

Fellowship in Ciawi II, July 28, 2010 (Wednesday Morning)

Revelation 21: 5

21:5. *Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."*

The theme is "**Behold, I make all things new!**"

= The Lord creates all things new. Actually, He has created heaven and earth, the Garden of Eden and men who were as glorious as Him. The glorious men were placed in the Garden of Eden and rejoiced together with God.

Then **why does God create again all things new?**

It is because **the men have sinned**, so they fell short the glory of God and were driven out to go into the world and they kept on sinning in the world even to the peak of sin, i.e. sins concerning eating-drinking and sexuality.

Consequently, they are punished with flood in the days of Noah and with fire and brimstone in the last days.

The Lord fights so the men will not perish. Therefore He creates new men who are as glorious as He is.

He also creates new heaven and earth, i.e. New Jerusalem.

Thus, **men are created in the same glory as God and placed in New Jerusalem.**

The process of being new men is through **RENEWAL**.

Thus we have to experience the renewal day by day until we have the renewal of New Jerusalem, meaning we become as glorious as Jesus is and are placed in New Jerusalem.

The renewal of New Jerusalem is signed with term "**THERE SHALL BE NO MORE**", meaning there shall be no more old things.

There shall be no more these seven things:

1. Revelation 21: 1= sea,
2. Revelation 21: 4= death,
3. Revelation 21: 4= sorrow,
4. Revelation 21: 4= crying,
5. Revelation 21: 4= pain,
6. Revelation 22: 3= curse,
7. Revelation 22: 5= night.

We are discussing the seventh part

Revelation 22: 5

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.*

THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT, meaning **there shall be no more darkness of sin and the peak of sin or there shall be no more spiritual blindness.**

The servant of God or the sons of God who live in the darkness of sin are in the spiritual blindness.

The meanings and reasons of the spiritual blindness are below:

1. Disability to see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God = not understanding but rejecting the hard teaching Word which sanctifies the hidden sins.

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.*

Hebrews 4:12-13

4:12 *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

4:13 *And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.*

Only teaching Word sharper than any two-edged sword may sanctify our hidden sins.

The consequences of rejecting the hard teaching Word are below:

- Hiding sins always,
- The presence of the Lord is hidden and one cannot see the manifestation of Jesus as the image of God.
- The sins are not redeemed by the blood of Jesus.
The light of redemption is described as the light of moon.

Not experiencing the light of redemption means we cannot see the moon or there is a spiritual blindness.

Why does the spiritual blindness happen?

It happens because of there is idol [2 Corinthians 4:4].

Exodus 32:1,4

32:1. Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."

32:2 And Aaron said to them, "Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."

32:3 "So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron."

32:4 And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

The idolatry began in the days of Israelites.

Moses on the Mount Sinai received two things, i.e. two tablets of stone, whose center is the love, and Tabernacle. The two things have disappeared but they have spiritual meanings as follows:

- The two tablets of stone -->Bride Tidings,
- Tabernacle -->Tabernacle teaching.

Thus, Moses received the Bride Tidings in the light of Tabernacle. This was rejected by Israelites because of golden calf, referring to these things:

- The lust or the binding of money.
The proof of being bound by money is stinginess (disability to give) and greediness (seizing the rights of other people).
There will be no revelation of God's Word if there is the lust or the binding of money.

- The hardness of heart that hides sins.

Exodus 32:9

32:9 And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!"

The hardness of heart did not stop but increased until it became double in the days of kings as there were two calves of gold.

1 Kings 12:28

12:28 Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!"

The hardness of heart becomes double in the last days until men reject the true teaching Word. Therefore we have to pray so the revelation of God's Word is made double to defeat the double hardness of heart.

2. Forgetting the forgiveness of sins so one repeats the sins.

2 Peter 1:9

1:9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

The ones repeating sins are written as dogs and swine in holy bible.

The dogs lick their vomits, referring to the repeated sinful words.

The swine return to their wallowing, referring to the repeated sinful deeds.

Repeating sins means not being willing to realize the sins.

John 16:7-8

16:7. *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.*

16:8 *"And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:*

Holy Spirit convicts us of sin so we may stop doing sin to live in righteousness.

Holy Spirit is described as the light of star.

Falling and rising in sins means rejecting Holy Spirit and we cannot see the stars. In such condition, we have spiritual blindness.

Why does the spiritual blindness happen?

