

Bible Study Service in Malang, September 12, 2013 (Thursday Evening)

From Delayed Broadcast Service of Fellowship in Palangkaraya

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 10:45

10:45 *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

We have learnt that there are two kinds of ministry of Jesus until He gives His soul. It relates to His first and second coming. The fact found in the ministry of Jesus until He gives His soul is His appearance as the Savior, referring to the Court of Tabernacle, as the Good Shepherd, referring to the Holy Place, and as the Heavenly Bridegroom, referring to the Most Holy Place.

Now we learn that Jesus gives us example in the ministry as follows.

1. He comes to serve, not to be served. It means to do the duty only, without any right or insisting anything.
2. He serves to the point of death on the cross, meaning with sacrifice.

We must take the example of Jesus, namely serving without insisting right or anything, even we must sacrifice all things such as time, energy, mind, feelings, et cetera, but one thing, namely the true teaching Word.

We serve without any right, even we sacrifice all things, through the death or cross experience together with Jesus.

The meaning of the death or cross experience together with Jesus is as follows.

1. **Suffering in the flesh to stop sinning or repent and live according to the will of God.**

1 Peter 4:1-2

4:1 *Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,*

4:2 *that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.*

Thus, we must minister to God with repentance and obedience to the Word of God.

2. **Suffering in the flesh without any sin. It is called the sprinkling of blood.**

1 Peter 4:12-13

4:12 *Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;*

4:13 *but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.*

2 Corinthians 6:3-10

6:3 *We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed.*

6:4 *But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;*

6:6 *by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,*

6:7 *by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,*

6:8 *by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true;*

6:9 *as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed;*

6:10 *as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.*

We experience it through fasting, being slandered, et cetera, so that our ministry does not become stumbling block but pleases God and other people. As a result, we are glorified together with God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24

1:18 *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

1:23 *but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,*

1:24 *but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

The function of the cross is to give wisdom and power of God to save the sinners and defeat the death.

Hebrews 2:14-15

2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

2:15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetimes subject to bondage.

We can defeat the death and be saved only by the cross.

There are three kinds of the death as follows.

1. Bodily death.
2. Spiritual death, namely sinful life without any repentance.
3. Death or perdition in hell or the sea of fire and brimstone.

Be alert because only a step between us and the death. The one step refers to one heart beat. Only the cross or death experienced together with Jesus can defeat the death. For example, Moses.

Exodus 2:2-3

2:2 So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months.

2:3 But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank.

He was born as beautiful child. He refers to Christian who has repented and had life renewal, salvation, and blessings of God. Nevertheless, he is threatened by the death. The hands of the parents, meaning the riches, good standing, et cetera, cannot guard the children from the death. The way to face the death is through putting the baby Moses in an ark of bulrushes or papyrus and laying it in the reeds by the river's bank. It means death or cross experience that is the wisdom and power of God to save us from the death.

The meaning of the river is as follows.

1. Death experience.

How great a human is, he is only as a baby in an ark. It will leak if it is put in the reeds by the river's bank until it sinks. He cannot face the river. Carnal men are not able to face the death or cross experience together with Jesus and they will murmur, become disappointed, depart from Jesus, and perish forever.

2. The stream of life in the world.

The river is conquered by Pharaoh or Satan. The carnal men cannot face the stream of life in the world which is conquered by Satan. They will sin up to the peak, namely sins concerning eating-drinking, marrying-being given in marriage, for sure.

Exodus 2:3

2:3 But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank.

The ark with many leakages must be daubed with pitch or oil and asphalt or putty. It refers to the wisdom and power of God.

The pitch refers to Holy Spirit and the asphalt refers to the Word of God. Both of them mean the Word of God in the anointing of Holy Spirit, the revelation of God's Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit, the true teaching Word, or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword. It is able to sanctify us, so we can live in holiness. The teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit encourages us to worship God more to cry to Him.

If we live in holiness and worship God more, we will endure in facing the cross experience together with Jesus or the stream of the world.

The condition of one who faces the death experience is as follows.

1. Being blamed although there is no fault, even being hated without any cause, but we keep silent without any resisting or pleading.
2. Being left alone. There is none who want to understand or know.

Exodus 2:4

2:4 And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.

Remember! God never leaves ones who are in the death experience. He always remembers them.

3. The problems increase to the peak until there is no way out.

Exodus 2:5-6

2:5 Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it.

2:6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."

We are being prepared to help other people who are in the peak of problems when our own death experience increases to the peak. Moses cried when he was in the hand of Pharaoh's daughter, so he was not killed but lifted up as the son of king. What we can do facing the death experience is to cry. It means that we live in holiness and worship God.

The worship in the holiness and death experience will make the mercy of God come down. God stretches His merciful hands to do these things.

1. To draw Moses out of water.

Exodus 2:10

2:10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."

The merciful hand of God protects and preserves us who are powerless as a baby in the midst of many difficult things in the world. We are protected from the antichrist because the merciful hands of God are as the two wings of a great eagle to fly us to the wilderness for three years and six months. God preserves and protects us.

2. The merciful hand of God lifts Moses up from the son of slave to the son of king.

The merciful hand of God is able to give beautiful, successful, joyful future life.

Spiritually, the merciful hand of God is able to use us in the revival for building of the body of Christ, although we are powerless. The merciful hand of God is able to make the impossible possible.

3. The merciful hand of God lifts up Moses to enter the heaven.

Deuteronomy 34:5-6

34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

34:6 And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day.

Jude 1:9

1:9 Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

The merciful hand of God is able to change us little by little until we are as perfect as Jesus is. We can be exalted to heaven. It begins from being meek and obedient.

God blesses you.