

Bible Study Service in Malang, October 20, 2020 (Tuesday Evening)

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

Revelation 12 in the arrangement of Tabernacle refers to the *shekinah glory* or the light of glory.

There are two great signs in heaven which are related to Jesus' second coming in the Revelation 12 as follows:

1. Revelation 12:1

12:1. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

The first is '*a great sign appeared in heaven*', namely the appearance of the perfect church that becomes the light of the world in the light of glory or the heavenly bride who is ready to be evacuated to the wilderness, far away from the presence of the Antichrist who rules over the world for three and a half years. She is also ready to be lifted up on the glorious clouds and meet Jesus who comes a second time as the Heavenly Bridegroom. We enter the spiritual marriage, the Paradise, and the New Jerusalem forever.

In conclusion, this is the appearance of the heavenly bride in the journey to the New Jerusalem or the everlasting heavenly kingdom.

2. Revelation 12:3

12:3. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

The second is '*another sign appeared in heaven*', namely the fulfillment of all works of Satan to hinder the work of God so that the church is left behind when Jesus comes a second time and destroyed forever in the hell.

In conclusion, this is the appearance of Satan in the journey to the hell forever.

Thus, there are two journeys. We must firmly determine our life journey. We must choose the way to heaven.

How can we go to heaven? God shows the way through the ministry or being the priests because the inhabitants of the heavenly kingdom are priests and kings.

2 Peter 1:10-11

1:10. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

1:11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The inhabitants of the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace are priests and kings.

Revelation 20:6

20:6. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

The inhabitants of the heavenly kingdom are also the priests and kings.

Revelation 22:3-5

22:3. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

22:4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Luke 6:12-16

6:12. Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

6:13 And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:

6:14 Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew;

6:15 Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot;

6:16 Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

'apostles' = the ministry.

Being called, the names of the twelve apostles were mentioned one by one because they were related to the heavenly kingdom. Nevertheless, Judas Iscariot was replaced by Mathias.

Revelation 21:14

21:14. *Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

Judas Iscariot had been called to be an apostle, but he was willingly tempted by Satan on the way, so he could not enter the heavenly kingdom.

Luke 6:12

6:12. *Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.*

There are two prices which must be paid by Jesus to give the ministry to us or appoint us to be the priests and kings. They also mean the two expensive prices which we must pay to become the priests and kings.

The two prices are as follows:

1. '*He went out to the mountain to pray*' = **Jesus must be crucified on the mount of Golgotha or the sacrifice of Christ.** He must willingly die on the cross for forgiving all of our sins and appointing us as the priests and kings.

As for us, we must receive and appreciate the sacrifice of Christ as well as the ministry.

The proofs are as follows:

- Willingly sacrificing all things for receiving the ministry.
- Being serious, faithful, and fervent in spirit in the ministry which God has entrusted to us.
- Willingly sacrificing all things for entering the heavenly kingdom.

Not being faithful in the ministry is the same as despising the sacrifice of Christ or trampling the blood of Jesus under foot. Such life must be judged eternally in the hell.

2. '*continued all night in prayer to God*' = **the prayer of the High Priest, namely Jesus becomes the pleader of the priest.**

It means that Jesus has the power for judging the priests who have fallen in sins. Nevertheless, He does not want to condemn, but dies on the cross for bearing our sins so that we are not condemned, but healed like a brand plucked from the fire.

Zechariah 3:1-4

3:1. *Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.*

3:2 *And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?"*

3:3 *Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.*

3:4 *Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes."*

Joshua the High Priest refers to the priests who wear the dirty clothes or fall in the sins of unrighteousness and unfaithfulness, so they are accused by Satan.

Neither being righteous nor faithful, Satan, God, and the conscience will know.

Joshua was accused by Satan, so his life was not peaceful and joyful like a brand in the fire. The life truly suffered and would have perished if he had not been helped.

Therefore, do not be playful in the ministry! Do not ever fall in any aspect!

Nevertheless, we give thanks because there is still the prayer of Jesus as the High Priest. We are not condemned, but pleaded like a brand plucked from the fire. Do not be arrogant! We are still given the opportunity for returning to the faithful, righteous, holy up to perfect ministry (the filthy garments were changed into the ones of the feast).

