

The Principle and The Three Blessings

Over the last 12 years I have spent time reflecting on the Principle of Creation. I have come to see this chapter as a wonderful work of art, a glorious series of ideas that explain so much about humanity, and a philosophy that has the inner power needed to fight most of the misleading ideas that are causing so much harm to our cultures today. I would like to share a couple of my insights.

We start our journey with the three blessings. In simple terms, the Principle explains that if we, as God's children, set ourselves on a path towards developing maturity, if we grow in our marriages and take responsibility for the children we bring into the world, and if grow in our ability to use the physical world both for our human benefit and to feed our family, then we are most likely to find joy as individuals and the world will move towards becoming the best it can be. A wholesome world through wholesome individuals who can build wholesome families, and wholesome families raising wholesome individuals who can build their own wholesome families and a more wholesome world.

One of the many interesting facets of this worldview is that research in the field of positive psychology shows us that we find most meaning in our lives when we develop competences, when we build meaningful relationships, and when we feel we are doing something useful in our work life. Put simply, God has designed us so that we find most meaning and joy through living a three blessings kind of life – a life that asks us to develop all our God given gifts for our personal joy and for the sake of the world.

Now, the Principle of Creation becomes even more interesting when we link up the three blessings worldview with the previous section on Give and Take Action. This earlier section talks about how, when G&T is centred on God, this leads to existence, action, and multiplication. One way of interpreting this is that when my mind and body unite so as to strive for personal development:

- (a) I am more likely to generate forces that allow me to live longer (existence)
- (b) I am more likely to generate forces that allow me to act reasonably successfully in the world (action), and
- (c) I am more likely generate forces that will allow me to develop new skills that will improve both my life and the world I live in (multiplication).

All this is pretty self-evident. People who strive for personal growth are more likely to live long, happier, more successful lives.

Also, the same applies to the second blessing. When my spouse and I support each other and take responsibility for our children then we all – and our culture - are more likely to live longer (E). We are also more likely maintain the good that exists in my family tree and in our culture (A), and our children are more likely to create a better family than my wife and I created – and they are also more likely to leave the world better than they found it (M).

The same applies to the third blessing. Through seeking to feed my family and improve society through my career – then this ensures that fewer people meet untimely deaths (E),

the good that the physical world offers us is more likely to be maintained (A), and physical world will offer even more benefits to the next generation (M).

We can see from the above that the three blessings, when people aim for them, serve **social purposes**. When I strive for completion, when our family is reasonably wholesome, and when the economic sphere is working fluidly, then forces are generated that allow for the continued existence, sustenance, and development of a culture. It takes time to build a flourishing culture – generations. The Three Blessings worldview, when connected with Give and Take Action, show us how the world moves towards the ideal. It never gets there, but there is an ongoing movement forward.

Of course, the opposite is also true. If many of us don't want to develop ourselves, or if many of us don't invest in looking after our marriages or kids, or if we create a situation where economic growth is hard (think Communist USSR) then this would lead to a situation:

- a) where increasing numbers of us will experience an untimely death. For example, today, the West is experiencing a relentless growth in deaths caused by drug overdoses – a loss of E.
- b) where we would start to increasingly lose the good that does exist within the social fabric (e.g.; in all developed nations, young adults are fast losing the skills that are needed to build a successful marital-family) – loss of A.
- c) where social decay rather than development would become much more likely (e.g.; the national debts of all Western nations continue their relentless rise – something that will create untold pain for our children and grand-children) – loss of M.

In summary, the Principle of Creation shows us that each and every individual, through the daily choices they make, can generate forces that either improve their own lives and their communities, or can hurt their own lives and the quality of life in their communities.

One can then take this understanding to a new level. One can ask if there are key, foundational behaviours that allow us to increase our chances of accessing the energy that the three blessings can offer our lives.

Take, for example, the second blessing - the natural responsibility to enter into marriage so as best protect our future children. Are there behaviours that allow for couples to increase their chances of succeeding in their family life? Research is clear that those partners who:

- a) Stay away from pre-marital sex
- b) Actually go through the process of marrying rather than just cohabiting
- c) Stay away from infidelity
- d) Seek help to get through the difficult times so they don't divorce

- are most likely to generate the forces that lead to longer lives, to the continuation of the good, and to the process of lineage and social progress. It is to be noted that all these four cornerstones are directly connected to the fact that a heterosexual couple have the potential to create children and following these rules best protects children – ensuring that as many children as possible are raised by the two people who created them.

