

by Masaharu Taniguchi

Prayer to Become Enlightened to the Indestructibility of My True Image

GOD IS THE GRAND LIFE permeating the entire universe. He is infinite and without limitations; therefore, He is also within me.

Since all things in the universe come from God, their true forms are essentially perfect and harmonious. This is the True Image. Because the True Image is perfect, it is not restricted within the constraints of time and space. And since it transcends time and space, it is not visible to the naked eye, which only sees things within time and space.

What appears in the time-space continuum will not be absolutely perfect. That which is limited and restrained does not exist in the world of Reality but it can be perceived as a work of art painted onto the vertical frame of time and the horizontal frame of space in the phenomenal world.

Like paintings, all things in the phenomenal world are expressions of the world of Reality which transcends time and space. The paintings are not real. What is real is beyond what is expressed on the canvas.

However, saying that all things in the phenomenal world are not real does not mean they are phantom images. They are expressing the *infinite* in the *finite* space of the canvas. Expressing the infinite in the finite must be done in symbolic form. Therefore, our phenomenal physical body is merely a symbolic expression.

Just as some works of art are done skillfully or unskillfully, some people more easily express their infinite

perfection in their finite physical body while others struggle to do so. These people express their imperfections by becoming sick and failing in their daily lives.

However, we must never become disappointed or discouraged. Even if we manifest failure or sickness, they are only symbolic expressions of our imperfections. Our perfect True Image will never change because we know that we are children of God, a spiritual, indestructible body that can never be defiled.

Phenomena are like clouds floating in the blue sky, constantly changing through the atmospheric pressure of our mind; however, beyond the floating clouds of phenomena is the eternal blue sky, where my true self—my True Image—is perfect and harmonious and will never change.

I am now enlightened to this knowledge with my mind quietly peaceful and harmonious. As it says in the *Holy Sutra*, I am truly endowed with the undistorted freedom of life; therefore, I will not become entangled in anything. I am always calm and peaceful. O God, I am grateful to You from the bottom of my heart for teaching me this Truth.

Thank you very much.

—From *Hikari No Izumi*,
“Fountain of Light,” February 1972, pp. 16-17