

Bible Study Service in Surabaya, November 30, 2015 (Monday Evening)

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

Mark 10: 31

10:31. "But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

It is written three times in the gospel according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke as follows.

1. **Luke 13: 30**

13:30. "And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last."

It is related to the one who will be saved.

2. **Mark 10: 31**

10:31. "But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

It is related to the following and ministry to Jesus.

3. **Matthew 20: 16**

20:16. "So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

It is related to the ones who follow and minister to God specially, namely in the vineyard. We will learn about it.

The vineyard means the service and ministry that are brought up by the Bride Tidings.

The first means the people who have known the Bride Tidings and followed and ministered to God for a long time, but then become the last.

They murmur or complain in the vineyard, so they get the condemnation. They cannot enter the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Matthew 20: 12

20:12. "saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.'

On the contrary, the last can be the first to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb because there is the sign of working for one hour.

Matthew 26: 40

26:40. Then He came to the disciples and found them asleep, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour?"

It means **watching** with God.

Mark 13: 33-37

13:33. "Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

13:34 "It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch.

13:35 "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming--in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning--

13:36 "lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping.

13:37 "And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

Why do we have to watch? We have to watch because we do not know the time of Jesus' second coming.

There are four times to watch according to Mark 13 as follows.

1. In the evening.
2. At midnight.
3. At the crowing of the rooster.
4. In the morning.

What must be watched?

1. **IN THE EVENING.**

Matthew 14: 15, 17

14:15. *When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."*

14:17 *And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."*

How is the condition in the evening?

- In crisis.
 - Physically, there is multidimensional crisis.
 - Spiritually, there is no food of God's Word. One is like a sheep that is not shepherded. He is in weariness and heavy burden.

Matthew 14:16

14:16. *But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."*

In the crisis or the condition without the food, the Lord insisted the disciples or a pastor now to feed the sheep with the **Shepherding Word**.

It means the Word which is trusted by God to a pastor that he may preach to the congregation continually in a sequence **as the food** for the congregation.

It is the same as the loaves which are broken or the revelation of God's Word. A servant of God cannot reveal it.

Revelation 5: 2-3, 6-7

5:2. *Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"*

5:3 *And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.*

5:6 *And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.*

5:7 *Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.*

Only the Lamb which has been slain or Jesus who has died and risen is able to reveal the Word. The servant of God who experiences the death and resurrection experience is given the trust of God to get the revelation of His Word like the loaves Jesus has broken are given to the disciples.

If the shepherding Word is provided and the congregation can eat it, they will be satisfied and not look for the other satisfaction; even the whole members of the household are satisfied by God.

Thus, the key is the matter of food. We must watch in the evening or the time of crisis as follows.

- The pastor must provide the food.
- The sheep must eat the food.

One who does not eat the Word in the time of crisis or the evening will be left behind when Jesus comes a second time.

- There are many sick people spiritually.

Mark 1: 32

1:32. *At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed.*

Matthew 8: 16

8:16. *When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,*

It means the servants of God who live, fall, and rise in sin. They are in fever like the mother in law of Peter. They are neither cold nor hot.

Moreover, many people are demon-possessed in the evening. They fulfill the will of Satan or themselves, namely

disobedience to the Word.

How can we fight against the disobedience?

We must keep on hearing a word spoken by Jesus or the true teaching Word written in the Bible and revealed through a verse that explains other verses.

As a result, there is power of healing.

- The sinful can be healed.
- The disobedient can be obedient.

- Jesus looked around the temple which had become the den of thieves.

Mark 11: 11

11:11. And Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at all things, as the hour was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The temple became the den of thieves because it was made as the tool of selling and buying. It means that one serves and ministers to God only to look for physical advantage. All things are measured with money (the table of money changer).

The dove that refers to the sincerity was sold. **Consequently**, there is serpent only in the temple and one perishes.

The Lord still came with the whip or the spun cords.

The cords refer to the love of God through the preaching of His Word. If the cords of God's love are rejected, they will be spun to be the whip for chastening us that we return to be the the house of prayer, not the den of thieves.

Keeping on being the den of thieves, one will not be helped, but left behind when Jesus comes a second time. On the contrary, our prayer is answered by God if we become the house of prayer. We will be lifted up when He comes a second time.

- Many people do not minister to God anymore.

Luke 24: 29-30, 31

24:29. But they constrained Him, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.

24:30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

24:31. "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

The two hopeless disciples returned to Emmaus or old life.

One does not minister to God anymore because of not understanding the Word. At least there had been four announcements of Jesus' death and resurrection written in the gospel according to Matthew, but they did not understand, so they were hopeless after Jesus died. They left the Lord.

Luke 24: 32

24:32. And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

We must watch, namely we keep on hearing the true teaching Word added with the Holy Communion.

The two disciples could return to Jerusalem or the ministry.

We must watch, namely we keep on hearing the true teaching Word regardless of any risk we have to take and anything we must sacrifice.

2. **AT MIDNIGHT.**

That is the darkest time. It means the sin peak and the time when our flesh is weakest, so we easily sin.

There are two kinds of the sin peak as follows.

- Evil or the love of money.

It means looking for money in illegal ways, including stealing the possession of other people and God.

Revelation 22: 11

22:11. "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

It will increase until one cannot repent.

Revelation 9: 21

9:21. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

- Uncleanness sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

Those sins have increased all over the world.

The condition in the last days in the sin peak is described as follows.

- Like two harlots who fought for a child.

1 Kings 3: 20

3:20. "So she arose in the middle of the night and took my son from my side, while your maidservant slept, and laid him in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom."

They refer to the sin peak in uncleanness and marriage and children problems.

The solution is that Solomon said to bring him a sword to know the true mother. The sword refers to the true teaching Word.

