

Autobiography

BLIND KOREAN PASTOR



An Yo Han

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CHRISTIAN LIFE PUBLISHERS

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FOREWORD

Ever since I came to know the "Blind Korean Pastor" An Yohan through his film six years ago, a bond of friendship has developed between us because of Calvary.

Realising the power this film has over its audience to turn prodigal sons to Christ, I inquired to have it shown again in Singapore. By courtesy of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea we had the Blind Korean Pastor film screened 23 times between September and December 1988 to all Bible-Presbyterian Churches and to several other church groups. Over five thousand people were blessed. The feedback was tremendous. Backsliders have returned to the Lord, tears of repentance and consecration were shed by both sinners and saints.

By putting three Korean songs of the film into English and having them sung by Miss Roska Sihombing, graduate of Far Eastern Bible College and Life Church missionary to Batam, five hundred tapes have been made for the nurture of grateful hearts. Since then the film has been introduced to B-P Churches in Australia, to packed houses, with the same response.

Behind this film is Pastor An's autobiography which was published in Korea, 1981. This biography has now gone through fifty-four printings, making it the bestseller in the history of publication of books in Korea. Now that it is translated into English, should it not be put into print for the benefit of the English-speaking?

Having read the English version with the film at the back of my mind, I am all the more impressed by the Blind Korean Pastor's noble thoughts and insights in the spiritual world. This book shows the way to life everlasting in the Lord Jesus Christ and revives hope for the handicapped to live vibrantly through this world below.

If you, dear Reader, have been heavily battered by the storms of life, read on to the very end. You will become a different person!

In as much as the film has turned thousands to Christ, I have no doubt that the publication of this English version will touch the lives of people from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of Light. In this regard, I must express my deep appreciation to Deacon Paul Wong of the Christian Life Book Centre for undertaking the printing of this book.

*"O send out Thy light and Thy truth;
- Let them lead me;
Let them bring me unto Thy holly hill,
And to Thy tabernacles." (Psalm 43:3)*

Timothy Tow
Far Eastern Bible College, Singapore
July, 1989

*"Who is blind but my servant?
Or deaf, as my messenger that I sent?
Who is blind as he that is perfect,
And blind as the Lord's servant?"*
Isaiah 42:19

*"Jesus answered, Neither had this man sinned,
nor his parents: but that the works of God
should be made manifest in him."*
John 9:3

*"Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground
and die,
It abideth alone: But if it die, it bringeth
forth much fruit."*
John 12:24

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PREFACE

We have eyes that can see all things and their myriad colors; mental eyes that can think and evaluate; finally spiritual eyes that can feel and recognize the true way. I no longer despair of my blindness for I found the right purpose for my life. My dead spirit was made alive after I had been driven down into utter darkness. God, in his infinite wisdom, led me to the lowly places, took away my eyesight and everything I owned in order for me to see with spiritual eyes things that cannot be seen with our physical eyes. I was not able to fathom his unique plan for my life then.

I now pray, "Thank you Lord for my blindness. When this body leaves the earth my sight will be gone with it. With my new spiritual eyesight, I am ready to obey your will and glorify your name until the day you call me to heaven ..."

It is my wish that this story will help someone find God, to find hope in despair, to thank God for their seeing eyes, and to be saved from their negative attitude.

I would like to thank Mrs Sue Young Cho who translated and edited this book for me.

John An
April 1987

NOTES FROM THE TRANSLATOR

Ever since I began to realize God's leading hands on me, I wanted to serve him and obey him with all I had. Looking back, I was certain that it had been God's plan for me to translate this book for him.

After one of our church members told me the life story of a blind minister, Rev. An, he came to Toronto where we served the Messiah Korean Church and spoke at our church. He also brought the movie of his life which won the award equivalent to the Academy Award in the United States. There were no dry eyes in that congregation after the showing.

Then, Rev. An asked me if I would translate his book, which had been a best seller for a long time. Totally unprepared for such a request, I hesitated. But upon his persistence, and trusting that God would help me in this project, I accepted his request.

Since English is not my mother tongue, I needed someone who would refine the translation in order for it to be readable to the English speaking population. As I prayed about this matter, God led me to a very devout Christian friend, Mrs Dianne Nolson, who leads a neighbourhood prayer group. She was more than willing to help me.

I thank Mrs Nolson for her many hours of tedious work and also, my daughter, Sally, for her patient proof-reading.

Mrs Sue Young Cho
1987

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in 1939

Became blind at the age of 37

Graduated from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
(major in French)

Graduated from Hankuk Theological Seminary

Received M.A. degree in Graduate Division of Social and
Development, Chung Ang University

Received Ph.D. degree in Golden State University

He heads the following organizations:

New Light Church of the Blind

New Light Jr. and Sr. High Evening School

Samaria Evangelical Mission for Ladies married to Amer-
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New Light Braille Magazine

New Light House for the Blind who do not have the
means of support

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