

General Service in Malang, April 14, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28:16-20 is about the commandment to preach the gospel or to spread the light or shekinah glory. It is needed by this world that is getting darker in the last days.

The spread of the light or shekinah glory means that we are employed by God in the great revival according to the great commandment of God as follows.

- a. [verse 18-19] Revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain.

Matthew 28:19

28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

It is the revival in gospel Word or the gospel of salvation to bring the sinners to be saved through being baptized.

- b. Revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain.

Matthew 28:20

28:20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

It is the revival in the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ or the teaching Word sharper than any two-edged sword, or Bride Tidings. It aims to bring saved life to enter the building of the perfect body of Christ, to be sanctified and perfected to become the bride of God who is ready to welcome His second coming as the Bridegroom on the glorious clouds. Afterwards, we will enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God.

Thus, one who has been saved must struggle to reach perfection and become the bride of Heaven, so he will not be left when Jesus comes a second time. Actually, not all the people who have been saved can reach the perfection when Jesus comes a second time.

Genesis 19:15-17

19:15 When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city."

19:16 And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.

19:17 So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

Lot and his family have been saved but they are commanded to escape to the mountains so they are not destroyed. In the journey from Sodom to the mountains, Lot's wife looks back and she becomes a pillar of salt. She is destroyed. After being saved, we must make efforts to reach perfection.

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,

We who have been saved are still commanded to go to the mountain of New Jerusalem. It equals to become the perfect bride of God to welcome His second coming. Many are called but few are chosen. Many have been saved but few reach perfection.

During the journey from salvation to reach perfection in the last days, there are two things that must be watched as follows.

1. The situation of the world in the last days returns as it was in the days of Noah and Lot.

Luke 17:26-30

17:26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

17:27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

17:28 Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

17:29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

17:30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

The practices are as follows.

- Sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage. One is controlled by evil and unclean spirit so he cannot live in righteousness.
- Selling and buying, being controlled by antichrist with the mark of 666. It makes the servants of God unfaithful in the ministry even leave it because of looking for something else in the world. Besides, one is also active in the ministry for looking something carnally.
- Planting and building, being controlled by false prophet with false teaching and lying spirit. The consequence is being used to build the Babylon, that is the bride of Satan who will be destroyed.

2. Many servants of God become as Lot's wife, that is becoming as the pillar of salt and being destroyed. Do not underestimate the Word of God. The command received by Lot's wife is "Do not look back". When she looks back a bit, she becomes the pillar of salt.

Three things that must be noticed in order to reach perfection are as follows.

1. Staying on the housetop.

Luke 17:31a

17:31a In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away.

Housetop is a cool place. It means we must experience peace, be silent and calm.

- Being silent means correcting ourselves through the sharpness of the true teaching Word. If we find sin, we must confess it to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we must not do sin anymore. If we find the others' sin, we must forgive and forget it. Being silent equals to running to the cross. There, we hear "It is finished", meaning all sins are reconciled by the blood of Jesus.
- Being calm equals to controlling ourselves.
1 Peter 4:7:7 *But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.*

Flesh frequently asks for desire. By being calm, we can submit all our desires to God. Being calm also means submitting all our worries to God, so we can pray to Him.

Being silent and calm equals to stretching out both our hands to God. Thus, He will stretch out His hands to calm the wind and waves in our lives. God will solve everything in His time and our spirituality will increase up to perfection (the boat is able to sail to the New Jerusalem).

2. Staying in the field.

Luke 17:31b

17:31b ... And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back.

Field is the place for ministering God. It means that we must be faithful and fervent in spirit in the ministry up to the end line. Field is the place for sowing the seeds. There is only one kind of seed allowed in the field, that is the true teaching Word or the Word whose secret is revealed through a verse that explains other verses.

Luke 10:39,42

10:39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.

10:42 But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.

The right attitude is as Mary who sits at Jesus' feet. It means as follows.

- Being well shepherded.
- Hearing and being obedient to the true teaching Word.

If we are shepherded and obey the Word, the direction of our ministry is to the building of the body of Christ to place Jesus as the Head. Thus, we will never dry spiritually but always be in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

Therefore, staying in the field means being faithful, fervent in spirit, and obedient in the ministry and shepherding up to the end line.

The result is everything becomes good and we will receive eternal life [Luke 10:42].

3. Remember Lot's wife or Do not look back.

Luke 17:32

17:32 Remember Lot's wife.

It means as follows.

- Do not underestimate the true teaching Word and become disobedient.
- Do not be bound by something in Sodom and Gomorrah, that is sins concerning eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-being given in marriage.
The bond of Sodom and Gomorrah is also the bond of money.
- Do not see others but only God.

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 the power of the Word which is sharper than any two-edged sword can sanctify us from the bond of sins, so we can live in purification, starting from heart and mind are pure, up to the whole life is pure.

Matthew 5:8

5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

The result is we can see God. It means as follows.

- We can follow the pattern of God in the matter of righteousness and holiness, also in the matter of sacrifice and courage of Him.
- Worshiping God, seeing His countenance that shines as the sun.

The results of seeing the countenance of God through worship prayer are as follows.

- a. Being in peace, not feeling the things that our flesh feels, not being overthrown together with the world. If there is peace, everything will be easy and light.

Numbers 6:26

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

- b. Receiving the grace of God to make miracles in our lives.

Numbers 6:25

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

Spiritual miracle is started from being honest and obedient without any purpose, and without partiality. If spiritual miracle happens, physical miracle will also happen. There is nothing impossible for God. Until when He comes for a second time, we will experience the last miracle that is being renewed as glorious as Him, and entering the New Jerusalem as Lot reaches the mountains.

God blesses us.