

Bible Study at Surabaya - Monday, September 03, 2007

We are still discussing Jude which points to the covering of badger skins in Tabernacle. The definitions of covering are the protection and blessings from God for His true churches and the separation of the true churches from the false ones. We often hear that the true and false churches are similar to wheat and coarse grasses which grow together (and even the false churches seem more advanced than the true ones), yet they will be separated. The false churches/ coarse grasses will be burnt and the true ones will enter the barn/ the everlasting kingdom of heaven. We have learnt about the false churches (Jude 1: 8- 19). Now, we are going to discuss the true churches. Let us read **Jude 1: 20, 21** --> signs of the true churches

20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

The signs of the true churches are:

1. vs. 20 --> build ourselves on the most holy faith. The most holy = perfect. So, the first sign of the true churches is building them on the most holy/ perfect faith.
2. vs. 20 --> pray in Holy Spirit
3. vs. 21 --> keep ourselves in the love of God/ live in the love of God.

1. We are going to discuss the first part that is **building us on the most holy/ perfect faith**. We learn it based on the teaching of tabernacle since the tabernacle is the kingdom of heaven which was seen by Moses on the mountain and built by him in this world. In short, tabernacle is the miniature of kingdom of heaven, thus we learn faith according to Tabernacle.

Steps of faith are:

A) RIGHT FAITH.

It is the first step of our faith before we reach the most holy/ perfect faith. In the Tabernacle, the right faith refers to two kinds of tools; they are:

- gate(http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+gate.html),. The definition of the gate is believing in and receiving Jesus --> **Romans 10: 17** *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* So, the right faith = believing in Jesus through hearing the word of God which is in the ointment of Holy Spirit. Therefore, pray for me so that I preach the word of God based on the ointment of Holy Spirit, not science or etc. So do you. You have to hear the word of God in the ointment of Holy Spirit so you have the right faith that believes in Jesus.

How can we hear the word of God and then believing in Jesus? The processes are as following:

1. We hear the word of God wholeheartedly in the ointment of Holy Spirit until we are able to understand it. Understanding the word of God means that the word of God is written in our mind/ forehead. I hope we can understand it.
2. There are some people who understand the word of God, but they get angry and say that the word of God is an impossible thing to do. We may not act like that. After understanding the word of God, we have to believe in the word of God and it is written in our heart so that it becomes faith/ believing in Jesus.

This is the gate that is believing in and receiving Jesus = the right faith. The right faith is not from seeing because there are a lot of people teach that we have to see first then we can have the faith like Thomas. It is not true because it is unhealthy faith.

Hebrews 8: 10- 12

10 "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

11 "None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.

12 "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

If we hear the word of God until we understand it (it determines our destiny) and then we believe in it and it becomes faith in our heart because it is written on the forehead and heart, so in vs. 12 --> "*I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.*"

After understanding the word of God and believing in it, our mouth has to confess our sins so that we get forgiveness/our sins are erased = we are saved by God/ true.

Romans 10: 10

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
This is the gate/ the right faith. So HEBREWS 8: 12 = Romans 10:10 > our sins are erased.

- the altar of burnt offering(http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+altar+of+burnt+offerings.html). In the past time the Israelites brought sheep and calf to be slaughtered and burnt for the offering of forgiving sins. Now, they points to the Lamb of God = Jesus. So, the altar of burnt incense is the cross. What does it mean? Belief/ faith and repenting. In the previous discussions, the gate is belief and confessing/ receiving Jesus. Repenting= stop sinning and back to God.

We often confess our sins and confessing/ believing in Jesus/ the gate, but after confessing our sins we sin again. It means that we step away from the gate = we are not safe. However, let us continue --> after believing in and confessing/ receiving Jesus, we have to continue the step by believing and repenting/ stop sinning and go back to God. It means that we live in truth.

In short, the practice of the right faith --> believe and confess/ receive Jesus --> we are corrected, then believe/ faith and repent --> we live in righteousness. This is the right faith. If we say that we believe in Jesus but we do not live in righteousness, our faith will be false faith and it is vain.