Another way of saying the above is that as increasing numbers of people become involved in pre-marital sex, as increasing numbers of citizens chose to cohabit rather than marry, as increasing numbers have marital flings, and as increasing numbers of people go through a divorce rather than seeking out counselling or education as a means to solve they marital disputes – then we expect to see, in the lives of these individuals and their children – increasing numbers who suffer untimely deaths (e.g.; middle-aged divorced men committing suicide), the growing loss of the knowledge of good (e.g.; the growth of the numbers of people in prison), and the loss of energy within the family system which in turn is more likely to lead to family tree and social decay (e.g.; a loss of family wealth, or the children suffering educationally or emotionally, etc).

When putting the above together we get a model that looks like this:

Mind-Body Unity	Husband and Wife Unity	Dominion over nature
Are supported through the foundational behaviours of		
	No sex before marriage	
	Marital promise	
	Fidelity	
	Seek growth, not divorce	
When pursued in sincerity generate forces that		
Create a longer average life-span – myself and my culture	Sustain the good across generations	Increase the chances for personal and cultural development

It’s important to note here that the foundation stones that support the success of the second blessing are not randomly named. The members of the Unification movement inherently encourage these standards amongst their children. We call our unions ‘blessings’ and not marriages because we believe that we also have to uphold these core foundation stones in order to best be able to gain God’s blessings in our families.

Research also shows that those couples who can manifest these behaviours are most likely to have the happiest of lives. They are, on average, wealthier, have better sex lives, live longer, and more. If this is the case, where do these foundation stones come from? They actually come from the natural world. ALL species of animal – swans, turtle doves, bald eagles, etc – that pair-bond for life follow, to a high degree of integrity, the same, four rules mentioned above. They intrinsically know that if they fail to consistently uphold any of these cornerstones then their norm of pair-bonding for life would start to become undermined, their offspring would be more likely to suffer, and their species would suffer decline through the undermining of E, A, and M. Those species which practice pair-bonding for life know that their lifestyle comes with certain benefits, but those benefits can only be consistently gained through the consistent practice of these foundation stones.

Once one understands that there are behaviours that increase the chances of the successful implementation of the second blessing, then you realise that that are also other natural laws that do the same for the first and third blessing.

If you are a true-love, pair-bonding-for-life puffin, what are the basic laws that would allow you to feed your family? Of course, you take responsibility and develop your fishing talents. But also, you hope that environmental factors will support you so there are enough fish in the sea. Then you also hope there not too many predators so that you get to get to keep enough of the fish you catch and so you don't get eaten. Lastly, you make sure you don't personally degrade the environment so that there no fish left to eat.

These same rules apply to the third blessing that humans can experience. The development of free-market economies has been at the heart of lifting billions of families out of poverty over the last century. The free market economy is based on:

- People developing unique skills
- The legal system is protective so you don't get eaten by 'sharks'
- A taxation system that allows you to keep most of the fish you worked hard to catch
- The general environment for doing business has improved (e.g.; transportation and communication systems)
- And we've become increasingly better at protecting the environment (but still a way to go).

Lastly, what does a young puffin need to learn so that he is ready for adulthood, and for community and family life? What's his first blessing responsibility? Well, puffins have to accept the idea that the wellbeing of their species as a whole is intrinsically connected to a three-blessings kind of life-style. Also, as young adults, they realize that they also have to strive to be ready for the responsibilities of adulthood.

Putting all of the above together, for humans, you get something like this:

Mind-Body Unity	Husband and Wife Unity	Dominion over nature
Are supported through the foundational behaviours of		
Keep developing yourself	No sex before marriage	Develop your specific professional talents
Realise that you are designed to find most meaning in your life through growing to take responsibility	Marital promise	Take care of the environment
Community rules – core values (e.g.: 10 commandments) exist for community well-being	Fidelity	Keep developing the general economic environment
Work on your inner emotional well-being	Seek to grow rather than divorce	Make sure the law protects against sharks – both individuals and the State
<u>When pursued in sincerity generate forces that</u>		
Create a longer average life-span for myself and my culture	Sustain the good	Increase the chances for development

When one sees the whole picture, one gains incredible insights into what is currently happening within the social fabric.

For example, economic communism as practised in the USSR and China stripped away the foundation stones that allow for the successful implementation for the third blessing. In their place, the Marxist government invented some unnatural, political rules. Also, the economic sphere was no longer seen to have the social purposes of existence, continuity, and development. The politicians said that the social purpose of economics was fairness, the redistribution of wealth. Through destroying the foundation stones, the end result was millions of untimely deaths (Loss of E), the growing loss of knowledge as to how a successful business is run (Loss of A), and decay rather than development (Loss of M). We learn that politicians can't mess around with the foundation stones that allow for the success of the three blessings without there being negative, social consequences.

