

General Service in Malang, August 03, 2014 (Sunday Morning)

Speaker: Rev. Dadang Hadi Santoso

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

Matthew 10:38

10:38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

Who is worthy of God? Who is worthy of following Him and welcoming His second coming to enter the New Jerusalem?

The answer is one who is willing to bear the cross, meaning willingness to suffer because of the will of God. The manifestation is ministering Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 3:12

3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

There will be persecutions that come from outside and inside. Persecutions from outside are in the form of hatred, being excommunicated, increased difficulties to ministering God, *et cetera*. Persecution from inside is in the form of tearing of the flesh or flesh suffering.

God declares three things within ministry as follows.

1. God gives double promise for our present and eternal life in the kingdom of Heaven.

1 Timothy 4:8-10

4:8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

4:9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

4:10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

2. God gives great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6

6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

Great gain within ministry is the fine linen, clean and bright [Revelation 19:8], and the two wings of a great eagle.

3. God writes His name on our forehead, so we belong to Him and we can minister Him day and night in the kingdom of Heaven.

Revelation 22:3-4

22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

22:4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

If we minister God, His name will be written on our forehead. But if one ministers the other, the other's name will be written on his forehead, until the name of antichrist will be written on his forehead. As the consequence, he will be destroyed together with antichrist forever.

Our attitudes in ministering Lord Jesus Christ are as follows.

1. Struggling and laboring in ministering Him more than any other activities in the world.

1 Timothy 4:9-10

4:9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

4:10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

Struggling means trying with all our strength to minister God.

Laboring means sacrificing everything to be able to minister Him.

Jesus has sacrificed Himself first on the cross so we can minister Him. Therefore, we must really labor and struggle to

minister Him. We must sacrifice everything to be able to minister Him. Only one thing that must not be sacrificed, that is the true teaching Word.

2 Timothy 2:3-4

2:3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

2:4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

A soldier in warfare does not think or worry about the daily matters, but he thinks how he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

If we are willing to struggle and labor to minister Him, we must also learn to please and satisfy Him. Thus, God will also please and satisfy us.

2. Ministering with contentment.

1 Timothy 6:6

6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

It means we minister God not to look for physical matters, but for Jesus Himself, that is the true teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

If we minister God with the aim to look for physical matters, the direction will be to idolatry. As in the past the Israelites pressed about Aaron so they created the golden calf.

Luke 5:1

5:1 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,

We must minister God with contentment, that is pressing about Jesus. It means being obedient to the Word of God.

Every preaching of the true teaching Word is the activity of Jesus in the midst of us.

- Jesus saw two empty boats.

Luke 5:2

5:2 and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets.

It means Jesus sees our failures, uncleanness, and weaknesses with the merciful sight. If we really minister God and look for the Word, we will get God's attention.

- Jesus sat down on the empty boat.

Luke 5:3

5:3 Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

It means He also feels and bears our burdens, failures, and difficulties.

- Jesus speaks and gives command.

Luke 5:4-6

5:4 When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

5:5 But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net."

5:6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

It means Jesus stretches out His hands to help and solve our problems.

Our attitude is being obedient to His command although it is outside our mind. It equals to stretching out our hands and welcoming His hands. When our hands meet His hands, miracle will happen.

The results are as follows.

- a. Creation power.

The disciples were in failure and caught nothing. His command was to let down the nets for a catch. Because of their obedience, there was miracle from catching no fish to a great number of fish.

If we obey God, we only need to wait for His time.

Being disobedient to and arguing the Word equal to wasting the stretching out of God hands. The consequence is God lifts up His hands to judge.

If we are blessed by God and have something from nothing, we must not forget God, as the One who gives us the blessing, and the others. We must also testify so we become a blessing to the others and we can glorify His name.

- b. Sanctification power from sins.

Luke 5:8

5:8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

Peter can confess his sin to God.

- c. Renewal power from the fishermen to the fishers of men.

We experience renewal from flesh man to become spiritual one. The characteristic of spiritual man is not being egoistic but prioritizing God.

Spiritual man is not afraid.

Luke 5:10-11

5:10 and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

5:11 So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

If one is afraid, he will be worried and cannot prioritize God.

There is no more fear means we only believe and fully surrender our life to God.

Spiritual man, who is not egoistic and afraid, will be used in the work of the Kingdom of Heaven, for the glory of the name of God and for the building of the perfect body of Christ.

Romans 10:15

10:15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

If we are sent by God, He will give beauty in every step of our life. Thus, we will never intend to leave the ministry to God.

Psalms 68:11

68:11 The Lord gave the word; Great was the company of those who proclaimed it:

God does not only make everything beautiful, but also the most beautiful. He will make us as the great army of the Heaven, that is the bride of God. We are joyful with Him forever.

Song of Solomon 6:10

6:10 Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

God blesses us.