Therefore, the main duties of a pastor are as follows:

- Giving the spiritual food or the Shepherding Word to the congregation for preserving, growing, and sanctifying them. Willingly realizing and confessing our sins, God will plead us.
- Lifting up the intercession prayer to God for delaying or cancelling the judgment or the judgment is replaced by the using and blessing of God.

Luke 6:13

6:13. *And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chosetwelve whom He also named apostles:*

The process of being a priest is as follows:

1. Receiving the calling of God.

Romans 8:30

8:30. *Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.*

God calls us, the sinners, for being justified.

Why must be the calling of God?

- Since Adam and Eve committed sin and were driven out to enter the world, all men have sinned, so they are cursed and in weariness, heavy burden, sorrow, toil, and suffering. There is no glory of God.
- The sinful men have no ability to return to God, but get far away from Him. The proof is that they commit the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage more. If it continues, they will perish forever.

By His love, He calls the sinful people through His sacrifice in the cross, so the sinners are justified by God.

Romans 3:24

3:24. *being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

Receiving the calling of God, we must make peace and love making peace.

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

5:20. *Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*

5:21 *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

God called by names. It means that the calling of God is a private thing.

Thus, every man must be encouraged by the sword of the Word for making peace with God and others. When we are wrong, we must confess our sins to God and others. When we are right, we must forgive and forget the sin of others.

As a result, the blood of Jesus washes away our sins, so we are justified by the blood.

Romans 6:6,18

6:6. *knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.*

6:18 *And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.*

After doing the reconciliation or being justified, we must keep the following two things:

- Do not become the slaves of sin anymore!
- Do not use the self-truth!
The self-truth refers to the truth which is outside the Word and only blames at God and others.

Then, we can live in the righteousness or become the slaves of righteousness. We think, do, and say what is right.

2. Receiving the choosing of God.

Luke 6:13

6:13. *And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chosetwelve whom He also named apostles:*

Exodus 28:1

28:1. *"Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron's sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.*

'from among the children of Israel' = from among all Israelites, only the descendants of Aaron were chosen.

Being chosen means that one is brought from among many for being sanctified and given the ministry or appointed as the priests. For example, Aaron was chosen. One nation, namely Israel, was chosen from among many nations in the world. One tribe, namely the Levites, was chosen from among the twelve tribes of Israel. One clan, namely the clan of Kohath, was chosen from among many clans of the Levites. One family, namely the family of Amram, was chosen from among many families of Kohath. One son, namely Aaron, was chosen from among many sons of Amram. This is the choice of God.

Actually, only the native of Israel and the descendants are worthy to receive the ministry.

The Gentiles can be called and chosen to become the priests only because of the mercy, grace, and trust of God to us.

Therefore, we must try to be the trustworthy servants of God. We are faithful and responsible.

Exodus 6:16, 18, 20

6:16 *These are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. And the years of the life of Levi were one hundred and thirty-seven. 6:18 And the sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. And the years of the life of Kohath were one hundred and thirty-three.*

6:20 *Now Amram took for himself Jochebed, his father's sister, as wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were one hundred and thirty-seven.*

Not only the names, the ages were also mentioned.

Exodus 7:7

7:7. *And Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three years old when they spoke to Pharaoh.*

The names and ages of ones who are called by God are mentioned.

- The age is written. It means that we are preserved and protected by God all the days of our life. He never leaves us; even He has paid attention to us since we are in the womb.
- The name is written. It means as follows:
 - a. The calling and election are private. Our own life knows it. It cannot be hindered, forced, known, or imitated by others.
 - b. We always remember God from now on until our name is written in the heavenly kingdom like the names of the twelve apostles.

Do not hesitate to serve to God. The important thing is that it comes from the calling and election of God. Such thing will make us endure, facing all things.

2 Timothy 2:20-25

2:20. *But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.*

2:21 *Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.*

2:22 *Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

2:23 *But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.*

2:24 *And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,*

2:25 *in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,*

We are chosen by God for being sanctified. The more we are sanctified, the more we are used by God.

What must be sanctified?

- The evil things as follows:
 - a. The root of evil or the love of money which causes the stinginess and greediness. The stinginess means that one cannot give.

The greediness means stealing the possession of others, especially God's, namely the tithes and offerings.

We are set free from the evil sins, so we can feel more blessed to give than to receive.

b. Quarreling, making problems, and the self-truth.

