

# Vision of Praise

November 2018

*From the editor*

In facing the pandemic, we would like to share Pastor Peter's message, "Abwoon," and Mitsiko's message, "Detachment," together with a testimony of Tomoko Hiraoka, "Entrusting Everything to the Lord."

"Abwoon" means "Our father" and it is the Lord's prayer in Aramaic, which is the language Jesus spoke while on the earth. We believe that through the resounding of Abwoon, all creation will be healed and will praise the Creator of heaven and earth. May the Lord heal coronavirus, and protect you, your family and all the earth.

---

## Abwoon

*In Face of Coronavirus, the Negative Sign*

Peter

Ferocious Epidemic

The 1918 pandemic, known as the Spanish flu, infected 500 million people — about a quarter of the world's population at the time. The estimated number of deaths was 17 to 50 million, making it one of the deadliest epidemics in history.

In 2020 we are witnessing another deadly epidemic, known as coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which is now rampaging all over the world. The sinister virus, which broke out in Wuhan, China last year, has quickly gained the most notorious reputation next to the Spanish flu.

In the span of 100 years between the Spanish flu and the coronavirus, we have seen the amazing improvement of

medical treatment and the flourishing of science and military force. But where are they now?

The whole civilization of our contemporary world seems crumbling. The insolent president is subdued, arrogant dictators are sulking, and capable world leaders are at a loss for words in face of fierce and savage attacks of coronavirus. The world is trembling before the invisible invader as if aliens were coming. Not a fiction but the real danger this is.

Do the best to control the epidemic. Needless to say, I am the one to support all efforts to contain the disease. To be honest, however, I am aghast at people's reactions to the impinging calamity, for they are unaware of their most urgent responsibility. That is to let God be God, let the Lord be the Lord. God exists. Forget not the most important fact.

Do you not see signs from the Lord? This is what the Bible predicted a long time ago:

I will show wonders in heaven above  
And signs in the earth beneath:  
Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.  
The sun shall be turned into darkness,  
And the moon into blood,  
Before the coming of the great and awesome  
day of the Lord. (Acts 2:19-20 NKJ)

Do not be alarmed, for the Bible predicted that this would be coming. We have serious responsibility for the world on fire to be quenched.

If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I

will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will  
heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:13-14)

The address is not just to Solomon in ancient times. It is relevant this day to us who are called by His name, *that is* the faith-community commissioned to battle with the Evil force. We would not just stand by in face of the current crisis. Just as the Israelites witnessed in the land of Egypt, the Destroyer is going all over the world to slain people. Isn't it our responsibility to stop the ongoing slaughter?

In order to battle with the Destroyer, we must first realize the contemporary situation in the light of God, for ours is the judgment time for the Lord God, after longtime patient tolerance toward man's sinful behavior, to settle accounts for His name's sake.

### The Tower of Babel Repeats

I am not a lone prophet who denounces people's sin from on high. I am well aware that I myself belong to the sinful generation upon which the judgment sword is held aloft. I live among a people of unclean lips, drinking the same contaminated water of materialism.

I believe that the time is like the days of Babel when people were busy to accumulate wealth up to heaven. Overconfidently people in Babel built a super city where a tower would reach heaven. They had ambition to make their name over the face of all the earth. "Behold, they are one people," God lamented, "they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them." (Genesis 11:6)

Sharing one common language is convenient and useful

for communication. Nothing wrong with that. Building a comfortable environment is necessary for life. Nothing wrong with that. Man's doing in general, such as business, education, culture and living itself, depends on communication skill. People's endeavor and enterprise, however, displeased God. God did not favor man's spontaneous development apart from the source of Life. The Tower of Babel was the bold proclamation of man's independence from God. How dare man conceit he can do without God?

On people's heaped arrogance, however, unleashed the wrath of God. The Lord God kicked the Tower down and scattered the people over all the earth. The construction of the super city was halted once for all.

It sounds like a brutal act on the part of the Almighty. But take another look; the story will tell how man can be distorted and confused when he does not worship God in the first place. *Let God be God*, the Bible urges us. Accordingly, man's life will be beautifully coordinated. Everything works for good to those who love God, that is, make God their first priority.

