

## **New Year Message by Kyoshu-sama, Yoichi Okada January 1, 2012**

With a deep sense of awe, I acknowledge that the one and only God, who is eternal life, is giving life to everything He has created.

God is the parent of our life, and according to His will, Meishu-sama was newly born as a Messiah, a true child of God. I express my gratitude to God that He continuously nurtures our spiritual and physical bodies so that we who are connected with Messiah Meishu-sama can also be born anew. With this gratitude in mind, I would like to offer my New Year greeting to everyone. Happy New Year.

It has been 10 months since the big earthquake and natural disaster in Northeast Japan. While the restorations are proceeding, there are many people who are still facing difficulties or anxiety.

In addition to the floods in Thailand, natural disasters have occurred in many other places on earth as well.

In those situations, our members with faith in Meishu-sama have never lost their feelings of gratitude, helping and encouraging each other while striving to move forward positively. I am deeply moved that their presence is giving peace of mind to the people surrounding them, and that they have become the light of hope for them.

Meishu-sama is always with you, protecting and supporting you.

The one who knows you best is Meishu-sama who dwells at the center of your heart, healing and encouraging you.

I hope that you believe in his boundless love, receive it with your whole being, and share that love with many other people.

Meishu-sama said that God is Light.

In 1935, at the birth of Sekai Kyusei Kyo, he told us in his lecture entitled “The Construction of the World of Great Divine Light”, that the “great light,” the “spiritual sunlight,” would appear.

He also said, “The person who listens to this message and opens the door obediently will be the first one to receive the light and be saved,” and taught us to “Just open the window of our heart.”

Before we were born on earth, we initially existed in heaven where Great Divine Light shines, and we were serving in the work of heaven together with Meishu-sama.

This light still exists at the center of your consciousness and illuminates all the hidden places in your heart: the good parts, the evil parts and the dark parts like your fears, anxieties and anger.

You sense all of these feelings because God graciously wishes to forgive, purify and welcome them into the world of light.

Whenever and wherever you go, the light is with Meishu-sama and shines inside of you.

In order to be used in God’s work, now is the time for you to return to the heaven that is your original source; open the window of your heart wide, receive Meishu-sama at the center of your consciousness and share the light of heaven as the light of salvation with many people by bringing them back to heaven from where the light emanates.

Within this year, the reconstruction of the Crystal Hall in Atami Zuiun-kyo and the renovation work including a tearoom addition to Shun-ju-an in Kyoto Heian-kyo will be completed.

Meishu-sama prepared these Sacred Grounds on this earth, wishing that people from all over the world could gather and direct their heart toward God and toward the invisible and genuine Sacred Grounds at heaven, existing within us.

I feel that Meishu-sama is very happy to see that you are giving service with a sincere heart in order to respond to his wish, and also, as a result of your sincere efforts, the Sacred Grounds are maintained beautifully and new construction is proceeding.

Let us continue to serve in God's work of the construction of the Sacred Grounds so that Meishu-sama's joy could become our joy and that it can be shared with many other people.

Meishu-sama taught us that a human being is a "temple of God." We have a temple within us where God could live.

Now, at the beginning of the year, let us thank God that we, as a "temple of God," could welcome God within us in the name of Meishu-sama, and hope that we could be of service to God's work of salvation, which aims to welcome back all to His heaven.

To conclude, I pray in the name of Meishu-sama that the light and blessing of God may be shared with all human beings and all things through you.

Thank you very much.