

General Service in Malang, April 21, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

CHILD SUBMISSION SERVICE

Revelation 4:3

4:3 *And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and [there was] a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.*

An emerald refers to a rainbow. A rainbow is a sign of covenant from God.

Genesis 9:13-15,17

9:13 *"I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth*

9:14 *"It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud;*

9:15 *"and I will remember My covenant which [is] between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

9:17 *"The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that [is] on the earth."*

Acts 2:17-18

2:17 *And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.*

2:18 *And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.*

A rainbow also means the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

This morning we are submitting this child so that his life is signed by the rainbow. He is always anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Leviticus 21:12

21:12 *nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.*

In order to be anointed by the Holy Spirit, we should stay in the sheepfold or Holy Place. It means perseverance in doing three kinds of main services.

- The Golden Candlestick or perseverance in committing General Service.
- The Table of Showbread or perseverance in committing Bible Study and Holy Communion Service.
- The Golden Altar of Incense or perseverance in committing Prayer Service.

If there is the rainbow or the anointing of the Holy Spirit, the results will be as follow.

- God will protect and preserve us miraculously in the middle of much impossibility in the world.
- God solves all temptations and troubles, up to the impossible one.

Ezekiel 1:28

1:28 *Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so [was] the appearance of the brightness all around it. This [was] the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. So when I saw [it], I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.*

- Our lives are renewed little by little until we become perfect as Jesus. It begins with being obedient. Until we are renewed to be as glorious as Jesus in the time of His second coming. We can see the rainbow in the throne of God.

GENERAL SERVICE

Peace and grace in the love of our 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 in the darkest.

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.

1. [verse18-19] **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 that preaches about Jesus's first coming to die on the cross to bring the sinners to be saved through believing Jesus and being baptized.

2. **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 preaches about Jesus's second coming as the King of kings and Bridegroom. It aims to sanctify the saved to be perfect as Jesus and become the bride of God who is ready to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

In the Old Testament, the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain and the latter rain are described with the two times of Moses receiving the two tablets of stone.

- a. In the Exodus 32, Moses received **the first two tablets of stone**. But then, he broke the tablets to save the Israelites. It refers to the sacrifice of Christ that saves the sinners. It is the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain.
- b. In the Exodus 34, Moses received **the second two tablets of stone** and the skin of his face shone. It refers to the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ. It is the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain.

Between the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain and the latter rain, there is a dark and virulent valley. It is the valley of spiritual decline that is worshipping the golden calf.

In the New Testament, the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain and the latter rain are described with the two times of the breaking of bread.

a. [Matthew 14:13-21] **The first breaking of bread.**

Matthew 14:17

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

The bread refers to the word of God.

The figure five refers to the five wounds of Jesus or His sacrifice to save the sinners.

So, the five loaves mean the Word of God that preaches about Jesus's sacrifice to save the sinners. It is called the gospel of salvation.

The first breaking of bread means the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain.

b. [Matthew 15:32-39] **The second breaking of bread.**

Matthew 15:34

15:34 Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few little fish."

The bread refers to the Word of God.

The figure seven refers to the perfection.

So, the seven loaves mean the Word of God that preaches about the second coming of Jesus to perfect us or the light of the glory of Christ.

The second breaking of bread is the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain.

Between the two times of the breaking of bread, there was **a spiritual decline** in facing the destroying wind and the waves, so Peter was drowned.

So, the spiritual decline of the church of God is worshipping other gods (the golden calf) and almost drowned.

Exodus 32:9

32:9 And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it [is] a stiffnecked people!"

The cause of spiritual decline is a hardened or stiffnecked heart.

The practices are as follows.

1. **A spiritual lukewarmness** or not losing but not winning too.

Exodus 32:17-18

32:17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."

32:18 But he said: "[It is] not the noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, [But] the sound of singing I hear."

The meaning of the spiritual lukewarmness is as follows.

- Not being cold. It means **there is no peace.**
Not being hot means **there is no faithfulness and fervency in spirit doing the service and ministry to God,** even one leaves or does them only as a habit.

Revelation 3:14-16

3:14 "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, â€œThese things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:

3:15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.

3:16 "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. "

- **Not having life renewal.** It means one does not want to die to the old life as well as raise in new life.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

3:1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

3:2 For men will be (1)lovers of themselves, (2)lovers of money, (3)boasters, (4)proud, (5)blasphemers, (6)disobedient to parents, (7)unthankful, (8)unholy,

3:3 (9)unloving, (10)unforgiving, (11)slanderers, (12)without selfâ€œcontrol, (13)brutal, (14)despisers of good,

3:4 (15)traitors, (16)headstrong, (17)haughty, (18)lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

Having disobedience means there is no life renewal but carnal man with eighteen carnal characteristics. Moreover, there must be other sins if there is the disobedience.

The spiritual lukewarmness can be covered by these two things.

- The sound of singing. It is encouraged by the lust of flesh.
It is proven by the fervency in spirit to sing but not to hear the Word. Singing with the anointing of Holy Spirit, one hears the Word with more fervency in spirit.
- Magnifying physical things.

Consequently, God vomits him. His service and ministry to God cannot satisfy Him, so he has no satisfaction in his life and seeks for it in the world and sins.

The vomit refers to something that is unclean and disgusting. It means he is disgusting before God.

2. **Corrupting themselves.**

Exodus 32:7,1

32:7 And the LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.

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."

One who has hard heart will corrupt the service to God. Such service will only gather together to Aaron, not Jesus. It means the service does not prioritize the true teaching Word anymore, but the physical ones, so the purpose is only to seek for physical advantage.

Corrupting the service means the marriage and he himself are also corrupted.

Proverbs 6:32

6:32 Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; He who does so destroys his own soul.

Destruction to his soul happens through adultery and bad words such as lie, slander, gossips, et cetera.

3. [Matthew 14:22-33] **The destruction in faith.** It means **the doubt** when facing the wind and wave.

Matthew 14:30-32

14:30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

14:32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

The wind and wave refer to these things.

- Temptations and problems that make us doubtful about the power of God, so we hope in others.
- The wind of false teaching that makes us doubtful about the true teaching.

Ephesians 4:14

4:14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

The consequence is there is no quietness but heavy burden and weariness. In such condition, one will never get anything until he is drowned at the end.

James 1:6-8

1:6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

1:7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

1:8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Peter is allowed to sink so that he is able to lift up his hand to God. It means as follows.

- Holding fast to the one true teaching Word.
- Confessing that we are nothing and powerless, so we only rely on the mercy of God.

We can have broken heart to cry only the name of Jesus.

Isaiah 57:15

57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

As a result, God will stretch out His hand to give us new strength and restore us. His hand will also use us, sanctify and perfect our life.

Jonah has been drowned to the bottom of the sea, but he cries to God. As a result, he is lifted up to the throne of God.

Jonah 2:1-2,6

2:1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly.

2:2 And he said: "I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, And He answered me. "Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, And You heard my voice.

2:6 I went down to the moorings of the mountains; The earth with its bars closed behind me forever; Yet You have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD, my God.

Whatever our fall and failure is now, let us cry to God and He is able to lift us up.

God blesses you.