

Other Ceremony - Priests Upgrading Service II-November 05, 2012

Priests Upgrading Service II, November 5, 2012(Monday Evening)

We continue to hear the Word of God we have heard last evening about the garment of the High Priest and priests by reading **Exodus 28: 1, 2,**

28:1 "Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron's sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

28:2 "And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. .

It is said in verse 2 that we must have on holy garments to become the priests.

We have heard that the priest is:

- holy,
- with the ministry he has gotten from God,
- to serve and minister to God.

It is said clearly in verse 1 --> "Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest,

The priests are chosen from among the house of Israel, the chosen people of God. Thus, the priest is one who is chosen from the chosen people of God or he is specialized. We can see that the house of Israel is chosen by God from among all nations in the world, until He chooses Aaron and his sons.

Every priest or one who serves and ministers to God must have on the holy garments, namely the priests and High Priest garments. A priest cannot be naked.

There are seven parts of the ministry garment or the garment of the priest as follows.

1. Ephod
2. Sash
3. Breastplate
4. Robe
5. Skillfully woven tunic
6. Turban
7. Plate of pure gold(it is as the plate with a picture of coconut fruit on the hat of scout)

The seven parts of the ministry garment can be divided into three groups as follows.

[click to see the picture](#)

We have discussed the first group, namely the ephod. I will not discuss again about it, so we turn to the second group, namely the ROBE or the garments in the sign of resurrection.

Thus, the garment of the High Priest is the journey of Jesus in the death, resurrection, up to the glory that He ascends to the throne of heaven. Likewise, we are the priests who must have the holy garments or the garments of ministry and our journey will be like Jesus in the sign of death, resurrection, up to the glory in the throne of heaven where we minister to God day and night.

We will discuss about the robe-->Exodus 28: 31, " You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue.

It is said that the color of the robe is blue. We have learned that the ephod has four colors, namely purple, blue, red, and white. It refers to the cross or the garment in the sign of death, with gold embroidery that refers to the Holy Spirit who will help us when we are willing to bear the cross.

The robe is blue. It refers to the sign of resurrection or resurrection power to defeat the death or sin. The wage of sin is death, so the sin is same as the death.

Romans 6: 23, For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thus, the sin or death is defeated by these things.

- Resurrection power, referring to the blue robe.
- The remission of sin. We would have experienced the death if Jesus had not redeemed us.

Thus, the resurrection power is same as the remission of sin.

We, the priests, must have the robe, meaning we must have the garment of forgiveness or remission of sin or the paying off of the debt of sin.

It has been explained that we must have the garment of the cross in order to minister to God. It has gold embroidery or the power of Holy Spirit to help us.

Moreover, we must have the robe which is blue, referring to the power of resurrection that will defeat the sin or death. It means the garment of the remission of sin or the paying off of the debt of sin.

Matthew 18: 23 - 27,

18:23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

18:24 "And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

18:25 "But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

18:26 "The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'

18:27 "Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

We need not pay the debt because it has been settled by the king. It refers to the garment of the remission of sin. Therefore, a priest must have it.

The remission of sin can be described as one who owes ten thousand talents to the king but then he is released and forgiven because of the compassion of the king.

You can read in the bible dictionary that one talent equals to six thousand denarii.

Thus, ten thousand talents mean sixty billion denarii. The debt of sin is same as it. The wage of one day working is one denarius. We count the wage of one year working, namely three hundred denarii, seeing that there is Sabbath day every week and holiday. Paying the installment of the debt of the sixty billion denarii with the whole one year working wage, one will pay off the debt in two hundred thousand years (we divide the sixty billion denarii with the three hundred denarii). It means the servant cannot pay off the debt to the king because the age of human cannot reach the two hundred thousand years. It is very clear through the parable God has given us that the debt of sin cannot be paid by anything.

There is only One can pay off the debt -->**John 1: 29**, *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*

That is Jesus, the only human who does not sin. He is able to pay off the debt of human sins by His blood. It must be our belief that actually all people have sinned or had the debt of sins nothing may pay but the blood of Jesus.

