

Bible Study Service in Malang, July 28, 2016 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 4:4

4:4 *Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.*

The twenty four elders are around the throne of heavenly kingdom. They can be divided into two parts as follows.

1. 12 elders = 12 apostles of the early rain church.
2. 12 elders = 12 apostles of the latter rain church.

They refer to the Table of Showbread on which there are twelve loaves.

The Table of Showbread has two main parts as follows.

1. The cake.

Leviticus 24:5-6

24:5 "And you shall take fine flour and bake twelve cakes with it. Two-tenths of an ephah shall be in each cake.

24:6 "You shall set them in two rows, six in a row, on the pure gold table before the LORD."

The rules about the cake are as follows.

- There must be twelve cakes.
- They must be set in two rows, six in a row (66). It refers to the sixty six books in Bible or the true teaching Word.

Thus, the meaning of the cake is as follows.

- The Word of God becomes the spiritual food to grow the congregation to the full maturity or perfection like Jesus.
The requirements are as follows.
 - a. Being written in Bible.
 - b. It is the revelation from God through a verse that explains the other verses in the Bible.

The cakes are set in order. It means that the Word is preached regularly and continually in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

- The true teaching Word becomes the spiritual food for the congregation.

2. The table, namely the heart and mind of men.

There are two possibilities about the table as follows.

- If the table is filled with vomit or filth, there will be the evil and unclean heart and mind.

Isaiah 28:8

28:8 *For all tables are full of vomit and filth; No place is clean.*

The vomit means as follows.

- a. The preaching of the Word which is based on the envy, bitterness or pain of heart, and the will of money.
The servant of God must preach the Word with a clean and sincere heart.
The congregation must also receive the Word with a clean and sincere heart.
- b. Gossips.
Hearing the gossips, one will not be able to hear the Word for sure.

Markus 7:21-23

7:21 *For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries(1), fornications(2), murders(3),*
7:22 *thefts(4), covetousness(5), wickedness(6), deceit(7), lewdness(8), an evil eye(9), blasphemy(10), pride(11),*
foolishness(12).

7:23 All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

Titus 3:10-11

3:10 *Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition,*

3:11 *knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.*

The foolishness means that one cannot be advised. He cannot do the right and good deeds. He is condemning himself.

The advice comes through the rebuke of the Word or directly from a person. It is useful to move us from the atmosphere of curse or condemnation to the one of blessings. Therefore, do not get angry when you receive the advice.

Do not join the fellowship with the foolish because someday you will be foolish also.

The twelve evil and unclean desires aim at the peak of sin, namely 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 sexuality sin with all of its kinds, sexual deviation, wrong marriage, divorce and remarrying, mixed-marriage, and marrying-being given in marriage. If the heart is filled with the twelve evil and unclean desires, there will be no place for the twelve loaves because there is no clean place.

The twelve evil and unclean desires aim at the building of Babylon, namely the perfection in evil and uncleanness. It means being the bride of Satan who will be destroyed forever.

- o The table of heart and mind is filled with the twelve loaves or the true teaching Word.

Hebrews 10:16-17

10:16 *"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,"*

10:17 *then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."*

The process is as follows.

- a. Hearing the true teaching Word seriously with a need, so we can understand it. It is engraved in our forehead or mind.
- b. Holy Spirit helps us so that we can believe in the Word and it becomes faith in our heart or it is engraved in our heart.
- c. Holy Spirit helps us obey the true teaching Word, so it becomes permanent in our heart and mind as well as our whole life.

As a result, our heart and mind as well as our whole life are holy like the table which is overlaid with pure gold. There will be no place for the vomit, evil and unclean desire, gossip, and false teachings.

We must choose whether our table is filled with vomit or with bread. We cannot be neutral.

The heart and mind are the foundation to receive the blessings or curses. If the heart and mind are dirty and full of vomit, there will be the condemnation of God. On the contrary, He will bless us for sure if our heart and mind are holy. He never deceives us.

