true children.

God prepared an infinite number of divine particles as our human souls. Even now God continues the process without cease. Therefore, all of us human beings have been given the mission to become true children of God.

Meishu-sama used the expressions "birth of a Messiah" or "being newly born" to refer to himself. God is alive within each one of us. I believe what God accomplished within Meishu-sama is what should be accomplished within all human beings. I feel that Meishu-sama's life itself, including his words and teachings, demonstrates God's wish.

From the very beginning, we have been God's children implanted with His divine consciousness. God's life and our lives are closely connected. God's divine consciousness and our present human consciousness are closely connected. We received the breath of life from God, and even now we are breathing the breath of life from God. Therefore, spirit and body are not totally different things, heaven and earth are not totally different and separate matters, but they are deeply connected, even though they exist in different dimensions.

Not being aware of this fact, I regarded whatever I saw, heard, or felt as good or bad, that is, everything related to my human consciousness as belonging only to me.

Because of this, I have to pray that I may return everything that I feel with my heart and body – all that I regarded as my own – back to God through the Messiah Meishu-sama. In this way, I can, together with all creation, live with greater harmony and full of energy.

When we pray, it appears as though we are praying by ourselves. In reality, Meishu-sama is praying to God on our behalf. So, let's pray with the idea that we are

praying together with Meishu-sama in order to return to our true birthplace, heaven, and have closer communications with God, our creator.

### **God is the Source of Love**

You members of the Izunome Kyodan are doing your best to study Meishu-sama's teachings and to put them into daily practice. You have cultivated stronger faith in your bond with the Messiah Meishu-sama. Because of this, you are participating in God's salvation of humanity, and serving in the construction of Paradise on Earth. You are making daily efforts to improve and elevate yourself spiritually by creating paradise-like conditions around you. I appreciate your efforts.

Especially through the practice of Sonen, you are trying to have gratitude at all times, in any circumstances. It is truly valuable that you practice love for others, keeping Meishu-sama's teaching in your heart. This teaching says, "If you want to attain happiness for yourself, first try to bring happiness to others."

At this time, I would like to ask two questions. You are practicing "love for others." But, where does the love come from? Who or what is the source of love? Of course, the source of love is God. God loves all of humanity and God's love fills everything; all the elements and all of nature. The salvation of humanity and the construction of Paradise on Earth, along with many teachings, are the embodiment of truth – the result of Meishu-sama's lifelong work. All this is an expression of God's love.

What is God's purpose in pouring so much love on us? What does God want to accomplish through this? I believe God's purpose and God's wish is to make us human beings His true children. To accomplish this purpose, I believe that God prepared an infinite number of His own divine particles as our souls.

God's love fills each one of us equally, without discrimination. What you are doing now, practicing love for others, is a very precious act. It serves in God's purpose and God's wish to love all of humanity. Through this practice of love for others, we welcome those people, who are not aware of God's love, back to heaven. We are also helping those of our ancestors who were unaware of or did not always obey God's will.

### **Our Path Back to Heaven**

From the beginning of the creation, God prepared the path through which all of us can return to heaven. That path leads to making us human beings newly born.

All our ancestors, all the people in our minds and memories, and all the people we encounter in our daily lives, are connected to this path, and can take this path if they choose to. With this in mind, we can serve in God's plan and practice "love for others."

During the service today, we recited three verses by Meishu-sama, and the first one says:

*The great power of the messiah's salvation,  
Awaited by all of humanity,  
For such a long, long time,  
Is going to appear soon.*

Through this verse, I feel that Meishu-sama must have sensed that he was being filled with this great power of salvation which humanity waited for a long time. Because salvation does not come from outside of us, but from the inside, Meishu-sama had an intense feeling about this and expressed in this poem that the time for salvation was near.

Each one of us is serving in the work of the salvation of humanity as Meishu-sama's followers, as his instruments, his hands and feet. Each one of us should feel one with him. If we are one with Meishu-sama, we can regard this verse as our own, and accept it as our own.

While serving as Meishu-sama's followers, one important question arises: Where to put our consciousness and where to focus our thoughts. If we put our thoughts primarily on this physical world, the material world, then our human ego and selfishness take precedence. Our primary concern would be to receive blessings for ourselves and for us to be protected by God first.

Meishu-sama composed the following verse:

*Because my goal is to help others live in paradise,  
I must first live in paradise.*

In this verse Meishu-sama is stating that in order to guide people to paradise, we have to live in paradise first. All those people who are waiting for the messiah's salvation

are connected to us. Therefore, to bring salvation to others is, after all, to bring salvation to ourselves. For this reason, I would like to make sure that the heaven, which is the beginning and origin of my life, is securely at the center of my consciousness. I would like to serve, together with all of you, in helping many people to return to heaven.

### **The Power of God Changed Night into Day**

When we can think of Meishu-sama as a Messiah, pray Sonen Practice, and put the love for others into action, we are putting God and heaven at the center of our consciousness. This is possible because of God's love and forgiveness. With this forgiveness and love, God achieved the turning from night to day in the spiritual realm. Thus humanity can be rescued from the darkness of ignorance and brought into the world of bright light.

On June 15, 1931, Meishu-sama climbed Mt. Nokogiri in Chiba Prefecture (region) and received the revelation of the turning of the age of night into daylight age. I feel that Meishu-sama is now asking me if this turning, this change from darkness to light, has been completed within myself.

In the past, I only understood that this turning from night to day is a revelation Meishu-sama received 78 years ago. I did not consider how it related to now and to me personally. However, as followers of Meishu-sama, we are closely connected to him. Each one of us can receive the divine power of God through Meishu-sama.

The divine power of God, which accomplished the turning from the age of night to the age of day, is the power of the salvation of the messiah. It's the knowledge of this divine power which is going to advance and promote God's plan of the salvation of humanity and the construction of paradise on earth. This divine power can forgive, purify, save, revive humanity, and enable human beings to be newly born.

Since the turning from night to day has already been achieved, all people and things are already in the new phase of existence in the spiritual realm. If we realize that we are being nurtured and raised into this new phase of existence and serve in God's work with this understanding, Meishu-sama will be very pleased. He will guide us so that this divine power will gradually fill us.

As Meishu-sama showed us by his own example that he was living in heaven, each of us would like to serve as an example, united with Meishu-sama, and advance

our spiritual path.

In concluding my message today, I wish all of you God's blessings and peace. God's power, which achieved the turning from night to day, penetrates and permeates everything; it forgives and revives everything. Through the Messiah Meishu-sama, I offer my deepest gratitude to God, together with all of you. May God bless you all. Thank you very much.

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