

Bible Study Service in Malang, May 12, 2022 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 16:4-7

16:4. Then *the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.*

16:5. And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things.

16:6. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due."

16:7. And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."

It is about the third bowl of the wrath of God on the rivers and springs of water, and they become blood. It means suffering and being spiritually dead up to the second death or perdition forever for those who have shed the blood of saints and righteous who are used to preach the Word of God.

The murder is caused by the hatred. That is why we must keep the good conscience that we receive from the true water baptism, so we are filled up by Holy Spirit and God's love. The murder and evil speaking are done by those whose hearts are not good but full of hatred. **It happens from age to age as follows:**

1. **The era of God the Father or the early age, which is counted from Adam to Abraham (about two thousand years), is represented by Cain's murdering Abel.**

Genesis 4:3-5

4:3. And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.

4:4. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

4:5. but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

Why did Cain, the older brother, kill Abel his brother?

- The offering of Cain or his ministry was not signified with the firstborn. Cain did not present the best fruits of the ground, but the worst ones. It means that he did not prioritize God. He did not minister to God earnestly, but unfaithfully and lazily.

Genesis 4:7

4:7. "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

1 John 3:12

3:12. not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

- Cain's works were evil.

Cain is the image of the servant of God who is wicked and lazy (unfaithful) or not true and good, so he becomes the unprofitable servant for God and others. Thus, his ministry is not respected by God because it does not please Him. But, God respected Abel and his offering.

Genesis 4:5-8

4:5. but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

4:6. So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"

4:7. "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

4:8. Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

Consequently, Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell, namely envy and hatred, so he had no peace and relief but weariness, heavy burden, and toil. Cain committed sin up to killing Abel. If one works with envy and hatred, he will surely kill others, starting from slandering, degrading, *et cetera*.

Luke 12:45

12:45. "But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk,

From the heart comes out the wicked, namely the sinful deeds up to the peak, envy as well as hitting, slandering, and killing the servant of God who is righteous. The peak of sin is the sin of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage (fornication by sight, mind, and feelings, and false marriage).

For example, Hophni and Phinehas committed the sin of uncleanness, namely they laid with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

The wicked and lazy servant of God surely has the heart that tends to do evil continually (envy and hatred), so his life aims at the peak of sin as well as puts away, kills, and threatens the servant of God who is righteous. Such life will surely experience the punishment of water's becoming blood. His spirituality dies, so he does not want to be shepherded anymore. He does not pray and hear the Word fervently until he is destroyed forever.

Genesis 4:4

4:4. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

On the contrary, Abel brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat (the best part). He presented the true ministry which was signified with the things as follows:

- The firstborn. It means prioritizing God or ministering to Him faithfully and fervently.
- Sacrificing the fat. It means being followed with the words and deeds which are good and true.

So, Abel refers to the faithful and good servant of God. First, God looks for the faithful and good servant who has a good conscience that is full of Holy Spirit and God's love, so his ministry is respected and accepted by God.

Hebrews 11:4

11:4. By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

God respected Abel though he has died. It means that God is able to take care of His faithful and good servant who has a good conscience in the midst of the world whose difficulties increase (crises and sins) up to the eternal life. "I shall not want" means that we are taken care of physically. The spiritual meaning is that we can live in righteousness and holiness up to perfection. Further, God is also able to give the beautiful and successful future until we enter the eternal kingdom of heaven.

2. The era of the Son of God or the middle age, which is counted from Abraham to the first Jesus' coming (about two thousand years), is represented by the murder of John the Baptist by Herod and his families who were not lawful.

Why did Herod kill John the Baptist? Because he and his families had the heart that tended to do evil continually, so they showed the bad attitude to the preaching of the true teaching Word as follows:

- **The attitude of Herod, husband, or shepherd.**

Matthew 14:1-5

14:1. At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus

14:2. and said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him."

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."

14:5. And although he wanted to put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.

Mark 6:17-20

6:17. For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her.

