

General Service in Malang, February 08, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 2:12-13

2:12 *And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword:*

2:13 *I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.*

It is about the last sanctification to the church in Pergamos. Jesus appears as the High Priest with the teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword to move the church in Pergamos from the ambience of the throne of Satan to the throne of Heaven.

There are two conditions of the throne of Satan as follows.

1. The throne of darkness [verse 13].
It refers to evil and uncleanness.

2. The throne of deception.

Revelation 2:14-15

2:14 *But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.*

2:15 *Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.*

It refers to the false teachings, gossips, et cetera.

We learn about the second one, that is the throne of deception. There are two kinds of false teaching in Pergamos as follows.

1. The teaching of Balaam.

2 Peter 2:15-16

2:15 *They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;*

2:16 *but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.*

It is the false teaching that drives a ministry to look for physical wages.

2. The teaching of Nicolaitans [Revelation 2:15].

It is the false teaching that gathers many people by allowing any ways from the world (physical prosperity and entertainment) without the sword of the Word or sanctification, so there is the spirit of fornication.

The aim of the teaching of Balaam and Nicolaitans is gathering many people to get much money. But, there is no sword of sanctification, so there are many sins.

We, as the Gentiles (donkey) must be watchful since Balaam rides the donkey to the Babylon, that is curse and perdition.

Jesus also rides the donkey to Jerusalem. It refers to the revival of Holy Spirit in the last days, or the revival in the true teaching Word, to sanctify saved lives up to perfection as Him. It equals to the revival of building the perfect body of Christ, starting from within marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, up to the perfect body of Christ.

If one is ridden by Balaam, he will minister without sanctification or the true ministry. He ministers with the aim to get money, et cetera. The direction is the Babylon or perdition.

If one is ridden by Jesus, he must experience the sword of sanctification (it hurts the flesh). The sign is being able to give, starting from giving time, energy, thought, money, up to giving our whole life to Him. Thus, He will also entrust His life to us, and we receive everything from Him.

Revelation 2:16

2:16 *Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.*

If one rejects the sword of sanctification, he will experience the sword of God's judgment.

The last sanctification to the church in Pergamos is they must return to the holiness (the light) and the true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword. Do not deny our faith to Jesus. If one defends the darkness and false teachings (the throne of Satan), Jesus will come with the sword of judgment or perdition forever.

Why can the church in Pergamos be deceived?

1. The thought is deceived from the simplicity that is in Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:2-4

11:2 For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

11:3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

11:4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you may well put up with it!

It means being deceived from the true teaching Word that has become our life experience. It also means being unfaithful to God or the true teaching Word.

It is as Solomon who had held the sword since his youth to solve many problems, but at the end of his life, he left the sword because of his wives.

It is also as Eve in Garden Eden who was deceived by the serpent.

The thought is deceived since there is no firmness to reject the other teachings, the other spirits, the other Jesus (who is without the cross or flesh suffering).

Genesis 3:1

3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

Eve listened another teaching from the serpent and it was not according to God's saying. God said "You may freely eat," but Satan said "You shall not eat."

Another example is God does not allow marrying-divorcing, but Satan says that it is allowed. God does not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but Satan says that it is permitted.

The consequence is adding or taking away from the true teaching Word.

Genesis 2:16

2:16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

Genesis 3:2

3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

Eve took away the word "freely". It means there is no freedom in Holy Spirit anymore. The singing time is not limited, but the time for the preaching of the Word is limited. The consequences are being deaf and disabled spiritually, or being bound by sins, time, *et cetera*.

Genesis 2:17

2:17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

Genesis 3:3

3:3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, "You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die."

Eve added the word "touch". Now, it means the word of God is added with joke, knowledge, logic, *et cetera*, so the congregation is never touched by God and never experiences the sanctification power from the Word. The consequence is being dumb spiritually.

Thus, hearing the other teaching causes being deaf and dumb, or an epilepsy.

