

We will begin the seventh lecture on Comparative Religion. /At this time we will take the time to criticize the “Salvation Sect,” “Berea Academy,” “Jesus Centered Church,” “Rhema Evangelical Mission,” and the “World Mission Society Church of God.”

Chapter 15, the Salvation Sect

I. Founder Kwon, Shin-chan

/Kwon was born in Yeongdeok-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do in Korea in 1923. /He was deposed by the Gyeongsangbuk-do presbytery as a heretic in December, 1962.

/He founded the “Evangelical Baptist Church” in December, 1981. /The “Evangelical Baptist Church” with the word “Evangelical” is a heretic group. /(However, the Korea Baptist Convention is not a heretic group.)

/There are sub-branches of the Salvation Sect other than that of **Kwon, Shin-chan**.

/There is **Park, Ock-soo** of the “Jesus Baptist Korea Conference.” /He was in charge of the “Good News Hanbat Church” in Daejeon-si, Korea. /He is also the leader of the “Good News Gangnam Church.” /Park, Ock-soo is also responsible for the “Good News Mission” and the “Mahanaim Bible Training Church.”

/There is a group called the International Youth Fellowship (IYF) that affiliated with Park, Ock-soo of the Salvation Sect. /IYF is a wrong place. /However, the Korean Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (IVF) is a good organization.

/Next, there is **Lee, Bok-chil** of the “Jesus Baptist Korean Conference.” /His is also called **Lee, Yo-han**. /He is in charge of the “Seoul Joong Ang Church” in Dongan-gu, Anyang-si in Korea. /He is the leader of “Life Word Mission.”

/There is also **Lee, Chang-beom** in Incheon-si.

/Yoo, Byung-eun and Yoon, Chang-seok also belong to the Salvation Sect. /In April, 2014 in Korea, many people died in the sinking of the Sewol Ferry, and Yoo, Byung-eun was linked to the Sewol. /The Salvation Sect was influenced by the American Dick York and Dutchman Case Glass.

II. Main Doctrines

/1. Doctrine of Scripture

/They interpret the Bible as a fable, in an allegorical way. /They deny worship. /They say, “Discussion of the Lord’s work is fellowship among believers and is also an important prayer.”

/Criticism: They say that prayer of any kind is not necessary. /They say, “Individual prayer, public prayer, early morning prayer, united prayer, and other forms of prayer are not necessary.” /They say that worship service is not necessary. /However, Jesus showed us an example of prayer. /Therefore, we believers must properly pray to God. Mark 1:35; Luke 11:1; Acts 1:14.

/2. Doctrine of God

/They do not believe in the Trinity God. /They say that Jesus is the same as the Holy Spirit. /They say that there is no need to keep the Lord's Day or to give tithes. /They deny the personality of God. /They see God as an abstract and inhuman Spirit.

/Criticism: Our God is Spirit. /God is a personal Spirit. /God has intellect, emotions, and will. /God is God who fills the entire universe. /God is forever. /There is nothing God cannot do.

/3. Soteriology

/① They ignore guilt that comes from actual sin. /Rather, they emphasize original sin that resulted from Adam's sin. /Hence, they claim that repentance is not necessary.

/Criticism: Jesus told us to repent for the kingdom is near. /The Bible also tells us to repent. /Matthew 4:17; Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 16:31; Revelation 2:5. /Therefore, we must have faith to repent and obey God's word.

/② They stress assurance of salvation, and they say, "You must know the date, time, and place of when you were born again."

/Criticism: We are not saved only when we know the date of when we were born again. /Even if we do not know the date of when we were saved, we receive salvation if we believe in Jesus. /The Bible says that John, Philip, Andrew, and Timothy believed in Jesus and was called to Him in quietness. /Paul, Zacchaeus, and the prison guards at Philippi experienced a dramatic conversion and were born again.

/Paul and Zacchaeus probably knew the date and time of when they were saved. /However, the date and time of when one was saved is not important. /We are saved when we believe in Jesus. /We have confidence in our salvation if we believe in Jesus. /We do not necessarily need to know the date of our salvation.