The story of Babel is not a mere ancient tale, for it repeats all over again today. The root of Babel's tragedy was man's *greediness*. People were not satisfied with what they had. They wanted more and more. Instead of staying on the surface of the earth, they wanted to reach heaven.

It is the same root that has triggered the contemporary worldwide disaster. Man's greed was once the driving energy to achieve their ambition of becoming like God. And now the very identical sin has brought us a judgment of apocalyptic proportions.

In Babel they enjoyed free communication, for their

language was one. Their flourishing was also due to free movement of people. They could do business everywhere on the face of the earth. It was *globalism* at work.

The same principle goes for our age, according to my estimation. Look what has taken place in the East and the West in the recent history. It is most conspicuous in Europe.

The Schengen Agreement first signed by five European countries in 1985 allows free movement of people, goods, services and capital within the European Union (EU). Now 27 countries are aligned with it. The free movement across borders was a long-awaited dream for the war-torn European nations.

It seems to be a great victory for humanity. It is a *human* enterprise, however, and it is another form of the Tower of Babel for sure. As I warned of the danger of globalism in 2015, I must warn of its danger again now in 2020.

### Judgment Hand of God

I am writing this article in the middle of the fierce battle against coronavirus. The total death toll is rising daily on a worldwide scale. As mentioned, I am for any preventive action to curve the epidemic. Deep in my heart, however, I know the disaster is *of* the Lord God, the Sovereign who controls heaven and earth, and in whom the whole human history is to be consummated.

My fellow men, we are in the Revelation era, regardless of whether you like it or not. The Lord God has determined to judge our civilization in the entire world. Man has boasted his ability to produce unprecedented wealth through free movement of people and goods, though only for a small

fraction of people and nations. Poverty and wealth are ever clear on the surface of the earth.

Who can boast in his greed? God does not approve it. In face of coronavirus, globalism is severely judged. Realize now, however, that the Sovereign Lord who sends calamity and disaster is the same Lord God who heals and manifests the Love absolute for us sinners.

It is the time for us to accept the divine duality: The Lord God is the Love as well as the Judge. *Let God be God, and let man be man.*

Who are you, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, “Why did you make me like this,” will it? Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use? What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction? (Romans 9:20-22)

### The Lord’s Prayer Accompanied by Negative Signs

Since the inception of the *Church of the Wind*, the Lord has spoken to us and we have become fully convinced that human history is actually His story. The Lord God, I believe, “purposes in his sovereign will that all human history shall be consummated in Christ, that everything that exists in Heaven or earth shall find its perfection and fulfilment in him.”(Ephesians 1:10 J.B. Phillips)

As a worshipper at the Church, I have been reminded of

the above truth time after time by each appearance of new praises of the Lord's Prayer. Since the first one in 2001, we have so far received eight praises of the Lord's Prayer, each of which was abound with a beautiful celestial tune and accompanied with a humongous disaster.

Each piece came through Mitsuko, and she was hesitant to make it public over a considerable period for fear that disaster might take place should it be presented to the world. Yet each time we made up our mind, fully persuaded that the Lord's Prayer would bring forth God's healing in depth, revealing God's love of the first magnitude far beyond seeming calamities.

To mention a few:

In 2001 *the Lord's Prayer I*, the 9/11 terrorist attacks in America.

In 2004 *the Lord's Prayer II*, Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami killing nearly 230,000 people.

In 2005, *the Lord's Prayer III*, earthquakes in Northeast Japan.

In 2008, *the Lord's Prayer IV*, Cyclone Nargis claiming more than 130,000 lives, and Sichuan Earthquake over 80,000.

In 2011, *Pater Noster* (the Lord's Prayer in Latin), Great East Japan Earthquake taking more than 20,000 lives.

It may sound absurd to connect natural disasters with heavenly tunes, but this is not our idea. It is of heaven. The Spirit has endorsed it with the Word and the heavenly praises. The Lord's Prayer appears to have induced negative waves on the earth, but the truth is that it prevented the disasters from getting far more destructive and fatal, considerably softening the scale, even though I admit it was still utterly

painful to see fellow humans swallowed by the darkness.

