

General Service in Malang, February 22, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 2-3 is about the seven times of the sprinkling of blood in front of the Ark of Covenant. It refers to the last sanctification to the church in the last days, until we become perfect and blameless as Jesus. We become the Heavenly bride who is ready to welcome His second coming.

The church in Pergamos endures in facing temptation and oppression. They keep withstanding and believing Jesus. Unfortunately, some of them hold false teaching and are destroyed.

Revelation 2:17

2:17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.

The church in Pergamos is willing to experience the last sanctification so they are set free from the doctrine of Balaam and Nicolaitans. God promises two things as follows.

1. Receiving the hidden manna.
2. Receiving a white stone on which a new name is written.

ad. 1. Receiving the hidden manna.

Manna is the bread from Heaven, that is the Word of God whose secret is revealed through a verse explains the other verses in the Bible. It equals to the true teaching Word or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword.

Psalm 78:25

78:25 Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

Manna equals to the angel's bread. The angel refers to a pastor. Thus, manna is the shepherding Word, which is trusted by God to a pastor to be preached to the congregation faithfully, continually, and repetitively, to become the food for them.

There are three usefulness of manna [Exodus 16:16-36] as follows:

1. Manna for caring the daily life [Exodus 16:16-21].
2. Manna for the Sabbath day [Exodus 16:22-31].
3. Manna that is kept in the golden pot [Exodus 16:32-36]

Besides struggling for our daily life, we must struggle for gathering manna. All struggles in this world, no matter how successful they are, without manna are useless and will be destroyed.

Exodus 16:22-23

16:22 And so it was, on the sixth day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

16:23 Then he said to them, This is what the Lord has said: Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning.

On the sixth day, the Israelites gather twice as much manna, that is two omers. One omer is for the sixth day, and the other one is for the seventh day.

2 Peter 3:8

3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

Six days refer to six thousand years. The sixth day is the last day when we live now.

The seventh day or Sabbath day refers to the one thousand years kingdom of peace or the future Paradise.

Thus, in the last days we, the Gentiles, must multiply our effort to gather the shepherding Word or the true teaching Word, to increase our holiness and life renewal until we reach perfection as Jesus. We will become His bride who is worthy to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds, and to enter the one thousand years kingdom of peace or the future Paradise.

The differences between the past and future Paradise are as follows.

1. The temptation.

In the past Paradise, Satan, serpent, sin, and false teaching may enter.

In the future Paradise, Satan, serpent, sin, and false teaching cannot enter since Satan will be bound for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:1-3

20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

20:2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

20:3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

2. The occupant.

The past Paradise is occupied by Adam and Eve with their physical or flesh body that is made from clay.

The future Paradise is occupied by the bride of God or the perfect church, that is the priests and kings who have spiritual or glorious body as Jesus the Heavenly Bridegroom.

Revelation 20:6

20:6 Blessed and holy is he 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.

Thus, to become the occupant of the future Paradise, we must become the priests and kings.

A priest is one who is righteous and holy.

A priest is one who holds the ministry from God and the gifts of Holy Spirit.

A priest is one who ministers God.

Psalms 20:6-9

20:6 Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven With the saving strength of His right hand.

20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

20:8 They have bowed down and fallen; But we have risen and stand upright.

20:9 Save, Lord! May the King answer us when we call.

A king is one who is anointed by Holy Spirit, so he always has victory over the enemies.

Why is it called as the priest and king?

- Because God wants a priest who is anointed by Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 1:6-7

1:6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

- a. Thus, we will always receive a new strength that is not limited by age, *et cetera*.

We can minister without any fear or worry. We minister with full submission to Him. We can minister with faithfulness and fervency in spirit to the end line.

- b. We can minister with love and full sacrifice, without any reward.

- c. We can minister with orderliness and discipline.

- Because God wants a priest who always wins over obstacles. We do not want to be obstructed until we cannot be obstructed. We always win over the sin up to its peak. We always live in righteousness and holiness.

Revelation 20:6

20:6 Blessed and holy is he 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.

If a priest and king who serves with strength, love, discipline, and who always wins, is let die, he will be raised on Jesus's second coming in the body of glory as a priest and king. The one who keeps living will be lifted up on Jesus's second coming and be renewed in the body of glory as a priest and king.

To die or to live is not important. The important thing is we gather manna during our life and we become the priests and kings who are anointed by Holy Spirit.

Psalm 20:9

20:9 Save, Lord! May the King answer us when we call.

If we become the priests and kings who are anointed by Holy Spirit and we always win, our prayer will be answered by God. It means we become a house of prayer.

1 Kings 9:3

9:3 And the Lord said to him: "I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you have made before Me; I have consecrated this house which you have built to put My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually."

The result is a house of prayer will accommodate God or His glory in three manifestations as follows.

- His eyes.
It means God always cares and pays attention to our life.
 - a. He cares our life who is powerless in the middle of difficulties in this world up to the days of antichrist, even forever.
 - b. He protects us from distress, natural disaster, temptation, sin, false teaching, antichrist, and His judgment. All of them cannot touch us.
- His heart. It means God's love is within our life, so we can love the others as we love ourselves, even we can love our enemy. It means we enter the building of the body of Christ.

The measure of success in our ministry to God is obedience.

Matthew 7:21-22

7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

7:22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

Obedience will open the door of Heaven, and it means all the doors in the world will be opened.

- His name.
It means we have His power in our life. There are miracles from God in our life. Spiritual miracle is life renewal from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus. It is started with being gentle, that is realizing our faults and failures, and confessing our sins to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we must not do the sin again. Thus, physical miracle will also happen.

Acts 9:32-34

9:32 Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda.

9:33 There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed.

9:34 And Peter said to him, 'Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.' Then he arose immediately.

Being paralyzed means being unfaithful in the ministry, marriage destruction, or having something that is not right in life. But, if we have the name of God in our life, He will be able to tidy up everything that is not right in our life. It is until we become the Heavenly bride who is worthy to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

Luke 23:40-43

23:40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?'

23:41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.'

23:42 Then he said to Jesus, 'Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.'

23:43 And Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.'

A criminal may enter the Paradise. No matter who we are, whatever our condition is, we can enter the Paradise as long as we want to cry out His name. Miracles will happen.

God blesses us.