It is because of the hardness of heart.

Acts 7:51

7:51. *"You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.*

3. Hating other people, not loving them.

1 John 2:11

2:11 *But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

1 John 4:20-21

4:20 *If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?*

4:21 *And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.*

Hating other people means not loving God because of rejecting His love.

The love of God in holy bible is described as the light of sun.

Rejecting the love of God means we cannot see the sun because of being in the spiritual blindness.

Who are those who do not love their brothers?

John 14:15

14:15. *"If you love Me, keep My commandments.*

They are the ones who do not obey the Word; they have the teaching Word but not obeying It.

Why does the spiritual blindness happen?

It is because the heart is hard like flint.

Zechariah 7:11-12

7:11 *"But they refused to heed, shrugged their shoulders, and stopped their ears so that they could not hear.*

7:12 *"Yes, they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.*

In short, **the spiritual blindness is caused by the HARDNESS OF HEART, there is no sun, moon, and stars. Such a life is in a total darkness.**

The consequence of spiritual blindness or the hard heart or the life in the darkness is being hit by great tempest.

Acts 27:20-21

27:20 *Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest beat on us, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up.*

27:21 *But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss.*

The tempest refers to these things:

- Temptations in all aspects of life which cannot be solved.
- Sins up to the peak, i.e. sins concerning eating-drinking and sexuality.
- False teaching making doubt in heart.

The consequences are below:

- 'Long abstinence from food', meaning experiencing the spiritual famine even in the days of antichrist reigning over the world.
- Being drowned in the sea of fire and brimstone, not being able to reach the harbor of New Jerusalem.

The Lord wants to help us so we are not drowned in the sea of fire and brimstone, do not perish forever.Â

The ways God helps us are below:

1. Through the preaching of God's Word showing our sins, rebuking and exhorting us.

Acts 27:21-22

27:21. But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss.

27:22 "And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship.

2 Timothy 4:2

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

The preaching of the true teaching Word is more than money, more than all things.

The true teaching Word will do these things:

- o Convincing, showing our hidden sins. The storm will cease if we confess our sins.
- o Rebuking to make us repent (stopping sinning to return to God).
- o Exhorting.

The advice from God's Word is the guidance from God so we can live righteously and holily.

The exhortation is also the way out of all problems even the impossible one.

2. Through Holy Communion.

Acts 27:33-36

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.

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

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 broken bread is related to the Passover lamb (the figure 14), referring to the Holy Communion.

The Holy Communion cannot be consumed carelessly. There must be the preaching of the true teaching Word before it so our sins can be shown and we can examine ourselves and be worthy of consuming the Holy Communion. It is not a habit or a disaster but really a new strength [Acts 27:36].

Being strong and of good courage means being meek as a baby.

Nevertheless, there are still two possibilities in the ministry of the teaching Word and the Holy Communion as follows:

1. Being as Judas who had hard heart and kept his sins especially his lying.

John 13:26-27

13:26 Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

13:27 Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly."

Matthew 26:25

26:25 Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I?" He said to him, "You have said it."

The Word and the Holy Communion are the stretched merciful hand of God for us.

Hiding the lies, the hand of God cannot reach and there is no chance to receive the stretched hand of God.

Consequently, Satan entered Judas; he was in darkness; there was no light of the sun, of the moon, and of the stars; being antichrist God will destroy forever.

2. John has meek heart (= being strong and of good courage)

John 13:23

13:23 Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.

The hard heart is actually so fragile. On the contrary, the meek heart is actually so strong.

Being strong and of good courage means being meek as a baby as follows:

- Holding one true teaching Word.
- Not sinning anywhere, anytime, in any situation.
- Leaning on Jesus' bosom.

The results will be real as follows:

- The merciful hand of God is able to settle all our problems even the impossible ones although we are powerless.

2 Chronicles 14:9-11

14:9. Then Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million men and three hundred chariots, and he came to Mareshah.

14:10 So Asa went out against him, and they set the troops in battle array in the Valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

14:11 And Asa cried out to the LORD his God, and said, "LORD, it is nothing for You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power; help us, O LORD our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name we go against this multitude. O LORD, You are our God; do not let man prevail against You!"

- Our death or life is God's concern or in His hand.

John 21:20-23

21:20. Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

21:21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?"

21:22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

21:23 Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?"

The merciful hand of God will give us beautiful future life.

He will fight for our life.

God blesses you.