

Fellowship in Malang I, July 31, 2012 (Tuesday Evening)

The theme is "Behold, the Bridegroom is Coming! Go Out to Meet Him!"(Matthew 25:6)

Matthew 25:6

25:6 "And at midnight a cry was heard: *Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!*"

The midnight refers to the darkest time or the last days in the world which returns to the days of Noah and Lot. All people, including the servants and sons of God, sin and live in sin up to the peak, namely sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

Consequently, there is destruction in morality, marriage, and children in the last days.

The one tiding we need in midnight or the last days is BRIDE TIDING.

Jesus gives us example about the two kinds of the preaching of the Word. Paul, the apostle, also divides it into two groups as follows.

1. Ephesians 1:13

1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

The Gospel of Salvation is the Word that preaches Jesus' first coming into the world to save the sinful.

Proverbs 25:25

25:25 As cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a far country.

The Gospel of Salvation is called **Good Tiding** or milk.

The sinful is as the thirsty in the wilderness of the world. If there is no water for them, they will die and perish. Therefore, the Good Tiding is important. It is as a swallow of water that can save the thirsty in the wilderness.

The process of having the salvation is as follows.

- o Believing or having faith in Jesus.
- o Repenting or stopping sinning to return to God.
- o Being renewed by water and Spirit. We have new life in righteousness or heavenly life. Righteous life means salvation and blessings of God.

2. II 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.

The light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, is **the teaching Word** which is sharper than any two-edged sword. It is called solid food.

The teaching Word preaches about Jesus' second coming on glorious clouds in His glory as the King of all kings and Heavenly Bridegroom to sanctify and perfect us until we become Heavenly Bride who is as perfect as He is.

The closest relationship between God and us is until there is no separation anymore, namely the relationship between Jesus as Heavenly Bridegroom or the Head and the congregation as His wife or body. Son can be separated from his father, sheep and its shepherd or student and his teacher can too.

Therefore, the teaching Word is called **Bride Tiding**.

The Good Tiding must increase to become Bride Tiding, meaning our salvation must increase to become perfection. The saved people in the desert must be cleansed until they are perfect and worthy of becoming the Bride of God.

The teaching Word is prophetic one that reveals all things that have not happened yet but they will happen for sure.

Thus, the Bride Tiding prepares the Church of God to become the perfect Heavenly Bride who is worthy of welcoming Jesus' second coming. We can see Jesus face to face at that time.

Revelation 19:9

19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: *Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!*" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

We meet Jesus on glorious clouds to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, the kingdom of peace a thousand years, up to New Jerusalem or eternal heavenly kingdom.

"Behold, the Bridegroom is coming!" To behold Jesus, Heavenly Bridegroom face to face, **we have to see and heed the Bride Tiding.**

It is only the hard-hearted man who cannot receive the Bride Tiding.

II Peter 1:19

1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

The focus of the Church of God must be the Bride Tiding as we heed a lamp in the midst of darkness.

The meaning of "seeing or heeding" the Bride Tiding is as follows.

1. Listening to the Word solemnly with a need, so we will never change our focus.
We will never be bored of listening to the Word although it is preached repetitively if we need it.
2. Understanding the Word solemnly.
3. Believing or having faith in it.
4. Practicing the Bride Tiding.
We have to practice it, so we can endure all things. It begins from a pastor or the preacher of the Bride Tiding who must practice the Word.

The result will be real as follows:

II Corinthians 4:6

4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The light of the glory of Christ shines the dark heart of human.

Matthew 15:19

15:19 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts (1), murders (2), adulteries (3), fornications (4), thefts (5), false witness (6), blasphemies (7).

The dark heart contains seven evil and unclean lusts.

If we listen to the Word until understand, believe, and practice the Bride Tiding, our heart will be shined by it. Meaning our heart is pierced by a sharp sword. As a result, our heart becomes bright and shines the light through our deeds and saying.

The light of glory will be bigger or increased until we are perfect and glorious as Jesus is and there is no darkness at all, so we become the light of the world.

There are three stages of the light of glory in the Bride Tiding as follows:

1. II Peter 1:19

1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

A light that shines.

The light begins from the small one, namely the light or the lamp in household, before we become the light of the world. The Bride Tiding forms us to become shining lamp in the household. The practice is as follows.

- o The husband becomes the head of his wife.

The meaning is as follows:

- a. All physical and spiritual flows come from the husband or become his responsibility.

- b. The husband decides all matters in the household according to the true teaching Word. Remember! The household will be destroyed if the wife or child who decides. It has happened to Eve.
- c. The husband also has to love his wife as he loves himself and does not do bitterly toward her.

