

General Service in Malang, January 13, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

CHILD SUBMISSION SERVICE

Philippians 4:13

4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

This verse is the confession of Paul the apostle that he can do nothing without God. Let this verse also become the confession from the parents that they cannot bear their life, moreover their children, physically and spiritually without God. He gives us strength to bear all things in our life and marriage.

There are three strengths given by God as follows.

1. The strength of the Word received through perseverance in Bible Study Service.
2. The strength of Holy Spirit received through perseverance in General Service.
3. The strength of God's love received through perseverance in Prayer Service.

God appears as the Great Shepherd in the shepherding system to give us extra power, so we can do all things. It is until we can confess "I shall not want", meaning as follows.

- We are cared abundantly until we can give thank to God.
- There is good and beautiful future.
- There is the strength from God to help us from all problems so we are not desperate and disappointed.
- We are perfected and ready to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

GENERAL SERVICE

Matthew 28 refers to the Shekinah glory or the light of glory.
There is the light of glory from God behind the cross.

Matthew 28:1-2

28:1 Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.

28:2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.

The rolled back stone denotes the light of glory shines dark hard heart to become gentle heart, so there is renewal of life from carnal man to become spiritual man as Jesus is.

What must be renewed are the countenance (five senses), the clothing (attitudes), the feelings, and the sight.

Matthew 28:5-8

28:5 But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.

28:6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

28:7 And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you."

28:8 So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

Our sight must be renewed to become the sight of cross, so we can seek Jesus who is crucified.

1 Corinthians 1:22-24

1:22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;

1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,

1:24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

To the Jews, Christ crucified is a stumbling block.

To the Greeks, Christ crucified is a foolishness.

But to those who are called, Christ crucified is the wisdom and power of God to save sinful man up to perfect us.

Acts 9:3-5

9:3 As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.

3:4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, *“Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”*
3:5 And he said, *“Who are You, Lord?”* Then the Lord said, *“I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.”*

Saul sees Jesus crucified, and he experiences the wisdom and power of God to save him to become Paul the apostle.

1 Timothy 1:12-17

1:12 *And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,*
1:13 *although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.*
1:14 *And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.*
1:15 *This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.*
1:16 *However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.*
1:17 *Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.*

The results are as follows.

1. [1 Timothy 1:13-16] We can realize and confess that we are sinful men even the most sinful one.
The practices are as follows.

- Not judging the others' sins.
- Being willing to confess sins to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we must no longer do the sins.
- Entering water baptism.

Acts 9:18

9:18 *Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.*

True water baptism will result in new life, that is living in righteousness, living in faith.

1 Timothy 1:16

1:16 *However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.*

Paul the apostle lives in faith so he becomes a pattern in faith to the others.

When we only see Jesus who is crucified, we can live in righteousness and become a pattern of faith to the others.

Hebrews 13:7-9

13:7 *Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.*

13:8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

13:9 *Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.*

A pattern of faith is keeping on living in righteousness whatever the risk we have to face. We must keep believing and putting hope to Jesus when facing temptation. We must keep holding on the true teaching Word, that we have experienced.

2. [1 Timothy 1:12] We are used to minister God.

Acts 20:24

20:24 *But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

Paul the apostle is used to testify about the gospel of God's grace, or about Jesus who is crucified.

Paul the apostle ministers without counting his life, meaning he does not want to be blocked by himself. He keeps being a faithful and trusted servant, ministering with great joy and fervency in spirit up to the end of his life.

Matthew 28:8

28:8 *So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.*

We are used in the revival of building the body of Christ, that is:

- Testifying about Good News, meaning testifying about Jesus crucified to save us. It is continued with testifying about Jesus who will come for the second time in glory as Heavenly Bridegroom. It is called Bride Tidings, that leads saved life to become perfect. We must testify with faithfulness and fervency in spirit.
- Ministering God according to the ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit that we received from God, with faithfulness, fervency in spirit, and great joy.

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 result is we become a living stone and only live from the mercy of God.

It means that wherever we are, under any situations, we keep living from the mercy of God, up to eternal life. Living stone also means wherever we are, we bring life from Heaven to the people supposed to be destroyed with the world.

3. [1 Timothy 1:17] We can worship Jesus as King of kings and Heavenly Bridegroom.

The practices and results are as follows.

- Being obedient until the flesh does not sound anymore (God commands the Israelites to go forward although they must face the sea).

Isaiah 43:15-16

43:15 I am the Lord, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King.â

43:16 Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters,

Exodus 14:15-16

14:15 And the Lord said to Moses, âWhy do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.

14:16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

The result is God will make a way in the middle of the sea.

It means there is a way out from every problem. He will make possible the impossible problem. Also there will be good and beautiful future.

- Confessing sins, not blaming the other or God.

Luke 23:40-43

23:40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, â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.â

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

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

The result is we will experience the ambience of Paradise. We will be able to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds and enter Paradise. We will be with Him forever.

Revelation 19:6

19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, âAlleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

The criminal becomes an acceptable life to God and may enter Paradise. We must be watchful for the contrary. The servant or son of God can become criminals if he keeps hardening his heart and only blames the others and God.

God blesses us.