

General Service in Malang, February 03, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28 refers to shekinah glory or the light of glory.

Matthew 28 is divided into three parts as follows.

1. Matthew 28:1-10 is about the resurrection of Jesus that refers to the renewal of life.
The light of glory shines the dark heart to become a gentle one, so there is renewal from flesh man to become spiritual man.
2. Matthew 28:11-15 is about the lie of the council that refers to the spread of the darkness.
3. Matthew 28:16-20 is about the command to preach the Gospel that refers to the spread of the light.

We still learn the second part.

Matthew 28:11-15

28:11. Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened.

28:12 When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

28:13 saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.'"

28:14 And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure."

28:15 So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

The spread of the darkness is the spread of false testimony or teaching that rejects the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The spread of the darkness or false teaching is encouraged by these two powers.

- a. The power of money or mammon, namely the spirit of selling-buying or the spirit of antichrist.
- b. The power of lying spirit or the power of false prophet.

We are discussing the first one.

Matthew 21:12-14

21:12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

21:13 And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of thieves."

21:14 Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them.

The practices of the spirit of selling-buying are as follows.

- Ministering God with the aim to look for physical benefit.
- Being garrulous.

Revelation 13:5-6

13:5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.

13:6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

It means that the mouth is used to comment negatively, insult, slander, up to blaspheme God and the true teaching Word.

The spirit of selling-buying causes the body of Christ blind and lame spiritually, so it will not be perfect and be left in Jesus's second coming.

The meaning of being blind spiritually is as follows.

- a. Rejecting the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ because of being stubborn.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

4:3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

- b. Forgetting the forgiveness, meaning repeating the sins up to the peak of sins.

2 Peter 1:5-9

1:5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your (1)faith (2)virtue, to virtue (3)knowledge,

1:6 to knowledge (4)self-control, to self-control (5)perseverance, to perseverance (6)godliness,

1:7 to godliness (7)brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness (8)love.

1:8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1:9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

The true teaching Word is the only brake so we do not repeat sins behind and will not be entrapped by the sins ahead. Life who rejects the true teaching Word will fall and rise in sins.

Rejecting the true teaching Word means rejecting the sacrifice of Christ. The consequence is not having eight spiritual growths [2 Peter 1:5-7]. One will be in total failure and perished.

Thus, sanctification to the spirit of selling-buying equals to recovery from being blind spiritually. We are purified so our eyes are opened and may have eight spiritual growths.

It means as follows.

1. Entering the building of spiritual house of God (with foundation and seven pillars). It is the same as eight people who enter the ark of Noah and they are being saved.

Proverbs 9:1

9:1 Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars;

2. As four couples of bride who enter the ark of Noah.

It means we are being the bride of God who is gathered from the four corners of the earth, in order to be lifted up to the glorious clouds in His second coming.

2 Peter 1:5-7

1:5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your (1)faith (2)virtue, to virtue (3)knowledge,

1:6 to knowledge (4)self-control, to self-control (5)perseverance, to perseverance (6)godliness,

1:7 to godliness (7)brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness (8)love.

The process of entering the building of the body of Christ or spiritual growth until we become the bride of God is as follows.

1. Faith = the Gate.

Romans 10:17

10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith comes by hearing the word of Christ, that is the Word anointed by the Holy Spirit.

The lessons for us are as follows.

- A pastor must not preach the Word with human wisdom, but with the anointing of Holy Spirit, so the Word preached becomes faith.

1 Corinthians 2:3-5

2:3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

2:4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

2:5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

- The congregation must hear the Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

Luke 8:18

8:18 Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him. [\[2\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

In the anointing of Holy Spirit, we will be able to hear the Word solemnly, understand, believe and have faith, up to practice the Word.

Hebrews 5:11-12

5:11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of

the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

Also we will be swift in hearing the Word. It means we do not hear only the gospel of the Word (milk), but also the teaching Word (solid food).

If we have received the faith, the result is entering the gate of salvation. Our faith will grow to steadfast faith, up to perfect faith.

If we do not hear the Word solemnly, we will lose our faith up to lose the salvation [Luke 8:18].

