

General Service in Malang, April 14, 2024 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 21:12-13

21:12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

21:13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

There are twelve gates of the New Jerusalem (12 = 4x3).

The number four refers to the four gospels and the four corners of the earth.

The number three refers to the Trinity of God.

Thus, the gate refers to the invitation of the Trinity of God through the preaching of the Word to the sinful men all over the world to become the perfect bride of God for entering the gate of the marriage supper of the Lamb, the door of paradise, up to the gate of the New Jerusalem or the heavenly kingdom.

Matthew 22:1-3

22:1 And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said:

22:2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,

22:3 "and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.

Entering through the gate of the New Jerusalem means that we receive the invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

God sends His servants to invite the people through preaching the Word or Bride Tidings so that they can enter the marriage supper of the Lamb, Paradise, and the New Jerusalem.

There are three attitudes towards the invitation as follows:

1. [verse 3] Not being willing to come = rejecting the Word because of keeping the fleshly interest.
2. [verse 4-8] Not being worthy to come.
3. [verse 9-13] Coming without having on the wedding garment.

Ad.2 Not being worthy to come.

Matthew 22:4-8

22:4 "Again, he sent out other servants, saying, "Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."

22:5 "But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.

22:6 "And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them.

22:7 "But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

22:8 "Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.

It is the same as rejecting the sacrifice or cross of Christ.

Hebrews 10:14

10:14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

It is the same as rejecting to be justified, sanctified, and perfected. One keeps the sins up to the peak until perishing forever in the hell.

The facts found in rejecting the sacrifice of Christ are as follows:

1. Going to the farm.
2. Going to the business or trading.
3. Seizing, treating spitefully, and killing the servants of God.

ad.a. Going to the farm.

Luke 17:28-29

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.

It means being active in planting and building in the world for fulfilling the life needs until leaving the field and building of God. Sooner or latter he will come to the field of the swine or fall in sins of Sodom and Gomorrah.

1 Corinthians 3:9

3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.

We must be active in the sowing of the seed of the Word so that we are built to be the perfect body of Christ for entering through the gate of the marriage supper of the Lamb, the door of Paradise, and the gates of the New Jerusalem.

There are two things which must be heeded in the sowing of the seed as follows:

1. The seed.

Leviticus 19:19

19:19 ' You shall keep My statutes. You shall not let your livestock breed with another kind. You shall not sow your field with mixed seed. Nor shall a garment of mixed linen and wool come upon you.

There must be only one kind of seed, namely the seed of the true teaching Word. The signs are as follows:

- Being written in the Bible.
- Being spoken by Jesus or revealed through a verse that explains the other verses in the Bible.

- Being preached not for looking for physical profit.
- Being obeyed.
- Daring to reveal the true marriage.

2. The ground. It refers to the heart.

Matthew 13:4-8

13:4 "And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.

13:5 "Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

13:6 "But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

13:7 "And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

13:8 "But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

There are four kinds of the ground of heart as follows:

- The wayside. It means as follows:
 - The feet often walk or wander. It means not being shepherded until being filled by many seeds of other doctrines.
 - Hearing the Word with the wandering heart and mind.
 - Hearing the Word with own mind until rejecting the Word which is impossible. Receiving the Word which is impossible, it will be able to remove impossibilities.

As a result, the seed of the Word is eaten by the bird or Satan. It means that one cannot understand the Word. He becomes foolish until perishes.

- The stony ground or the hard heart.
It means receiving the Word with emotion, namely being happy when the Word is in line with the flesh, but being angry, disappointed, and indignant when the Word points at the sins.

Consequently, the heart becomes dry or dissatisfied. The Word never becomes faith. There is no faith when the temptation comes until one perishes forever.

- The thorns or the heart that is full of fleshly desires until being anxious and doubtful.
 - Being doubtful to the true teaching Word when the false teachings come.
 - Being doubtful to the power of God when the temptations come. It means magnifying the temptations more than God.

Consequently, the seed of the Word is pressed until being dead. It means the spiritual death. Faith without the work is dead. It means that there is no salvation, but perdition.