What is the base of the remission of sins as the forgiveness of the debt of the sixty billion denarii that cannot be paid? **Matthew 18: 27**, *"Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.*

The base is only the compassion or mercy of God. We would have been in the debt of sin if God had not given us His compassion or mercy. Therefore, we have to use the mercy to settle our sins today.

Why must we have the remission of sin or the paying off of the debt of sin?

1. **Matthew 18: 25**, *"But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.*

If we do not have it but keep on ministering to God, we will be naked in the ministry because there is no garment of remission of sin. The debt has not been settled, so such servant must be sold, meaning **being persecuted by antichrist.**

I always say that the persecution done by antichrist occurs for three years and six months in the world is the greatest persecution that cannot be compared with other persecutions.

There will be two possibilities at that time as follows.

- One who keeps on enduring to confess and worship Jesus, not antichrist, and not receiving the mark 6.6.6, will be greatly tormented until the head is cut. As a result, he will be resurrected when Jesus comes a second time and lifted up together with Him on glorious clouds to rule with Him. It is only small possibility because there are many people who will not endure the persecution done by antichrist.
- Not enduring the persecution done by antichrist, one will deny Jesus and worship antichrist or receive the mark 6.6.6. Physically, he can live in the world without any problem, but he perishes together with antichrist when Jesus comes a second time.

Therefore, we must use the mercy to deliver us from the debt, so we can have the garment of the remission of sin, or else there is nakedness in the ministry and one will be sold or persecuted by antichrist.

Thus, it is very important to have the garment of the remission of sin before we minister to God. Meaning all debt of our sins must be paid off.

Sometimes, the servants of God also have fault by allowing a young man to minister to God although such man has no repentance yet. It happens because the parents have entrusted him to the pastor in the church that he may minister to God in order to repent. It is a wrong thing. Ministering to God with nakedness is dangerous because such servant will be persecuted by antichrist. The wage of sin is everlasting death or perdition.

We must have the garment of the remission of sin first. Therefore, we give thanks to God because we have the priests and priests to be upgrading service, so we can know the priest garments. Have we had the garment of the cross? Not having it, one ministers to God with the flesh, so there is provocation and hatred without the gold embroidery.

2. The wage of the sin is **everlasting death or perdition in hell**.

Tonight we must check ourselves whether we have the garment of the remission of sin or not and whether the debt of our sins has been settled or not.

There are some kinds of the debt of sin that must be paid off or settled as follows.

1. **2 Corinthians 5: 10**, *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

Sinful deeds must be settled, or else the servant is sold to antichrist or he must give account before the throne of God to get the judgment, namely the death or perdition because the wage of sin is the death. The examples of sinful deeds are stealing, killing others, et cetera.

2. **Matthew 12: 36**, *"But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.*

Idle word must be settled. The idle word is as follows:

- lie,
- slander,
- gossips none may account for,
- the speaking ill of other people, et cetera.

3. **Romans 2: 16**, *in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.*

The sinful thoughts in mind and heart must be settled.

We must understand that a priest or servant of God has to have the garment of the cross or the garment of the remission of sin in order not to be naked. One cannot minister to God in nakedness.

The sins, such as the sinful deeds, idle word, and sinful thoughts must be settled.

How can we pay off the debt of sin or get the garment of the remission of sin? **The paying off of the debt of sin is written twice in Matthew 18 as follows.**

1. **Matthew 18: 23,**

18:23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

The paying off of the debt from a servant or human to the King or the Lord. It is said **the vertical paying off of the debt.**
The process is as follows.

- Confessing our sins to God by the encouragement of the Word of God in the anointing of Holy Spirit. It is enough for us to confess our sin only by hearing the Word that shows us our sins. Do not wait until God totally chastises us to make us confess our sin. It needs not happen because we will get disadvantage that we confess our sins after all things are destroyed.
- Honestly confessing our sins with willingness to bear all risks.

We indeed bear the risk to confess our sin like the Samaritan woman when she meets Jesus and He asks her to bring her husband. The woman says that she has no husband because the man she has now is not her husband. It means she bears the risk. It is the vertical confession of sin that is encouraged by the Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit. Thus, it is important to hear the Word of God that shows us our sin, not the performance. As a result, we can pay off the debt of our sin. The anointing of Holy Spirit makes the sword sharp indeed. On the contrary, the sword will become dull if there is no anointing of Holy Spirit. Consequently, there is a risk as the Samaritan woman has experienced.

