

General Service in Malang, December 11, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:36-46 is about **GETHSEMANE**.

Matthew 26:36, 40

26:36. Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, *“Sit here while I go and pray over there.”*

26:40 Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, *“What! Could you not watch with Me one hour?”*

Gethsemane is a place of pressing.

In the past, Jesus experienced flesh suffering (sprinkling of blood) until His sweat became like great drops of blood.

In the last days, the church of God (follower of Jesus) will also experience flesh pressing, in the form of suffering or oppression to be able to minister God, inequity, being slandered, difficulties, etc.

All these things cannot be tackled by the power from the world (smartness, richness, having high position, etc.), but **the ambience of Gethsemane can only be tackled by watching and praying**.

One of the forms of watching and praying is **watching and praying for one hour**.

The benefit of watching and praying for one hour:

Revelation 18:16-17a

18:16 and saying, *“Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!”*

18:17 *For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.*

We watch and pray for one hour to face Babel, that is the peak of sins, i.e. eating-drinking sins (smoking, getting drunk, gambling, consuming drugs) and marrying and being given in marriage sins (marriage destruction, mixed marriage, marrying with others after divorce).

Be careful!

Babel equals to false church that only exaggerates physical blessings, but preserves sins up to the peak of sins.

It seems as wearing fine linen, but it is not bright. It seems good and successful from outside, but inside it is decay because of sins and peak of sins.

The consequence is Babel will be perished in one hour.

Thus, **we watch and pray for one hour such that we are not dragged by sins of Babel and not being perished together with Babel that will be done in one hour**.

In Revelation 18, there are three groups which will be dragged by Babel as follows:

Revelation 18:9, 11, 17

18:9. *“The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning,*

18:11 *“And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore:*

18:17 *For in one hour such great riches came to nothing. Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance*

1. Group of the kings.
2. Group of the merchants.
3. Group of shipmasters.

Ad. 1. Group of the kings

The kings are lives who have position in this world.

There are two positions in this world as follows:

- a. Physical position, starting from the lowest position until in the palace of king.
The higher position someone has in this world, the stronger Babel works.

Be watchful with promotion in work, diploma, etc!
When there is a little arrogance and pride, Babel already comes in.

Do not be proud of anything!

- b. Spiritual position (position in heaven), that is priests and kings.
Priests and kings are lives who hold ministry and serve God.

If one only has position in this world, but has no spiritual position, sooner or later he will be dragged by Babel.

Revelation 1:5-6

1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

1:6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him beglory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Actually, position of priests and kings are only for Israelites.
Through the offspring line, we cannot become priests and kings.

But, God opens another way, that is through **the mercy of God from Jesusâ€™ blood.**

The blood of Jesus redeems us or set us free from sins and lifts us up to become priests and kings until forever.

Sins are the barricade of priests and kings, such that many people are stumbled in halfway.
We have to throw away the sins! We have to keep the position of priests and kings forever.

The position of priests and kings is on the price of Jesusâ€™ blood. It cannot be bought, replaced, nor changed by anything.
If we leave the ministry, we owe Jesusâ€™ blood that cannot be paid by anything.

God has struggled by the sacrifice of Christ (Jesusâ€™ blood), why do we not want to become priests and kings?

Revelation 20:6

20:6 Blessed and holy ishe who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Revelation 22:3-5

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 beon their foreheads.

22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

The position of priests and kings is forever, until the kingdom of peace a thousand year, even until we become the occupant of kingdom of Heaven.

We watch and pray for one hour to make permanent the position of priests and kings.

Matthew 5:13-14

5:13. â€œYou are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

5:14 â€œYou are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

The position of priest and king equals to the salt of the earth and light of the world.

This morning, we will discuss about **SALT OF THE EARTH.**

We have to become salty salt, that is useful salt, not without flavor.

If salt loses its flavor (easy to be proud, disappointed, or desperate), that life will be rotten (worms of sins are entrenched) and will be trampled underfoot by antichrist (enter the persecution of antichrist).

If that life worships antichrist, later he will enter perdition in the hell, where the worms do not die.

One who has become priest still has the risk, the salt can lose its flavor, moreover the one who does not want to become priest and king.

