



Living With the Tannisho

NEW STUDY CLASS

Rev. Dean Koyama, Instructor

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the Month

Beginning on October 4, 2017

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Palo Alto Buddhist Temple Issei Hall



In reflecting upon my foolish thoughts and thinking of the past and present, I deeply regret that there are views deviating from the true entrusting which was taught orally by our late master, Shinran, and I fear that doubts and confusions may arise among the followers who come after us. Unless we rely upon a good teacher with whom, fortunately, our karmic destinies are bound, how can we possibly enter the true gate of effortless practice? Do not violate the fundamentals of Other Power by imposing upon it you own interpretations.

Thus have I committed to writing some words of the late Shinran, which still ring clearly in my ears. My sole purpose is to dispel the clouds of doubt in the minds of the practitioners with the same aspiration.

– *Yui-en*, disciple of Shinran Shonin

The Tannisho is considered to be a classic not only as a concise and valuable text for Jodo Shinshu studies, but also as a literary text. Although not written directly by Shinran, the author of the Tannisho, Yui-en, recounts a number of reflections and recalls some of the conversations he had with Shinran and thus is able to capture the nuances of Shinran's very profound thought. This is the important purpose of this work as it helps to clarify some of the problematic and divergent issues that became prevalent after Shinran's death. Although written a few decades after the master's passing some 750 years ago, this particular text can still provide insights into some of the dilemmas that we face in life today.

Texts:

Tannisho: A Shin Buddhist Classic, translated by Taitetsu Unno

On Being Evil: An Introduction to the Tannisho by Sachiya Hiro

Class format:

We will spend 30 minutes reading from the texts to familiarize ourselves with the Tannisho, and then read Hiro Sachiya's very down-to-earth, pragmatic account of how the Tannisho relates to our everyday life. We will discuss some of the doctrinal background and introduction of the Jodo Shinshu teachings and terms to help add meaning and depth. The last half of the sessions will be devoted to questions and, most of all, discussion and comments from the participants.

Reading material will be provided for those who sign up.

**Sign up by e-mailing Rev. Dean Koyama at:
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