And then again, the legalisation of abortion and contraceptives undermined the foundation stone of little or no pre-marital sex. This, in turn, has led to increased rates of single parenting. The end result of this has been that millions of infants have been murdered in the womb and many more individuals have died untimely deaths from drugs, gang fights, and more (Loss of E). Also, increasing numbers of this generation lack the skills needed to build a lasting marital-family (Loss of A). And, despite enormous strides in technological development, Western, ex-Christian civilization is in state of terminal decay – in part because we are killing so many of the babies who should be there to sustain the future (A growing loss of M). The same consequences apply to other mis-informed political interventions such no-fault divorce where children are involved.

What we see from these laws is that when politicians come to believe that they have to instantly solve the struggles of citizens through political intervention, and these interventions mess with the foundation stones that allow for us to access the three blessings, then future generations can expect experience less E, A, and M. In all western nations today, many laws have now been passed that undermine the foundation stones that allow a nation to continue to receive God's blessings. As a result, though many families are doing exceedingly well in today's world, growing numbers of other families and individuals are living on the edge of society - struggling to participate in life itself. More are in jail, more are addicted to something, more are suffering depression, more are lonely, etc

The above analysis also allows us to understand some of the fundamental differences between the Unificationist worldview and the present social challenge of cultural Marxism. Both say they want more caring world.

In a three blessings world, every level of society is involved in the maintenance of a flourishing nation – the individual who seeks to live a noble life, married families, extended families, schools, charities, community and faith groups, businesses, the media, and the political realm - all are important. The worldview notes that cultural improvement takes place as development happens on any of these social dimensions. If individuals become more honest, society as a whole improves. If religions get better at helping the families of the faithful, society improves. Etc.

Thus, the Principle notes that almost all social problems can only be solved in a group effort, with all levels of society playing their part. For example, instead of asking for State, quick-fix abortions, the Principle encourages us to think about how we can all play a role in reducing the number of unwanted conceptions. Education obviously helps, as does parental instruction, lasting marriages, better role models in the media, and more. The 3 blessings worldview notes that all social problems, no matter whether it be divorce, homelessness, drug abuse, recycling waste, and more – need systemic, cultural improvements if they are to be overcome. The political realm is just one of many realms that helps in creating a flourishing culture.

On the other hand, we have the development of cultural Marxism today. Economic Marxism states that if the political realm has enough control over the economics of a nation, then all families would be economically safe. They failed. Cultural Marxism states that if political realm takes enough power from all the other realms that create a culture, the politicians alone can create a successful nation. Thus, this worldview encourages the faithful to believe that if the right political decisions are made then all social problems can be solved. These political interventions usually cost money so demands for more taxation are constantly mentioned. So, when a social problem is noted and this social problem fills the airways, some people feel discomfort or compassion and want immediate, State action. No other dimension of society needs to change. Just the State needs to intervene.

Looking at single parenting, for example. Taxation money is often used to house and feed the single parent. Problem ‘solved’ or ‘hidden away’. The education system, the media, individuals, etc – no one needs to change their behaviour and no part of society needs to grow so as to help citizens mature so that there are fewer single parent families. Because no development is happening in the other realms of society, over time, more single parenting occurs. Then, more people die untimely deaths, more social good is lost, decay sets in, and the national debts rise. The same applies to drug abuse, to homelessness, etc. Government money is spent, problem is hidden away but not solved, the other dimensions of society don’t need to grow, and the social problems increase. More people in the next generation end up leading more difficult lives that compel us to feel compassion.

Why does Marxism, the demand that the State step into do more, always lead to decay? It is because when the State passes laws in order to try to fix social problems that it is not responsible for – problems that it cannot actually fix by itself - then it typically weakens one or more of the foundation stones that support the fulfilment of three blessings. As mentioned above, introducing abortion increased pre-marital sex and, as a result, more people in the next generation experience a loss of E, A, and M. And again, these State interventions cost a lot of money, so taxation rises for everyone, people get to keep less of what they earn, it gets harder for more families to cope, more families struggle, more don’t marry or more separate, and a loss of E, A, and M is inevitable. Thus, cultural Marxism always leads to more, future, untimely deaths and cultural decay, all in the name of the State seeking to be compassionate for some groups of people today.