No one likes disasters to fall on the earth. We are convinced, however, that we are in the Revelation era and that disasters of apocalyptic proportions are by the hand of God, the absolute Love Divine. In knowing His intension, we, the children of God, can participate in God's final act to reestablish the world and the people according to His original plan and desire for the entire creation.

Yes, if we share with Him the agony of the earth in the last days, we shall certainly share with His magnificent glory to come.

## Abwoon

In the spring of 2020, I see the Destroyer going through every town, city, and country in the world. Like the Israelites in the days of Moses, we hide ourselves under the cover of the blood of the Lamb lest the Destroyer have access to us.

And it is the most fitting that another praise of the Lord's Prayer is given to us for this generation, which I think may be the last in the eschatological time.

That is *Abwoon*, the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic, which is believed to be Jesus' native tongue. It was given in August 2019 and released in January 2020.

*Abwoon d'bwashmaya*  
*Nethqadash shumakh*  
*Teytey malkuthakh*  
*Nehwey tsebyanach ayakanna d'bwashmaya*  
*aph b'arha*  
*Hawblan lachma d'sunqanan yaomana*  
*Washboqlan khaubayn (wakhtahayn)*



*aykana daph khnan shbwoqan l'khayyabayn*  
*Wela tahlan l'nesyuna*  
*Ela patzanmin bisha*  
*Metol dilakhie malkutha wahayla*  
*wateshbukhta l'ahlam almin*  
*Ameyn*

Our Father which art in heaven  
Hallowed be Thy name  
Thy kingdom come  
Thy will be done in earth  
as it is in heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our debts  
as we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil  
For Thine is the kingdom and  
the power and the glory for ever  
Amen

*Abwoon* is the cosmic prayer, for it not only covers all people in the world at the present time, but includes all people in the past and the future. Space and time are capsulated in this prayer.

*Abwoon*, in my estimation, is the most spiritual and the most universal. It is the prayer of the cosmos which contains all heavens, the earth and under the earth. It transcends time, embracing the past, the present, and the future in the One.

Addressing to the Creator, it reveals the Love absolute.

The Prayer manifests the cross, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and exposes our being before the

Almighty and Redeemer.

It resonates with the deepest Voice of the Savior, full of Life and Healing.

I cannot articulate enough what I perceive in the resonating prayer. I hope I can share with you little by little as the Lord may permit. The time is short.

Pray *Abwoon* for the earth and for yourself. Memorize it if possible. The Lord shall protect you and your beloved earth as the apple of His eye.

### Then How Shall We Live ?

How shall we live in this hour? That is the question.

I sincerely believe that the answer is simple. We are to return to the basics which the Bible teaches. Paul says he has found the secret of life, and it is the secret we should also attain by faith. That is faith of detachment.

I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

(Philippians 4:11-12)

To live life in content is to live in the Spirit. There is nothing wrong with being rich, but only in the Spirit we can lead a balanced and harmonious life, for it is the crucified Christ who lives within us. Only in Christ, man realizes the life detached from the world.

Paul teaches “as though” as the way of life in true detachment by faith.

But this I say, brethren, the time has been shortened, so that from now on those who have wives should be as though they had none; and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice, as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess; and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world is passing away.

(1 Corinthians 7:29-31)

Life of detachment is appropriate and possible for an individual believer, and I also believe it should be the way for national economic policy. Our civilization depends ever more increasingly on power and wealth. But enough is enough. We have ruined the natural environment. Even though gaining wealth, we are not happy; instead we have more strife and contention among nations.

Enough is enough. If we attain life of detachment by faith, we will be able to influence the rest of the world, for the world is waiting for a new age.

A new age in Christ. That is where we are heading for.

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus. (Marana tha) (Revelation 22:20)

Each believer should know how to live in the faith of detachment in Christ. And at the same time, I believe we should carry out our divine mission for the world in the eschatological hour. Our mission is to call upon the name of the Lord for the sake of the world and its people.

Coronavirus that has come of the Lord Himself may be a messenger in disguise. Its ferocity is oppressing the whole world, and we suffered enough. Now we call upon the name

of the Lord for His mercy, and invite coronavirus to be reconciled with us and return to the Lord.

The more we believe, the more heaven abounds.

The more we praise, the more heavenly healing overflows.