Let us be serious now if we want to build ourselves on the perfect faith. Thus we have to start with the right faith/ the gate -> we strengthen it by believing and confessing our sins so that we are saved. Then the altar of burnt incense --> we strengthen our repentance and live in righteousness. In conclusion, the right faith is we are corrected and live in righteousness. I hope we do not underestimate our belief and say that we believe in Jesus but our deeds are not right.

B) HOLY/ STRONG FAITH.

In Tabernacle, the holy/ strong faith refers to the showbread table(http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_table+of+showbread.html). There are twelve loaves of bread which are divided into two rows on the table --> each of them consists of six loaves of bread --> 66 and it refers to the content of Holy Bible --> The old testament consists of 39 books and the new one consists of 27 books.

In short, loaves of bread here have two definitions as follows:

- The true teaching word --> 66 books in Holy Bible. The true teaching word is pure from Holy Bible, not from other books
- The body of Christ/ Holy Communion --> bread = the body of Christ which was broken/ the true teaching word.

If we can receive the true teaching word and Holy Communion in Bible Study devotion, the true teaching word becomes our flesh and blood so that our faith becomes strong. The Holy Communion is not a habitual communion --> we do not understand the word of God, but we eat the Holy Communion. It makes the Holy Communion becomes a habitual and event an accident communion.

In the previous section we know that the right faith means that we enter the gate and now the table of showbread, our faith becomes strong/strong faith. What is the function of strong faith? To face the work of lion/ Satan. **1 Peter 5: 8, 9**

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.
9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Hence, it is important to be patient in Bible Study devotion because we can understand, believe and do the word of God = the word of God becomes blood and flesh so that we have strong faith.

Satan/ lion tries to fall the faith of children or servants of God through two ways as the following:

- Roaring lion. Before the lion strikes its enemy, it roars. The roaring of a lion = temptations in every field which include our body, soul and spirit as Jesus Christ who was tempted three times. What is the purpose of those temptations? To make the children of God doubt and fall from their faith. When do we doubt? When we think that the temptations are greater than the word of God and this is the time when we fall from our faith and destroyed.

Therefore my brethrens, whatever the temptations, do not think that they are greater than the word and promise of God because we will doubt, fall from our faith and involved in the destruction. Hence, we have to keep on trusting that the power of the word of God is greater than any temptations and the importance of the Bible Study devotion since we are filled with the word of God. This is the roaring of lion which has to be faced with the true teaching word.

Amos 3: 7, 8

7 Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.
8 A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?

The word of God which is preached by the prophet = prophecy word of God/ the true teaching word which preaches what will happen in the future. In short, to face the roaring of lion/ Satan, let us hear the roaring of lion/ Jesus Christ/ the true

teaching word/ prophecy word of God which makes our faith strong / we are not defeated by the roaring of lion. I hope we can understand it.

The prey of lion is tremble when hears the roaring of lion and we also undergo it. For instance, as a student --> we are going to go to the church but there is a roaring of test, as a seller --> we are going to go to the church and our shop will lose the customers. Thus, we have to fight these things with the roaring of the lion of Judah/ the true teaching word which we receive in the Bible Study devotion so that we can be comparable with the roaring of lion/ Satan.

- Bite and swallow. What is bitten and swallowed by lion?

Amos 3: 12

12 Thus says the LORD: "As a shepherd takes from the mouth of a lion Two legs or a piece of an ear, So shall the children of Israel be taken out Who dwell in Samaria--In the corner of a bed and on the edge of a couch!"

So, the lion bites and swallow legs and a piece of an ear. Therefore, we have to be watchful and protect our legs and a piece of an ear. The roaring of lion is still not able to hinder the children/ servants of God to serve Him, thus the lion bites legs and a piece of an ear.

Legs tell about stands. If we do not have legs, we will not able to stand. Therefore, if the legs are bitten = children/ servants of God do not have strong stands on the true teaching word so that they are doubtful/ lame/ stricken to and fro by the other false doctrine. Hence, if one considers all doctrines are the same, his legs have been bitten by a lion unconsciously since he does not have strong stand. For instance if you want to continue your study in a college --> you want to take a diploma of doctor and on other hand you choose a diploma of law, you will not become a diploma --> this is about earthly thing, let alone about the true teaching word. If you continuously do not have strong stands but doubt, your ears will be bitten and it means that you do not want to hear the healthy and true teaching word anymore and you will tend to choose other doctrine and you will be lost. Thus, we have to be careful.

