

Bible Study Service in Malang, December 17, 2015 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 3:16-17

3:16 *"So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.*

3:17 *"Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' --and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--*

The church of the Laodiceans or the one in the last days is lukewarm. It means that physically they are rich or do not need of anything, but spiritually, they are empty because they are not filled with the true teaching Word. They are like the chaff that will be burnt. Consequently, they are vomited by God, useless, disgusting, unclean, and separated from God. Finally, they perish forever.

Revelation 3:18-19

3:18 *"I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.*

3:19 *"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.*

Therefore, God rebukes, advises, and chastens, so that the church of the Laodiceans or the one in the last days buy the heavenly treasure. There are three kinds of the heavenly treasure we must buy as follows.

1. Gold refined in the fire or the pure, permanent, and perfect faith.
2. White garments to cover the nakedness.
3. Eye salve that we may see.

We are still learning the second.

The white garments refer to the ones of the trust and mercy from God that cost the sacrifice of Christ. The white garments also refer to the ministry of reconciliation.

1 Peter 5:3

5:3 *nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;*

The second meaning of the trust garments is the garments of shepherding.

John 10:11

10:11 *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.*

Jesus willingly gives His life for the sheep. He becomes the Good Shepherd and we must be the good sheep. We must also willingly give all things such as time, energy, thought, money, and our whole life to become the good sheep. We must be shepherded well and correctly. **The requirements of the correct and good shepherding are as follows.**

1. **Prioritizing the true teaching Word or the spiritual food for the sheep.**

1 Samuel 17:15

17:15 *But David occasionally went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.*

David shepherded the sheep at Bethlehem (= the house of bread). The shepherding Word is trusted by God to a pastor so that he may preach to the congregation continually, repetitively, and in order as the food for growing the spirituality of the congregation.

2. **Persevering in the shepherding pen.**

1 Samuel 17:34

17:34 *But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,*

Acts 2:41-42

2:41 *Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.*

2:42 *And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

The early rain church was in the shepherding pen or the Holy Place through the perseverance in doing three main services to God, namely the perseverance in fellowship (Golden Candlestick), in the apostle's doctrine and the breaking of bread (Table of Showbread), and in prayers (Golden Altar of Incense). Such perseverance becomes the one in doing three main services to God in the latter rain church as follows.

- Golden Candlestick or perseverance in doing General Service to have the fellowship with Holy Spirit God in the gifts.
- Table of Showbread or perseverance in doing Bible Study Service with Holy Communion to get the fellowship with the Son of God in the Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
- Golden Altar of Incense or perseverance in doing Worship Prayer Service to get the fellowship with Father God in the love.

Acts 2:46

2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

The perseverance in doing three main services to God must be increased in the last days because we face the atmosphere of difficulties, impossibilities, uncleanness, and evil in the last days. We increase in the perseverance until day and night we serve and minister to God in New Jerusalem, the last shepherding pen.

Our body, soul, and spirit attach to the trinity of God in the shepherding pen like a branch that dwells in the True Vine. We are peaceful. All things become easy and light.

1 Samuel 17:34-35

17:34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,

17:35 I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it.

Our body, soul, and spirit are sanctified intensively in the shepherding pen as follows.

- **The sanctification from lion.**

1 Peter 5:8

5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

The roaring lion refers to the false teachings and gossip that make us doubtful to the true teaching Word. We are sanctified so that we keep on holding fast the true teaching Word and we are not deceived.

The lion also bites and swallows. It refers to the sins up to the peak, namely sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse as well as the ones concerning marrying-being given in marriage or sexuality sin with all of its kinds.

- **The sanctification from bear.**

The bear with the power of its pay refers to the antichrist with the power of mammon that causes stinginess and greediness. The stinginess means that one cannot give for the work of God and other people who are in need. The greediness means that one robs the possession of others and God, namely the tithes and offerings. The trust of God to a pastor to receive the tithes is stolen now. Consequently, there is spiritual dryness because there is no spiritual food.

We are sanctified so that we can give for the work of God and other people who are in need. We can also return the tithes and offerings which belong to God.

- **The sanctification from Goliath.**

Goliath refers to the flesh with all of its lusts and desires that cannot be repressed. It causes the disobedience. We must be sanctified, so we can be obedient to God.

Ephesians 4:11-12

4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

If we are sanctified, God will equip us with the ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit or the garments of ministry that cost the sacrifice of Christ. We are used in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain for building the perfect body of Christ.