/③ They say, "Because you have received eternal atonement, you do not need to repent again."

/Criticism: However, the Bible speaks of repetitive repentance, not just repentance at once. /The apostle Paul said that he was the worst of all sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15. /Peter and David always repented. Psalm 51.

/④ There are ten questions they ask when evangelizing. /For example, they ask, "Are you a sinner or a righteous person?" /If we answer that we are a "sinner," they will tell us, "You will go to hell." /If we answer that we are a "righteous person," they will ask another question, "Do you not sin?"

/Criticism: Everyone, are you a sinner or a righteous person? /We became righteous through faith in Jesus. /We became righteous, but we still continue to sin. /We are righteous people and sinners, and we are sinners and are righteous.

/However, our original identities changed to become righteous beings. /We became righteous through faith in Jesus. /Therefore, we will surely receive salvation. /We, who have received salvation, must continue to repent. Matthew 6:12; Revelation 3:3. /They also deceive people by asking questions such as, “Have you been born again? Do you have confidence in salvation? Do you have proof of salvation?”

/⑤ They say that it is not necessary to observe the laws. /They say that the laws have been abolished.

/Criticism: The rituals of the laws have been abolished. /However, we must observe the truth that is within the laws. /1 John 5:2-3. /The laws are holy and good. /Romans 7:12 /Matthew 5:17-19 /Of course, no one is saved by keeping the laws. /We do not receive salvation by keeping the laws.

/We receive salvation through faith in Jesus along. /If we believe in Jesus and receive salvation, and then live as we please, that becomes a sin. /We who have been saved by faith must properly observe God’s word. /The Salvation Sect follows the ideas of antinomianism.

/4. Ecclesiology

/They deny the historicity of Christianity. /They run their church on centralization. /They emphasize living as a group.

/Criticism: It is a characteristic of heretic groups to live as a group.

/5. Eschatology

/They emphasize eschatology. /They assert that the Great Judgment is near. /There is a book titled, “The Imminent Great Judgment.” /They also have a book called, “World Government and 666.”

/Criticism: The Salvation Sect deceives people with books such as these. /They promote crises.

Chapter 16, the Berea Academy

/This is also called the “Seoul Sungrak Church.”

I. Founder Kim, Ki-dong

/Kim was born in Chungcheongnam-do, Korea in 1938. /He lied that he brought ten dead people to life in 1979. /He claimed that he chased out 40,000 demons and healed sicknesses in 1985. /He founded the Berea Academy in Guro-gu, Korea in 1972. /He was condemned as a heretic in 1987.

/He also founded a new religious organization called the “Southern Baptist Convention of Korea.” /He also founded the “Berea International Theological Seminary.” /(However, the Korea Baptist Convention is a good religious organization.) (The Southern Baptist

Convention of America is also a good religious organization.)

II. Main Doctrines

/1. Demonology

/① They claim, “Satan and the devil are different.” /“‘Satan’ is a name used when opposing God, and the ‘devil’ is a name used when opposing humans.” /“The ‘devil’ is a fallen angel, and the ‘demon’ is a soul of a dead unbeliever.”

/Criticism: Satan and the devil are the same. /The Bible uses them interchangeably. / Revelation 12:9 /Revelation 20:2. /The two words were used when Satan or the devil attacked man. /Matthew 16:23 /Acts 5:3 /2 Corinthians 12:7 /Luke 22:31 /According to the Bible, the demon is not the soul of a dead unbeliever. /When a believer of Jesus dies, his spirit immediately goes to heaven. /If someone does not believe in Jesus and dies, his spirit immediately goes to hell.

/Therefore, their beliefs are wrong. /Man does not become a demon after he dies. /They also say that it is absolutely necessary to know the devil when achieving salvation. /How is knowing the devil the way to salvation? /This is wrong. /The way to salvation is faith in Jesus.

/② They say, “The devil is a revolutionist.” /“The devil became corrupted because he had the right to be corrupted.” /“God acknowledged that the devil is a lawful being.”