March 31, 2020

## Detachment

Mitsuko

(1)

Recently, Pastor Peter wrote on “Abwoon” in English. The final chapter is titled “Then How Shall We Live ?” and he writes, “the answer is to go back to the very basics of what the Bible teaches, that is, the faith of detachment.”

The word “detach” means to separate. According to the dictionary it is also to disengage.

While living in the States, I was often told by my friends, “You are detached, Mitsuko.” I assumed it was because I did not show strong emotions as they did.

“You are not a cold-blooded person but detached,” they would say. Even before going to the States, I had long sought for something absolute, not influenced by emotions. I thought man’s love was transient depending on emotions and circumstances. It was not that I had suffered from broken heart or betrayal. I was rather surrounded by warm-hearted people. Yet I thought man would change easily and was far from absolute. I liked people in general, open-minded by

nature and so simple as to trust others easily. I was such a simpleton that before fighting I would lose, or choose to lose.

Writing this now, I wonder why I was so eager to find something absolute, and why I considered man's love not absolute. It was unlikely for a naive little girl like me to have such detached notion.

When I encountered the Lord, for the first time I knew the absolute. What I had been looking for all my life was the absolute love of Christ. On knowing it, my detached heart must have been healed. I started seeing love in His detachment. The love of Christ is absolute. It was not after long deliberation that I knew it. The moment I encountered the Lord, I found the absolute love.

I remember the story of a Samaritan woman. Having met Jesus, she went into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done. This is not the Christ, is it?" Although she came to the well to draw water, she left her water pot and went into the city. She must have lost herself in joy of encountering the absolute love.

Another one is Mary Magdalene, who anointed Jesus with perfume of pure nard. Having encountered the absolute love, she could not help but express her ardent love. It surprised me, but I somehow felt I understood it when reading the story for the first time.

Yet how are they related to detachment? I perceive they discerned the true love because they were detached from the world (or rejected by the world). I feel as if I had been given detachment in my heart to know the absolute love of the Lord.

My inner detachment drove me to seek absolute love, and God responded to it with His love.

The love of the Lord is the absolute detached from the world.

The Lord cared for those in great pain and sorrow. His love is the detached love which includes emotions and transcends emotions.

Reading Pastor Peter's writing, I asked him, "What is detachment in Japanese?" He replied swiftly, "It is *suteru* (meaning to give up or abandon).

Pastor Peter writes:

Each believer should know how to live in the faith of detachment in Christ.

To live in the faith of detachment in Christ, he says, is the only way for us in this critical time. It is to stand on the original faith: to believe in Jesus Christ.

For me, it is to rejoice in the absolute love of Christ Jesus.

In believing in the Lord, man shall live. As for me, to believe in the Lord is to know His absolute love.

In believing in the Lord whatever we may see or hear, we will live, placed in love, and our flesh will be abandoned, including all fear and worry. The Lord said, "Because I live, you will live also." (John 14:19 NAS) Because the Lord has risen, I will live also.

Because I live, you will live also. In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him. (John 14:19-21)

The Lord is telling us to abide in His love. Inbelieving and rejoicing in His love, we shall live, that is, live in the faith of detachment.

Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. (John 15:9)

(The word “burning love,” for instance, may remind you of passionate love. On the other hand, “detached love” sounds cold and distant, and you may be turned off. However, in truth detached love is the real burning love of the Lord, which is everlasting and never ceasing.)

April 4, 2020

(2)

On April 4, I read Pastor Peter’s English article, which told us to live in the faith of detachment in Christ.

It moved my heart. I felt it was the answer to this time.

Before making this article public, I felt it needed a testimony on “living in the faith of detachment,” and I asked Yumi, a staff worker, to find one. The testimony she picked was surely on faith, but it was not on the faith of detachment.

And I began to wonder. What is the faith of detachment?

Is it the faith to let go in Christ, abandoning ourselves as well as what we have? Is it the faith to see what is invisible to our eyes . . . with the eye of God? Then I

remembered a testimony of Tomoko Hiraoka, a house church leader, “Entrusting Everything to the Lord.”

The following day (Sunday), I read Tomoko’s testimony. It surely was on her decision to give up everything, through which the Lord gave her back many things, in fact everything. Although I felt nothing missing in this faith, I believed the Lord wanted to tell something more about the faith of detachment.

