

General Service in Malang, December 18, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

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

Matthew 26:36, 40, 43, 45

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?"*

26:43 *And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy.*

26:45 *Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners."*

Gethsemane is a place of pressing.

At Gethsemane, Jesus experienced flesh pressing to get glory.

In the last days, the followers of Jesus will also experience flesh pressing, that is in the form of suffering even persecution to be able to minister God, suffering to keep holding on Jesus or the true teaching Word, injustice, slander, difficulties, etc.

Flesh suffering equals to the sprinkling of blood. It equals to the time before antichrist reigns over the world, until the time antichrist reigns over it for three and a half years.

God let us to experience all of these such that we also can reach glory with God.

All flesh sufferings because of Jesus cannot be tackled by everything from this world (richness, smartness, having high position, etc.), but it can only be tackled by watching and praying.

We watch and pray such that we do not sleep spiritually.

If we sleep spiritually, we will deny Jesus and the consequence is perdition forever.

The disciples (including Peter) slept three times. The consequence was Peter denied Jesus three times.

The meanings of spiritual sleep are as follows:

1. Matthew 13:24-25, 30

13:24. *Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;*

13:25 *but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.*

13:30 *Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."*

Spiritual sleep means having no more passion to the true teaching Word(wheat seed), that is:

- Getting bored and sleepy when listening the true teaching Word.
- Starting to worry and doubt the true teaching Word, being fulfilled with many questions and considerations.
- Being disobedient, clearly rejecting the true teaching Word.

The true teaching Word denotes the Table of Showbread.

We must pay attention to Bible Study Service with Holy Communion!

When we sleep spiritually, Satan has chance to sow the seed of tares, that is:

- The seed of false teaching.

II Timothy 4:2-4

4:2 *Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.*

4:3 *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;*

4:4 *and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.*

The time will come when God's children who sleep spiritually will not endure the true teaching and turn to false

teaching.

False teaching is the teaching that is not according to the verse in the Bible (with addition or subtraction), including gossips whose truth cannot be accounted.

False teaching only satisfies the desire of the ears, since the sin will not be pointed or rebuked, even it will be praised.

- The seed of sins, evil and unclean sins, bitterness.

The seed of tares will grow and become tares.

Tares equals to Christians' life who preserves sin.

Everyone does sins and there is forgiveness.

If we confess sins and do not repeat them, God will forgive (the seeds of tares are pulled out).

On the contrary, if one confesses sin and repeats it again, forgiveness is canceled and that life becomes tares (he enjoys sin).

The consequence is tares will end up in the burning at the lake of fire and brimstone(the everlasting hell), that is suffering and perdition forever.

Sin makes us fall down. False teaching makes us lose our way or direction.

Both of them make us cannot reach the kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 13:41-42

13:41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

13:42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

2. Proverbs 19:15

19:15. Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, And an idle person will suffer hunger.

Spiritual sleep = being lazy and wicked.

Being lazy means being unfaithful in the ministry.

Being wicked means leaving ministry to God.

Ministry denotes the Golden Candlestick.

We must pay attention to the General Service!

Be watchful!

In the parable of the servants in the vineyard, the flesh desires cause grumbling, envy, dispute, etc.

Matthew 25:26, 30

25:26 But his lord answered and said to him, You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.

25:30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

There will be differences between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

Malachi 3:18; 4:1

3:18 Then you shall again discern Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.

4:1 For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up, Says the Lord of hosts, That will leave them neither root nor branch.

Hasty life is one who easily leaves the ministry.

The consequence is straw will also be burned on the day of God. It will enter everlasting perdition.

3. Matthew 26:40

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?*

Spiritual sleep = being unfaithful in worship prayer, even cannot worship God anymore (being withered spiritually).

Worship prayer denotes the Golden Altar of Incense.

We must pay attention to the Prayer Service!

The success in the preaching of the true teaching Word (the sowing of the seed) is when it can bring the congregation to persevere in the shepherding pen, that is perseverance in three main services.

Life who worships God is as having a fountain of water which springs up and flows around.

On the contrary, the detections of life who is being dry spiritually are as follows:

- The lip easily blames the others.
The more we blame the others, the deeper we fall.

- Tending to follow the flesh desire that contradicts with the Word.

The consequence is there is a gap for Satan to enter our life such that we fall into temptations.