They must be sanctified to be the patience, being friendly, and being able to teach according to the true teaching Word.

○ The youthful lusts or the uncleanness sins, including the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

The youth here does not mean the young people in age only, but also the old ones.

They must be sanctified.

Being sanctified, we can appear like the gold and silver which are used in the edification of the perfect body of Christ. We become the priest who can endure all things such as the fire of temptations in all aspects of life, the pre-persecution of the Antichrist, the persecution of the Antichrist, and the fire of judgment. We truly become the precious stones in the New Jerusalem.

Ministering to God without the holiness, one will be destroyed by the fire of the hell forever.

When the fire comes, there will be the separation between the grass and the gold.

3. **Being appointed** (*'He also named'*). It means that we are given the ministry.

Luke 6:13

6:13. And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:

Ephesians 4:11-12

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,

We are appointed to be the priests and kings according to the ministry which God has entrusted to us to use us in the edification of the perfect body of Christ.

The key of the heavenly kingdom or the one of the ministry is the new heart. It becomes the base for God to appoint us as the priests.

Acts 1:23-25

1:23. And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

1:24 And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen

1:25 "to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place."

The twelve spies were also divided into two. What separated them? The heart did.

Numbers 13:20,22,30

13:20. "whether the land is rich or poor; and whether there are forests there or not. Be of good courage. And bring some of the fruit of the land." Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes.

13:22 And they went up through the South and came to Hebron; Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmi, the descendants of Anak, were there. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)

13:30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."

The important thing is being strong and of good courage.

Numbers 14:6-10

14:6. But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes;

14:7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land.

14:8 "If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.'

14:9 "Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them."

14:10 And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

Joshua and Caleb had the new heart.

The new heart means the strong and courageous or the obedient one as well as the fear of the Lord or righteousness, faithfulness, and fearing of doing sins.

The obedient heart results in the power of God.

The heart which has the fear of the Lord will result in the wisdom.

We get the wisdom and power of God or the stretching out of His merciful hands.

The source of the wisdom and power of God is the true teaching Word and Christ's sacrifice.

There is the stretching out of God's merciful hands for us tonight.

The results are as follows:

- The wisdom and power of God sanctify and change us from the old life to the new one, namely the heavenly bride.

1 Kings 3:22-28

3:22. Then the other woman said, "No! But the living one is my son, and the dead one is your son." And the first woman said, "No! But the dead one is your son, and the living one is my son." Thus they spoke before the king.

3:23 And the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son, who lives, and your son is the dead one'; and the other says, 'No! But your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.'"

3:24 Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So they brought a sword before the king.

3:25 And the king said, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to one, and half to the other."

3:26 Then the woman whose son was living spoke to the king, for she yearned with compassion for her son; and she said, "O my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him!" But the other said, "Let him be neither mine nor yours, but divide him."

3:27 So the king answered and said, "Give the first woman the living child, and by no means kill him; she is his mother."

3:28 And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had rendered; and they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice.

'sword' = the Word.

The life renewal begins from honesty.

This is the spiritual miracle.

- The physical miracle also happens. The heaviest problem, namely the marriage problem, can be finished. The honesty can finish the problem in marriage from the beginning until the end. It means that all impossible problems can also be finished; the dead can be made alive.

Luke 7:13-17

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."

7:15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

7:16 Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

7:17 And this report about Him went throughout all Judea and all the surrounding region.

- The wisdom and power of God for facing the crisis, so we have the beautiful successful future life.

Ecclesiastes 10:10

10:10. If the ax is dull, And one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success.

Be careful! One usually uses more strength in the time of crisis. It means trying physically until there is no opportunity for hearing the Word, especially in the Bible Study Service with the Holy Communion.

- The wisdom and power of God for preserving and protecting us the midst of the difficulties in the world until the time when the Antichrist reigns over the world; even until we have the eternal life.

Ecclesiastes 7:11-12

7:11. Wisdom is good with an inheritance, And profitable to those who see the sun.

7:12 For wisdom is a defense as money is a defense, But the excellence of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to those who have it.

- The wisdom and power of God for making us perfect. The number seven refers to the perfection. We are ready for welcoming Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds. We enter the heavenly kingdom forever.

Proverbs 9:1

9:1. Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars;

God blesses you.