

Bible Study Service in Malang, November 21, 2013 (Thursday Evening)

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

The Revelation 1:1-3 is about the title or introduction.

Revelation 1:3

1:3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

The Revelation is prophetic word or the word of prophecy. It means as follows.

1. The Word revealed through a verse that explains other verses in Bible or the true teaching Word.
2. The Word shows the condition of the congregation and the hidden sins or the Word sanctifying the congregation.
3. The Word revealing all things that will happen on the last days for sure, especially about Jesus's second coming in His glory as the King of all kings. It is called Bride Tidings. It also reveals the condemnation of God to the world.

There are some things we have to take heed about the word of the prophecy as follows.

1. Do not despise or belittle it.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

5:19 Do not quench the Spirit.

5:20 Do not despise prophecies.

5:21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.

Despising the word of the prophecy will quench Holy Spirit and make the love cold, so that the spirituality is dry and one lives in darkness, without any control, and he appears as dog and swine.

There is small prophecy and the big one. The small prophecy is to make the Word of God firm. Do not despise or belittle it, but it must be tested whether it is according to the true teaching Word or not. The big prophecy is the revelation of the Word of God.

2. Do not complain about it.

John 6:60-62, 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?"

6:62 "What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?"

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

To complain means that one cannot receive the true teaching Word because of supposing that it is too hard showing the sins, too long in the preaching, et cetera.

The consequence is as follows.

- a. Going back from the true teaching Word, so one walks with Jesus no more, but his own flesh with all its desires, false teaching, and Satan.
- b. Not being able to welcome Jesus's second coming on glorious clouds.

3. Do not reject it.

Matthew 14:3-4, 9-10

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."

14:9 And the king was sorry; nevertheless, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he commanded it to be given to her.

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

Rejection to the prophetic Word happens because it shows the wrong marriage. To reject the prophetic word and keep the wrong marriage mean to behead John the Baptist and become same as the antichrist that will perish.

4. Do not add or take away from the prophetic Word. Do not change it.

Revelation 22:18-19

22:18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

22:19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

The consequence of changing it is the condemnation of God and everlasting perdition.

Formerly, Eve added and took away the Word, so she went down from the paradise to the world. If human in the world still adds and takes away the Word, he will go down to the hell and cannot return to paradise.

Revelation 1:3

1:3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

The right attitude to the prophetic Word or true teaching Word, or Bride Tidings is to read, hear, and obey it.

1 Corinthians 14:3

14:3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

The function of the prophetic Word is as follows.

1. To comfort.

2 Corinthians 1:3-6

1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

1:4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

1:5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.

1:6 Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

The prophetic Word comforts us facing the suffering together with Jesus, so we can be patient. It means as follows.

- We do not murmur, get disappointed or hopeless, and leave the ministry when we are suffering, but we can give thanks to God always.
- We can patiently wait for the time of God. We do not look for our own solution that is not in line with the Word because it means dead-end and perdition. God is still busy with our characteristic that is full of weaknesses when He has not helped us yet. He wants to change us into spiritual men that are pleasant before Him. As for us, do not focus on the problem when God has not helped us yet, but we have to long for the life renewal until we can fully surrender to God without hoping in others. In such condition, the time for God to help us has come.

1 Thessalonians 4:13, 16-18

4:13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

4:17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

The prophetic Word also comforts us when we are in the peak of sorrow, namely when our beloved leaves us. Do not prolong your sorrow as other people who do not know Jesus do until they get disappointed and hopeless and leave God.

The prophetic Word comforts us until we are joyful because we have hope to meet our beloved that has left us. The trumpet is sounded when Jesus comes a second time and the dead in Jesus, who received the prophetic Word in their lifetime, will be resurrected in glorious body. The alive until Jesus comes a second time, who receive the prophetic Word, will be changed in the glorious body in the twinkling of an eye. Both are united in one perfect body of Christ to welcome Jesus's second coming on the glorious clouds.

2. To exhort.

1 Corinthians 14:3

14:3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

2 Timothy 4:1-2

4:1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

The content of the prophetic Word is as follows.

- To show our hidden sins, so we can realize them, regret, and confess them to God and other people. As a result, we get the forgiveness of sin and there is no condemnation.
- To rebuke to make us repent or stop sinning to return to God. Keeping and repeating sins, the heart gets harder and the Word does too. There will be two possible things at that time, namely:
 - a. to repent and live in righteousness after realizing the sins,
 - b. to leave the true teaching Word and live in sin to perish forever.
- To exhort.

