

Bible Study at Surabaya - Monday, October 08, 2007

We are still discussing Jude which in tabernacle points to the badger skins. It talks about shelter of God's love to his churches so they are not stumbled and God brings them to be spotless and faultless.

Jude 1:24, 25

24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

25 To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Beglory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

Stumbling easily and being stumbling-block are sins of stumbling which make our life failed, drowned and destroyed. Therefore, shelter of God's love keeps us not to stumble.

Matthew 18:6

6 "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

In Hebrews text, causing one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin is written as being stumbling-block/ skandalon. The sin of stumbling is like a millstone which is hung around the neck and drowned to the depth of the sea.

We are going to compare Matthew 18 and Revelation 18 and we will get conclusion-->

Revelation 18:21

21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.

It is clear that sin of stumbling = the sin of Babylon which makes us fall and be drowned in sin of Babylon until it is destroyed forever/ is not found anymore. Sins of Babylon are sins of the end of the world those are eating drinking (smoking, drugs, drunk) and sex (marrying and giving in marriage). Hence, God longs for protecting our life.

In Holy Bible, we learn that sin of stumbling threatens people who are employed by God; one of them is Peter (in Matthew 16).

Matthew 16: 18, 21 -23

18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.

22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"

23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

Vs. 18--> it is God's compliment to Peter since He was the rock which was used in the edifying of the body of Christ

Vs. 23--> Peter immediately became stumbling (from being the rock). It is the example that sin of stumbling threatens people who are employed by God.

Vs. 18--> Peter was the rock = one who was employed in the edifying of the body of Christ and had a strong faith. However, he immediately became stumbling (living in sins of Babylon) as it is written in verse 23.

Why did it happen that a rock becomes a stumbling-block? We have learned about cause of being stumbling-block before that is **stone heart** like Pharaoh's heart/ Satan's heart. So was Peter. Jesus said in the last part of verse 23 "*for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.*" In short, Peter used **fleshly mind**. We have to be alert because churches of God often fall at the time they use their fleshly mind which is logical (in Peter's case, Jesus was going to be crossed and it was good if Peter prevented it)--> it seems logical, but it loses the spiritual (salvation) value.

What are practices of using fleshly mind?

1. Matthew 16: 21, 22

21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.

22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"

Peter took Jesus aside and said--> '*Far be it from You, Lord*'. So, the first practice of using fleshly mind is **refusing cross**. Churches/ servants of God like Peter who was the oldest disciple of Jesus refused cross. Let alone our life that are young, we have to be watchful. As I frequently said, there are some people say--> we have found difficulties in looking for money, education and anything else in this world. Then we come to church only to hear about cross and we have to find difficulties again, when will we be happy? This is the practice of fleshly mind which seems logical but loses its salvation value. Therefore, there are a lot of churches which make easy things for their spiritual activities to make them and other people happy. Nevertheless, they truly lose the spiritual/ salvation value.

Refusing cross= rejecting the experience of death and resurrection with Jesus. Jesus said that He was going to be killed, but He would rise on the third day.

Consequence of refusing cross is churches do not die nor resurrect so they never undergo renewing of life from earthly men to be spiritual ones. Hence, cross is essential as Jesus (an earthly man) who was crossed, died and resurrected became a spiritual man with glorious body. This is Peter who kept his earthly life.

Signs of renewing of life are below:

Ephesians 4: 21-26

21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:

22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Leteach one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

26 "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,

a. no more lying

b. vs 26--> sunset = no more love, yet a new life gets angry with love/ without emotion or hatred.

We compare to Peter who refused cross so he did not change and he refused Jesus three times finally. Moreover, he lied for he said that he did not know Jesus. Peter also had hatred because of his emotion. It is clear when they were in Gethsemane and some people were going to capture Jesus, Peter took his sword and cut Malkus' ear. Peter became a stumbling-block for he used his fleshly mind. I say once again that if you serve God and your flesh suffers, you are in the right track. Don't serve God only to make our flesh growth and convenience because it means we refuse cross. Maybe you hear the sharp word of God which slaughters your flesh, it is right as you will get renewing of life.

