

*From the editor*

Now we'd like to share with you the New Year's message, "The Wings of Healing" delivered by Pastor Peter in the *Church of the Wind*.

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## The Wings of Healing

Peter

New Year is here. Now is 2014!

Is it only me that is struck with awe of the Lord who has spared my life this long to witness His mystery? In the most humble sense, I acknowledge that my whole being depends on His mercy. Nothing would and should exist apart from the redeeming love of Christ. Life is a miracle – nothing but a precious gift of God.

For this year, the Lord provides us with the word: *the year of God's faith*. It is not a motto that we should endeavor to achieve, but it is a promise that we will experience by faith.

Jesus says:

Have faith in God. Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, "Be taken up and thrown into the sea," and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you. So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. (Mark 11:22-24 NRS)

This is one of the most remarkable promises of God.

Many may wonder, however, if the promise will come true, for we know that we will not receive whatever we request in prayer. Granted it is God's authentic promise, we make excuses for the reason why it will not be available in our present dispensation.

But it is in the Bible for sure. God's treasure box is to be opened. Jesus made the promise for you and me, not for someone in the future millennium. A key to open His treasure box, I believe, is in the very first statement: *Have faith in God.*

Greek original is: Ἔχετε πίστιν θεοῦ. Its direct translation reads: *Have the faith of God.* This direct reading opens up a new dimension. Not man's, but God's own faith. There is such faith, different quality-wise from man's faith. God's faith is born out of God's own heart, and grows quickly within man once given to him. Equipped with God's faith, you can command a mountain to move, and it will be cast into the sea.

When I meditated on the year of God's faith, the scripture was given to me:

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts. (Malachi 4:1-3)

The sun with the wings? Yes, the sun of righteousness will rise above us. It will accompany the divine healing in its wings. The year will see us leaping like calves, released from the stall.

Down in the ancient history of many cultures, we can see various forms of the sun worship. The sun was a god in the ancient Egypt, and so was in Maya and Inca civilizations. Japanese folklore tells that the country was born out of the sun god, Amaterasu-ohmikami.

The sun is, of course, one of God's creation. It is special among God's creation. Because of its uniqueness, the Scripture denotes that the sun represents the ultimate source of life energy. It even denotes that the sun is the symbol of Christ. It surely has the wings of healing.

For your meditation, think of the sun with the wings of healing. In your closed eyes, see the sun glittering and shining, and you will receive a healing ray deep within your being.

You know a story of St. Francis of Assisi, who devoted his life for the love of Christ. It is said that when he experienced the presence of God, his soul overflowed with ecstatic joy, and his surroundings were overshadowed. The mountain where he was praying was engulfed with the flaming light. It is also said that birds flew to him and conversed with him.

I believe it. When someone is connected directly with the divine resource, his soul radiates God's light and love in a supernatural way. When Mitsuko came to Christ twenty and some years ago, she experienced many supernatural blessings. One of them, which has never been disclosed until now, was that she became able to gaze at the sun directly with her naked eyes. Never try to imitate her, or your eyes

will be permanently damaged! I believe it was a special gift for her. She was led to join the universal praise along with the sun and stars.

The man of Assisi too joined the hymn of universe and sang out his joy.

Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,  
especially Sir Brother Sun,  
Who is the day through whom You give us light.  
And he is beautiful and radiant  
with great splendour,  
Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.

The above is a part of the Canticle of the Sun composed by St. Francis. The poem shows its unusual character for the Occidental mind, for the poet sees all creatures including animals and humans sharing the same divine life. To him the sun is his brother and the moon his sister. We are all God's creation. We humans have no particular reason to despise or disregard the rest of the created life as something inferior, for we are brothers under God. In essence there is no dividing wall to separate us from all other created life.

The Canticle of the Sun ends with the magnificent praise for the Lord God: *Laudate et benedicete, mi Signore.* (Praise and bless my Lord) St. Francis sees all creation in the Lord's praise. Centuries later, we *Kohitsuji* started with the simple faith as if inheriting his vision when we made our faith-confession: *Everything is completed in praise.*

The Middle Ages are said to be the Dark Ages, for the Church dominated Europe with the secular force. One of the most infamous tyrannies was the Inquisition. The Church put anyone who refused to be converted to cruel torture and

execution. They did it in the name of Jesus!

I am not condemning just Catholic Church, because the Protestant Church too carried out their own barbarous and vicious acts and executed hundreds and thousands of Catholics.

The European continent has seen countless bloody slaughters down in history. The earth is crying for vengeance upon those who carried out the bloodbaths, just like Abel's blood crying out from the ground.

When we had our praise concert in Santa Maria del Mar Church in Barcelona, Spain, last October, Mitsuko saw a vision of hundreds of people in a black-hooded garment behind the altar. They had been desperately waiting for our praise concert, for it was the moment of their salvation and deliverance from the underground. Upon returning to Japan, we learned that Santa Maria del Mar Church was the central stage of the Spanish Inquisition, where hundreds of victims had been slaughtered in the name of God.

Now I understand why the Lord has called us *Kohitsuji* to Europe. We have been chosen to be the instruments of God's healing and reconciliation between the victims and the persecutors. Not the traditional churches whose hands are stained with blood, but the new people who follow the Lamb all the way, God has entrusted to do the task of healing.

So we pray for healing of those who are buried in the underneath of the earth.

The Sun of righteousness is rising up. The most powerful healing radiates from its wings. It extends to the end of the earth. Europe is the representative of the world. We all have participated in barbarous and hideous acts of violence against fellow human beings. Now is the time of God's reconciliation and healing.

After the Hawaii mission trip last year, the Lord spoke to us: *You are to shift the time.*

I believe it is the eschatological command. We are in the end time for sure, and yet it is not the Lord's will to leave the earth desolate and barren. No, the Lord God desires the earth and its people to be healed and restored in the middle of chaotic proar in the world affairs. The more darkness covers the entire world, the brighter the Sun of righteousness shines. The Lord breathes out His Spirit upon His children, and we respond to His living Spirit. Are we not the ones to move the time?

Yes, take a new step. Are we not to declare Christ's reconciliation upon the antagonistic forces in the present world? Are we not to extend God's healing hand to the past?

To bring forth Christ's reconciliation for the past, I believe, is to move the time. This is our task. Our time must be healed. When the dead receive God's salvation, we will see the time renewed, and we fully realize God's whole council for the entire creation.

♪ *Mortui audient vocem Filii Dei.* ♪

The dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God.  
(John 5:25)

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