How complicated our marriage and children problems are, they will be finished if we hold fast to one true teaching Word. **Do not hear two kinds of teachings!**

- The sin peak is the same as a woman who goes after men or uncleanness.

Ruth 3: 10

3:10. Then he said, "Blessed are you of the LORD, my daughter! For you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich."

Ruth 3: 8-9

3:8. Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet.

3:9 And he said, "Who are you?" So she answered, "I am Ruth, your maidservant. Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative."

In the midst of the sins that peak, we need **the wings of God**. **There are three kinds of the wings of God as follows**.

- **The wings of hen** the wings of God to preserve us from the difficulties in the world, crisis, and so on as well as protect us from enemies. We can also get the warmth of God's love.

How can we get the covering of the wings of hen?

Matthew 23: 37-38

23:37. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

23:38 "See! Your house is left to you desolate;

We get it through the true fellowship. It begins from the marriage, shepherding, and inter-shepherding fellowship service in the one true teaching Word or Jesus Himself.

Unfortunately there is the false fellowship 'the one who kills the prophets' in the hatred, so one is not under the covering of the wings.

Consequently, 'Your house is left to you desolate' = he is left by God.

- **The wings of dove**.
Psalm 55: 6-7

55:6. So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest.
55:7 Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah

They are the wings of God which give us serenity. The world is being attacked by the windstorm, but we can be silent, easy, and light if we have the wings of dove.

Psalm 68: 13

68:13. Though you lie down among the sheepfolds, You will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver, And her feathers with yellow gold."

We can get it through dwelling in the true shepherding pen or perseverance in doing three main services to God.

As a result, we get the serenity like in the psalm of David, 'The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.... He leads me beside the still waters.'

And then we can get the preservation and protection of God until we can be perfect saying 'I shall not want.'

▪ **The wings of a great eagle.**

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 functions are as follows.

- a. For flying us to the wilderness, far away from the eyes of the serpent when the antichrist reigns over the world for three years and six months.
- b. For strengthening us in waiting for Jesus' second coming.

Isaiah 40: 31, 29-30

40:31. But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

40:29. He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

40:30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,

How can we get the wings of a great eagle?

Deuteronomy 32: 11

32:11. As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them on its wings,

We get it through the shaking.

The eagle makes the nest on the high mountains. It feeds the young continually. It stirs up the nest and the young ones fall because they cannot fly. Then, they are lifted up and fed and the nest is stirred up again. It happens continually until someday the wings can grow and they can fly.

The young eagles cannot learn to fly if there is no shaking.

When we must face the shaking, we must remember it as the time to grow our wings. Do not have bad thought against God.

We will be evacuated when the antichrist comes and the serpent cannot touch us. We can be strong in welcoming Jesus' second coming.

On the contrary, ones do not have the wings when they murmur and go back in facing the shakings. Consequently, they are defeated when the dragon chases. They enter the time when the antichrist reigns over the world.

We must watch at midnight, namely we must hold fast one sword of God's Word and be in the covering of God's wings.

3. **AT THE CROWING OF THE ROOSTER.**

It is the coldest time.

Matthew 24: 10-12

24:10. "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

24:11 "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

24:12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

The conditions at the crowing of the rooster are as follows.

- The love grows cold, so one cannot love other people, including in the marriage.

The hatred happens in the world. Consequently, there is spiritual coldness and one is left when Jesus comes a second time.

- There are many denials.

Mark 14: 72

14:72. A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." And when he thought about it, he wept.

The denial happens to the faith (one does not believe in Jesus anymore) and the true teaching Word (one does not hear it anymore). It may happen through the saying and deeds, namely the evil and abominable ones.

Titus 1: 16

1:16. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

The hatred and denial prove that there is **no love to God and other people**.

John 21: 15-19

21:15. So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

21:16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

21:17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

21:18 "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish."

21:19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

How could the Lord help Peter who had denied Him? The three times of Jesus' asking refer to the shepherding or perseverance in doing three main services to God.

The hard heart can be broken by the true shepherding. Peter was not afraid to die after being shepherded [John 21:19] because he had experienced the love of God.

We must watch at the crowing of the rooster, namely we keep on dwelling in the true shepherding.

4. **IN THE MORNING**--the day breaks.

Genesis 32: 27-28, 26

32:27. So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob."

32:28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."

32:26. And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"

Jacob was in the fear to meet Esau. The fear and distress happens in the world as the main killer

Luke 21: 26

21:26. "men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the

powers of heaven will be shaken.

It means that one fears something until he does fear the Lord. He fears of doing right thing, so he cannot live in righteousness.

How is **the solution**? Jacob struggled for these things.

- Keeping on living in righteousness.

Genesis 33: 2-3

33:2. And he put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children behind, and Rachel and Joseph last.

33:3 Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

It is about the marriage and children.

The ranks are set, but he crossed over before them. He did not sacrifice his wives and children.

The true marriage puts the husband as the head. As a result, Jesus becomes the Head who will protect the marriage and children up to the days when the antichrist reigns over the world.

Genesis 33: 4-7

33:4. But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.

33:5 And he lifted his eyes and saw the women and children, and said, "Who are these with you?" So he said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant."

33:6 Then the maidservants came near, they and their children, and bowed down.

33:7 And Leah also came near with her children, and they bowed down. Afterward Joseph and Rachel came near, and they bowed down.

- Receiving the new name--Jacob becomes Israel.

Jacob means a liar or one who has mistakes in the words. Israel means a winner or one who says correctly "yes" if yes and "no" if no.

It means the renewal.

Thus there are fears and shakings in the morning. We must watch, namely struggle until we get the renewal up to the peak. We do not stumble in word or we are perfect.

God blesses you.