John 4: 16, 17,

4:16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."

4:17 The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,'

A woman is in the sin of adultery when she lives together with a man who is not her husband. Consequently, she must receive the risk of being stoned. If Jesus had become like a Pharisee, the woman would have been stoned. Praise the Lord, Jesus is a merciful King who does not stone but forgives.

We must seriously confess our sin as follows.

- Because of the encouragement of the Word of God in the anointing of Holy Spirit.
- We honestly confess our sin with a willingness to bear the risk.
The result will be real as follows.

1 John 1: 7, 9,

1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- a. The blood of Jesus actively forgives us our sins or covers our sin until it is as if we never do the sin. For example, we have stolen and then we seriously confess the sin. In such condition, it is as if we never steal. The blood of Jesus is so strong that it can cover our sin.

There are many times we are forgiven but then we do the sins again. Consequently, the forgiveness is canceled and there will be condemnation.

- b. It is said in verse 9 --> to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. It means the blood of Jesus pulls out all roots of sin, so we do not sin anymore. It means we pay off the debt of sin or have the garment of the remission of sin, so Satan cannot accuse us anymore. We are no longer naked because we have had the garment of the remission of sin.

There is negative attitude, namely not confessing sin. There are many servants of God who have sinned but do not confess, even blame other people. In such condition, they are naked because there is no garment, so they cannot minister to God. -> **1 John 1: 8, 10,**

1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Not sinning in the verse above means not confessing the sin although he has sinned. Consequently, the Word is not in him or he is in emptiness.

The consequence of not confessing the sin is as follows.

- We deceive ourselves or become an expert liar. Deceiving God is extraordinary unreasonable thing. Deceiving other people is unreasonable thing. Deceiving oneself means a very unreasonable thing and he becomes an expert liar.
- Automatically blaming others, namely other people, Satan, and even God.
- Being empty. As for the pastor, there is no revelation of the Word of God. As for the congregation, they cannot understand the Word because he is empty of the Word although other people can understand it. Being empty of the Word means being empty of the love of God.

It is still in vertical line, namely a servant who owes to the King or a human who owes to God. It must be finished. Confessing sin to God is quite easy because we are not ashamed and we can do that by whispering when we are in the altar. If one feels that it is difficult to do, the second paying off of the debt will be more difficult to do.

2. **Matthew 18: 28 - 35,**

18:28 *"But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'"*

18:29 *"So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'"*

18:30 *"And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt."*

18:31 *"So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done."*

18:32 *"Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me."*

18:33 *'Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?'"*

18:34 *"And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him."*

18:35 *"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."*

It is the paying off of the debt of sin from a servant to another servant. Meaning from a human to other people or **the horizontal line of paying off of the debt of sin**. Both the vertical line of the paying off of the debt of sin (from a human to God) and the horizontal line (from a human to other people) can form a cross.

How is the process to pay off the debt of sin in the horizontal line?

- As for the one who sins, he must confess the sin to other people because of the encouragement of the Word of God in the anointing of Holy Spirit or the true teaching Word. Being forgiven, we should not do the sin again.
- As for the one who does not sin, he must forgive and forget the sin of other people.

Let us now pay off our sin before ministering to God. All men have sinned and been naked, so we must have the ministry garment to receive the ministry as it is written *"And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty."* It means we must have the garment of the remission of sin first as the paying off of our sin.

It has been said above that there is evil servant who does not want to forgive and forget the sin of others while he has received first the forgiveness from God. In such condition, there is no garment of the remission of sin but nakedness.

The naked servant of God is as follows:

- The servant of God who sins but does not finish the sin.
- The servant of God who is not willing to forgive the sin of other people.

Matthew 18: 35, *"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."*

Consequently, God never forgives such servant, so he is in the condemnation and everlasting perdition.

Paying off the sin on the cross, the handwriting of requirements is nailed on the cross, so it has no power anymore.

Colossians 2: 13, 14,

2:13. *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,*

2:14 *having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

It is the importance of the paying off of the debt of sin in the vertical line as the debt of a servant to the king that must be settled.