Peter did not get renewing of life because he kept on lying and being emotional even he had hatred so Jesus said '*Get behind Me, Satan!*' instead of '*Get behind Me, Peter!*' as Satan is the father of liars and killers. Hatred = killing. I hope we can understand it. Peter served God for a long time and God employed him, but actually he was just not different from Satan. We can imagine how great is the sin of stumbling since even a servant of God is not different from Satan because of this sin.

If we do not want to fall into the sin of stumbling, we have to do these following things:

a. we may not lie

b. we have to get renewing of life that is we are not emotional and do not have hatred anymore.

However, if we do not do these two things, we will not undergo renewing of life and become the same as Peter--> '*Get behind Me, Satan!*'.

Thus, we have to be alert and let us change by receiving cross. Signs of receiving cross:

a. We are willing to die and resurrect with Jesus.

b. We are willing to change, starting from we do not lie and have no more emotion/ hatred = we are free from sin of stumbling. I hope we can understand it.

2. Philippians 3:18, 19

18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things.

The second practice of using fleshly mind is **becoming the enemies of the cross of Christ**. Although you have a picture or statue of cross in churches, but in fact you become the enemies of the cross/ reject the cross. So, the second practice of fleshly mind is you only think of earthly/ fleshly things and these are given priority in churches of God. When Jesus was still in this world, He said to Peter "*Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.*" Peter was a fisherman, yet then Jesus made him a servant of God/ fisher of men. Peter wanted to be with Jesus because Jesus could make five loaves of bread and two

fish for five thousand people. It was a great thing as it means they were not in need.

In contrast, as soon as Jesus died, maybe Peter forgot that Jesus would resurrect so he used his fleshly mind which was logical--> "If I captured men, I would not be able to eat them but if I caught fish, I would be able to sell them to buy food and everything will be okay". It is logical, but it loses spiritual/ salvation value.

We have to be watchful since now men make the word of God logical but lose its spiritual and salvation value.

John 21:3

Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.

This verse shows that Peter had a fleshly mind that was he wanted to turn back for catching fish--> from catching men, he turned back to catch fish.

What is the meaning of turning back to catch fish for me as the shepherd and all of servants of God?

There are two definitions of turning back to catch fish; they are:

- a. You serve God only to get earthly things such as money, position, job or couple so you do not seek heavenly things that is the word of God. You do not care much about the word of God as long as you can get job, couple, money, etc. Or, maybe you are like Peter who turned back to be fisherman instead of fishers of men.
- b. You forsake your service and devotion/ being unfaithful only to seek earthly things. It is logical as you must work--> "If I do not work, who will give me food?" It is truly logical, but it lost spiritual/ salvation value.

Thus, we have to be serious so we are not tied by a fleshly mind for it possibly becomes a stumbling-block. I hope we can understand it.

The consequences are:

a. **John 21:3**

3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.

You do not get anything/ you cannot do anything = totally failed. If we compare to John 15 = like branches which do not abide in the vine/ being unfaithful = "for without Me you can do nothing". It is okay if you want to work or maybe try a new business, but if they make you unfaithful and even forsake your service and devotion = you are totally in failure = can do nothing = catch nothing. I hope we can understand it.

b. **John 21:7**

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea.

Did not wear clothes = being naked = being ashamed = living in sins = losing salvation. In the Garden of Eden, men wore glorious clothes, yet as soon as they sinned, they were naked and chased away from the Garden of Eden. So do the servants of God. If they forsake their service/ being unfaithful because of looking for earthly things, or being active in their service only to get earthly things, they are naked = being ashamed because they live in sins = losing their salvation. It is a serious thing and God corrects it firstly from me.

c. **1 Corinthians 15:19**

19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

You become the most pitiable men in this world as you only use your fleshly mind which is logical but losing spiritual value.

We trust in Jesus/ follow and serve Jesus only to get earthly things and we are the most pitiable people in this world for we will be destroyed forever.

Why do we become the most pitiable people? Because we do not undergo the power of resurrection and it means we are ruled by death or perished forever. Chapter 15 is the chapter of Christ's resurrection. If we wholeheartedly follow and serve Jesus, we will experience the power of resurrection.

Even those people die and are buried, they will be resurrected to have a glorious body. In contrast, if they only seek earthly things, they will not experience the power of resurrection, but they will be ruled by death and perished forever/ become the most pitiable men in this world. It is the sin of stumbling which seems little but causes a great consequence. I hope we can understand it.