/Criticism: This is wrong. /These are the ideas of Greek philosophy and pantheism. / They also stress empirical theology of man. /They excluded the Bible and theology. / The devil is unlawful and cannot be a lawful being.

/③ They say, “A person’s lifespan is 120 years.” /“An unbeliever’s natural lifespan is one hundred years, but if he died at the age of sixty, he still has forty years left.” /“Hence, he will live with the devil and his messengers for forty years.”

/Again, they say, “A person’s natural lifespan is a hundred years, but if he died at the age of sixty, he will live as a ghost for forty years.” /They also say that a person lives for 120 years. /If a person died at the age of ninety, he will live as a ghost on earth for thirty years.

/Criticism: this is wrong. /Genesis 6:3 says that the days of man will be 120 years. /This does not refer to the lifespan of man. /Before Noah’s time, man’s lifespan exceeded 900 years. /The number 120 in Genesis 6:3 was a warning that God would judge the sinful world with a flood in 120 years.

/Man’s lifespan is determined by God’s sovereignty. /Acts 17:25 /The angel became corrupted and became a ghost. /The ghost is a kind of the devil. /Ghosts and the devil are all evil spirits.

/④ They say, “The root of all sicknesses are the ghosts.” /They say that people get sick

because of ghosts.

/Criticism: There are many causes of sicknesses. /One can become sick because of the devil. /However, not all sicknesses come from the devil or from ghosts. /The apostle Paul had a eye disease. /2 Corinthians 12:7 /Job had a severe illness. /

/There were illnesses that were for God's glory. /John 11:4 /There were illnesses that revealed God's will. /John 9:3 /Timothy also had a gastroenteric illness. /1 Timothy 5:23

/2. Doctrine of Scripture

/They separate the Bible from the Scriptures. /They say that they cannot add to or take away from the Bible, but they can add to or take away from the Scriptures. /For example, "Only the Pentateuch and the Synoptic Gospels are the Bible." /"The remaining fifty-eight books are the Scriptures, of which we can add to or take away from." /They also believe, "Our testimonies or sermons can be Scripture."

/Criticism: The Bible was written by the inspiration of God. /2 Timothy 3:16 /We cannot add to or take away from the Bible. /Revelation 22:18-19 /We believe that the Bible and the Scriptures are the same.

/3. Doctrine of the Trinity

/“When the Holy Spirit is in Jesus, He becomes the Father, and when the Father is in the believer, he becomes the Holy Spirit.” /They say, “The names of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit differ depending on where they are.”

/Criticism: This is an idea of modalism. /The Trinity God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

/4. Pneumatology

/“When the Holy Spirit is in Jesus, he is not in anyone else.” /“The Holy Spirit came to the church only after Jesus ascended into heaven.” /They say, “The Spirit of God in the Old Testament refer to angels, not the Holy Spirit.”

/Criticism: This is wrong. /The Holy Spirit worked in the Old Testament times. /The Holy Spirit continues to work in the New Testament times. /The Holy Spirit is God who fills the entire universe in any generation or place.

/5. Doctrine of Creation

/① They say, “The purpose of creation is for the destruction of the devil.”

/Criticism: The purpose of creation is not for the destruction of the devil. /God created the universe for God's glory.

/② The Double Adam Theory

/There is male and female in Genesis 1:27. /They believe, “The male and female are like

male and female animals with a body and a soul.” /“In Genesis 2:7, Adam became a civilized man with a spirit, a soul, and a body.

/Criticism: They believe that Adam and Eve in Genesis 1:27 and 2:7 are different. /They say that Adam became a true human being in Genesis 2:7. /However, this is wrong. /Adam is the same in Genesis 1 and 2. /Adam was created in the image of God.

Chapter 17, Jesus Centered Church

/Jesus Centered Church was once called “Korea Jerusalem Church.”

I. Founder C. S. Lee

/His real name is Lee, Chun-seok. /He was born in Korea in 1951. /He was condemned as a heretic in 1987. /He founded the “Korean Jerusalem Church” in Incheon, Korea.

