

General Service in Malang, January 08, 2023 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation chapter 16-18 is about the seven great disasters. The great disasters are for the world, but it is the permanency of the grace of God for the church that lives in His hands as follows:

1. Revelation 16 refers to the two tablets of stone or the Church that has the permanent or perfect love.
2. Revelation 17 refers to Aaron's rod that buds, blooms, and yields fruits or the Church that has the permanent Holy Spirit.
3. Revelation 18 refers to the golden pot that had manna or the Church that has the perfect Word of God.

The Word, Holy Spirit, and love bring the Church to the eternal life.

Revelation 18:21-24 Finality of Babylon's Fall.

Revelation 18:21

18:21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore."

It refers to the judgment or revenge of God to Babylon. Why?

1. Because of the **arrogance**.

Genesis 11:3-4

11:3 Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.

11:4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

Men wanted to reach heaven with their own way. It is the same as arrogance or being outside the will of God. Consequently, they will be destroyed until there is one remaining stone, namely hopelessness, disappointment, and being thrown away to the sea.

2. Because of **the hardness of heart**.

Job 41:24

41:24 His heart is as hard as stone, Even as hard as the lower millstone.

It means rejecting the hard Word that rebukes or shows the sins.

All things we do without the true teaching Word is the wrong way that will cause destruction and perdition.

Where does the millstone come from? It comes from the man of flesh and blood or clay that does not pay attention to the true teaching Word until hearing the false teaching and rejecting the true one and being the brick or the tool of Satan for building Babylon. It means serving and ministering to God only to look for physical things. Such false church is perfect in evil and uncleanness until being the millstone that is drowned to the sea to perish forever.

If we want to seriously receive the true teaching Word, we will experience the sanctification and renewal of life to be the living stones.

1 Peter 2:5

2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

The living stones are used in the ministry for the edification of Christ's body with one stone as the foundation, namely Jesus as the chief cornerstone until being perfect as the heavenly bride who is ready for welcoming Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds and entering Paradise and the New Jerusalem. This is the way to heaven which is shown by God.

God showed the way to heaven three times as follows:

1. **He showed the way to heaven to Jacob**, namely a ladder that connected the earth and heaven where the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

Genesis 28:10-12

28:10 Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran.

28:11 So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep.

28:12 Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

2. **God showed the way to heaven through the Tabernacle** which is the same as the miniature or the pattern of the heavenly kingdom or the way to heaven.

Exodus 25:8

25:8 "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.

The Tabernacle consists of three rooms as follows:

- The Court. It refers to the truth or salvation.
- The Holy Place. It refers to the shepherding pen or perseverance in committing the three main services to God.
- The Most Holy Place.

Leviticus 26:11

26:11 I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you.

In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle must be placed among God's people so that His souls will not abhor them.

In the New Testament, the Tabernacle teaching must be preached in the Church so that the congregation gets the sanctification from the bond of money or riches and God will not abhor them. They are not vomited like the church of the Laodiceans.

Revelation 3:15-17

3:15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.

3:16 "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

3:17 "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' --and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--

The church of the Laodiceans was without the tabernacle teaching or sanctification, so they were bound by the will of money. It means the service and ministry only to look for the physical things such as riches, marriage partner, popularity, and so on and only depending on the worldly things until God abhors them and they are vomited.

The conditions of the church of the Laodiceans without the Tabernacle teaching were as follows.

- Being lukewarm. Not being hot means unfaithfulness or not being fervent in spirit. Not being cold means there is no peace, but jealousy, hatred, revenge, and bitterness.
- Being wretched or not lucky.
- Being miserable or having nothing spiritually.
- Being poor or sorrowful.
- Being blind or in the darkness of sin. There is no bright future life.
- Being naked or in sins up to the peak and ashamed.
- Being vomited or an abomination to God and thrown away or drowned in the sea of fire and brimstone forever.

3. **God showed the way to heaven to Nathanael.**

John 1:48-51

1:48 Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

1:49 Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

1:50 Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

1:51 And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Jacob got the dream that refers to the prophecy. The Tabernacle was a shadow. The third way to heaven is a fact, namely **the edification of Christ's body.**

The requirement is going out of being under the leafy fig tree as follows:

- Going out of the self-truth to return to the truth of the Bible or the true teaching Word.
Covering sin by blaming at others or God is changed into making peace or confessing and forgiving sin one another.
As a result, the blood of Jesus washes away all our sins and we live in righteousness.
- Going out of the self-interest or egoism.
Being shepherded and receiving the blessings of God, do not use it for yourself only, but you must be the blessings for others who are in need!
- Being active or faithful and fervent in spirit in the ministry of the edification of Christ's body according to the ministry which God has entrusted. It starts from the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, and so on.

Indeed there must be the sign of blood or sacrifice for entering the edification of Christ's body. For the edification of Christ's body, Jesus has willingly sacrificed His life. All things must be sacrificed for the edification of Christ's body except the true teaching Word that must not be sacrificed.

It is the same as placing Jesus as the Head. We can worship or struggle with God.

Genesis 32:24-28

32:24 Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

32:25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him.

32:26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"

32:27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob."

32:28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."

Jacob struggled until the breaking of the day. It means struggling and worshiping God until Jesus comes a second time.

Jacob struggled until being called Israel or the victorious hero.

Proverbs 16:32

16:32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

It means as follows:

- Being patient in the sufferings or not grumbling, but always giving thanks. We must also be patient in waiting for the time of God.
- Controlling our life or not hoping anyone or anything in the world. We only hope God or become silent and quiet.
- Being obedient.

Psalms 103:20

103:20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.

It is the same as stretching out our hands of faith to God.

As a result, God will stretch out His merciful hands for removing impossibilities.

The results are as follows:

- The power of victory for finishing all impossible problems.
- The whole family is saved.
- There is no more curse, but peace and all things become easy and light.
- The power of renewal until receiving the new name. Jacob, namely a liar, could be Israel, namely honesty.

Isaiah 4:1

4:1 And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, "We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel; Only let us be called by your name, To take away our reproach."

'To take away our reproach' means the sanctification from sins, so we can live in righteousness and holiness.

'We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel' means the power of preservation in the midst of difficulties in

the world.

It continues until the name of Jesus is attached to our name. We are changed until being perfect for welcoming Jesus' second coming.

God blesses you.