

Bible Study Service in Malang, July 21, 2016 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 19:9

19:9 *Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."*

The marriage supper of the Lamb refers to the meeting between Jesus, who comes a second time in the glory as the Head, the King of all kings, or the Heavenly Bridegroom, with the perfect congregation or the bride of God on the glorious clouds. Afterwards, we enter the One Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace or the Future Paradise and the New Jerusalem or the eternal heavenly kingdom.

Revelation 3:21

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.*

We become God's forever.

John 3:29a

3:29 *"He who has the bride is the bridegroom;*

The promise of God to the church of the Laodiceans is to sit with Him on the throne of heaven. The church of the Laodiceans who are like the unclean, useless, disgusting vomit can be the possession of God. It means that we can be the bride of heaven whoever we are and whatever condition we have. The matter is our willingness to undergo the process to have the ownership of the bridegroom.

Matthew 22:20-21

22:20 *And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?"*

22:21 *They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."*

Matthew 22:15-22 is about the ownership. It can be divided into two parts as follows.

1. Verse 15-18 is about the test of the ownership.
2. Verse 19-21 is about the process to have the ownership of the bridegroom.

The process of the ownership of the bridegroom is as follows.

1. Having the image of God.
2. Having the inscription of God or the seal, namely the blood of Jesus, the teaching Word, and the name of Jesus.
3. Undergoing the sanctification.

By what can we be sanctified?

John 15:3

15:3 *"You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.*

By the Word which is spoken by Jesus Himself or the revelation of God's Word through a verse which explains other verses in the Bible. Nothing may explain the Word except the Word itself. This is the true teaching Word or the hard Word which is sharper than any two-edged sword. It is also called as the sanctification Word.

Matthew 22:18

22:18 *But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites?"*

The hard Word sanctifies our evil and unclean heart causing bad characteristic, namely hypocrisy.

Matthew 22:21

22:21 *They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."*

The evil and unclean heart also causes the will of money until one does not want to pay the taxes to the government as well as return the tithes and offerings to God.

Matthew 22:22

22:22 *When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.*

The attitude or reaction towards the sanctification Word can be as follows.

1. Negative attitude.

- a. They marveled, but left Jesus and went their way. It means confessing the truth of the true teaching Word, but not receiving it because of keeping the self-truth. The self-truth is like leprosy. It will divide the body of Christ and the leper cannot become the bride of God.

- b. Avoiding the true teaching Word.

Matthew 26:23-25

26:23 *He answered and said, "He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me.*

26:24 *"The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."*

26:25 *Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I?" He said to him, "You have said it."*

It happens because of lying and not confessing sin, or hiding and covering sins with lying.

Jeremiah 9:5-6

9:5 *Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; They weary themselves to commit iniquity.*

9:6 *Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me," says the LORD.*

One is lazy to repent until he cannot repent. Consequently, he becomes the same as Satan.

- c. Murmuring and going back or walking with Jesus no more.

John 6:60-61, 66

6:60 *Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?"*

6:61 *When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?"*

6:66 *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.*

It means rejecting the true teaching Word because of living in sin.

Falling in sin means that one intuitively sins because of being tempted. Such person can regret and ask the forgiveness after being rebuked by the true teaching Word. Living in sin means deliberately sinning and murmuring or getting angry when the true teaching Word rebukes.

Matthew 14:3-4, 10

14:3 *For Herod had laid hold of John and bound him, and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife.*

14:4 *Because John had said to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her."*

14:10 *So he sent and had John beheaded in prison.*

For example, Herod lived in sin because of rejecting the Word. He deliberately sinned and got angry when the hard teaching Word preached by John the Baptist rebuked him. The consequences are as follows.

- Putting John the Baptist in prison. It means hindering the preaching of the true teaching Word with power, intelligence, and riches. It also means supporting the preaching of the false Word or leading others to receive the false teachings. Finally, one leaves the true teaching Word.
- Beheading John the Baptist.
It means not having life renewal, but keeping the flesh and blood man who has no relationship with God. One is dry spiritually. He cannot worship God or become the same as Him.

2. Positive attitude.

Mark 7:26-30

7:26 The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

7:27 But Jesus said to her, "Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."

7:28 And she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs."

7:29 Then He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter."

7:30 And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.

It was shown by a Gentile or one who was not chosen. The Gentiles are not precious like a dog.

Acts 13:43-46

13:43 Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

13:44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.

13:45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.

13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles."

Actually, the true teaching Word is only for the Israelites or the chosen people of God. Nevertheless, they have hardened their hearts and rejected the true teaching Word, so the mercy of God and opportunity are opened for the Gentiles that they may receive the true teaching Word.

Thus, the Gentiles must use the mercy and opportunity although they are as small as the eye of a needle to eat the true teaching Word with longing and serious need like a dog licking the crumbs.

The process of eating the true teaching Word is listening to it seriously with longing and need; understanding and believing in it to become faith in heart and we can justify the Word as well as confess our sins; and obeying the Word to result in the work of faith or the righteous and holy deeds and the words of faith or testimony.

John 15:7

15:7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

If the prayer is lifted up with faith and in accordance with the will of God, there will be the mercy of God to answer our prayers and miracle will happen.

Spiritual miracle also happens, namely the renewal from fleshly man to spiritual one like Jesus is or from dog to man or the shepherded sheep.

Matthew 15:28

15:28 Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

The characteristic of sheep is bleating. It means that we cry out to God or worship Him many more. We ask His mercy. We can be obedient and stretch out our hands to Him.

As a result, the physical miracles also happen. Impossible things can be made possible. A girl who was demon-possessed could be healed. The destruction in marriage and children can be restored.

Mark 7:30

7:30 And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.

All heavy burdens, weariness, and distress can be changed into serenity and peace. All things become easy and light.

The last miracle will also happen, namely we are changed to be as perfect as Jesus is when He comes a second time. We sit with Him on the throne of heaven forever.

God blesses you.