

Bible Study Service in Malang, February 23, 2017 (Thursday Evening)

From Delayed Broadcast of Fellowship Service in Sibolga

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

Mark 4:20

4:20 "But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

The seed of God's Word is sown to make us bear the spiritual fruits. **Why do we have to bear the spiritual fruits?**

1. Not bearing spiritual fruits, one becomes like a fig tree by the road which is cursed by Jesus because of not producing any fruit. The life is in weariness, heavy burden, bitterness, and eternal perdition.
2. We will be the light of testimony if we bear the spiritual fruits.

Ephesians 5:9

5:9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

The fruits of the light refer to the goodness, righteousness, and truth. The righteousness means that we must be righteous in all aspects of our life. The truth means that we are on God's side only. The goodness means that we do not harm others, but repay good for evil. The light of testimony starts from within the marriage or household, shepherding, and in front of all people, until we become the light of the world. We become perfect and worthy to welcome Jesus' second coming.

We must pay attention to two things to bear the spiritual fruits, namely the ground and the seed.

There are four kinds of the ground of heart as follows.

1. **The ground of heart like the wayside.**

Mark 4:4, 15

4:4 "And it happened, as he sowed, that some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds of the air came and devoured it.

4:15 "And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.

It means as follows.

- a. One who wanders or walks about in the Christianity. He is not shepherded, so the seeds are mixed.
- b. The heart and mind do not concentrate in hearing the Word.
- c. Hearing the Word with his own mind or logic, so he rejects the impossible Word. We must hear the Word by using our faith.

The consequence of having the ground of heart like the wayside is the seed of the Word is stolen by Satan. It means that one cannot understand and believe the Word, so he perishes.

2. **The stony ground of heart.**

Mark 4:5-6, 16-17

4:5 "Some fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth.

4:6 "But when the sun was up it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered away.

4:16 "These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

4:17 "and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble.

It is the same as the hard heart, namely hearing the Word by using emotion. One is joyful in hearing the Word which is comfortable to his flesh, but he is angry or disappointed when the Word is not in line to his flesh, especially when the hard true teaching Word or the sanctification Word points at his sins. The Word does not become faith. It does not have any root in the heart.

Consequently, one falls from faith and leaves God when the temptations come.

3. The thorns.

Mark 4:7, 18-19

4:7 "And some seed fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no crop.

4:18 "Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word,

4:19 "and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

It refers to the heart which is full of fleshly desires and anxiety, so one cannot obey the Word.

Consequently, there are no ripe fruits, but chaffs. The chaff refers to God's servant who serves and ministers only to look for physical things. He is satisfied by the physical things only, without being filled by the hard true teaching Word. Finally, he does not experience the renewal of life, but keeps the eighteen characteristics of flesh.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

3:1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

3:2 For men will be lovers of themselves⁽¹⁾, lovers of money⁽²⁾, boasters⁽³⁾, proud⁽⁴⁾, blasphemers⁽⁵⁾, disobedient to parents⁽⁶⁾, unthankful⁽⁷⁾, unholy⁽⁸⁾,

3:3 unloving⁽⁹⁾, unforgiving⁽¹⁰⁾, slanderers⁽¹¹⁾, without self-control⁽¹²⁾, brutal⁽¹³⁾, despisers of good⁽¹⁴⁾,

3:4 traitors⁽¹⁵⁾, headstrong⁽¹⁶⁾, haughty⁽¹⁷⁾, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God⁽¹⁸⁾,

3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

Denying the power of godliness means that one does the ministry, but rejects the true teaching Word. Consequently, he is stamped with 666 by the antichrist.

4. The good ground of heart.

Mark 4:8, 20

4:8 "But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

4:20 "But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

The heart of man tends to be evil and unclean.

1 Peter 3:20-21

3:20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

We can get the good conscience through the water baptism.

Matthew 3:16

3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

The true water baptism is like Jesus'.

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.

One who has died to sin or repented must be buried in the water baptism with Jesus and raised from the burial of water with Him to get the new life, namely the good conscience in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

The water baptism is not just for the sake of church rule, but it will determine the destiny of our life. Entering the true water baptism is the same as entering the ark of Noah and being saved. One has not been baptized yet if the baptism he had is not the same as Jesus' and he has not been saved yet.

The meanings of the good ground of heart are as follows.

- a. Looking for the good position to have the good attitude during the service to God, from the opening prayer that we ask God to be in the midst of us and cast out Satan as well as move us from the atmosphere of the world to the one

of heaven, then in praising God and delivering the testimony, praying to get the preaching of the Word to make our heart gentle and good, up to the prayer after the preaching of the Word to lock the blessings of God in our life.

- b. Being able to receive the Word, no matter how hard or sharp it is.

James 1:21-22

1:21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

The process is hearing the Word seriously in the anointing of Holy Spirit with a need like a dog licking the crumbs, understanding the Word and believing it to be the faith in our heart, and obeying it regardless of any risk we have to take. It is the same as stretching out our hand to God. As a result, God also stretches His hand to us.

For example, Moses stretched out his hand twice.

Exodus 14:16, 21-22

14:16 "But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

14:22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

First, he stretched out his hand to divide the Red Sea. It means that the hand of God or the power of Holy Spirit is able to give us solution of all impossible problems and the beautiful successful future life. The hand of God is able to protect and preserve us in the midst of difficulties in the world as well as give us peace and serenity, so all things become easy and light.

Exodus 14:26-28

14:26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."

14:27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

14:28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.

Second, he stretched out his hand to make the water return and cover Pharaoh or Satan, the army or the antichrist, and the chariots and the horsemen or the false prophets. It means that the trinity of Satan is defeated.

Philippians 2:9-11

2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

2:10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

2:11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The trinity of Satan is the source of evil, uncleanness, tears, problems, and failure. If we are obedient, the power of Jesus' name will be able to defeat the trinity of Satan. It is the same as changing our life from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones. It starts from the honest tongue. We can confess our sin to God and others. Being honest, we become the house of prayer and our prayer is answered by God. As a result, the miracle happens. All things are restored by God. The destroyed things can be good and the failed ones are made successful. It continues until Jesus comes a second time that we are changed until perfect. Our tongue only says "Alleluia" to welcome Jesus' second coming.

God blesses us.