

## WHO DO THEY SAY THAT HE IS? #8 Who Does The Unification Church Say That He Is? August 12-14, 2006

22 ... Jesus has become the guarantor of a better covenant. 23 Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; 24 but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. 25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. 26 Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. 27 Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. 28 For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.  
*Hebrews 7:22-28 TNIV*

Introduction: As we compare what other religious groups believe about Jesus Christ with historic, orthodox, Biblical beliefs, we not only understand more fully the uniqueness of our own Christian faith, but we also become better equipped with knowledge and confidence to share the Gospel of Christ with others in our world.

The Unification Church teaches that Jesus did not completely fulfill His original mission, and so “True Parents” are needed for humanity’s “physical salvation.” But as Christians, we know that Christ is an all-sufficient Savior—that in His death and resurrection, He completely provides for every aspect of our salvation.

- I. The Basics of The Unification Church
  - A. Official Name: The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity.
  - B. Founder: Sun Myung Moon, in 1954.
  - C. Other Related Organizations: The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, The Women’s Federation for World Peace, American Clergy Leadership Conference.
  - D. Authoritative books: The Bible (but only temporarily as interpreted by Moon’s teaching), Moon’s books—*Divine Principle* and *God’s Warning to the World*, as well as *The Unification Church Manual*.
  - E. Publications: *Unification News*, *Today’s World*.
  - F. With headquarters in Korea, the UC holds 300+ financial institutions world wide, including publishers, jewelers, and clothing stores.
  - G. Themes/Teachings: Family, Peace, Unity, Heavenly Deception, Polarization (Yin-Yang). Anti-communism, clergy conferences, family rallies, mass weddings/marriage blessings, associating with political and religious leaders.

God is His Creation. God is incomplete without human beings. God needs relationships in order to experience love and life.

Created by God, Adam and Eve misused love and entered sexual intimacy before they were ready—Eve first with Satan, and then Adam and Eve together. Therefore, they were not able to serve as earth’s True Parents and establish God’s Kingdom.

God has provided Rev. Moon as “Lord of the Second Advent.” Rev. and Mrs. Moon are the world’s True Parents. By “grafting onto them,” other couples receive God’s blessing of also becoming true parents, having blessed children, and thereby becoming part of the True Family. Ultimately, all human beings will become divine in an earthly kingdom of God.

- II. Who Do They Say That Jesus Is?
  - A. Jesus was a perfect man who attained deity, but is not equal to God.
  - B. His mission was to come to earth, teach people, marry and produce children, and so restore the relationship between God and humanity.
  - C. In this way, Jesus and His wife would become earth’s True Parents and thereby establish God’s Kingdom on earth.
  - D. However, Jesus was rejected by the people and could not complete His mission.
  - E. Because the people did not accept Jesus, God allowed Him to be crucified in order to provide for humanity’s “spiritual salvation.” (But, “physical salvation” would still be needed.)
- III. Who Do We Say That He Is?
  - A. Jesus alone is God Incarnate, Messiah and Lord. Acts 2:36.
  - B. Christ is the Truth. Therefore, Sun Myung Moon’s claims of messiahship as the third Adam and “True Father” are false. Matt. 24:23-26; II Cor. 11:3-4. Gal. 1:6-9.
  - C. Jesus’ death on the cross was completely sufficient. Paul, Peter, Hebrews—“once for all.” John 19:10; Hebrews 10:10.
  - D. Christ rose from the grave, conquering death and guaranteeing forgiveness and eternal life to all who trust in Him. I Cor. 15.
  - E. He will return to earth to claim His own, judge the world, and reign forever in glory. Matt. 24-25; John 14:1-3; Rev. 1, 22.

CONCLUSION: While world peace and strong families are worthy goals, Christ alone is Prince of Peace, and only faith in Him makes us children of God, part of God’s forever family. Romans 8; I John 3. Jesus Christ is the all-sufficient Savior of the world. He alone is the “author and completer of our faith.” Hebrews 12:2. He alone is Lord!