Moreover, we also need the paying off of the debt of sin in the horizontal line as the debt of a servant to another servant or human to another human that must be settled. As a result, the sin is nailed on the cross.

Thus, if we confess our sin to God and other people, the handwriting of the debt of sin has no power anymore because it has been paid off or nailed on the cross. Therefore, we must have on the holy garment or the garment of the remission of sin before we minister to God. We can get it through the grace and mercy of God.

Jesus must be willing to be stripped of on the cross in order to give the robe of the ephod or the garment of the remission of sin or to pay off the debt of sin. He is thirsty crying 'It is finished.' It means all sins are finished and He dies on the cross. It is the price of His grace and mercy to give us the robe of the ephod or the garment of the remission of sin. Jesus is stripped of to give His garment to us. He is thirsty and drinks the sour wine mingled with gall to drink all bitterness and curses of sins. Finally, He cries 'It is finished.' and dies to give His soul on the cross.

All our debts of sins are finished. There is no sin that cannot be finished. The sin is like scarlet but it can be made as white as snow. It means all sins can be finished if we confess them to God and other people.

The proofs that the debt of sin has been paid off on the cross, so we have the garment of the remission of sin are as follows.

1. **Romans 13: 8, 9,**

13:8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

13:9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Owe no one anything starts from the debt of money up to the greatest debt, namely the debt of sin. The proof that we have paid the debt of our sin or we have the garment of the remission of sin is **we can love one another or we love other people as ourselves.** It must be started from the nearest people around us in the marriage.

If we still have the debt of sin, revenge, and envy, we will not be able to love other people as we love ourselves. For example, one who says about his neighbor who has been blessed "may he not be blessed anymore." because of his envy. We must pay off all debts and then we can love other people as ourselves. We can praise the Lord about our neighbor who has been blessed as if we ourselves who are blessed.

What is the practice of loving other people as we love ourselves?

Matthew 7: 12, *"Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.*

- We must do first what we want other people to do to us. For example, a husband who wants his wife to sweetly speak to him must first sweetly speak to her, not loudly saying to her to insist her. Do not insist because there will be no love but a dictator.
- We must say first what we want other people say to us.
- We must think positive first what we want other people think about us.
It means we love other people as ourselves.
- **Romans 13: 10,** *Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.*

Doing no harm to a neighbor means we do not give disadvantage to other people but we always do good things for them even we can repay good for evil. It means we love other people as we love ourselves.

For example, a tooth may hurt the lip until there is blood like other people who hurt us. We will not get angry and take pliers to pull out the tooth because it is our own tooth; even we cleanse the lip from the blood. Likewise, our neighbor is as our own body. It is very easy to say but difficult to do. We need to struggle until God helps us.

2. **We can love God more than anything.** To love other people must be with to love God and vice versa--> **1 John 4: 20, 21,**

4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

4:21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

Loving God more than anything means we love Him with our body, soul, and spirit. Thus, loving God and other people

means we have the two tablets of stone.

Having the garment of the remission of sin means having the two tablets of stone. The first stone means our love to God or the perfect love and the second one refers to the love to other people. The love is our capital to minister to God.

Mark 12: 28-31,

12:28 Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, "Which is the first commandment of all?"

12:29 Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.

12:30 'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment.

12:31 "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

The Word about the two tablets of stone is not only written in Old Testament, namely in Exodus 34, but also repeated or fulfilled in Mark 12.

The meanings of the two tablets of stone or the perfect love are as follows.

- Loving God more than anything -->more than husband, wife, children, and all things. For example, Abraham who offers his son because he loves God more than anything.
- Loving other people as we love ourselves.

There is a big question in the last age, namely "Do we love God? or Do we have the love of God or the perfect love in our life?" All things without the love of god will be as follows.

- In vain.
- Useless.
- Not eternal.

Paul has written in 1 Corinthians 13 that all things are useless as noisy gong causing problems and tears.

Ministering to God without the love means causing problems and being in vain as it has happened to Martha.

Likewise, getting married without any love means being in vain. It causes problems and tears. Therefore, let us ask the love of God through the garment of the remission of sin. We can have the two tablets of stone or the perfect love to love God and other people.