3. Matthew 16:22

22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"

So, Peter took Jesus aside to make Jesus equal with him and it refers to **pride**. It should be Jesus who led Peter--> Jesus as the shepherd was in front and Peter should be behind him, yet Peter wanted to be equal with and even in front of Jesus.

What are practices of proud people?

- a. They do not want to be shepherded/ do not want the Shepherd to lead them. So, sin of stumbling/ fleshly mind makes us not want to be shepherded. The requirement to be shepherded is getting into the sheep pen.

Definitions of the sheep pen are:

- Physically, the pen points to churches with their licensed organizations
- Spiritually, the pen refers to the Holy Place. God showed the kingdom of heaven which has three rooms to Moses and He commanded Moses to make its miniature in the earth which was called Tabernacle.

The three rooms in Tabernacle are:

- the Court = salvation--> believing in Jesus, getting into water and Holy Spirit baptism--> we have undergone them.
- the Most Holy Place = perfection--> we have not reached it yet
- the Holy Place--> the place where we are now.

Proud people do not want to enter the Holy Place/ the pen either physical or spiritual one. Spiritually, the Holy Place has three kinds of instruments which now refer to three sorts of devotion; they are:

- The Golden Candlestick/ Holy Spirit (http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_golden+candlestick.html) = drink = being patient in General Service (usually on Sunday)
- The Table of Showbread (http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_table+of+showbread.html) = food/ bread = being patient in Bible Study devotion and Holy Communion
- The Golden Altar of Incense (http://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+golden+altar+of+incense.html) = being patient in Pray and Worship

These are called pen. Don't be similar to Peter who had fleshly mind so he refused to be led by Jesus since he thought that he could do everything by himself.

- b. They do not want to hear and obey the shepherding word of God/ The Shepherd's voice.

Being shepherded is not only getting into the pen, yet we have also to be able to eat the word of God/ understanding the word of God. If you are not shepherded, you will not be able to eat/understand the shepherding word = you cannot hear and obey the shepherding word. In Holy Bible, the shepherding word is also called the shepherd's rod

What are the functions of the Shepherd's rod?

■ Ezekiel 20:37

37 "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

In short, the Shepherd's rod is similar to the hands of the Great Shepherd/ Jesus which lead us to enter the pen. It points to the shepherding word.

I always pray and I hope you also support me in prayer so the delivery of the word of God makes us have more desires to get into the pen/ being patient in three kinds of devotion. As a result, the shepherding word is truly from God as if it is the hands of Jesus which lead us to enter the pen.

We may not become like * fig tree beside the road which wandered everywhere for it makes our spirituality dry and we cannot produce fruit and * Peter who did not want to be led, yet he wanted to led Jesus.

We often make the word of God to be the same as our own fleshly lusts, yet in fact, it should be our flesh which has to be along with the word of God. Do not switch it because if the word of God has to be suitable with our flesh, it will be similar to we lead Jesus and it is totally wrong!

■ John 10:3, 4

3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

4 "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Besides leading us to the pen, the shepherding word also leads us to get out of the pen. We are led to go out of the pen to meet other flocks from other sheep pen and get into the edifying of the Body of Christ.

Let us give our life to be led to get into the pen so all of us stay well in the pen that is we are patient in three sorts of devotions. Then, we will have strong desires to get out of the pen and meet other flocks from other sheep pen so we are united and it means we get into the edifying of the Body of Christ/ fellowship.

There are two things that we have to notice about fellowship; they are:

- Fellowship must have a shepherd who walks in front. We may not go here and there as we want to go since it has been said in the verse above that there must be a shepherd walking in front and the flocks behind him. If the true teaching word leads our fellowship, it will be neat. I hope we can understand it.
- Fellowship is affluence from the pen--> it is the saying of the late Rev. In Juwono and Rev Pong. However, I am afraid that we serve outside our own pen, but we are void in our own pen. If it happens, it is not the edifying of the body of Christ. If you are active in fellowship outside the pen, for example praying, following the fellowship and giving money offering, you will feel affluence. It is like King David which went to fight and won, but there were some people who stayed and kept watching and they also felt the victory. Such movement is a neat moving. I hope we can understand it.

