

by Masaharu Taniguchi

Prayer to Liberate Those Who Are in Darkness

GOD IS LOVE. Love does not see faults. Love is light. Where there is light, all darkness vanishes and only light prevails. Likewise, where there is love, the faults of all people disappear and only their virtues appear.

To say God is infinite forgiveness does not mean to forgive by recognizing the existence of evil and sin in opposition to good. Recognizing sins, errors, and evil in others and tolerating them is not true forgiveness.

Where there is light, there is no darkness. Even if light tries to “see” darkness, there is no darkness. Similarly, when we say that God is love and infinite forgiveness, we do not mean that we accept the darkness that exists but that we see only the True Image where darkness does not exist—where only the True Image of light exists—and that will be God’s “forgiveness.”

True forgiveness means to visualize the person’s True Image as a child of God and his perfection, to release him from the bondage of delusion, and allow him to manifest his perfect and harmonious True Image naturally.

If I think that someone has hurt me and I become angry and hate him, I am not “light” itself. When I become light, the darkness of the other person will disappear. The reason darkness does not disappear is because it remains in my mind. The fault lies in my mind—it is projecting a shadow over the other person.

Darkness does not exist. Likewise, evil does not exist. I must not think of that person or child as “bad,” and somehow try to correct them. Contrary to what I may think, since the thought of evil is being projected onto the other person, this evil will never be erased.

Life is like a mirror. I must not think of the reflection I see as the other’s image. The figure in the mirror is reflecting my own thoughts. A color-blind person invited to a garden ablaze with gorgeous heavenly flowers will not be able to see the beautiful, colorful flowers in bloom. For that person, the greenery lacks brilliance. He cannot see the red of the flowers. What he does see is a blackish garden. The dark figure he sees is a figure seen through his mind that is “color-blind.” To truly forgive another, I must remove all dark thoughts with which I am shackling the other person. I must stop projecting darkness in my mind and instead shine forth a “mind that sees the light” and manifest the light of the True Image. I offer my heartfelt gratitude to you, O God, for teaching me this Truth. Thank you very much!

—From *Hikari No Izumi*,
“Fountain of Light,” September 1973, pp. 16-17