



Old and new

I am now looking at the books I wrote and translated more than 20 years ago. And the Jacks written in the middle and the books I write now, in three stages, the first is from 2000 to 2010; the second is from 2015 to 2017; the latest is from 2021 to 2024.

The first books were the books needed to proceed with the lab; the second are the results of applying them; the books now written seem to be dominated by post-university and future books.

The old books are outdated in content, but they seem to still give you the wisdom you need in the present... and at that time, I again discovered that theory and practical experience had been the foundation for the continuation of my ministry. This seems to be the hallmark of the old material.

The second stage was when the theory and practice of domestic history were sufficient to some extent, and it was expanded to international ministry. It seems that it was an opportunity for Korean materials to be converted into English materials. Pastor Melvin's original English material was converted to Korean, and it was well utilized in domestic history, and when he encountered foreign students in Korea, the Korean material was reorganized into English and prepared to fit Asian churches. In the past, English was the material of Pastor Melvin, but now it has been made to fit the region of each country and has been used for several years.

Meanwhile, Melvin University was crowned in Kenya, Africa, and now it has been transformed into a university textbook, and it has reached a stage where it has no choice but to think about both school theory and church practice, along with a new outlook for the future. Students like it, but a new approach is needed to apply it to African schools.

Perhaps this stage is not expected to be easy either. The reason is that no matter how good the theory is and how strong the practical aspect is, it must fit into reality, and the so-called situational application is inevitably required. Even if it fits the United States, Korea, and Asia, the specificity of Africa here and the current situation of churches here cannot be overlooked. African churches are likely to take time. Just as Korea took two to 30 years, so will the churches here in Kenya. Practice as well as theory means that it is used directly and reasonably in our daily lives. Perhaps this is a task given to me personally. It has been good in the past, in the middle, and now, but the future is not easily oriented as it seems to require more and more worries, application processes, and technology.