/He founded the “Choseok Jesus Mission” in 1985. /The name was later changed to “Jesus Centered Mission.”

/C. S. Lee is a mystical enthusiast. /He ignores the objectivity of the revelation. /His faith is extreme and is founded on subjectivism. /He stresses material blessings. /He emphasizes the chasing out of demons.

II. Main Doctrines

/1. Doctrine of Scripture

/He claims, “If the dead came back to life in four days in the Bible, the same thing must take place today.”

/Criticism: The Old and New Testament Bible is the truth that has nothing to do with our experiences. /The Bible itself is the inerrant word of God.

/2. Doctrine of God

/He claims, “The name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is Jesus.”

/Criticism: He supports modalism.

/3. Christology

/He says “Jesus came in the body of the Spirit.” “Jesus became the Lord to chase out ghosts.”

/Criticism: This is a distortion of Jesus’ ministry on earth. /Jesus came to this earth to save us. /They deny that Jesus came in the same body as us. /Our Jesus had the same body as us.

/4. Soteriology

/He says, “Salvation is freedom from the powers of ghosts.”

/Criticism: Man is saved by faith in Jesus. /The core of the gospel is the redemption of the cross of Jesus Christ. /We receive eternal life through faith in Jesus. /Jesus came to save us.

/5. Demonology

/He says, “The identities of ghosts are dead unbelievers.”

/Criticism: C. S. Lee follows the demonology of Kim, Ki-dong. /Unbelievers do not become ghosts after they die. /Unbelievers go to eternal hell when they die. /The angel became corrupted and became the devil. /Evil spirits and ghosts are all fallen angels. /Jesus Centered Church is based on erroneous mysticism.

Chapter 18, Rhema Evangelical Mission

I. Founder Ms. Lee, Myung-bum

/She founded Rhema Mission in 1981. /She put an emphasis on Tres Dias and Vida Nueva. /She gained power by adopting such programs.

/Her program, REM, stirred up unethical behavior. /She founded Rhema Evangelical Mission. /She runs International REM and Youth REM. She founded Yemyung Graduate University.

/Lee, Myung-bum graduated from the Berea Academy, which is run by Kim, Ki-dong. /She claimed that she met an angel sent by God in 1987.

II. Main Doctrines

/“The name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is Jesus.” /She claims, “The Father God is the essence of God, /the Son is the entity of God, /and the Holy Spirit is the fundamental Spirit of God.”

/Criticism: This is modalism. /Her assertions are the same as those of Kim, Ki-dong and C. S. Lee. /The essence, the entity and the fundamental Spirit are words used by Kim, Ki-Dong.

/2. Doctrine of Creation

/She claims, “God will become like Satan if he fights with Satan, so he created man to destroy Satan.”

/Criticism: This is the same idea as that of Kim, Ki-dong. /Kim, Ki-dong claimed that God created man to destroy the devil.

/3. Doctrine of Man

/She says, “Man in Genesis 1 has only the body and soul, and man in Genesis 2 has the body, soul, and spirit.”

/Criticism: This is the same theory as the Double Adam Theory asserted by Kim, Ki-dong.

/4. Problems with her Assertions

/① She claims, “Man’s spirit does not have personal functions.”

/② She claims, “The death of Jesus on the cross was only for the physical salvation of man.”

/③ She stresses subjective and godly experiences.

/Criticism: Jesus came to save both our spirits and bodies. /Our spirits and bodies receive salvation through the blood of the cross of Jesus and His resurrection.

/When Jesus returns, our spirits and bodies will be changed to spiritual bodies.

Chapter 19, World Mission Society Church of God

/Today, this is also called the “Church of God.” /“God” here does not refer to “the LORD God.” /Their “God” is “Ahn, Sahng-hong.”

I. Founder Ahn, Sahng-hong

/He was born in Jangsu-gun, Jeollabuk-do in Korea in 1918. /He joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1947. /He founded “Witnesses of Jesus Church of God” in Busan, Korea in 1964.