- The good ground or the gentle heart. The facts found in it are as follows:
 - Looking for the good place for hearing the Word well. It starts from the opening prayer as the time for moving from the atmosphere of the world to the one of heaven, praising God, testimony, and the prayer before the preaching of the Word. Such is the process for loosening the ground of the heart to become gentle. The prayer after the Word is preached is to make the Word's being ingrained in our life and we can obey it. The prayer for the blessings is useful to lock or make all the blessings of God in our life firm that we can bring it to our household and we can be blessings for others.
 - Hearing the Word seriously and with a need like a dog that licks the crumbs, so we can understand, believe it to become faith in the heart, and obey it.

As a result, we can yield the fruits.

Luke 8:15

8:15 "But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

The fruit with patience means the perseverance in committing the three main services to God in the shepherding pen.

- Golden Candlestick = perseverance in committing the General Service --> bearing fruits, a thirtyfold . It refers to the fellowship with Holy Spirit God in the anointing and gifts until being the garland of twelve stars.
- Table of Showbread = perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with the Holy Communion --> bearing fruits, a sixtyfold. It refers to the fellowship with the Son of God in the true teaching Word and Christ's sacrifice until being the light of the moon.
- Golden Altar of Incense = perseverance in committing the Prayer Service --> bearing fruits, a hundredfold. It refers to the fellowship with Father God in the love until being the clothes of the sun.

The shepherding is useful for facing two great things as follows:

1. The double famine that will attack the world on the last days.

Genesis 26:1,12

26:1 There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar.

26:12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the LORD blessed him.

- Physical famine or economy crisis. Jesus as the Good Shepherd is able to preserve us in the midst of the crises in the world until we have the abundance and we can be blessings for others.
- Spiritual famine or dissatisfaction in the service and ministry to God until looking for the satisfaction in the world and falling in the sins of Babylon, namely the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage. The satisfaction in the world is brought into the church.

Genesis 26:7,10

26:7 And the men of the place asked about his wife. And he said, "She is my sister"; for he was afraid to say, "She is my wife," because he thought, "lest the men of the place kill me for Rebekah, because she is beautiful to behold."

26:10 And Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might soon have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt on us."

One will easily fall in sins up to the peak when there is no satisfaction in the marriage.

2. For welcoming Jesus' second coming.

Romans13:12-14

13:12 *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.*

13:13 *Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.*

13:14 *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.*

Through the shepherding pen, we are putting on the Lord Jesus Christ as the armor of the light, so we appear as the light in the marriage for facing the darkness of the basket, namely economy crisis and the sins concerning eating-drinking as well as the darkness of the bed or the sins concerning marrying-being given in marriage until we become the light before men and the light of the world.

Revelation12:1

12:1 *Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.*

The facts found in putting on the armor of light or the sun, moon, and stars are as follows:

- Being honest. It is especially about the teachings and in all things.
- Daring to confess sins. Being forgiven, do not repeat the sin!
- The sincere faith, believing, and entrusting our life to God. We are obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore or we stretch out the hands to God. As a result, He stretches out the hands of Holy Spirit to us.

For example, Moses stretched out his hands twice.

Exodus14:16,21-22

14:16 *"But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.*

14:21 *Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*

14:22 *So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.*

First, Moses stretched his hands to God and He stretched out the hands of Holy Spirit for dividing the Red Sea.

As a result, God opens the new way or solution of all impossible problems and gives the beautiful successful future life in time of need. Holy Spirit is able to protect and preserve our life in the midst of the difficulties in the world.

Exodus14:26-28

14:26 *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."*

14:27 *And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.*

14:28 *Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.*

Second, Moses stretched out his hands and God stretched out the hands of Holy Spirit for reversing the sea water until destroying Pharaoh (Satan), the army (the Antichrist), and the horsemen (false prophets). It means defeating the trinity of Satan or the source of sin, so we can live in righteousness and holiness and be used in the edification of the body of Christ.

Philippians2:10-11

2:10 *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,*

2:11 *and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

It also means defeating the wild tongue which is controlled by the trinity of Satan, namely the meaningless words, lies, gossips, slanders, and blasphemy. The tongue can lick the crumbs, namely enjoying consuming the Word until the words become righteous and good. The tongue can lick the wine of Holy Spirit until we can testify and worship God. We become the house of prayer and the miracles happen until we become perfect or do not stumble in words and we enter the gate of the marriage supper of the lamb, Paradise, and the New Jerusalem.

God blesses you.