

Bible Study Service in Malang, July 25, 2013 (Thursday Evening)

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

Matthew 28:20b

28:20 and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

God is with us to the end of the age. It means He is with us from now on until the time the antichrist reigns over the world for three years and six months, even until Jesus comes a second time on glorious clouds and we can sit with Him on the throne of New Jerusalem forever.

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.

The requirement of sitting together with Jesus on the throne of New Jerusalem is to overcome together with Him.

Proverbs 21:31

21:31 The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the LORD.

The horse refers to power, intelligence, good position, et cetera, but all of them are only facilities. The hand of God determines the victory. Thus, the main requirement to overcome together with Jesus is to live inside the hand of God.

John 10:27-28

10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

10:28 "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

We must be shepherded sheep in order to live inside the hand of God.

The Gentiles who are not shepherded only cost the dogs and swine or unclean animals that cannot be offered to God. They are evil and unclean, without the relationship with God because of being outside His hand, so they must perish forever.

Thus, the Gentiles must be shepherded in order to be inside the hand of God.

Where must we be shepherded? We must be shepherded as a branch that dwells in the true Vine. It means we are shepherded to Jesus Himself or the true teaching Word.

There are three things that must be heeded in the true shepherding as follows.

1. The step of Shepherd.

John 10:4

10:4 "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

The step of the Shepherd is in death and resurrection.

1 Peter 2:21-25

2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

2:22 "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";

2:23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness"^[?]"^[?]by whose stripes you were healed.

2:25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The step in death and resurrection begins from water baptism. It refers to the Brazen Laver in Tabernacle teaching.

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 true water baptism will follow the step of death and resurrection of Jesus, namely one who has died to sin or repented must be buried in water together with Jesus and come out of water to raise in new life, namely heavenly life or righteous one.

The facts found in following the steps of the Shepherd are as follows.

- The step in death means we die to sin. We do not sin, lie, or repay evil for evil, but good for evil.
- The step in resurrection, namely we live for righteousness.

The results are as follows.

- There is power in Jesus's stripes to heal us physically and spiritually.
- There is power to preserve our body, soul, and spirit done by the Good Shepherd.

Why are we let to live in the midst of many difficulties in the wilderness of the world? It is because God wants to make us easy to follow His step, so that we do not go astray or lose our way. Just follow the step of the Lord, namely we stop sinning and throw away all false things, and there will be the power of His stripes and preservation.

2. **The sheepfold.**

John 10:1

10:1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

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.

After being baptized of water, we must enter the sheepfold or the Holy Place to have perseverance in doing three main services to God as follows.

- Perseverance in doing General Service. It refers to the Golden Candlestick or fellowship with Holy Spirit God as the drink for the sheep.
- Perseverance in doing Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. It refers to the Table of Showbread or fellowship with the Son of God in the Word and Christ's sacrifice as the food of the sheep.
- Perseverance in doing Prayer Service. It refers to the Golden Altar of Incense or fellowship with father God in His love as the breathing of the sheep.

Who must enter the sheepfold? Both the pastor and the congregation must be shepherded. The pastor first must be shepherded and the congregation will follow him. All ministers of God must enter the sheepfold in order to get the anointing of Holy Spirit, so that there is no spiritual dryness but we can head for the oneness of the perfect body of Christ.

John 10:9-10

10:9 "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

We indeed have to pass through a narrow door in order to enter the sheepfold. The narrow door means the crucifixion or tearing of our flesh but we get the results behind it as follows.

- Abundant life. God preserves us, so that we can give thanks to Him (vertical line) and become blessings to other people (horizontal line).
- Miracles.

Acts 2:43, 47

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

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

Physically, there is miracle or God's help.

Spiritually, there is miracle of life renewal and growth in quality to reach perfection and quantity.

If we are patient in the sheepfold, there must be growth in physical and spiritual life. The branch that dwells in the true Vine will produce sweet fruits for sure.

John 10:1

10:1 *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.*

Not passing through the narrow door means neither being patient nor responsible. The consequences are as follows.

- Being a thief and robber who climb up some other way.
- Being wild and wandering as wild horse.

Exodus 32:25

32:25 *Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies),*

It means one does idolatry and he is bound by the riches or mammon, namely stinginess and greediness, and false teaching.

Exodus 32:4, 6

32:4 *And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"*

32:6 *Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*

Why do we have to enter the sheepfold?

Ecclesiastes 4:12

4:12 *Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*

Because the true teaching Word we hear and practice from the three main services to God as the threefold cord will unite us in marriage or household and shepherding until the one perfect body of Christ is formed.

Ezekiel 20:37

20:37 *"I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;*

Our life is counted by God who cares, pays attention, and possess us fully.

3. The voice of Shepherd or the shepherding Word or rod.

John 10:5

10:5 *"Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."*

The voice of shepherd means the bread of angel.

Psalms 78:23-25

78:23 *Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,*

78:24 *Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.*

78:25 *Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.*

It means the true teaching Word God trusts to a pastor to preach faithfully, continually, and repetitively to become the food of the congregation, so they can grow to get spiritual maturity and perfection.

The Shepherding Word comes from heaven. It cannot be learnt anywhere, but under the feet of Jesus.

It is a command for the congregation to arrange all their activities and lead them to enter the sheepfold. It is also to lead us to go outside to have fellowship inter-shepherding.

John 10:16

10:16 *"And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.*

It continues until we become one body of Christ with one Head.

The Shepherding Word makes the sheep and pastor know the Great Shepherd. The pastor can know the sheep by name. It

is through the forms of the data filled by the congregation to be prayed in the intercession prayer, so the sheep or congregation can be given to the Shepherding Word and shepherded by the Great Shepherd. As a result, their names can be written in the Book of Life.

We must hear and obey the shepherding Word until our flesh does not speak anymore. It means we lift up our hands to God and the Good Shepherd will also stretch His hand which is full of grace and mercy to us. In order to do so to us, the Gentiles, He must give His soul and become marred on His face upon the cross.

The results of living in the hand of Great Shepherd are as follows.

- The merciful hand of Good Shepherd gives us guarantee of life assurance for now on, the future, and eternal life. There is victory over all enemies and problems, even the impossible one.

John 10:27-28

10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

10:28 "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

- The merciful hand of Good Shepherd is able to lift us in due time.

1 Peter 5:6

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

The hand of God lifts us up from failure to success. The destroyed matters are healed by God who makes all things easy and light. We are used by God to glorify His name.

- The merciful hand of Good Shepherd leads us to the throne of New Jerusalem.

Revelation 7:17

7:17 "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The hand of God leads us to beautiful joyful future life. We are renewed from doubt about the true teaching Word. We are renewed to be as glorious as Jesus is when He comes a second time. We are led to reach the throne of heaven where we can sit together with God forever.

God blesses you.