

Bible Study Service in Malang, April 07, 2016 (Thursday Evening)

Peace and grace in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Revelation 3:21-22

3:21 *"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.*

3:22 *"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."*

There are seven churches of the Gentiles in Revelation chapter 2 and 3. All of them get the promise of God. The highest promise of God is for the church of the Laodiceans, namely sitting with Jesus on the heavenly throne forever.

The spirituality of the church of the Laodiceans is like the vomit, but the Lord is able to exalt them to the heavenly throne. It means that whatever our condition or fall is, God is able to lift us up physically and spiritually. We only need a willingness to get it. Do not stay in you fall.

There are seven steps of the Gentiles to sit with Jesus on the heavenly throne forever in Revelation chapter 2 and 3 as follows.

1. [Revelation 2:1-7] **The church in Ephesus.**

Revelation 2:4

2:4 *"Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.*

The first step is returning to the first love.

The first love means the love of God through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross.

John 19:32-34

19:32 *Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.*

19:33 *But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.*

19:34 *But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.*

Actually, Jesus has died with four main wounds, namely two in hands and two in feet for saving the house of Israel or the chosen people of God. The fifth wound is the deepest and biggest one, namely in Jesus' side, out of which blood and water come. This is for saving the Gentiles.

Thus, returning to the first love for the Gentiles means receiving the sign of blood and water which come out of Jesus' side which has been pierced.

The sign of blood refers to the Altar of Burnt Offering. It means believing in Jesus and repenting or stopping sinning to return to God or being dead to sin.

Revelation 21:8

21:8 *"But the cowardly(1), unbelieving(2), abominable(3), murderers(4), sexually immoral(5), sorcerers(6), idolaters(7), and all liars(8) shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*

We must repent especially from the eight sins bringing us to fall to the deep place or sink in the sea of fire and brimstone or the hell forever.

- *cowardly.* It means the fear of something in the world which cause one to resist against God.
- *unbelieving.*
- *abominable* or evil.
- *murderers* or hatred without a cause.
- *sexually immoral* or the sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse as well as the ones concerning marrying-being given in marriage such as the wrong marriage and sexuality sin with all of its kinds.
- *sorcerers.*
- *idolaters.*
- *liars* or slanderer and gossip.

The sign of water refers to the Brazen Laver or the water baptism.

Romans 6:4

6:4 *Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory*

of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The implementation of the true water baptism is one who has died to sin is buried in water with Jesus to rise with Him in the new life, namely **the life in righteousness and obedience**. It is the same as returning to the first love.

Galatians 3:7

3:7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

Living in righteousness is the same as living by faith. The obedience refers to the work of faith. Faith without the work is like the body without the head. It means the death.

The Gentiles who live in righteousness and obedience or by faith and the works of faith become the spiritual descendants of Abraham.

Galatians 3:13-14

3:13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

3:14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Revelation 2:7

2:7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

As a result, we are set free from the curse, punishment, and perdition because of sin. Moreover, we can get the blessings of Abraham physically and spiritually up to our descendants; even we can eat the fruit of the tree of life in paradise. It means that we live in the atmosphere of paradise in the midst of curses in the world; even we can get the eternal life on the heavenly throne.

2. [Revelation 2:8-11] **The church in Smyrna.**

Revelation 2:10

2:10 "Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

The second step is being faithful until death. It means that we faithfully suffer with Jesus until the end line, namely we pass away or Jesus comes a second time.

2 Corinthians 4:16-17

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

The suffering with Jesus is light and only for a moment, comparing to the glory we will receive, namely the great eternal glory. We must look at the sacrifice of Christ every time we cannot endure the temptation anymore. Jesus suffers more than what we are experiencing now.

Why do we have to suffer with Jesus? We must suffer with Jesus to have the glory of God or the life renewal from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like He is.

James 1:12

1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

We can endure means that we are not disappointed or hopeless and do not leave God regardless of anything we must face. We keep on believing and hoping in God. We keep faithful and fervent in spirit in serving and ministering to God. We also keep on giving thanks and worshiping to God. As a result, we get the crown of life or the firm guarantee for our life in the world until we get the eternal life in the heaven and we do not get the second death.

Revelation 2:11

2:11 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."

3. [Revelation 2:12-17] **The church in Pergamos.**

Revelation 2:13

2:13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

They do not deny their faith. They do not fall. They are not deceived.

