

Bible Study Service in Malang, October 23, 2018 (Tuesday Evening)

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

Revelation 8:1-5

8:1 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

8:2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.

8:3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

8:4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

8:5 Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

This is about the opening of the seventh seal.

There are two contradictory things as follows.

1. [verse 1-4] The church that has the love will get the increasing serenity, silence, or Sabbath, up to the silence in heaven for about half an hour.
2. [verse 5] Ones who are without love, empty, and useless will get the increasing shaking up to the perdition in the hell forever.

Revelation 8:1

8:1 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

The silence in heaven for about half an hour refers to the rest of the bride or the relationship between the Heavenly Bridegroom or the Head and the bride or the body which cannot be separated forever.

Matthew 8:20

8:20 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

Jesus exceedingly longs for placing Himself as the Head over the congregation.

He also sighs because the church or congregation does not place Him as the Head. The church does not prioritize the teaching Word, so the foxes and birds are placed as the head.

Revelation 18:2

18:2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!"

Jeremiah 51:37

51:37 Babylon shall become a heap, A dwelling place for jackals, An astonishment and a hissing, Without an inhabitant.

The birds refer to the unclean spirits, including bitterness or hatred.

The foxes refer to the wicked spirits.

The church or congregation without Jesus as the Head, the true teaching Word, or sanctification will be ruled over by the spirits of uncleanness, wickedness, and bitterness to go towards the edifying of Babylon or the bride of Satan who is perfect in uncleanness, wickedness, and bitterness.

Therefore, we must prioritize the teaching Word or place Jesus as the Head in every service or ministry to God.

There are three meanings of placing Jesus as the Head as follows.

1. Jesus as the King of all kings.

Ephesians 1:22-23

1:22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

15:25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

15:26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

Jesus as the King of all kings defeats the enemies under His feet up to the last enemy, namely the death. Placing Jesus as the Head means being the kings. It means that we also defeat the death.

The proofs of prevailing over the death are as follows.

- Being steadfast upon the sacrifice of Christ or living in righteousness and honesty.
1 Corinthians 15:56-58
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.
- Being immovable or not doubtful. We do not grumble. We are not disappointed for whatever we face, but keep on giving thanks and hoping God.
- Always abounding in the work of the Lord. It means that we are faithful and fervent in spirit in serving and ministering to God until the end line, namely we pass away or Jesus comes a second time.

2. Jesus as the Head of the service and ministry to God or as the High Priest.

Ephesians 4:15-16

4:15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ--
4:16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Placing Jesus as the Head, we must be the priests.

Exodus 29:1

29:1 "And this is what you shall do to them to hallow them for ministering to Me as priests: Take one young bull and two rams without blemish,

A priest means as follows.

- A holy man. It has nothing to do with cleverness, foolishness, riches, or poverty.
- One who bears the ministry according to the trust from God.

"to Me" means that a holy priest only serves and ministers to God as His servant.

If he is not holy, he will be the servant of money. He does his service and ministry to God only to look for money.

Luke 16:14

16:14 Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they derided Him.

He will also become the servant of man. He tries to please men although his deed is not in line with the Word.

Galatians 1:10

1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

The duties of a priest are as follows.

- Preaching the marvelous deeds of God. It is the same as testifying, especially about the renewal of life, namely not lying or hating anymore.
1 Peter 2:9
2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
- Being used in the edifying of the spiritual house or the perfect body of Christ.
1 Peter 2:5
2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

It starts from the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, up to the perfect body of Christ.

- [1 Peter 2:5] Sacrificing the acceptable spiritual offering for God by living in holiness and the anointing and gifts of Holy Spirit. The gift of Holy Spirit means the miraculous ability from God to do the service and ministry to Him. It must be encouraged by the eternal love of God, so the ministry will become eternal.

The ministry which is signified by the holiness, the anointing of Holy Spirit, and love is done in the sheepfold or the Holy Place.

- Glorifying God.

Isaiah 49:3-4

49:3 *"And He said to me, 'You are My servant, O Israel, In whom I will be glorified.'*

49:4 *Then I said, 'I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the LORD, And my work with my God.'"*

A priest must willingly sacrifice all things such as time, energy, money, and thought, up to his whole life. As a result, the reward and work are in the hand of God from now on, in the future, up to the eternal life.

Thus, placing Jesus as the Head means being the priests and kings. We serve and minister to God faithfully and fervently in spirit until the end, namely we prevail and sit on the heavenly throne.

3. Jesus as the Heavenly Bridegroom.

Ephesians 5:22-23,25-27

5:22 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*

5:23 *For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.*

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.*

Placing Jesus as the Head, we must be His bride.

The relationship between the Heavenly Bridegroom or the Head and the heavenly bride or the body means as follows.

- **The relationship in holiness.**

Jesus sanctifies and washes us doubly by the water baptism and the rain water of the teaching Word.

Leviticus 14:8-9

14:8 *"He who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean. After that he shall come into the camp, and shall stay outside his tent seven days.*

14:9 *"But on the seventh day he shall shave all the hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows -- all his hair he shall shave off. He shall wash his clothes and wash his body in water, and he shall be clean.*

What must be sanctified? Leprosy must be sanctified. It means as follows.

- a. The sin of uncleanness.
- b. Self-truth.

2 Kings 5:11-12

5:11 *But Naaman became furious, and went away and said, "Indeed, I said to myself, 'He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy.'*

5:12 *"Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage.*

- c. Lie.

2 Kings 5:20,25,27

5:20 *But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "Look, my master has spared Naaman this Syrian, while not receiving from his hands what he brought; but as the LORD lives, I will run after him and take something from him."*

5:25 *Now he went in and stood before his master. Elisha said to him, "Where did you go, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant did not go anywhere."*

5:27 *"Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever." And he went out*

from his presence leprous, as white as snow.

o **The relationship in submission or obedience.**

Obedience is the attitude in worship prayer.

Nowadays, let us worship God more to look at His face which shines like the sun, we talk, cry out, and fully surrender to Him.

2 Chronicles 20:2-3,12

20:2 Then some came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Syria; and they are in Hazazon Tamar" (which is En Gedi).

20:3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

20:12 "O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You."

For example, King Jehoshaphat only looked at God. The results are as follows.

- a. There is the rainbow of God's glory or the renewal of life from the fleshly man to the spiritual one like Jesus is.

The renewal of life begins from the face as the emission of the heart, namely being strong and of good courage. We keep faithful and fervent in spirit in serving and ministering to God. We keep on worshiping, hoping, and believing God.

- b. There is the rainbow of peace.

Numbers 6:26

6:26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace."

We do not feel the sadness, fear, and so on anymore. We only feel the great love of God.

- c. There is the rainbow of grace.

Numbers 6:25

6:25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

2 Chronicles 20:24

20:24 So when Judah came to a place overlooking the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and there were their dead bodies, fallen on the earth. No one had escaped.

1 Chronicles 19:13

19:13 "Be of good courage, and let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. And may the LORD do what is good in His sight."

God is able to make all things good, successful, and beautiful in His time.

2 Kings 5:7

5:7 And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me."

God determines our life and death.

God blesses you.