Bitten Ear --> 2 Timothy 4:3, 4

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

To satisfy ears --> you like jokes and fables which are stories not based on the verses in Holy Bible which will lead us to false doctrine.

If ears have been bitten by lion, you will not willing to hear the true/ healthy doctrine but you start to love hearing fables/ Satan's doctrine and your heart will be sealed and when your heart is sealed, you will fall from your faith/ fall from the true teaching word -->

2 Timothy 4: 1, 2

1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

If we have heard the true teaching word, yet then we cannot hear it anymore and hearing Satan's doctrine and fables, our heart will be sealed with number 6.6.6 and we will fall from faith and destroyed --> this is the aim of Satan. Therefore, nowadays we need Bible Study devotion so that we understand, believe and do the word of God and Holy Communion --> it is the word of God which becomes blood and flesh and strong faith to face the lion which has two ways to fall our faith. I hope we can understand it.

What is the characteristic of strong faith? We have strong attitude --> Holy Spirit strongly.

One who is in the ointment of Holy Spirit/ has strong faith will have strong stand, he will not go here and there, does not doubt but has strong stand on the true teaching word. Strong stand for what? To hear and do one true teaching word. Do not hear and hold anything, but the true teaching word. If we hear and do one true teaching word, our heart and mind will be sanctified because this true teaching word is sharper than any two-edged sword.

In short, the determinant is in the Bible Study devotion/ the showbread table. With what will we want to fill in our heart? --> Whether we want to be sealed by false doctrine/6.6.6 or sanctified by the true teaching word, which is sharper than two-edged sword and will sanctify our heart and thoughts from hidden sins. Those are lusts of evil and filthiness. Thus, we have to be wholehearted in Bible Study devotion.

Now, let us pray in order I, as the shepherd here, am able to preach the true teaching word/ word of God which is sharper than two-edged sword since we are sanctified from the hidden lusts of evil and filthiness in our heart through Bible Study devotion. Other people (our parents/wife/husband/ siblings) do not know what is in our heart and thoughts which mostly contain of evil and filthy things. Thus, we need Bible Study devotion because our parents or children cannot touch our heart. Richness is also not able to touch our heart. It is only the word of God which is sharper than two-edged sword which is able to sanctify our heart and thoughts.

Mark 7 -->these are what in our heart and thoughts. Even though we often read it, we are going to reread it --> **Mark 7: 20- 23**
20 And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man.
21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,
22 "thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness.
23 "All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

Heart and thoughts refer to evil and filthy thoughts. Through Bible Study devotion, if we are willing to hear and do the true teaching word and Holy Communion, we will be sanctified from hidden evil and filthy lusts by the word of God which is sharper than two-edged sword. Other people (our husband, wife or parents) do not know. Parents only know that their children are good because they always stay at home, but actually their thoughts are full of filthiness. They have not done it yet, but they think of it in their heart and thoughts. You also do not know what in my heart are and vice versa.

But let us get into the Bible Study devotion! From the Bible Study devotion, whatever our conditions (maybe our heart has been fulfilled by twelve hidden sins of evil and filthiness), if we are willing to receive the true teaching word now, the power of word of God, which is sharper than two-edged sword, sanctifies us from the twelve sins of hidden evil and filthiness so that the table of our heart and thoughts are filled with twelve loaves of bread.

Coming to Bible Study devotion does not mean that we only eat and drink the Holy Communion, but in fact we do not understand the word of God --> it is risky. When delivering of the word of God you make jokes then you use Holy Communion, it will be risky for you. Therefore, we have to be serious because it is the determinant whether we are filled with stamp of twelve lusts of evil and filthiness which have the same mark as antichrist that is 6.6.6 or we are filled with twelve loaves of bread/ the true teaching word.

