

General Service in Malang, August 28, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:24-25

26:24 *The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.*

26:25 *Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I?" He said to him, "You have said it."*

Warning to Judas Iscariot.

Jesus said that **it would have been good for Judas Iscariot if he had not been born**, although Judas was an apostle and a treasurer (confidant of God).

Why?

Because Judas Iscariot did not experience new birth such that he kept being flesh and blood man, with thief, betrayer, and liar signs.

Flesh and blood man does not inherit the kingdom of Heaven. It equals to be perished forever, as broken clay pots and destroyed to many pieces.

No matter how great a man in this world physically or spiritually is, if he does not experience new birth, it would have been good for that man if he had not been born, since he will be perished (he is born only to be perished).

From Jesus' warning to Judas, we can take some lessons as follows:

a. We have to serve God.

Life who has served God still has destiny as Judas, moreover life who does not serve God or even leave the ministry.

b. We who have served, do not be complacent. We must keep being watchful such that we do not become as Judas Iscariot.

Warning to Judas has been delivered in the church of early rain, also to the church of last rain.

II 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 self-control, (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!*

In the past, Judas betrayed Jesus by selling Him to get money.

Now, we have to be watchful such that we do not sell our parents/ pastor through saying slanders or bad things about them.

Warning to God's children, priests of God in the last days (the last warning).

In the last days, many God's servants do not experience renewal of life or new birth, although they minister and serve God, such that they keep becoming flesh and blood men with eighteen flesh characters.

The presence of eighteen flesh characters equals to life who is marked 666 by antichrist (although they serve in the temple of God!). They become equal to antichrist and will be perished forever on Jesus' second coming.

Why can this happen?

Since they deny or reject the power of ministry, that is the revelation of true teaching Word, which is sharper than any double-edged sword, and able to purify our life.

Many people come to a service just to look for the things which please the flesh, while they reject the sword of the Word which is able to result new birth in our life.

Colossians 2:18-19

2:18 *Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,*

2:19 *and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.*

Many services now are just prioritizing (puffing up) carnal matters, not the Word.

If there is no Word (Jesus) as the Head in marriage and ministry, foxes and birds will become the head.

The signs of ministry which does not place Jesus as the Head are as follows:

- Hypocrisy = what is inside does not equal what is outside.
(The attitudes inside the church do not equal what is outside the church, what is inside the heart does not equal what is outside, etc.)
- Ministering "angel", not God = doing service just because of human figure (pastor, artist, etc.), or just to get money and other carnal things.
- Persisting on carnal matters, without spiritual aims.
The right vision is a vision according to the revelation of the Word and has spiritual aims.
- Only magnifying carnal matters which are actually not great.
As great as a church in this world, it is only as ship in the middle of sea. Do not magnify it!

Let us correct ourselves, is our ministry really prioritizing the Word?

If ministry does not place Jesus (the revelation of the true teaching Word) as the Head, that ministry will not lead to the building of perfect body of Christ, but only result in dead body.

The signs of dead body are as follows (which leads to perdition):

1. Not experiencing renewal of life, keeping preserving flesh and blood man with eighteen flesh characters. That kind of life will lead to decay.

Although he serves God, but it will lead to decay and perdition.

Only the strength of the Word which is able to stop our life from decay.

2. Spiritually being withered even spiritually dying. The practices are as follows:

- a. **Proverbs17:22**

17:22. A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.

A broken spirit means

= easily being proud of carnal matters, no matter it is according to the Word or not (forgetting the Word), no matter it is legal or not. At the end, he will easily be disappointed and desperate in facing temptations.

= not being faithful, not being fervent in spirit, until leaving the ministry.

- b. As the fig tree which was dried up on the street because of God's curse.

The fig tree was cursed since it did not bear any fruits, only produced leaves.

The leaf of fig tree denotes life who always defends self-truth.

Self truth is always covering sins by pretending doing good, never confessing sins but blaming the others, keeping doing sins.

Otherwise, the power of true teaching Word is able to point our sins, pierce our heart, such that we can regret, confess the sins, be forgiven, and not repeat the sins anymore. We are made right by God.

By the works of the Word, we can result the fruits of righteousness which please God, such that God will also please us.

- c. As dry branch which is separated with the true vine. It equals to life which is not shepherded.

There are two possibilities for life which is not shepherded as follows:

- i. Walking about, not staying inside shepherding pen.

- ii. Being inside the shepherding pen, but cannot receive/ eat the shepherding Word.

False teaching, gossips whose truth cannot be accounted will make us doubtful and wither to shepherding Word.

Do not be disturbed by gossips! If we are disturbed, we must ask directly and reconcile it!

Whoever they are (wife, husband, children, pastor, etc.), do not follow them if they bring another teaching! If branch abides to the vine of shepherding Word, SURELY it will be cleaned/ purified and will bear fruits. Otherwise, if branch is separated with the vine of shepherding Word, SURELY it will wither, be not holy, and it can do nothing.

John15:4-6

15:4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

15:6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

Sheep outside the shepherding can do nothing, it would have been good for them if they had not been born, and they will only be attacked by foxes.

Be careful!

Dry branches will only be gathered to be burned. It means there are many dry branches fellowship!

The sign is withered people can be detected from their tongue which is full of lies, slanders, saying bad things about the others, gossips whose truth cannot be accountable.

It is in vain or not, it is useless or not we are born, it is decided from our tongue (not salary, diploma, etc.).

Ministry with the revelation of true teaching Word equals to placing Jesus as the Head. It will lead to the building of perfect body of Christ, by purification and renewal of life.

The practices are as follows:

a. Hebrews13:4-5

13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

HONESTY (full of honor) in marriage (bed) and money.

Thus, Jesus as the Head, the Good Shepherd, sacrifices His soul to care us, and our household, in the middle of difficulties in this world, until the era of antichrist.

Just be honest, and slowly God will restore us!

b. James5:10-11

5:10 My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience.

5:11 Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord, that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

Being PATIENT and PERSEVERING in shepherding although we are in suffering, being patient in waiting God's time.

Do not use our own way, moreover the way outside the Word!

Let us wait God works for us. It equals to placing Jesus as the Head and High Priest.

Hebrews4:16

4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Thus, High Priest will help us right on His time.

c. Mark 9:22-24

9:22 And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

9:23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

9:24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

Worshiping God = BELIEVING and FULLY SURRENDERING ourselves to God.

Worship (neck) is the closest relation between body and Head, between the church of God and Jesus as Heavenly Bridegroom.

Thus, Jesus as the Head, as the Heavenly Bridegroom, is able to erase all carnal and spiritual impossibilities.

Spiritual impossibilities will be erased, we can be renewed until become as perfect as Him and we will be lifted in glorious clouds to welcome Jesus' second coming.

God blesses us.