Peter, a great senior servant of God, actually has no love when Jesus asks whether he loves Him or not and commands Him to feed the sheep. How about us? Therefore, we must make efforts and ask the grace of God to give us His love. Do not feel more than Peter, but we must make serious effort with extra carefulness to ask the love of God in our life.

Mark 12: 32-34,

12:32 So the scribe said to Him, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He.

12:33 "And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

12:34 Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him..

A scribe receives the love of God because he confesses *"Well said, Teacher."* Let us now open our heart, whoever we are, to receive the garment of the remission of sin to finish all our sins, so we receive the perfect love of God.

One who loves God and other people has the two tablets of stone or the perfect love of God. He is as John who leans on Jesus' bosom at the last supper. It means there is no distance with God. On the contrary, not loving God means being separated with Him, so there is problem because Satan enters in.

The functions of the two tablets of stone or the perfect love of God are as follows.

- a. **Mark 12: 34,** *Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him.*
 - **To give us the wisdom of heaven.** Meaning with the love of God we can do something that in the past we could

not do with the worldly manner. Therefore, heavenly wisdom is very important. For example, I as the pastor formerly could not do anything in the beginning of my ministry, but then I could do that because of the wisdom of God. Likewise, the musician, choirs, and all ministers will be able to do the ministry which they could not do with human power in the past. It can happen because of the love of God. It will happen also in your job. You need the wisdom of the world as well as working experience, but the important thing is the wisdom of heaven. About study, you will also be able to do something that you could not do in the past. It happens because of the wisdom of heaven or the two tablets of stone. God guides you to study the right materials before the test. I have experienced it many times in my study at school.

The wisdom of heaven will determine our success -->**Ecclesiastes 10: 10**

If the ax is dull, And one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success.

The ax is dull and not sharpened. It means a crisis.

Using more strength means adding the capital or using more time until one can forget the Lord. It is the way of the world.

We may try by hard studying but the wisdom of heaven determines our success in the midst of crisis or difficulties in the world.

o **To employ us for building the body of Christ.**

Proverbs 9: 1, *Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars;*

The figure seven means perfection. We are employed in the revival of the building of the perfect body of Christ or the Bride of God. We may only have low diploma. It does not matter. The important thing is the wisdom of heaven that employs us in the revival of the building of the perfect body of Christ or the spiritual temple or the Bride of God.

We are employed by God with the garment of the remission of sin to get the two tablets of stone we hold as Moses who goes down from the mountain holding the two tablets of stone, so all hindrances can be destroyed.

b. **Mark 12: 34,** *Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him.*

It means there is no more question when we have the love of God. We have believed and fully hoped in God's love as John leaning on Jesus' bosom. It is very comfortable to lean to God because all things are born by Him. Meaning **He solves all problems.**

There is no problem means there is no question and tears because God has wiped away all our tears. Maybe now you have many tears. Lean on Jesus' bosom and He will finish all problems even the impossible one. As a result, we can be joyful and all things become beautiful in its time.

Let us keep the garment of the remission of sin, so that we are not naked. Maybe it is difficult when other people hurt our heart but let us make serious effort to get the garment of the remission of sin. The results are as follows.

- o We receive the two tablets of stone. The proof is we can love other people and God.
- o The two tablets of stone are in our hand, so there is wisdom and we can be successful. God employs us and we can lean on His bosom to believe only in His love.
- o There is no more problem and tears because all things have been finished and become beautiful in its time.

c. *"You are not far from the kingdom of God."* Meaning we go toward the heavenly kingdom.

Colossians 3: 14, *But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.*

The love of God sanctifies and renews our life until we can enter the oneness of the perfect body of Christ.

Someday we will become perfect or blameless to be lifted up on glorious clouds to enter the eternal heavenly kingdom together with God forever and we serve Him day and night.

Our ministry to God must be as follows.

- We have the garment of the remission of sin first, so we are not naked.
- Then, we must have the two tablets of stone, so we can lean on God or love Him.

It is enough because the problem or not beautiful and not joyful lives happen due to we do not love God. Less love to God and other

people can give us trouble, therefore, let us ask God's love in our life.

The source of the perfect love is the Holy Communion or the sacrifice of Christ we have in the midst of us now.

God blesses you.