■ **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 are led to the city of New Jerusalem.The shepherding word leads us to a beautiful future and we will not be dry because there is living fountains of water until we get into the city of New Jerusalem which is the last shepherding place. We have to concern with it.

I do not want to get out of the pen if it is only my will for it makes the condition in my own pen void. It means there is no devotion/ service inside the pen and I only want to have pleasure outside. It is my prayer. This is the life of shepherded people. It is not difficult to live in this hard world for shepherded people. I hope we can understand it.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of churches which have fleshly mind like Peter in practice of:

- They do not want God to lead them.** Instead, they want to lead God= fleshly mind that is they want the word of God to be the same as their own will =, for example: the shepherd may not preach about having two wives in the congregation because they will get angry. Or, he may not talk about money because it will make the congregation not willing to give their money to the church. Another example is the shepherd may not preach the word of God in a long time as men's mental ability has limitation. Nevertheless, it should be our flesh which has to go along with the word of God through the process of being cut/ sanctified by the sharpness of the word of God. In fact, there are a lot of churches which do not want to receive this process. It is similar to Peter who wanted to be in front of Jesus so he could not reach the destination and even he became Satan/ reached the hell if the word of God had to go along with fleshly desires.
- They want to order the Shepherd-->** the shepherding service system is ordered as earthly ways/ system of management, for instance your ministry uses the system of management/ is ordered by men and it is the greatest stumbling-block.

We do not talk about sin of filthiness -as many people talk about it repeatedly-, but now there are a lot of people say about:

- The word of God should be suitable for our flesh
- People want the shepherding service system to be in earthly ways/ system of management, not in God ways.

This is the heaviest stumbling-block since it keeps us from reaching the last destination that is the city of New Jerusalem. We have to be watchful facing this serious thing. I hope we can understand it. It is Peter's pride, yet when Jesus resurrected and he met Him and talk to him, Jesus questioned him three times--> *"Simon, sonof Jonah, do you love Me more than these?"-->* maybe more than his boat?

Feed My Sheep--> Jesus led Peter to get into the shepherding service system in his failure to catch fish and Jesus came as the Great Shepherd to Peter and He led Peter once more to turn back to the shepherding service system--> **John 21:15-17**

15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, sonof Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, sonof Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, sonof Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

More than everything? Maybe more than his net? Maybe the answer is "Yes, God", yet the practice is Feed My Sheep = being shepherded.

Net = job, husband/ wife/ children. We often cannot be shepherded because of children/ job. It means we love our job/ children more than God. It does not mean you may not work or love your husband/ wife/ children (it is a must), yet we have to love God more than everything. Don't be like Peter--> vs. 17, Peter was sad as he did not love God.

Peter took Jesus aside not because of his love to Jesus, but because he loved himself so he became stumbling-block. He knew that if he followed Jesus to Jerusalem to be crossed, he would have been crossed too. Jesus asked Peter three times. Three times refers to three sorts of devotions in which we have to be shepherded so we feel the love of God and we can love God more than everything and love our fellows as much as we love ourselves--> it is the shepherding service system and we will not become stumbling even a small stumbling. I hope we can understand it.

From his experience, Peter wrote 1 Peter 5 which is the chapter of shepherding service system because he had been shepherded so he did not lead Jesus, yet he was willing to be led by Jesus. As a result, he underwent the experience of cross/ he was crossed with his head under since he had loved God more than everything--> **1 Peter 5:5, 6**

5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

In conclusion, shepherded person is under the mighty hands of God = under the Shepherd's rod. Peter wrote his experience how to get into the shepherding service system--> '*humble yourselves*'

Young people have to notice it! There are a multitude of young people do not want to be shepherded as they want to do their own will = the pride of themselves. Young people are the description of people who are young in age and also old people who feel strong so they do not want to be shepherded. However, let us do God's advise like Peter's experience to humble ourselves under the powerful hands of God.