2. Virtue = the Altar of Burnt Offerings.

It refers to the cross or sacrifice of Christ.

Virtue is the deed based on the sacrifice of Christ, not only just good deed.

The major good deed comes from Jesus who dies on the cross to erase our sins. Therefore, our major good deed waited by God is repenting and dying from sins.

Good deed without repentance is useless even it is an evil in front of God.

3. Knowledge = the Brazen Laver.

Philippians 3:10

3:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

The beginning is we know Jesus who dies and resurrects. It refers to the true water baptism.

Romans 6:4

6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The true water baptism is one who has repented must be buried with Jesus in water, to rise with Him in new life, that is life in righteousness. Moreover, we become an instrument of righteousness, meaning ministering God faithfully and righteously.

The ones who enter the ark of Noah are four couples of bride. It means husband and wife must enter one true water baptism. If a marriage does not have one baptism, sometime they will be separated.

4. Self-control = the door of Tabernacle.

It refers to the baptism of Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit helps us to kill flesh with all its desire, lust, emotion, and ambition. The result is being patient in suffering, not grumbling, not blaming the others, and being patient in waiting God's time.

Holy Spirit makes us able to say "Abba, Father", meaning we can be obedient. Being obedient will result in success in this world, up to success in Heaven.

5. Perseverance = the Holy Place.

6. Godliness = sanctification and ministry.

The fifth and sixth point are merged. They refer to perseverance in three main services as follows.

- Golden Candlestick, which refers to perseverance in General Service.
- Table of Showbread, which refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.
- Golden Altar of Incense, which refers to perseverance in Prayer Service.

The result is we will experience spiritual growth until we may confess, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want". Our life will only depend on the Great Shepherd.

The term "I shall not want" means as follows.

- He is able to care our life abundantly, meaning we always give thanks to God. We always get what we need in time.
- Spiritually it means we will be perfect as Jesus is.

7. Brotherly kindness.

8. Love.

Matthew 5:43-45,48

5:43 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

5:44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

5:45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

We have the perfect love so we can love God more than everything and love the others even our enemy.

Having the perfect love equals to having the two tablets of stone. The perfect love is able to destroy the golden calves. It means as follows.

- Destroying sins up to the peak of sins.
- Destroying idolatry, that is everything that prevents us to love God.
- Destroying the stubbornness, so we become tender.

Mark 13:28-29

13:28 *Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.*

13:29 *So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near "at the doors!"*

We learn from the fig tree that is hard and failed to bear fruit. We learn to become tender.

- a. The first lesson is in the Garden of Eden. The leaves are used to cover nakedness. It refers to self-truth, covering sins by blaming the others, even blaming the true teaching Word. The consequence is falling in the curse of this world and failures.

Job also still uses self-truth, and he fails until loses all his possession.

Job 32:1-2

32:1 *So these three men ceased answering Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes.*

32:2 *Then the wrath of Elihu, the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, was aroused against Job; his wrath was aroused because he justified himself rather than God.*

Job 42:5-6

42:5 *I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.*

42:6 *Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes.*

But Job becomes tender and confesses his sins, especially his sinful words, up to the peak of sins. He throws off all his proudness. Thus, he is in the hand of the Potter, and experiences double recovery physically and spiritually.

- b. The second lesson is the fig tree in the wayside. It means being not shepherded. A youth must learn from the fig tree in the wayside that does not bear fruit. We must not leave the shepherding, be unfaithful and disobedient. The consequence is being humbled and having no beautiful future.

1 Peter 5:5

5:5 *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.*

This morning, we learn to become tender, and God will exalt us.

- c. The third lesson is in the last days. The fig tree has been tender, meaning we can confess that we live from the mercy and grace of God.

John 11:31-32

11:31 *Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."*

11:32 *Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."*

Lazarus who has died for four days refers to failures physically, downfalls, sufferings, tears, impossibilities, also spiritual decays. Facing these problems, we must not weep and blame God. The true attitude is falling down at Jesus' feet and confessing all our lacks and weaknesses. We confess that we live from the mercy and grace of God. Thus, He is able to make miracles in our life.

God blesses us.