6:18. For John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

6:19. Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not;

6:20. for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.

Herod heard the Word of God gladly but his heart was doubted with the strange voice.

The strange voice from the outside refers to the people who are close to us such as husband, wife, child, parents, grandchild, friend, *et cetera* who speak the false thing. For example, Herod heard the voice of Herodias who did not accept the Word that was preached by John the Baptist, so she had revenge against John the Baptist as the preacher.

The strange voice from the outside also refers to the false teachings of the false prophet.

The strange voice from the inside refers to the sound of the flesh that contradicts the true teaching Word.

Consequently, one cannot understand, believe, and practice the true teaching Word. Thus, he keeps sinning up to the peak, and the false marriage. Herod kept his will to kill John, so he kept the hatred and revenge. He did not want to repent until he could not repent, so he could not be reborn. He did not experience the purification and the renewal of life but kept the sinful flesh and blood man.

The husband or shepherd who doubts the true teaching Word is unprofitable for God and household; even he has the negative impact for wife, children, and congregation.

○ **The attitude of Herodias or wife.**

Matthew 14:8

14:8. So she, having been prompted by her mother, said, "Give me John the Baptist's head here on a platter."

Acts 5:31-33

5:31. "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

5:32. "And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

5:33. When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.

Prompting was also found at the church of the first rain that was furious when hearing the true teaching Word that showed their sins, so they rejected it. They kept sinning up to the peak as well as the marriage that was not lawful.

Do not keep the false marriage after being in the true teaching Word! If we keep the false marriage, it will influence our attitude in receiving the Word. Previously, we liked to be corrected by the Word, but if we keep the false marriage, we will not want to be corrected by the Word. It is better to confess and repent from the false marriage.

Herodias had the revenge, so she prompted his daughter to ask John the Baptist's head. It refers to wife or the servant of God who is unwilling and unable to repent, so he cannot be reborn. He keeps becoming the flesh and blood man. Such life is surely punished by God.

○ **The attitude of Herodias' daughter or the youth and teenager.**

Matthew 14:6-8

14:6. But when Herod's birthday was celebrated, the daughter of Herodias danced before them and pleased Herod.

14:7. Therefore he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask.

14:8. So she, having been prompted by her mother, said, "Give me John the Baptist's head here on a platter."

Herodias's daughter did not appreciate the true teaching Word.

The facts found in it are as follows:

- a. One more appreciates the worldly party or sinful deed than the true teaching Word and ministry. Otherwise, one keeps ministering to God but he does not prioritize the true teaching Word. He just shows prosperity, entertainment, and the happiness of the flesh without any spiritual value.
- b. Doing the carnal or sinful deed that contradicts the true teaching Word.

Galatians 5:19-21

5:19. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

5:20. idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

5:21. envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Such life cannot repent and be reborn, so he cannot inherit the eternal kingdom of heaven. Thus, the attitudes of the husband (Herod), wife (Herodias), and child (Herodias' daughter) from the unlawful marriage are same. All of them cannot repent and be reborn. Consequently, they killed John the Baptist. Entering the false marriage is the same as entering the sin of murder. It is useless!

John the Baptist's head was put on the platter. It means that if our heart is not good, so it is not filled by the true teaching Word, it will be like the platter that is filled by hatred and revenge, so we just commit the sin of murder, slander, and degrade the righteous.

Slandering or killing is the same as shedding blood. Such life will surely experience the punishment of water's becoming blood. He will surely become lazy. He is not fervent anymore in the spiritual thing. He just goes towards the second death in the hell.

That is why we must have a good conscience through the water baptism, so we have the positive attitude like John the Baptist. The facts found in it are as follows:

- Keeping holding fast the true teaching Word even though being threatened by murder.
- Keeping obeying the true teaching Word whatever risk may come.
- A shepherd has confidence and firmness to preach only the true teaching Word.
The congregation has confidence and firmness to hear only the true teaching Word whatever risk may come.