Rough husband or the one who hits his wife is as a man hitting himself or the mad man at the country of Gergesenes. Consequently, the marriage becomes in the ambience of tomb.

The service to God can also have the ambience of tomb or the place where the death may lengthen its hand. It happens when the service is not righteous. For example, the fellowship of the prophets with wild gourds refers to false teachings.

- **The wife becomes the body**, whose practice is through obedience to the husband in all things. The obedient wife will like to worship God for sure. Such a wife becomes the rib covering the weak parts of the body, referring to husband and children, through worship prayer.

On the contrary, disobedient wife likes to argue and grumble. Be alert because it is written twice in the bible that the husband will like to dwell in a corner of a housetop, meaning the falling in sins as it has happened to King David.

Proverbs 21:9

21:9 Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

Proverbs 25:24

25:24 It is better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

- **Children as the limbs**, whose practice is through the obedience to the parents to lighten their burdens.

Proverbs 30:17

30:17 The eye that mocks his father, And scorns obedience to his mother, The ravens of the valley will pick it out, And the young eagles will eat it.

On the contrary, the eye of disobedient children will be picked out by the ravens of the valley, meaning they are in darkness.

The result is as follows.

The light of the lamp in the household can defeat the darkness of the basket and bed. Meaning God pleads the household that has the light.

The basket refers to economy matter or sins concerning eating-drinking.

The bed refers to sins concerning marrying-being given in marriage.

2. Daniel 12:3

12:3 Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.

The light of shining star.

In special meaning, the star refers to the pastor and in general one it refers to the servant of God.

The pastor is the light in the congregation. Meaning he becomes the example in faith.

Hebrews 13:7-8

13:7 Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The practice is as follows.

- Holding fast to one true teaching Word.
- Keeping on hoping in God although being in temptation. For example, a servant of God keeps on hoping in God and not owing although he is in deficiency.

- **Psalm 78:23-25**

78:23 Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,

78:24 Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.

78:25 Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

As an angel, the duty of a pastor is to provide spiritual food for the congregation. The angel's food refers to Shepherding Word.

If the pastor does not want to feed the congregation, he will become devil who is disguised as an angel to destroy the congregation.

The requirement of being the shining stars is being wise.

It means as follows.

- Obeying the true teaching Word, whatever risk we have to face.
- Knowing the limit in our friendship wherever we are, that is the limit of righteousness and purity. It is as the star that remains in its orbit.
- Doing only the righteous and good deeds, even we can repay good for evil, so we can guide other people to the righteousness.

The result is as follows.

Proverbs 24:14

24:14 So shall the knowledge of wisdom be to your soul; If you have found it, there is a prospect, And your hope will not be cut off.

There is beautiful future life although we are in the dark world, so there is no difficulty.

3. II Peter 1:19

1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

The light of the morning star.

The Bride Tiding makes us become the morning star, meaning we become as glorious as Jesus, the bright morning star.

Heavenly kingdom will never be empty. Lucifer is the fallen morning star who perishes because of his arrogance, but Jesus is the bright morning star.

Revelation 21:9-10

21:9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."

21:10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

The last calling to the Church of God is the Bride, referring to the relationship between the congregation with God nothing may separate.

Heavenly Bride is the New Jerusalem, the city which is full of the light of precious stones, referring to the light of glory or life renewal.

Jasper stone means burning longing.

We must be faithful and fervent in spirit doing our service and ministry to God.

Being clear as crystal means honesty.

- It begins from honesty in confessing God or the true teaching Word.
- Being honest in confessing sins.
- Fully believing in God without any suspicion and doubt.

Being honest and believing in God mean lifting up our two hands to God. As a result, He also stretches His two hands in which there are holes of nail.

The result is as follows.

- **Hebrews 2:16-17**

2:16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

2:17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High

Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

He stretches **His faithful and merciful hands**.

He never fools us. If we are faithful and honest, He will stretch His merciful and faithful hands as follows.

- a. To finish or reconcile our sins. The sin is the heaviest burden in human life. If it is finished, God is able to finish all our burdens for sure.
- b. To finish all problems or burden. There is nothing impossible for Him.

○ **I Thessalonians 5:23-24**

5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

5:24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

God stretches His faithful hand and fulfills His promise to physically and spiritually preserve our life.

We are spiritually preserved until we have peace and bright face. Moreover, we are sanctified and renewed until we are perfect.

Someday we will become perfect as Jesus is and we see Him face to face on glorious clouds.

od blesses you.