Human beings, being God’s children, have the potential to be noble and we almost all have the potential to look after ourselves and our families. The goal of any culture should be to

raise individuals who actually develop this potential. However, in today's world, it is a challenge for the State to catch the idea that its role is not to dispense compassion - that its primary role is to help support an environment where all the other aspects of society can keep growing and developing. How can the State help create an environment where charities succeed, marriages succeed, businesses can flourish, individuals keep growing, etc. When all levels of society are flourishing the State has far less to do and there are far fewer people who need our compassion.

But, with the demands of the cultural Marxists being consistently voiced in the media, and everyone told that State money is the only way to solve the problem, the apparatus of State in many Western nations is now so large that it is wiping out the need for charities, marriages, religion, and wiping out the need for personal development. With all other realms severely weakened, the State just keeps saying IT has to do more. It now tells us what social values should be. It now believes it owns children and has to educate them with things that parents would never teach their children. It has to introduce hate speech laws. It believes that it has to deal with more homeless children. Etc. You do not hear calls for the strengthening of marriage, to strive to fix the root cause of many of these problems. Or you do not hear calls for all elements of society to encourage abstinence before marriage, one of the other root causes of much of the tragedy we see today.

On top of this, the two different worldviews give rise to completely understandings of what a wholesome human being is. The definition of an ideal man under economic Marxism was the good, socialist worker. Under cultural Marxism, a wholesome human is the person who demonstrates and demands that the government spend another person's money. The definition is so very narrow, so limiting, so dysfunctional. I can sleep around, take drugs, play computer games 20 hours a day, have kids and let the social welfare system pay for them ... but still be at the forefront of leading the world towards a socialist, caring ideal. I just need one quality. I can trash every one of the 10 commandments - advocate the murder of babies, tell lies about my political opponents, commit all the infidelity I want, encourage the State to take money from hard-working families, disrespect the successful ways of my parents, etc... and I can still be the perfect social justice warrior who commands respect because I want the State to spend other people's money to solve social problems. With such a limited understanding of what a wholesome human is society is doomed.

The interpretation of the three blessings that the Principle of Creation offers is truly profound. It provides a real, concrete plan for human development. If you understand how it all fits together you can easily see how certain legal interventions will lead to disaster for future citizens.

For example, there was the political intervention to redefining marriage so as to suit same-sex couples. In this legal redefinition, all the foundation stones that support the second blessing got ripped out. Why? Because those who experience same-sex attraction don't need these foundational rules because they can't create a biological child with their same-sex partner. They can have pre-marital sex and commit infidelity all their want and this doesn't create children who need support. Their relationships don't need these same rules. Also, in redefinition, the State changed the social purpose of marriage. Marriage's role has

always been to provide for the continued existence, continuity, and develop of a culture... and this happens through the creation of biological children. But what social purpose does marriage fulfil when applied to a same-sex couple? Their relationship serves no social purpose apart from leaving society with a sense of fairness. This being so, marriage redefined sends a subliminal message to heterosexuals that there are no foundation stones that allow for their marriages to best succeed, and also that marriage holds no social purpose. The end result is that there is no social push to marry so as to best protect one's future biological children and the social realm. The end result IS, in all countries where marriage has been redefined, far fewer heterosexuals marrying. Thus, we will see the future loss of E, A, and M. Many future citizens will suffer untimely deaths and growing numbers of families will suffer poorer outcomes. A permanent state of increasing levels of decay has now been built into the social fabric – just the same as happened when economic Marxism was introduced into Russia. And all this decay is now kept in place through hate speech laws that severely limit our ability to change any of this.

Also, when one sees the bigger picture, you can easily see why the current, gender-fluid ideology has the power to dismantle future well-being in the nastiest of ways. It leads to the body being seen to be invisible in the law. Everyone can be a woman, or a man. So, there is no thing as mind-body unity, the basic building block of rational, civil society. With gender-fluid law-making occurring on all levels of society the whole of the Principle of Creation is violated. No mind-body unity. No masculine and feminine. No social purpose to life. No three blessings. Nothing. In the name of compassion, everyone becomes confused. Chaos will ensue.

The Principle is truly precious. After I read all the relevant literature on a certain social issue I now turn to the Principle and ask what it has to say on the issue. Typically, I find the clearest of answers. Sometimes I wonder how Rev. Moon could put together such a deep series of principles in so few pages. For sure, Christianity lacks the internal energy needed to fight the current ideological war that is taking place in our societies. The Principle, however, can fight this war and win. We are truly blessed to have this revelation in our hands. Hopefully, we can use it for the betterment of our confused world.