Wondering what it was, I attended the Sunday service. The resounding of the praise “Agnus Occisus” sung in worship was so overwhelming that I forgot about detachment. It may have been also because I thought it alright not to have an answer.

After the service we had the time of prayer for newcomers, and at the end I prayed with those who still remained in the sanctuary.

The last healing was for those unable to sleep in fear of coronavirus. As I felt the fear had vanished, I prayed, “Lord, thank You. We believe in You.”

At that moment, the word “detachment” came back to me.

I said to the people in the sanctuary, “Coronavirus is scary, but what is more frightening is the fear of coronavirus, for it turns us away from worshipping.” Fear deprives us of the heart of worship.

That is why we believe in the Lord. Even if the reality before our eyes turns from bad to worse, we believe in Him. We trust in the One who said to us, “I have healed.”

Then a thought flashed across my mind.

We always pray these days, “Lord, please protect us from coronavirus. Please put an end to the pandemic.” Yet



the more we say “coronavirus,” the more attached we are to the virus, and the bigger and stronger our fear grows.

Therefore, we dare to look at *Agnus Occisus* (the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world), singing the praise “Agnus Occisus.” It gives us a turnaround.

In praising, you find yourself turned away from coronavirus even though the situation is not getting any better. What exists is the love of *Agnus Occisus* alone. In the resounding of praise, *Agnus Occisus*, who has completed healing, is there. Your eyes are opened to what truly exists in you, and you are set free from the control of coronavirus.

Then I heard a voice:

*That’s the detachment.*

The voice continued.

*Detachment is the faith.*

*To be detached and freed is the faith.*

We shall give praise and look at the Lord of praise alone. Other unnecessary things, such as fear, illness and virus, will leave us. When they are out of our mind, they will actually disappear, for praise alone exists there.

Pastor Peter said today, “What matters is what you see. Faith is what you see.”

It is to return to our original faith in praise.

April 10, 2020

# Entrusting Everything to the Lord

— Live with My Wallet —

Tomoko Hiraoka

When I passed the age of 40, I believed in Jesus Christ and got baptized. Right then and there, I clearly understood, “I am loved by God! Even before I was born, I was loved by God all along.”

Through the baptism, I was changed. The simple confession with my lips, “I believe in Jesus Christ,” opened the door to God, showing me His amazing love and the mystery of the cross. All started from the baptism. I came to know the true freedom and the absolute peace in God.

One day, when giving Mitsuko a ride home, she said to me, “Tomoko, why don’t you pray to Jesus that you will entrust everything to Him?!” On my way back in the car, I was going to pray so right away before forgetting it.

The very moment I started saying, “Lord Jesus, I will ...,” tremendous fear came on me. Still I thought, “He is the righteous One. It is alright even if I lose everything, even myself.” And I plunged in, saying, “I will entrust everything, all of myself to You.”

After praying to Jesus “I will entrust all of myself to You,” I remembered what I had heard before, “What is needed will be given, and what is not needed will be taken away.” I wondered what would be most painful for me if taken away. It would probably be my wallet ... I thought, for I loved shopping and eating.

I believed, however, that even if God took it away from me, He would let me live in joy without minding such things.

For some time, I was wondering in the back of my head what would be taken away, but several years later I realized that God had taken nothing out of me, but rather kept on pouring His abundant blessing. Pastor Peter said, “Tomoko, when you prayed you would entrust everything to God, in truth all was already taken away from you.”

Back at home, in taking a bath and thinking, “Oh, everything was already taken away from me ...,” I heard a word from somewhere: “Your wallet is not enough. Live with My wallet.” I was delightedly surprised. In gratitude I took it as the word from Jesus.

Grace comes always one-sidedly. The Lord only asks me whether I believe in Him, and He only desires me to live in joy!

All things are from God and by God. I want to tell everyone, “Throw away everything and plunge into the Lord!”

Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:13-14)

February 10, 2012

***Kohitsuji no Mure Christian Church***  
3-25 Yoko-cho, Ashiya, Hyogo 659-0034 Japan  
URL:<https://kohitsuji.com/english>