Revelation 2:14-15

2:14 "But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

2:15 "Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

Satan always tries to shake our faith until it falls through the false teachings as follows.

○ **The doctrine of Balaam.**

2 Peter 2:15-16

2:15 They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

2:16 but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.

It is the false teaching about the physical wage is the purpose of the service and ministry to God.

○ **The doctrine of the Nicolaitans.**

It gathers many people with legalizing all ways without the sanctification, so there is a spirit of adultery in it.

The two kinds of doctrine work together with a slogan "many people will bring much money".

2 Peter 2:16

2:16 but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.

The target of Balaam is the wild donkey or the Gentiles who are not shepherded. Balaam rides on the Gentiles to go toward the perdition or the revival of Babylon. It is the perfection in evil and uncleanness until one sits on the throne of Satan.

Genesis 49:11

49:11 Binding his donkey to the vine, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine, He washed his garments in wine, And his clothes in the blood of grapes.

On the contrary, the target of Jesus is the donkey which is tied to the Vine, namely the Gentiles who are shepherded to the true teaching Word. They are sanctified in their heart, mind, deeds, and words. If one is holy, he will be ridden by Jesus.

Jesus rides on a donkey to go to Jerusalem. It is the same as the revival of the building of Christ's perfect body or the bride who is ready to sit with Jesus in the New Jerusalem. It is **the revival in faith** as follows.

○ The spiritual revival which is based on the true teaching Word. We must hold fast to one true teaching Word.

○ The revival in giving.

All things such as money, time, energy, and so on must be sacrificed for the revival of the building of Christ' body, except Jesus Himself or the true teaching Word. The revival of the building of Christ's body starts from the marriage. We must keep the true teaching Word in our marriage.

The revival in faith happens until we can give our whole life to Jesus, like a donkey on which He rides. We believe and entrust our life fully to God. Jesus also commits Himself to us.

John 7:5-6

7:5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

7:6 Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.

Jesus often seems to leave us. Why? Do not be hopeless because He is waiting for us to believe and entrust our life fully to

Him.

○ Abraham

Romans 4:19-21

4:19 *And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.*

4:20 *He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, ?*

4:21 *and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.*

Abraham was not doubtful to the true teaching Word and the power of God, so his faith was not weak although he had to face the impossibility in his marriage and child. He kept on believing that God was able to fulfill His promise. As a result, Isaac could be born.

James 2:21-22

2:21 *Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?*

2:22 *Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?*

Abraham offered Isaac, his only son. He was obedient. He also loved God more than anything. As a result, he had the perfect faith as well as the works or the golden pot with manna.

Revelation 2:17

2:17 *"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."*

As a result, there was Jehovah Jireh. The Lord is able to create something that does not exist yet. The impossible things can be made possible.

○ Job.

James 5:10-11

5:10 *My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience.*

5:11 *Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord--that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.*

He was patient in facing the total test.

He persevered also. It refers to the perseverance in doing three main services to God, namely General Service, Bible Study Service with Holy Communion, and Prayer Service.

The patience means that we are patient in waiting for the time of God. Do not take your own way which is not in line with the Word.

Job 23:10-12

23:10 *But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.*

23:11 *My foot has held fast to His steps; I have kept His way and not turned aside.*

23:12 *I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food.*

As a result, we are embraced by the hands of the High Priest, who is so merciful. Job was restored doubly.

○ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

Daniel 3:16-18,24-25

3:16 *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.*

3:17 *"If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.*

3:18 *"But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."*

3:24 *Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."*

3:25 *"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."*

They kept on holding fast the true teaching Word, worshiping God, and living in holiness although they had to face

the burning fiery furnace which had been heated seven times more than the usual. Similarly, the church in Pergamos must face the throne of Satan, namely the false teachings and worship as well as the sins up to the peak, the antichrist, false prophets, and Satan.

Revelation 2:13

2:13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

As a result, there were three men cast to the burning fiery furnace, but there were four men walking in it. It refers to God's accompanying to perform the miracle. The spiritual miracle happens, namely we can keep silent. As a result, our face is cheerful. On the contrary, our face is gloomy or sad when we talk too much. If the spiritual miracle happens, the physical ones will also happen. All impossible problems are solved. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego could be exalted in the world up to the heaven. We are changed to be as glorious as Jesus is on the glorious clouds.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-8a

1:7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

1:8 in flaming fire....

Daniel 7:9

7:9 "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire;

God blesses you.