/Ahn, Sahng-hong died in February of 1985. /He moved the headquarters to Bundang, Seongnam-si and changed the name to “Witnesses of Ahn, Sahng-hong Church of God.”

/Today, the group is also known as the “**World Mission Society Church of God.**” /They are also called “Witnesses of Ahn, Sahng-hong,” the “Church of God,” and the “World Mission Society.”

/When we meet groups of these names, we must know that they are heretics and must reject them.

/Heretics do not honestly reveal who they are when they visit other’s homes. /They are wolves that come in sheep’s clothing. /Therefore, we must reject heretics.

II. The Bride of Ahn, Sahng-hong

/In 1981, a woman named Jang, Gil-ka was chosen to be the bride of Ahn, Sahng-hong. /They say that Ahn, Sahng-hong is God the Father, /and Jang, Gil-ja is God the Mother.

/They base this on Revelation 22:17. /It says, “The Spirit and the bride say...” /They say, “‘The Spirit’ is Ahn, Sahng-hong, and the ‘bride’ is Jang, Gil-ja.”

/Criticism: The bride refers to us believers. /Believers are the bride of Jesus. 2 Corinthians 11:2 /However, they believe that “Jang, Gil-ja” is “God the Mother.” /This is wrong. /Ahn, Sahng-hong is a human being. /Ahn, Sahng-hong died. /There is nothing in the Bible that says that Jang, Gil-ja is God the Mother.

III. Worship

/They pray in the name of Ahn, Sahng-hong. /Their hymns praise Ahn, Sahng-hong.

/Criticism: The Bible tells us to pray in the name of Jesus. /John 14:13 /Anyone who believes in the name of Jesus receives salvation. /Acts 4:12.

IV. Soteriology

/① They claim, “People were saved by the name of Jehovah in the time of the Father, /and they are saved by the name of Jesus in the time of the Son.” /“Now is the time of the Holy Spirit, and we are saved by the name of Ahn, Sahng-hong the Holy Spirit.”

/Criticism: This is wrong. /Man is saved by faith in Jesus in both the Old and New Testaments. /How were people saved in the Old Testament times? /They were saved by faith in the coming Jesus Messiah. /How are people saved in the New Testament times? /They are saved by faith in Jesus who already came. /Today we are saved by faith in Jesus.

/② They say, “Man is saved only when he observes the Passover.”

/Criticism: There is no need to observe the Passover today. /1 Corinthians 5:7 /Because Jesus was the Passover Lamb, there is no need to observe the Passover today.

V. Eschatology

/They said, “The world will end in 1988.” “The world will end in 1999.”

/Criticism: They were wrong. /This was a lie. /This is limited eschatology. /God does not ever lie.

VI. Doctrine of the Second Coming and Other Assertions

/① They say, “Jesus only worked for three years.” /“One must complete forty years to satisfy the throne of David.” /“Jesus only worked for three years, so he is short of thirty-seven years.” /“Ahn, Sahng-hong did God’s work for thirty-seven years.”

/② They say, “The Lord who will return will not come on the clouds, but will come in the flesh and restore the Passover.”

/Criticism: This is wrong. /Jesus said that He will return in a spiritual body. /Acts 1:11 /Revelation 1:7 /It does not say anywhere in the Bible that Ahn, Sahng-hong is the Helper Holy Spirit.

/③ The women wear cloths on their heads. /They keep Saturdays as the Sabbath. /They claim that Ahn, Sahng-hong alone received a revelation from God. /They also say that the cross is a god.

/Criticism: This is wrong. /There is no need to observe the festivals of the Old Testament in the New Testament times. /The shell of the laws has been abolished. /Colossians 2:14-17 /Today we must keep the truth that is within the laws. /Correct

Christianity does not worship the cross as an idol. /The cross is but a mark of Christianity.

/④ They hand out questionnaires while asking questions, and engage in propagation.

/Criticism: If someone hands us a questionnaire and asks questions, we must not answer them. /Concerning heretics, we must not enter their houses and we must not even greet them. 2 John 1:10.

/Here we will conclude the seventh lecture on Comparative Religion. /Thank you.