Advantage of being shepherded so we are not stumbled is-->

Ezekiel 20: 37, 38

37 "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

38 "I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

Verse 38--> "*I will purge the rebels from among you* = there is a protection". So, shepherded people are under the powerful hands of Great Shepherd/ under the Shepherd's rod. In short, the advantage is we get the protection/ shelter from God that is:

- A. We are separated from false churches and we will not be influenced by false doctrines.
- B. We are counted by the Great Shepherd, it means:

1. Matthew 10:30

30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

We are counted like hair. We will compare to Acts 27 about a boat which was ridden in by Paul and tossed by waves and storms--> **Acts 27:34**

34 "Therefore I urge you to take nourishment, for this is for your survival, since not a hair will fall from the head of any of you."

If we are shepherded, God will count us although we are in the middle of storms.

For young people, don't be afraid! God will count you as long as you are in the shepherding service system. It is meant, even though you are not different from a piece of hair which is useless and weak, God will be able to nourish you in the stormy ocean of the world if you are shepherded.

Peter was a great fisherman, yet he could not catch fish in a calm ocean. Hence, we have to be shepherded even though we are not great/ we are only similar to a piece of hair and we are in stormy ocean, God is able to nourish us. For young people, you have to be seriously shepherded because without God/ outside hands of the Great Shepherd, you cannot do anything. We have to turn back to the shepherding service system so we can eat/ understand the shepherding word because we face difficulties and death. I hope we can understand it.

2. Job 31:4 Does He not see my ways, And count all my steps?

Count all my steps = God's cares.

A piece of hair, God cares and nourishes us in the middle of waving sea/ unpredicted condition.

Every single step is counted by God--> one step = according to the medical science is the same as one heart beat.

Why does God have to notice/ count us? Because our distance with death is only one step--> death notices us and wants to destroy us.

Why do we must be shepherded? Because the Great Shepherd cares and counts every step/ heart beat of our life. King David which was a great king at that time professed the power of the Great Shepherd, let alone we who are not great. Do not just come into church, yet we must be able to eat the shepherding word so we seriously get the lead of God.

1 Samuel 20:3

3 Then David took an oath again, and said, "Your father certainly knows that I have found favor in your eyes, and he has said, 'Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.' But truly, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death."

There are two sorts of death as follows:

- Physical death -> by accident, natural disaster, etc which spy on us nowadays and we cannot predict when they come, but by getting into the shepherding service system we will be counted by God.
- Spiritual death -> sins which always want to come in every beat of our heart and they bring men into the second death in hell. Hence, we really need God's care in all of our steps so that we can be free from death and we are led to the beautiful future.

3. Psalm 144:3, 4

3 LORD, what isman, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him?

4 Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow.

Man is like a breath, yet how big is God's care to such man which is like a breath and a passing shadow?

Psalm 8:5, 6

5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,

This is the form of God's care which does not only nourish us in the middle of stormy seas, set us free from death and bring us to the beautiful future, but also makes us as the worthless men to be as glorious as Him as the Great Shepherd/ The King of all kings who is going to come in second time through the process of sanctification and renewing of life in the shepherding word so we get the crown of glory.

1 Peter 5: 4

4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

The crown of glory that does not fade away = we get into the marriage supper of the Lamb. I praise the Lord when reading this verse because I think who we are, let alone we the full-timer servants of God who cannot work again in this world. We can do nothing but giving all of our life to God until we become the same as God and get the crown of glory.

The crown of glory that does not fade away starts from now that is:

- We do not fade away
- We are not weak
- We are not bored and lukewarm in our service and devotion

In contrast, if we fade away, are weak, are bored and lukewarm, we will be bald and not have the crown of glory and it is very risky. Let us beg to God so He wants to count us because He cannot count worthless men easily even Peter was the same as Satan. To count men, Jesus had to be not counted by God so men are able to repent from their sins.

In Isaiah 52, it writes the value of God's great count to us. Hallelujah.

Isaiah 52: 13, 14

13 Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.

14 Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men;

Jesus visage was marred more than any man even the same as dog and pig (I am sorry to say it), which are the descriptions of men's deed and like Satan which had been experienced by Peter when He was crossed and He was not counted by God.

Isaiah 53:1, 3

1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

Jesus was willing not to be counted to help people who are like dog and pig and even like Satan/ Peter so God can count them. Don't be hopeless! If we do not keep on sinning and we finish our sins, God will count us. He will count us although we are only like a piece of hair until we become the same as Jesus.

God blesses us.