It is important for priests and kings to pray more, especially one hour prayer.

We watch and pray to become salty salt.

There are two signs of useful salt as follows:

1. The salt must keep salty.

Most of the time we underestimate salt (the position of priests and kings) because we think that the positions in the world are greater.

Salt is cheap and looks unimportant, but it is needed everywhere.

The process of being salty salt is as follows:

- o **We must reconcile with God and the others.**

Mark 9:49-50

9:49 *For everyone will be seasoned with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt.*

9:50 *Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another.*

- a. Reconciliation means realizing, regretting, and confessing sins to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we should not do sins anymore. Sins are reconciled by the blood of God.

Repeating sins means the forgiveness is cancelled, and the salt loses its flavor.

Confessing is for our own sins, also for bearing the others' faults (Do not follow the others in doing sins!).

Matthew 15:22

15:22 *And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."*

The first example is parents who bear their children's faults, pastor who bears the congregation's faults, not joining in doing sins.

I Samuel 25:23-24

25:23 *Now when Abigail saw David, she dismounted quickly from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the ground.*

25:24 *So she fell at his feet and said: "On me, my lord, on me let this iniquity be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant."*

The second example is wife who bears his husband's faults.

David was doing good to Nabal, but Nabal repaid with evil and even reviled David.

We must learn to Jesus on the cross, He bears all our sins.

- b. Reconciliation means forgiving the others' sins and forgetting the sins.

If the others have really confessed their sins, but we do not forgive them, those sins will turn back to us.

After being reconciled, we will receive peace, and it equals to being salty salt.

2. We must be shepherded = being inside the shepherding.

Life who is not shepherded is as water in sea, which is always blown by wind and waves. His life has no rest because of many temptation waves, and being played by false teaching wind.

Life who is not shepherded will bring in wind and waves in his life.

On the contrary, shepherded life is as water in sea that is flown to the embankment of salt, such that he will find rest. Shepherding does not limit ministry, but the work of true teaching Word will limit the flesh with all its desire and lust.

Shepherding pen equals to the Holy Place of Tabernacle with three equipments. It equals to the perseverance in three main services.

The requirements of being shepherded are as follows:

I Peter 5:6-7

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

- Not being worried nor afraid of something, but having fear of the Lord.
- Humbling ourselves.
Salt is something that is cheap. We should not be arrogant or put ourselves as something that is very expensive!
We have no power and worthiness (we do many sins and faults), such that we are not appropriate to demand something.

We humble ourselves until we can confess our sins.

If we do not humble ourselves, we cannot be shepherded.

- Persevering and being obedient (submitting ourselves) = we are salted 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.

The results is the Great Shepherd cares us and lifts us up, He makes everything success in His time.

I Peter 5:7

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

3. Salt must be willing to dissolve.

I Peter 4:12-14

4:12. Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

It means as follows:

- Willing to sacrifice.
Everything must be sacrificed for the building body of Christ, except the true teaching Word.
- We must experience flesh suffering without any sins.

Thus, we will be salted by the fire of Holy Spirit (the spirit of glory).

The usefulness of Holy Spirit is as follows:

- Holy Spirit gives life to us.

John 6:63

6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

Physically, Holy Spirit cares our life in the middle of the world which is as wilderness.

Spiritually, Holy Spirit gives righteous and holy life in the middle of bent world.

Be careful in the last days, because wrong things are considered right since they have many followers, while the right one is blamed.

- Holy Spirit is the Helper who gives strength when we face hatred, suffering, etc., such that we do not become disappointed and desperate but we even can bear witness.

John 15:25-27

15:25 But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, "They hated Me without a cause."

15:26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

15:27 And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

Holy Spirit is the Helper who is able to solve all our problems.

If we have been helped, we must bear witness.

Bearing witness equals to salt which gives delicious taste. Our testimony can strengthen the others who are in weakness.

- Holy Spirit purifies and renews us, from sinful flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus.

Romans 15:16

15:16 that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

We are renewed little by little, until we become as perfect as Him. We will not become the same as Babel, but we become perfect bride of God.

God blesses us.