

Greeting from Masaaki-sama
Monthly Appreciation Service & Youth Paradise II
Frankfurt am Main, Germany
September 2, 2018

Good afternoon, everyone. How are you? Enjoying your stay in Frankfurt?

First, I would like to thank Rev. Thomé. When I arrived in Germany, I heard from him that he first came here when he was 28 years old, then dedicated his life for 34 years in Germany. I think it's because of his effort that myself, all of you, as well as people from Japan can be here today. So I'd like to thank Rev. Thomé from the bottom of my heart.

I'd also like to thank Zi Soon, wife of Rev. Thomé. I think there must have been difficult times for her but she stuck to Rev. Thomé and carried forward the divine work through today. I think it was also because of her that we can be here today. So I would like to thank her.

I would also like to thank the members in Germany as well as members in Europe in general. I would like to extend my thanks not only to the people who are here today but also to members who have been in Europe for a long time who have passed on their faith from generation to generation. If that hadn't happened, today wouldn't be possible. So my heartfelt gratitude to the members in Europe.

I would also like to thank the youth members from Japan as well as members in Japan who stood up to support Kyoshu-sama, to support the true divine work of Meishu-sama. There are no words to describe my gratitude to them. I try to represent them here, I don't want to be alone. I come here by myself but with me are members of Japan – and I'm quite sure they are present here today with me.

As Rev. Thomé just said, I think the divine work of Meishu-sama has now moved on to the next stage. I think we are very lucky to be able to serve in that work, and I feel proud to be serving in it together with you.

Meishu-sama left us many teachings, many activities. He left us Johrei, Nature Farming/Natural Food, Art. But his conclusion, the conclusion of his life was to be born anew as the Messiah.

And what Kyoshu-sama has been teaching us for the last more than ten years or so also comes down to one point. That is, following Meishu-sama, would you also like to be born anew as a child of God, as a Messiah?

I believe that God is asking this very question to us right at this moment: do you want to be my child or not? He is asking that very question within us.

I think that the answer is up to each one of us. But I believe the people who are gathered here today want to say “yes” to that very question. I think God and Meishu-sama would be very happy if we say so and I’m quite sure in heaven, God and Meishu-sama just like this (gesturing to Meishu-sama’s picture) would welcome us with a huge smile on their faces.

As it was written in our new leaflet (*Who We Are – We were born on earth to become children of God*), 2000 years ago, Jesus Christ sacrificed his life, atoned for our sins and atoned for humanity. He was then resurrected and fulfilled the will of God to become the child of God, the Christ, the Messiah. Meishu-sama, in 1954, was also born anew as the Messiah.

Meishu-sama and Jesus Christ – the two of them together – are one. Our religion and Christianity – the two of them together – are one. That is because the will of God is one. The will of God is to have all of humanity be born anew as His children, Messiahs. This is God’s only wish.

Even though this will of God was clear, it wasn’t completed in Christianity. That is why God needed to send Meishu-sama to this world. So in that sense, our mission, our task is huge. It is a grave one. We have the mission to fulfill what wasn’t completed in Christianity. It is only up to us, our church, it is our religion, that brings the true salvation to the whole world.

We often say that we are followers of Meishu-sama, but I think until now we have been picking and choosing which part we want to follow. But Meishu-sama is telling us, *if you want to follow me, follow 100% of me.*

So I think this message that we could all become children of God, that we could become Messiahs, is the message that the whole world is waiting for. Maybe some people would deny or negate it, but I believe there are people who are waiting for this message.

Today, this whole event, marks a historic day. It is the day when the true message of Meishu-sama begins to spread throughout the world.

I’m very happy that I’m with all of you. I want to work with you from now on and to achieve what Meishu-sama truly wanted to achieve.

Vamos!