There are three kinds of God's blessings we receive with our holy heart and mind as follows.

1. There will always be the cake every Sabbath.

Leviticus 24:8-9

24:8 *"Every Sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant.*

24:9 *"And it shall be for Aaron and his sons, and they shall eat it in a holy place; for it is most holy to him from the offerings of the LORD made by fire, by a perpetual statute."*

It means that the servant of God always gets the revelation of God's Word as the food for the congregation. The servant of God must always obey the Word also, or else such Word becomes like the vomit.

The congregation will always understand, believe, and obey the Word.

As a result, "*they shall eat it*" means the guarantee of assurance for our physical life preservation directly from God in the midst of the difficulties in the world. We also get the guarantee of assurance for our spiritual life preservation from God, namely Sabbath or serenity and peace in the midst of the waves in the world. All things become easy and light. We have

peace in the midst of windstorm and waves of the world. We also get the guarantee of the assurance of eternal life in heaven.

Exodus 26:35

26:35 "You shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand across from the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south; and you shall put the table on the north side.

Psalms 48:2

48:2 Beautiful in elevation, The joy of the whole earth, Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, The city of the great King.

The Table of Showbread was put on the north side which refers to the New Jerusalem.

Thus, if our heart and mind as well as our whole life are filled with the bread of the true teaching Word, our life will aim at the New Jerusalem.

2. The ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:11-12,7

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,

4:7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

They are the tunic of many colors. It means that our life is being beautified by God.

Our life has not been beautiful before we receive the ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit. Moreover, we are naked or in fear, failure, and being ashamed.

Do not become like Judas who releases his robe. It means that he is unfaithful; even he leaves the ministry. Consequently, he gets naked. Moreover, his entrails gush out and he perishes forever.

Acts 13:5

13:5 And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as their assistant.

The beginning of the unfaithfulness until leaving the ministry is in belittling or underestimating the ministry God has entrusted. We must not be arrogant because of the ministry God has entrusted to us.

Acts 12:12

12:12 So, when he had considered this, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together praying.

The duty of a mother is praying. As a result, John or Mark can be used in the ministry.

Belittling the work of God is the same as belittling His great grace and despising the sacrifice of Christ.

If we appreciate the sacrifice of Christ, we will appreciate the ministry which God has trusted to us although it is small. John or Mark is faithful in the small matter, namely being the assistant, so he gets the trust to write the gospel according to Mark. He can also become one of the pillars of the Gate which refer to the ones of the heavenly kingdom.

3. We can see the Lord and worship Him.

Matthew 5:8

5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

In the worship, we pay attention to the great mercy and grace of God. We only hope in God, not in others.

Psalms 107:43

107:43 Whoever is wise will observe these things, And they will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

As a result, the eyes of God will also pay attention to us with His merciful sight or great grace which costs the sacrifice of Christ. In the worship, God is paying attention to us, caring and struggling for us.

Luke 7:12-14

7:12 And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her.

7:13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."

7:14 Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."

The results are as follows.

- God stretches out the hand of His great grace to restore the marriage and children that have been scattered. The marriage can be righteous, holy, and one until it reaches the perfection. God stretches out His hands to solve all problems even the impossible ones right in His time.

- God pays attention to every step of our life.

Job 31:4

31:4 Does He not see my ways, And count all my steps?

The distance between us and the death is only a step. The death is like the fiery dart of the evil one in the form of the sins up to the peak, disaster, accident, and false teachings.

God pays attention to every step of our life, so we always live in righteousness and holiness. Our life is secured under the protection of God. The hand of God's mercy and grace leads us to the beautiful and successful future life until we are in the New Jerusalem.

- The hand of God's great grace is stretched out to the powerless and despicable men to sanctify and change them to be as perfect as Jesus is.

Psalm 144:3

144:3 LORD, what is man, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him?

Psalm 8:4-5

8:4 What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?

8:5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

God blesses you.