

Mission to China Report

The trip was targeted as an educational trip, whereby we were to observe the family, social, and success rate of the Chinese culture. The underlying theme was to develop a people that would glean from the Chinese and become very disciplined, achieve academic excellence in every stratum of our lives, and help build the nation of **ATLAH**. We were told to be open to the experience, and to push aside our *“normal”* lifestyle and prepare ourselves to experience this culture, and to be open to everything that would take place. Knowing these facts, I purposed in my heart to be available to God’s leading and direction for my life.

From the beginning of the trip until the final hours en route back to the **ATLAH World Missionary Church**, the China Mission trip has had a profound affect upon my life. The Hon. James David Manning said it would forever change us, and I can witness to that fact!

There are too many stories to tell, and events to recant, but I will try to explain one of the things that which has greatly impacted my life. Let me begin with our tour guides, all of whom were young, under 30 and spoke both Chinese and English, some spoke more fluently than others. What struck me was their ability to remain *focused, disciplined, and professional at all times, and their ability to work as a team – their sense of unity*. These characteristics seemed to be dominant within the Chinese culture, for I noted them throughout the country in whatever city or event we were involved.

For example, in **Beijing** we visited several factories that produced and manufactured jade, silk rugs, etc. Each time we visited these factories, we were given a tour. We saw young people, many of whom were under the age of 20 performing very intricate and detailed work that required exactness and precision. Yet, I never noted anyone that was not completely absorbed in his or her job, or goofing off, but rather they were focused on the task. Occasionally they glanced up to see us, but then immediately returned to their duties.

In **Suzhou**, we also went to a silkworm factory where the normal silkworm population is 60,000 per family. *Each day this almost microscopic silkworm had to be fed the mulberry leaves 6 (six) times between the hours of 5AM and 11PM*. If it missed one feeding, it would shrivel up and die. Once fattened, the silk had to be hand spun through machines to produce a fine thread of silk. I thought to myself, *“Lord, this is a highly disciplined group; one that is truly focused and determined to get the job done right the first time.”*

In **Shanghai**, I observed this same sense of exactness and precision as we toured the city by bus. **Shanghai has a population of 17.7 million and still growing**. Most of China’s population either walks, ride bikes, or use a motor vehicle. Everyday, you would see this tremendous group of people walking down the street, or riding their bicycle, or dodging in and out of traffic, yet, no one caused an accident or had to be yelled at for going the wrong way. It was awesome. My

mind raced, as I thought about this same scene in New York City. *“Oh boy, would we survive or be the featured story for the 6:00 PM news?”*

In **Hangzhou** we visited a tea plantation. The tour guide escorted us to the lecturer and was given a demonstration on the various teas used by the Chinese. She was *a young girl in her early twenties, who graduated college, spoke fluent English*, and was even able to deliver jokes with the right punch line to solicit laughter from the audience. She discussed at length the benefits both medicinal and socially of the green tea and the black tea. During her discussion, the power went out briefly and we were seated in darkness. Yet, she was able to maintain her composure and conclude her presentation with the same enthusiasm and power she begun with.

Perhaps, you are saying, this isn't unique this takes place in the United States, even in New York as well. Let me give you two final examples to illustrate my point.

Most of the meals we ate were authentic Chinese food, which I truly enjoyed because they used a lot of vegetables and seasoned dishes, not greasy foods. However, on two occasions, I had an opportunity to **eat American fast food in China – at McDonalds and KFC Chicken**.

At the **Beijing McDonalds** the first thing you noticed was a sink to wash your hands in before you ate. Secondly, as we entered the restaurant, the manager noticed we were a large group and motioned us to come aside to another register and he would handle us specifically. He was smiling as he took our orders. Not one order was mixed up, nor was there a spirit of grumpiness or don't bother me, or why did they come here; not from him or his assistants. In fact, when we departed, he smiled and said, *“Come again.”* When have you seen that in New York? They worked as a professional team and genuinely wanted to see a satisfied customer.

Finally, in the airport on our return trip to New York, we had a brief layover in the **Beijing airport**, and the Hon. James David Manning suggested we get something from the local fast food shop. I chose **KFC chicken** and gave my order to Sis. Rainbow Farr. While I was waiting, after nearly 10 (ten) days of having no ice in China because we could not drink their water, I decided to ask the cashier behind the window for a cup of ice. Now, I have asked a similar question at a **New York KFC** and was well prepared for the usual response, but I was not prepared for her response. She said, *“Surely,”* and gave me a full cup without seeking any additional money or displaying a disgruntled spirit. I was amazed! I walked back to my seat and proceeded to drink some ice-cold water. I was so happy, I asked for a second cup, which she again gladly retrieved for me.

What am I trying to express to you about China? This is a culture with something to offer the American and in particular the Black population; things that we can indeed learn. **They're a highly disciplined, focused, and determined people; a people that was able to build The Great Wall of China, The Forbidden City, The Ming Dynasties, and other incredible dynasties, as well as the sterling city of Shanghai**, just to name a few of their accomplishments. (By the way, the city of Shanghai became a modernized city in just 15 years!).

*Lastly, I also learned that if people will work together, they **COULD** accomplish great things! The key is **UNITY**.* Some of their ventures took years, yet they remained focused, and built lasting treasures. Why, because they remained determined and immovable. These are tremendous qualities, which I seek to acquire and develop, a vessel that can be used to promote **ATLAH** and God's kingdom on earth.