If we are willing to be filled with twelve loaves of bread/ the true teaching word which is the defense so we do not do the same sins anymore and we are able to live in holiness, this is the holy faith/ we live in holiness and have the holy faith.

We have:

- strong faith to face the lion and
- Holy faith to face Babylon woman which longs for people who are employed by God.

We have to be seriously watchful, particularly in the time of friendship and engagement including if you have been married for years, you have to be careful since the Babylon woman/ evil and filthiness threaten us wherever we are.

Do not fill our heart and thoughts only with knowledge, position, diploma, etc since these things are not able to fight Babylon. Thus, our heart and thoughts have to be filled with twelve loaves of bread/ Bible Study devotion then we will be strong in confronting Babylon.

Revelation 17: 5, 6

5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

The Mother of Harlots --> the term in the Holy Bible

With the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus mean the servants of God who are run after by the Babylon with the Spirit of evil and filthiness.

Revelation 18: 2

2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!"

Hence, the true churches of God have to build themselves on the most holy faith. It is started from:

- the right faith --> hearing the word of God until we believe, confess our sins and repent and then
- the strong faith/ Bible Study devotion --> strong to face the threatening of lion
- Then through the Bible Study devotion, there is the holy faith --> we are sanctified so that our heart is filled with twelve loaves of bread and we are ready to confront Babylon woman who runs after the children/ servants of God with the spirit of evil and filthiness which walk everywhere nowadays.

Moreover, these spirits exist in the places which are considered worth to get honor, such as school. I have heard in the past time that teachers are the most honorable profession besides servants of God. However, now school which is the place of smart people is destroyed because it becomes the place of sex hunting, how about other places. This is horrible and it is only twelve loaves of

bread which are able to restrain the speed of Babylon.

Thus, for parents who have young/ teenager children, you have to suggest them to get into devotion besides the suggestion to go to school or work since it is very essential. Do not be satisfied if your children come to public service devotion, but they also need Bible Study devotion/ twelve loaves of bread since hands of parents are not able to protect their children --> their children pretend to be good children at home, yet they do bad things at school, e.g. smoking. Do not blame your children if they are not fulfilled with twelve loaves of bread. This is strong and holy faith.

C) THE MOST HOLY/PERFECT FAITH.

Let us hear the word of God wholeheartedly until we:

- are able to confess our sins to God, repent and it is a right thing
- are strengthened and sanctified from hidden things in the Bible study devotion
- have the most holy/ perfect faith

In Tabernacle, the most holy faith points to golden pot that has the manna / permanent faith/ the most holy/ perfect faith. So, it is not the easy to talk about faith by saying --> to believe in Jesus is enough. However, it is not the essential thing because if we just say that we believe in Jesus, but we do not live in righteousness and holiness, we will be outside the gate or outside the heavenly kingdom. We have to live in righteousness and holiness until we are perfect.

Hebrews 9: 4

4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which werethe golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;

In Tabernacle, there is a tool which is placed in the deepest place that is the ark of covenant (http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+ark+of+covenant.html) which has mercy seat made of pure gold while the ark is made of wood which is overlaid with gold. There are three things in the ark of covenant:

- Aaron's rod
- The tablets of the covenant which is received by Moses
- golden pot that has the manna

We remember of manna when Israelites were in the dessert, God nourished them with manna. Golden pot that has the manna = permanent/ perfect faith.

Human actually is pot made of soil/ vessel from soil since we were created from dust. Hence, whoever the man, whether he is a children/ servant of God or smart/ stupid/ small/ old person, he is only pot made of soil. Thus, if we want to be golden pot that has the manna, the pot of soil has to be filled with manna and now we are insisted on becoming golden pot that has the manna that is having the perfect faith.

What is the definition of manna? Psalms 78: 23- 25

23 Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,

24 Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.

25 Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

manna = the bread of heaven = angels' food.

On the previous part, it is explained that bread points to the word of God, while angel is a description of shepherd like it is written in Revelation --> "write it to angel of congregation of Ephesians, of Thyatira, etc because there are seven congregations. It does not mean angels in heaven but the shepherd".

In short, manna = angels' food --> bread = the word of God, angel = shepherd.