Mark 9:17-18, 21-22, 25

9:17 Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit.

9:18 And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not."

9:21 So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood.

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."

9:25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and

dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!

Epilepsy refers to moral decadence, evil (the lust of money that causes stinginess and greediness), uncleanness (sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage), marriage destruction, suffering, sadness, tears, failures, and impossibilities. The consequence is cannot be perfected on Jesus' second coming and will be left in the world to experience the sword of judgment up to perdition.

If we are willing to be sanctified by the true teaching Word to have good ears and mouth, God will be able to make everything that has been destroyed become good.

Mark 7:37

7:37 And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.

2. The way of life is deceived.

1 Petrus 2:25

2:25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The practice is not being shepherded, but walking around and being unwilling to stay in the shepherding pen, or staying in the shepherding pen with a walking around thought.

The conditions of the Gentiles who are not shepherded are as follows.

- Appearing as the dog and swine.

A dog licks its vomit. It refers to saying useless words or gossips, until blaspheming God (rejecting the true teaching Word and supporting the wrong one).

A swine returns to its wallowing in the mire refers to uncleanness, that is sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

- Being weary and scattered.

Matthew 9:36

9:36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Being weary means being tired, bearing heavy burden, having many tears. Being scattered means there is none who is responsible for the salvation of the soul.

- Meeting the walking lion.

1 Peter 5:8

5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

It is until one is devoured by the lion, meaning being deceived, lost, and destroyed.

Let us be well and right shepherded, stay in the shepherding pen, and obey the voice of the shepherd. Thus, we will be able to follow the trace of the shepherd and not be deceived, until we reach the last shepherding pen in the New Jerusalem. We are as a branch that abides on the true vine. God will care us and we will bear sweet fruit.

3. The company is deceived.

1 Corinthians 15:32-33

15:32 If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me? If the dead do not rise, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!

15:33 Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits.

There are two kinds of evil or deceitful company as follows.

- The company of beast or flesh or sin.

The teaching of Sadducees teaches that there is no resurrection or spirit. It drives men to do sin up to its peak, that is sin concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in a marriage.

The teaching of Pharisees allows marrying-divorcing that leads to the peak of sin, that is sin concerning marrying and being given in marriage.

Romans 16:17

16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.

We must avoid and not have fellowship with them. We must not be deceived.

- The company of the world with all its influences, that is sadness, difficulties, tears, hedonism, entertainment, *et cetera*. It causes one to become unfaithful, be deceived, and become the enemy of God.

James 4:4

4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

The right company is walking with God.

Genesis 5:22, 24

5:22 After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters.

5:24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

Figure 300 refers to the circumference of the Tabernacle, that is 100 in length and 50 in width. It means the close company with God is guided by the Bride teaching in the light of Tabernacle. The practices are as follows.

- Being honest whatever the risks are.

Proverbs 3:32

3:32 For the perverse person is an abomination to the Lord, but His secret counsel is with the upright.

We must be honest in the matter of the teaching and marriage, until we can be honest in every matter.

- Having the fear of God, believing and being obedient.

Psalms 25:14

25:14 The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.

The results are as follows.

- a. God cares, pays attention to, and helps us.

Mark 9:23-24

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!"

A father faces the problem of broken marriage, sickness, unsolved problems. God solves everything right in His time.

- b. God is able to care our life miraculously.

The widow of Zarephath faces economy crisis.

1 Kings 17:11-13, 15

17:11 And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."

17:12 So she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die."

17:13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son."

17:15 So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days.

But she is honest and obedient so she is cared for three years and a half. It refers to God's care until the days of antichrist.

- c. God is able to erase impossibilities.

Martha and Mary face Lazarus who has died for four days.

John 11:38-40

11:38 Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.
11:39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him,
"Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."
11:40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

A youth faces rottenness and impossibilities. The power of God is able to raise the dead and erase impossibilities.

When He comes a second time, we will be renewed as glorious as Him.

God blesses us.