

General Service in Malang, February 18, 2018 (Sunday Morning)

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

In Tabernacle, Revelation 7 refers to equipment called the golden pot that had the manna.

Hebrews 9:3-4

9:3 and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All,

9:4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;

The golden pot that had the manna refers to faith that has been tested, namely the permanent or the perfect one. One who has the perfect faith is perfect. He becomes the perfect body of Christ of the Bride of God. Jesus is the Head, King, or Husband, and we are the body, wife, or the Bride of God. The Head and body cannot be separated. Jesus is a physician and we are the sick. Nevertheless, physician may be separated from the sick. Jesus is the Father and we are His children, but there is the lost son. But if Jesus is the Head and we are His body, there will be no separation forever.

So, when God allows trials to happen, it is not to destroy us but to produce the perfect faith or the bride of God.

Revelation 7:4

7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

One hundred and forty-four thousand persons who were sealed from all the tribes of the children of Israel, twelve thousand in each tribe [Revelation 7:5] are the core of the bride of God or the perfect body of Christ. They are added with Gentiles and united as one perfect body of Christ.

All men in the world are only clay pots or vessels which are fragile through easily being disappointed, hopeless, and proud, broken through easily sinning, up to the everlasting perdition. If the clay vessel is only filled with physical things like wealth, intelligence, and position, it will become as the marbled vessel that is more valuable in front of people. It is harder than the clay vessel, so such person is also more hard-hearted, brittle, easily arrogant, and sinful up to the peak of sins, namely sin concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage. For example in Luke 7, a sinful woman brought an alabaster flask or marble vessel.

Therefore, the clay vessel must be filled with manna, the bread of Heaven, or the word of God.

There are two kinds of the preaching of the Word as follows:

1. The Gospel of Salvation, the milk, or the Good News.

Ephesians 1:13

1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

It brings sinners to believe in Jesus and be saved.

The processes are as follows:

- Believing in Jesus as the only Savior.
- To repent or stop sinning and return to God or to die to sin.
- Entering the true water baptism.
- Being baptized in Holy Spirit that produces the new life that is living in righteousness. We are saved and blessed by God.

2. The light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God, the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword, the solid food, or the Bride Tidings.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 7

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.

4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

It is the gospel preaching about Jesus who comes a second time in glory or perfection as the King of kings or the

Bridegroom of Heaven in glorious clouds to sanctify and change us to be perfect as the Bride of Heaven.

The attitudes toward the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords are as follows:

1. Rejecting the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords.

Acts 5:30-33

5:30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.

5:31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

5:32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

5:33 When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.

It means that they do not want to be filled with the True Teaching Word that preaches the death and the resurrection of Christ to sanctify and renew fleshly man to become spiritual one like Jesus. It is because of keeping the fleshly men with its characters such as hatred, envy, *et cetera*. So, they become the same as antichrist who will be destroyed forever. They are sealed with number 666, meaning that the body, soul, and spirit are all flesh.

2. Avoiding the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords.

Matthew 26:23-25

26:23 He answered and said, "He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me..

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."

It means that they do not want to be touched by the True Teaching Word that shows all hidden sins in our hearts, especially the love of money like Judas, who stole God's possession. Consequently, the stomach of heart filled with sins which are heaped until it breaks to be destroyed and perish forever.

3. The right attitude is to accept the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords.

Acs 2:37

2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

The facts are as follows:

- Holy Spirit helps us to listen to the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords earnestly or in need like a hungry man eating bread or a dog licking breadcrumbs.
- Holy Spirit helps us to understand the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords. The proof is being slow to speak or to keep silent more and doing self-introspection by the sharpness of the Word, and also being slow to anger. We are allowed to get angry with love in order to help people, but not with emotion.
- Holy Spirit helps us to believe and be sure of the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords until becoming faith in our hearts. It pierces to the heart and shows any hidden sin until one realizes, is cut to the heart, regrets, and confesses his sins to God and others. After being forgiven, do not sin anymore. This is called as the saving faith.
- Holy Spirit helps us to practice the True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords. How hard or sharp the Word is, it is the great merciful hands of God. So the sharper or harder the Word, the greater grace we received. If we practice the Word, we are stretching our hands to God and He will stretch his too, so we live in His great merciful hands.

The results are as follows:

- The True Teaching Word or the stretching of the great merciful hands of God is living.

Hebrews 4:12

4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

It means that the True Teaching Word or the stretching of the great merciful hands of God gives us the guarantee of life assurance physically and spiritually up to the eternal life forever.

Physically, His Word preserves the small and powerless life in the midst of the great difficulties in the world until Antichrist rules over it for three and a half years. We are evacuated to the wilderness, far away from the presence of the Antichrist. We are preserved directly by God through the Word and the Holy Communion. We live by the True Teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ through Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. To prioritize God more than anything is the proof of living by God and not relying on this world.

Spiritually, we keep on living in righteousness in the midst of shakings. We keep on committing the right ministry and worship like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

- The True Teaching Word gives the excellence of the power to us who are weak and powerless to be strong and of good courage.

2 Corinthians 4:7-8

4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

4:8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

Meaning we are not doubtful by false teaching and gossips, but we keep on holding to the True Teaching Word. We are not disappointed and hopeless. We do not leave God. We keep on believing, hoping, and worshiping God.

Daniel 3:16-18,24-25

3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

3:17 If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

3:18 But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

3:24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."

3:25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

So, the great merciful hands of God embrace and protect us from the fire of temptations, even the fire of Antichrist that rule over the world for 3,5 years, so the fire of hell cannot touch us. The proof of being strong and of good courage is to have peace and not to feel anything that flesh feels. We only feel the love of God, so everything becomes easy and light.

- The True Teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged swords sanctify our past and renew our lives. We are continually sanctified and renewed until become as perfect as Jesus and becoming the golden pot that had the manna.

What must be renewed?

We must be obedient to God until the flesh does not speak anymore. Our faces are renewed to be as glorious as the angels or the face of the trinity of God. Once, human was created to be the same as the trinity of God. Being disobedient, they lost the picture of The trinity of God and became like snakes that are not obedient and truthful. We return to the picture of the trinity of God, meaning to be faithful and honest. The renewal refers to the spiritual miracle. If it happens, the physical one will happen too.

- The great merciful hands of God resolve all problems even the impossible ones.

Daniel 3:26

3:26 Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here. " Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire.

- Everything that we sacrifice for God in honesty and faithfulness will not disappear. But, God will repay it to us until we always give thanks to Him.

Daniel 3:27

3:27 And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

- There is successful and beautiful future life.

Daniel 3:30

3:30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon.

- We become the witness of God.

Daniel 3:29

3:29 Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this."

It continues until the time of Jesus' second coming that we are renewed to be as perfect and glorious as Him and worthy to welcome Him in the glorious clouds.

God blesses us.