When there are temptations or problems, it is a WARNING that we are apart from the hands of God and switched to the hands of Satan!

If we realize, there will be opportunity to come back to the hands of God.

But, if we do sins during the temptations, we will be cast forever to the hell.

If the church of God sleeps spiritually, Jesus will also sleep. He has no passion to do something to us.

Mark 4:37-41

4:37 *And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.*

4:38 *But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, *Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?**

4:39 *Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, *Peace, be still!* And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.*

4:40 *But He said to them, *Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?**

4:41 *And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, *Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!**

Our journey of following Jesus is as sailing in the boat to the other side, crossing over the sea to the haven of peace (Kingdom of Heaven).

Be watchful!

Suddenlya great tempest arose on the sea, and it will drown the boat of our life.

Do not feel that we are already safe or established, etc.!

The condition of the church of the Lord who sleeps spiritually is as a boat in the middle of the sea and is hit by wind and waves, while Jesus is sleeping.

It means as follows:

- Only relying on our own strength and experience, including self-truth, to tackle wind and waves.
The consequence is wind and waves cannot be tackled, the boat is almost drowned, and Jesus sleeps (He does not take care of us).

- In a condition without hope, going to ruin, being drowned, and perdition forever.

We must keep being watchful such that we do not become stubborn, desperate, or disappointed!

Why does God let all these things happen?

It is such that we can awake God who sleeps.

It means that **we enter spiritual revival, such that Jesus also awakes and has passion to help us.**

The practices of spiritual revival are as follows:

1. **Jesus must always be inside our boat of life = we are always faithful and fervent in spirit in ministry to God.**

A faithful life is life which wins over the death power(wind and waves) and is guarded by God.

Being unfaithful means being lost.

Revelation 17:14

17:14. These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.

Our boat of life is drowned or not does not depend on big or small waves, but it depends on there is Jesus or not inside our boat.

Proverbs 2:8

2:8 He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints.

God guards the faithful life such that he will not be stumbled, lost, fallen down, and drowned.

2. **Mark 4:40-41**

4:40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

4:41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Do not be doubtful, do not be afraid, do not worry! We should not have many questions!

It means as follows:

- **Keep holding on one true teaching Word which we have experienced = putting hope only on Jesus.**
If we have already experienced help and care from the Word, why do we have to move to the other?
- **Being obedient to the true teaching Word.**

The wind and the sea obey God, great fish who swallowed Jonah obeys God, why do man disobey God?

It is because we are hold by Satan.

3. **Mark 4:39**

4:39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

Being in peace and still(the worship ambience).

Isaiah 30:13-15

30:13 Therefore this iniquity shall be to you Like a breach ready to fall, A bulge in a high wall, Whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant.

30:14 And He shall break it like the breaking of the potter's vessel, Which is broken in pieces; He shall not spare. So there shall not be found among its fragments A shard to take fire from the hearth, Or to take water from the cistern.

30:15 For thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength. But you would not,

- **Being in peace = being silent, introspecting ourselves by the sharpness of the sword of the Word.**
If sin is found, we must confess to God and the others. We are forgiven and we shall not do sin anymore!
Repeating sin equals to breaking again the broken vessel.
- **Being still = controlling ourselves, not putting hope to the others, only believing and fully surrendering ourselves to God.**

I Peter 4:7

4:7. But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

Being in peace and still equals to stretching out both our hands to God.

All of us will experience the ambience of Gethsemane. We will face wind and waves.

Do not be desperate and do not feel safe!

The important thing is we must always be in the ambience of spiritual revival.

Thus, **Jesus awakes, Jesus rises from the death. It equals to Jesus stretches out both His hands to us with the rising power.**

The results are as follows:

- a. The hands of God with rising power are able to care us.
 - Physically, Jesus is able to care us in the middle of difficulties in this world.
 - Spiritually, everything becomes in peace, easy and light with God.
- b. The hands of God with rising power are able to guarantee our beautiful future.
The hands of God also solve or recover all destroyed things and make them beautiful.
- c. The hands of God with rising power lead us to the haven of peace, that is the city of faithful/ the city of light/ the eternal New Jerusalem.

Psalm 107:29-30

107:29 He calms the storm, So that its waves are still.

107:30 Then they are glad because they are quiet; So He guides them to their desired haven.

God blesses us.