

Bible Study Service in Malang, June 21, 2012 (Thursday Evening)

Matthew 27:11-26 is about the second sprinkling of blood Jesus must experience, namely Jesus Faces Pilate that can be divided into two groups as follows.

- Verse 11-14, Jesus faces false accusation and questions.
- Verse 15-26, Jesus faces injustice.
Jesus is the King of Truth but He must die while Barabbas, the king of evil, is released.

It is a lesson for us that Christians who reject the sprinkling of blood or the crucifixion/tearing to flesh until they keep flesh lusts and self-interest will falsely choose something. It is especially falsely choosing about spiritual matters. Consequently, there will be perdition.

Matthew 27:23

27:23 Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!"

Jesus faces two contradictory claims as follows.

- Pilate, referring to the Gentiles, wants that Jesus is not judged. It is according to the law in the world.
- The Israelites want that Jesus is crucified according the Law and the will of God.

Matthew 27:19

27:19 While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him."

The way out is God speaks to Pilate through his wife's dream that he should not force his own will because Jesus must be crucified according to the will of God.

Matthew 27:23-24

27:23 Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!"

27:24 When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it."

Pilate, referring to the Gentiles washes his hands, meaning as follows.

1. Pilate does not want to obstruct the will of God although it seems bad before the court of the world, but it means surrendering to the will of God to receive the fact that Jesus must die on the cross.
2. The Gentiles get chance to be saved by the sacrifice of Christ.

If Jesus had not been crucified, the Gentiles would have perished.

On the contrary, Judas, referring to the Israelites, the treasurer and apostle of God, does not use the chance of being washed on his feet because of keeping his own sin, self-interest, and self-truth. Consequently, there is forever perdition.

John 13:10-11

13:10 Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."

13:11 For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."

If the Gentiles do not want to be washed, they will live without any meaning in the world but only to perish.

John 19:31-34

19:31. Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

19:32 Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.

19:33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.

19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

Jesus has been dead with four main wounds, namely two wounds on His hands and two on His feet. It is the grace of God to save the Israelites, His chosen people.

But the soldier of Romans pierces Jesus's side as the fifth wound, the biggest and the deepest one out of which blood and water

come. It is to save the Gentiles who have fallen in sins.

The Gentiles must receive the sign of blood and water that come out of Jesus's side in order to be saved.

1. The sign of blood means repentance or the Altar of Burnt Offering. It means we stop sinning to return to God. The process is through confessing our sins to God and other people. After being forgiven, we should not repeat the sin but we have to die to it.
2. The sign of water or water baptism, referring to the Brazen Laver. One who has been dead to sin must be buried in water together with Jesus and rise in new life, namely life in righteousness.

1 John 3:7-9

3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

Living in righteousness means as follows.

1. Holding fast the true teaching Word that has been our life experience and testimony. The true teaching Word is the revelation of the Word of God according to the Bible through a verse that explains another verse.
2. Not sinning. Someday we cannot sin but we are righteous as Jesus is. It means a salvation.

Matthew 27:22

27:22 Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"

Now there is a question for us "What then shall we do with Jesus who is called Christ, who has been crucified for us?"

Hebrews 6:4-6

6:4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

6:5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

6:6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

The answer is that we should not crucify Jesus again. It means we should not fall away.

Falling away means as follows.

1. Leaving the faith because of leaving the true teaching to turn to the false one. It means leaving Jesus.
2. Leaving the faith because of sinning and not repenting but keeping sins, pleading and living in them up to the peak, namely sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.
3. Leaving the faith because of leaving the service and ministry to God.

Hebrews 6:8

6:8 but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.

The consequence is the ambience of thorns, meaning sorrows in the heart and there is no peace but distress, labor, and perdition.

In order not to fall away, our feet have to be washed by the rain of the true teaching Word after our hands are washed, referring to salvation.

The feet are the dirtiest part of our body, referring to dirty life journey. One will fall away and perish if his feet are not washed.

Ephesians 5:25-27

5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

5:26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

Therefore, we must be washed twice as follows.

1. The washing with water to our hands that results in righteous life as Jesus is. It means salvation. There is help and healing of God.
2. The washing with the true teaching Word to our feet, namely sanctification to our dirtiest life journey.
The sanctification to the dirty feet can only be done in shepherding, namely in the Holy Place, referring to perseverance in doing three main services to God.

The sanctification to the dirty feet happens from age to age as follows.

1. The first age, that is from Adam to Abraham. Lot's wife is the representative of mother or wife as well as the Church of God.
She may have faults but the dirtiest thing of her life is in the last journey, namely looking back.

Genesis 19:24-26

19:24. Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens.

19:25 So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

19:26 But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Looking back means disobedience to the Word of God because of hearing strange voice.

It is a reminder to the people who have been saved and employed by God that they should not disobey the Word, or else there is no help but being a pillar of salt. It means there is no meaning or function in life but disappointment and perdition forever.

2. The middle age, that is from Abraham to Jesus's first coming. David is the representative of husband or father.

2 Samuel 12:7-10, 13

12:7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.

12:8 "I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more!

12:9 "Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon.

12:10 "Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.

12:13 So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

David kills and commits adultery and he should have perished, but he still wants to be washed on his feet.

He can be helped although he has so deeply fallen because he is shepherded.

The Shepherding Word is as rain water that washes us continually until we can realize our sin and confess it in order to be sanctified.

3. The last age. Judas Iscariot is the representative of the youth.

The dirtiness of Judas is as follows.

1. Being a thief who steals the possession of God, namely tithe and offering, and the possession of other people.
2. Being a traitor who sells Jesus, his Teacher. It means unfaithfulness in doing service and ministry to God.
3. Being a liar, there is no honesty.
4. Having self-truth through covering sins by blaming other people.

The steps of Judas as the apostle of God should have been beautiful ones but they become the dirtiest ones because of not being shepherded or not being washed. Consequently, he cannot be helped but perish forever.

We, in shepherding, become as a branch that attains to the True Vine. We are sanctified intensively until we can produce the fruits of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23

5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

5:23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

It begins from the love that we can love God and obey Him more than anything whatever risk we have to face. It will continue to the other fruits up to perfection.

John 13:12, 14

13:12 So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"

13:14 "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."

Being washed by the Lord, we can wash one another's feet, meaning we can love other people. In such condition, we live in the love of God.

Romans 13:8

13:8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Loving other people means we owe no one anything, including the debt of sins must also be finished.

We need the love of God very much because we are only as sheep for the slaughter which are very powerless. We only need to live in the embrace of the merciful hand of God.

Romans 8:35-37

8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

8:36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

The result is as follows.

1. The merciful hand of God is able to give us extra strength so we are not hopeless or disappointed in facing all things. We can be faithful and fervent in spirit doing our service and ministry to God.
2. The merciful hand of God fights for us to finish all our problems even the impossible one.
3. The merciful hand of God is able to unite and perfect us in one perfect body of Christ.

Colossians 3:14

3:14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

The merciful hand of God finishes all things until we become the Bride of God who is ready to welcome Jesus's second coming.

God blesses you.