

by Masaharu Taniguchi

Prayer to Realize Heaven Through Love

GOD IS LOVE. The love we express is the love that God expresses. Our love is the highest and most beautiful of all His expressions. When we speak with words of love, it is God's voice that speaks through us.

True love is not a physical love. The passion we express to consummate our physical desires is conditionally called love, but it is not true love. It is a love of passion and not love in the purest sense. Rather than pursuing physical desire, true love will abandon the physical self. True love will place the body on the cross and endure physical suffering for the sake of others. Love means to abandon our own physical selves in order to save others and to serve them by giving ourselves. Love means to manifest God's glory on earth so that we can unselfishly give ourselves to serve others. True love comes from God and returns to God. When love manifests God's glory, that love will also return to its source. Thus, love will again flow and circulate among us in an unending circle. Like the water that flows in the arid desert and creates a heavenly oasis of trees and grass where travelers can quench their thirst, love also circulates and when we realize that love, then and there heaven will be realized, manifesting paradise.

A single grain of wheat will produce thousands more when sown into the ground, returning its life to God. Vainly throwing our lives away is like sowing seeds in

rocky ground. However, when we give our lives to God so that we can manifest His glory, His blessings will return manyfold to us.

When we give our lives to God to manifest love, our lives are revitalized because God is infinite life. Our lives will also shine evermore gloriously, our power will manifest to the fullest, and magnificent beauty will be realized.

All things will shine anew with love. Love will enliven all things. Where there is love, homes will overflow with joy. Where there is love, society will manifest harmony and prosperity. Where there is love, all the world's disharmony will vanish and eternal peace will be realized. When we work with wholehearted love, our creative work will become a masterpiece. Marvelous wisdom will provide us with wonderful creative ideas that will flow into us. Then and there, we will be inspired to invent what humanity needs to be truly happy.

When I love sincerely, angels of love will descend upon me from heaven. They will surround me as they sing the ode of love and perform a heavenly dance. When true love becomes a reality, my home, my workplace, my society, my country, and the whole world will become a heavenly paradise. O God, let me lead the life of true love!

—From *Hikari No Izumi*, "Fount of Light," April 1966, pp. 24-25