The risk that must be borne by John the Baptist was being beheaded. It was not a defeat but gave the opportunity for Jesus to become the Head to work in the power of resurrection.

The results are as follows:

- **John the Baptist puts the base of salvation, and Jesus stabilizes and builds on it until we become perfect.** It means that we are used in the revival of the building of the perfect body of Christ or the one of Holy Spirit in the last rain whatever the challenge and obstacle, even though we have to sacrifice anything except the true teaching Word. We place Jesus as the Head. He has died on Golgotha to totally be responsible over our life.

Our duty is just ministering the building of the body of Christ, starting from marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding up to the perfect body of Christ.

In the marriage, husband loves his wife, a wife submits to her husband, and children obey their parents.

In the shepherding, we are faithful and true. As a result, our whole life becomes God's responsibility as the Head. Our business just ministering. He never lies.

- **We experience the power of resurrection, so we are set free from the death.**

1 Corinthians 15:55-58

15:55. "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

15:56. The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

15:57. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

15:58. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

The facts are as follows:

- a. We can minister faithfully and fervently until the finish line, namely our death or Jesus' second coming. The people who have died in the Lord will be resurrected in the body of glory. The people who live in Jesus will be perfected. Both of them will become one perfect body of Christ.
 - b. We receive the eternal life. All things in the ministry to God are not in vain. All things in the world will be in vain. It will reach the tomb only, but the ministry will not be in vain; even it brings us to the eternal life.
3. **The era of Holy Spirit or the last age, which is counted from the first Jesus' coming to the second Jesus' coming (about two thousand years), is represented by the mass murder of the church of God by the Antichrist who reigns over the world for three and a half years.**

Revelation 12:17

12:17. And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Who is killed by the Antichrist? The church of God who keeps the commandments of God (the Table of Showbread) and has the testimony of Jesus Christ (the Golden Candlestick), but not having the Golden Altar of Incense. It means that one does not want to worship God or the worship has not fulfilled the measurement yet. The measurement of the worship is obedience until our flesh does not speak anymore.

John 4:24

4:24. "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

The measurement of the true worship is spirit and truth. The truth refers to the true teaching Word. The spirit refers to the anointing of Holy Spirit. So, the truth and spirit means that we receive the true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword in the anointing of Holy Spirit to purify our whole life.

The Word and Holy Spirit are the two wings of a great eagle. The more we are holy and true, the bigger our wings are, and the stronger God's two hands hug us until we come to the Mountain of God.

Job 39:27-30

39:27. Does the eagle mount up at your command, And make its nest on high?

39:28. On the rocks it dwells and resides, On the crag of the rock and the stronghold.

39:29. From there it spies out the prey; Its eyes observe from afar.

39:30. Its young ones suck up blood; And where the slain are, there it is."

The high mountain or the rocks refers to the nest of the eagle. The worship must become the basic need of a servant of God like the breath of life.

The results are as follows:

- In the nest, the eagle incubates its eggs and changes its feathers. There is God's power in the worship to renew us. We look at and appreciate Christ's sacrifice. We eat Christ's sacrifice in the holy communion, so we become strong and of good courage. It means that we are never disappointed and desperate as well as we do not leave God and the ministry. We do not step back regardless of anything that happens. We keep trusting and hoping God's miraculous mercy and power. Do not trust or hope money or someone else! God's mercy is unlimited.
- '*Its eyes observe from afar*'. We experience the power of God in the worship to defeat the enemy or the impossible problem. All of enemies will be defeated. All of problems will be finished.
- '*On the crag of the rock and the stronghold*' means that we experience God's protection and preservation in the midst of the difficulties of the world that is full of disasters until the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years. The two wings of a great eagle will evacuate us to the wilderness where we are taken care of by God directly with the Word and Holy Communion. We are protected from the third punishment, namely water that becomes blood until Jesus comes a second time that we are changed to become as perfect as He is. We can enter the New Jerusalem forever. We enjoy the sweetest wine in the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, namely the eternal heavenly bliss.

God blesses us.