1. So, manna is the shepherding word of God = the true teaching word which is given to a shepherd by God to be delivered in the congregation and become food for the congregation. This is our life/ pot made from soil which has to be filled with manna/ the shepherding word, we have to be filled with manna = we have to be shepherded to reach the perfect faith. I hope we can understand it.

Being shepherded = being able to eat the shepherding word of God like Israelites were able to eat manna since if they did not eat manna, they would die. One of the requirements of being shepherded is we are able to eat the shepherding word of God. If you do not understand the word of God continuously and you insist on the shepherding, you will be dried and dead.

2. Then "*Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven*".So, manna does not come from the

earth, but from God who opened the heaven = the shepherding word which is got from God who opens the heaven/ directly from heaven so that it cannot be learned in any school, but the feet of God.

How can we open the heaven?

- by being patient and praying a lot/ worshipping God under His feet
- by giving the tithes. Israelites got one omer of manna everyday and it was the tithes of ephah. So, it was related to the tithes. It is the key of receiving the true teaching word/ shepherding word.

God says that we have to bring the tithes and try God, whether He does not open the heaven for us and there is food in the temple of God. It is a shepherd. If a shepherd does not give the tithes, the heaven will be closed. Thus, the shepherds have to be aware of it.

In GPT (Tabernacle Pentecost Churches), the tithes have to be given to the central office. It is for the opening of heaven. A shepherd has to be trusted to receive the tithes, which is God's own, since if a shepherd does not have trust to receive the tithes, the doors of heaven will be shut although the shepherd is great with his transparent management. The trust God gives to a shepherd to receive the tithes is related to the true teaching word/ the shepherding word. So does the congregation. If you do not give tithes, you will not be able to receive/ eat the word of God so that heaven will be closed for you. I hope we can understand it.

Moses and Israelites were in the dessert which is a difficult (not level ground) place, but God nourished them with manna.

Exodus 16: 32- 36

32 Then Moses said, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 'Fill an omer with it, to be kept for your generations, that they may see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.'"

33 And Moses said to Aaron, "Take a pot and put an omer of manna in it, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations."

34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.

35 And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.

36 Now an omer is one-tenth of an ephah.

It is the story about manna inside the golden pot. In short, manna placed in the soil pot related to the tithes. Moses was commanded to put earthly manna inside the golden pot. Now, it means --> manna = the shepherding word. So, the soil pot has to be filled with the shepherding word/ true teaching word which is given to a shepherd (by God) to be delivered in the congregation. I hope we can understand it.

In 2 Corinthians 4, there is the term 'in earthen vessels which has to be filled'. I remind you once again --> you may fill it with science, etc from this world, but you also have to fill it with the most important thing that is manna. It means you have to have a special time to get into Bible Study devotion.

2 Corinthians 4: 7-9

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

8 We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed--

Treasure = the shepherding word/ true teaching word/ the gospel of glory = manna

Earthen vessel has to be filled with treasure which is the shepherding word which is more valuable than any treasure in this world.

Why does earthen vessel have to be filled with manna? In order to get extra strength from God so that we are able to face the sprinkling of blood/ sufferings without sins/ cross/ temptation which we have to undergo. We have to undergo them because Jesus Christ underwent the cross.

If the earthen vessel is filled with treasure / richness/ intelligence, it will be weak, e.g Japanese. A ministry or any Japanese will do hara-kiri (suicide) if they cannot confront their problems. On the other hand, if we are filled with treasure true teaching word/ shepherding word/ manna from heaven, we will have the extra strength from God for us to confront temptation/ sufferings without sins = cross. If we undergo the sprinkling of blood, we will be near to the most holy place.

In the teaching of Tabernacle, the sprinkling of blood is in the most holy place and it is meant we are close to the perfection. Thus, do not be shocked if you are faithful and holy, but you are slandered or you are fired even though you are not false --> it indicates that you face the sprinkling of blood which is the last thing which we have to undergo

So, why does earthen vessel have to be filled with manna?