Psalm 73:24

73:24 You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory.

The exhortation of the Word is as the guidance done by the hand of God, so that we can keep on living in righteousness and holiness up to perfection. The advice is the way out of all problems, even the impossible one. It is also the lifting up God does to change our failure into success and beauty. We can be used by God if we live in righteousness and holiness until we are exalted on glorious clouds to enter heavenly kingdom.

3. To edify.

1 Corinthians 14:3

14:3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

The true teaching Word brings us to the revival for building the perfect body of Christ.

There are two kinds of the revival of Holy Spirit as follows.

- The revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain.

Ephesians 1:13

1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

Proverbs 25:25

25:25 As cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a far country.

It is the revival in Gospel Word or the Gospel of Salvation or Good News to bring the sinners to believe in Jesus and get the salvation. The process is through believing in Jesus as the Only Savior, repenting or stopping sinning to return to God, being reborn by water and Holy Spirit baptism, so we get new life or heavenly one, namely life in righteousness.

The revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain is called the revival of sowing and making the growth to add the quantity.

- The revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

4:3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Matthew 25:6

25:6 "And at midnight a cry was heard: Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!"

It is the revival in the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ or the true teaching Word, or the Bride Tidings. It is to make the fruits mature to reaped.

Thus, the revival for building the body of Christ is the revival of sowing and reaping. The works are different, but the wage is same, namely the eternal life.

We must be active in the revival for building the body of Christ, so that we do not enter the revival for building Babylon. All things must be sacrificed for building the body of Christ, such as time, energy, money, mind, et cetera, but the true teaching Word.

Matthew 6:26

6:26 "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

The birds of the air do not sow or reap but God provides food for them. Moreover, the people who are in the revival of sowing and reaping will be preserved by God. We must have faith sight in the revival for building the body of Christ. Being blessed but not entering the revival of sowing and reaping, one will have destiny as the birds that perish.

Matthew 10:29-31

10:29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will."

10:30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

10:31 "Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Although we are powerless and worthless as a hair and no one pay attention, we are counted by God if we are active in the activity of sowing and reaping. It means that God always cares and pays attention to us.

The hair is paid attention by God is said three times as follows.

- A hair in the midst of the stormy seas of the world.

Acts 27:33-35

27:33 And as day was about to dawn, Paul implored them all to take food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day you have waited and continued without food, and eaten nothing."

27:34 "Therefore I urge you to take nourishment, for this is for your survival, since not a hair will fall from the head of any of you."

27:35 And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken it he began to eat.

Exodus 12:6

12:6 "Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight."

The food in the midst of the stormy seas on the fourteenth day refers to the Holy Communion.

Acts 27:36

27:36 Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves.

We are helped by God through the Holy Communion, so that we can be strong and of good courage as follows.

- a. To hold fast to the true teaching Word, not to doubt about the promise of God.
- b. To believe and entrust our life fully to God, not to doubt to the power of God.

As a result, God is able to finish all problems miraculously, even the impossible one.

- A hair that faces the cruelty of the antichrist that reigns for three years and six months.

Matthew 10:30

10:30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

Through the Holy Communion and the teaching Word we are sanctified from the evil and unclean lusts until we are perfect and we receive the grace of God. The more we are sanctified, the greater grace we have up to the greatest one that we receive the two wings of a great eagle to evacuate us to the wilderness, far away from the antichrist.

Revelation 12:14

12:14 "But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent."

- The very hairs of our head are all numbered or complete and perfect.

Matthew 10:30

10:30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

It means that we enter the one perfect body of Christ when Jesus comes a second time.

Song of Solomon 7:5

7:5 Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel, And the hair of your head is like purple; A king is held captive by your tresses.

The hair refers to the mind. The red color refers to the sacrifice of Christ. It means that our mind always appreciates the sacrifice of Christ and we can confess our sin and forgive the sin of other people. As a result, the love of God is poured out to unite and perfect us to be as glorious as the Lord. It refers to the purple color.

Colossians 3:14

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

We can be one with Jesus as the Head.

Luke 23:41-43

23:41 "And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."

23:42 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

23:43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

God blesses you.