1 Samuel 17:38-39

17:38 So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail.

17:39 David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them." So David took them off.

The ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit or the garments of ministry God has trusted to us cannot be bought or traded by anything. Do not want the ministry of others, or else you cannot move forward. Do not release the ministry, or else you get naked and are destroyed like Judas Iscariot.

The garments of ministry may be different, but we can cooperate if we are holy. We can actively minister to God in building the perfect body of Christ in the shepherding pen, so we do not enter the building of the body of Babylon. The building of the body of Christ begins from the marriage or household, shepherding, inter-shepherding fellowship service, up to the perfect body of Christ.

The signs of being in the shepherding and the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain are as follows.

1. There are miracles.

Acts 2:43

2:43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

It is especially the spiritual one, namely the life renewal from fleshly man to spiritual one like Jesus. It begins from the fear of the Lord, faithfulness, and fervency in spirit until the end. The physical miracle will happen if the spiritual one happens.

2. There is unity. It begins from the marriage, shepherding, and inter-shepherding fellowship.

Acts 2:44

2:44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

Romans 15:5-6

15:5 Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,

15:6 that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The perseverance in the shepherding will result in harmony. There will be one heart and one voice if there is the one true teaching Word.

Psalm 133:1-3

133:1 <<A Song of Ascents. Of David.>> Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!

133:2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments.

133:3 It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing--Life forevermore.

If there is a harmony, God will command the blessings for our present life up to the eternal one.

3. We can give to the needy.

Acts 2:45

2:45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Moreover, we can feel more joyful to give than to receive until we can submit our whole life to God.

Acts 2:46

2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

One of the forms of giving to the needy is breaking the bread.

Isaiah 58:7

58:7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?

4. There is progress in quantity.

Acts 2:47

2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Many sinful people are saved through the gospel of salvation or Good News. The saved people can be sanctified by the true teaching Word or Bride Tidings. God will add with the physical things.

Be careful because there are two times of separation in the shepherding and the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain as follows.

1. The separation between the sheep and goat.

Ezekiel 34:17-18

34:17 'And as for you, O My flock, thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats.

34:18 "Is it too little for you to have eaten up the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the residue of your pasture--and to have drunk of the clear waters, that you must foul the residue with your feet?"

The egoistic goat fouls the true teaching Word. It means receiving the true teaching Word without obeying it, so the deeds become the stumbling-block that makes other people unwilling to hear the true teaching Word. It means the debt of blood that cannot be paid by anything.

Matthew 25:44-46

25:44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'

25:45 "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'

25:46 "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Egoism also means not giving to and visiting the needy. The consequence is curse and perdition.

2. The separation between sheep and sheep.

Ezekiel 34:20-21

34:20 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD to them: "Behold, I Myself will judge between the fat and the lean sheep.

34:21 "Because you have pushed with side and shoulder, butted all the weak ones with your horns, and scattered them abroad,

Philippians 3:18-19

3:18 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:

3:19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things.

The sheep pushed with side means that the servants of God serve and minister to God only to look for physical things. They do not want to suffer for the Lord; even they become the enemy of the cross of Christ.

The sheep pushed with shoulder means that there are no faithfulness and responsibility in serving and ministering to God; even one leaves the service and ministry like Judas Iscariot.

The sheep butted with horns means there is no obedience. Peter was disobedient. From the fisher of men, he returned to be the fisherman. Consequently, he lost the garments.

We must be obedient, faithful, and fervent in spirit in serving and ministering to God until the end, namely we die or Jesus comes a second time.

For example, the widow of Zarephath was obedient when she was commanded to make a small cake.

1 Kings 17:11-13, 15

17:11 And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."

17:12 So she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die."

17:13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son.

17:15 So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days.

We must obey and please God when we are in the time of crisis. As a result, God is able to preserve us in the midst of difficulties, up to the time when the antichrist reigns over the world.

Revelation 3:7-8

3:7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":

3:8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

The church in Philadelphia is small with the little strength, but obedient and faithful. As a result, God gives the key of David to open the shut doors. The door of victory means that God solves all problems. The door of success means that God makes all things successful and beautiful in time of need. The door of God's employment means that He uses our life. The door of lifting up means that He lifts up and restores us from fall. Finally, the door of the heavenly kingdom is opened for us and we can be with Him forever.

God blesses you.