- Because we can get extra strength from God
- Because we can confront the sprinkling of blood/ suffering without sins/ temptation which we have to face

There is a big question: Why does God let us confront the cross/ the sprinkling of blood? God, it is better if I do not undergo the sprinkling of blood or am not filled with manna or do not go to Bible Study devotion and just sleep at home --> it is like you say to your teacher not to give test and your teacher will say --> okay! Yet you will be a student forever. Your spirituality will not increase if you do not undergo the tribulation so that you cannot be perfect. Jesus would not have reached the perfection if He had not undergone the cross. I hope we can understand it.

Why should we confront the cross?

1. 1 Peter 1: 6, 7

*6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,
7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,*

Because God wants our faith increase until it is like pure gold/ the most holy or perfect faith --> becoming golden pot starts from:

1. the right faith
2. strong and holy faith
3. faith like pure gold (perfect faith = golden pot) through the sprinkling of blood. The signs of perfect faith are we are not disappointed or hopeless and we always hope in God.

Thus, if you are a student, do not murmur if you get bad mark because of serving God and you say that you do not want to serve God anymore. It is a wrong thing. We have to fight continuously in confronting the temptation and we will get the pure gold (it is what God waits for). On the other hand, you may not say that God will help you even though you do not study. It is a silly thing. If we have to face temptation/ we are blameless, but we have to endure sufferings, our faith will increase to get gold/ perfect faith.

2. In 2 Corinthians 4 --> we are tempted so that Jesus is real in our life/ earthen vessel becomes golden pot that has the manna. Golden pot means:

1. faith
2. perfect life like Jesus

2 Corinthians 4:10, 11

*10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.
11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.*

We are tempted so that Jesus is real in our earthly life = we are renewed from earthly men/ earthen vessel to spiritual ones/ golden pot like Jesus. Our flesh and blood do not inherit the kingdom of heaven (1Cor15). Hence, we are tempted in order to get perfect faith and we are renewed from earthly men to spiritual ones like Jesus.

What is the beginning of renewing of life?

Revelation 21:8

8 "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

These characteristics have to be renewed since they bring men into the hell --> earthly men/ earthen vessel has to be broken.

Afraid --> afraid to sacrifice (such as time for God)

Unbeliever --> doubt

Murder --> hatred

Sorcerer --> horoscope

Deceiver --> it is the first thing which has to be renewed because it is the closing of sins. As long as we lie, we are still earthen vessel although we have served God for years and consequently we cannot get into the heaven. Therefore, do not lie anymore and the other sins will be renewed little by little until we become golden pot/ the same as Jesus.

In short:

- The right faith --> we live in righteousness/ repent
- The holy faith --> we are strong and holy
- The perfect faith --> we may not be hopeless because there is pure gold and we are not disappointed or hopeless.

The last sentence is --> if God lets us undergo temptations or sufferings without sins, it means our faith is being trained to reach the pure faith.

What are the practices of pure faith?

- until we have pure faith/ pure gold
- we are walking in the pure gold for the way of New Jerusalem is made of pure gold. It is Jesus who teaches us to walk on the pure gold by giving temptations.

Revelation 21: 21

21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

It is hard to walk in the pure gold. Hence we have to be trained from now on.

When we are tempted and we keep in courage and we are renewed, it means we are trained to walk on the pure gold/ New Jerusalem.

Thus, do not be afraid because it is the Great Shepherd who trains us if we are shepherded. We will not fall even though we walk as a little child. We are like a little child, but if we are shepherded, the hands of the Great Shepherd will lead us and we may not be afraid.

Revelation 7: 17

17 "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

We should not be afraid in confronting temptations because:

- the hands of the Great Shepherd is leading us so that we will not fall nor be lost until we get into the New Jerusalem
- His hands are wiping our tears (problems and sufferings).

God will also support us to get through the temptations. Hence, we have to keep on enduring all of our problems in our marriage, economics, etc. God is going to wipe and solve our problems until we do not have any tears since we are already in the New Jerusalem.

Therefore, do not be hopeless, all of us are leading by God as David and Job and if we give up, the hands of the Great Shepherd will lead us and wipe our tears. Do not hope on other people because they cannot help you. It is only the Great Shepherd who is able to lead you.

God blesses us!