

General Service in Malang, July 22, 2018 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 7:15b-16

7:15 *"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.*

7:16 *"They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat.*

The activity of God on the throne of heaven is dwelling, spreading His wings, or giving His covering for us.

There are three kinds of the covering of God which we can feel as follows:

1. The covering of the wings of a hen.

Matthew 23:37

23: 37 *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!*

God really knows that how great a man in the world is, he is just like a newly hatched chick which is powerless to suffice its need for the daily and future life and to face the enemies. Therefore, we must realize that our main need is the covering of God or the wings of a hen. All of our needs have been covered in it.

Where do we get the covering of the wings of a hen?

"Gathering" has two meaning as follows:

- Neither being scattered nor wandering. It refers to the shepherding.
- Being one. It means being one body of Christ.

So, we get the covering of the wings of a hen in the shepherding and fellowship of the body of Christ. It starts from marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until the Gentiles and Israelites become one perfect body of Christ.

The shepherding or the true fellowship of the body of Christ is described as the things follows:

- The chicks under the wings of the hen.
- The branch that attaches to the true vine.

The thing that must be paid attention to is the true hen and vine, namely Jesus, the true teaching word, or the true food.

The true teaching word means as follows:

- It is written in the Bible.
- It is said by Jesus Himself or being revealed, namely one verse explains other verses in the Bible.
- It is brave to reveal the true marriage and the wrong one, also the hidden sin of the congregation.
- It is preached without looking for the physical benefit but by the sacrifices and being practiced.

[Matthew 23:37] "How often" means as follows:

- The great longing, seriousness, or the will of God so that we can enter the true marriage, shepherding, and fellowship.
- We need the true teaching word which is repeated to give us great opportunity so that we can enter and be firm in the true marriage, shepherding, and fellowship.

Isaiah 30:1-2

30:1 *"Woe to the rebellious children," says the LORD, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise plans, but not of My Spirit, That they may add sin to sin;*

30:2 *Who walk to go down to Egypt, And have not asked My advice, To strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, And to trust in the shadow of Egypt!*

We must be careful, because there are false marriage, shepherding, and fellowship, namely the ones without the true hen, vine, or teaching word. Such fellowship only shows the physical things without sanctification and uses the worldly way or legalizes all ways, and only looks at man, not God. It is the fellowship of the dry branches which can be detected from being enjoyable in sin, until having idle words such as lie, gossip, slander, until blaspheming. The fellowship of the dry branches will be burned forever.

So, we must enter the true marriage, shepherding, and fellowship like the chick under the wings of the hen or the branch that attaches to the true vine. If we are in the true fellowship, there are two close relationships as follows:

- The holiness relationship.

John 15:1-3

15:1 *"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.*

15:2 *"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.*

15:3 *"You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.*

John 13:10-11

13:10 *Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."*

13:11 *For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."*

If we want to attach, we must be sanctified especially from the sins of Judas Iscariot, namely stealing the possession of God or the tithe and special offering, being a traitor or unfaithfulness, a liar, an accuser, and a hypocrite or pretending to be kind.

- Faithfulness relationship.

John 15:4

15:4 *"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.*

We can be faithful and fervent in spirit to serve and minister to God until the end line, namely we pass away or Jesus comes for the second time.

After being holy and faithful, we will bear the sweet fruit. It starts from the mouth. Our mouth speaks the sweet, right, and good words and glorifies the name of Jesus. Our life will increase and we get the joy more and more.

If we are holy, faithful, and fervent in spirit, we will become the servant of God who is like the flame of fire.

Hebrews 1:7

1:7 *And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire.*

Revelation 1:14

1:14 *His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire.*

The servant of God who is holy, faithful, and fervent in spirit is the same as the apple of God's eye.

Psalms 17:7-8

17:7 *Show Your marvelous lovingkindness by Your right hand, O You who save those who trust in You From those who rise up against them.*

17:8 *Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings.*

If we become the apple of God's eye, we will get the covering of His wings.

The results are as follows:

Revelation 7:15b-16

7:15 *"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.*

7:16 *"They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat.*

- a. There is abundant preservation of God physically and spiritually.

Neither hunger means being satisfied, full, and preserved by God miraculously in the midst of our

powerlessness and the great difficulties until the time when the Antichrist rules over the world for three and a half years. We are also preserved spiritually, so we always give thanks to God.

- b. We experience the covering of God from danger in the world, sins up to the peak, condemnation, doomsday, and hell. A corn of sand cannot enter to the apple of God's eye.

The proof is that we can experience the peace and all things are easy and light. We do not feel all things that the flesh feels anymore such as fear, worry, uncleanness, *et cetera*. We only feel the warmth of the love of God and the heavenly joy.

2. The covering of the wings of a dove.

Psalms 68:13

68:13 Though you lie down among the sheepfolds, You will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver, And her feathers with yellow gold.

The wings of a dove are covered with silver and gold.

Psalms 55:6-8

55:6 So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest.

55:7 Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah

55:8 I would hasten my escape From the windy storm and tempest."

Malachi 3:1-3

3:1 "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.

3:2 "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderer's soap.

3:3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.

The requirements to get the covering of the wings of the dove are as follows:

- We must become the priest and king or the servant and the minister of God who serve and minister to Him according to the ministry which is entrusted by Him. The ministry is the same as our place in the body of Christ or in heaven.
- We must experience the double sanctification as follows:
 - a. The sanctification of the launderer's soap. It refers to the sanctification of the garment of ministry, deeds, and words or our outward man.
 - b. The sanctification of the refiner's fire or the sanctification to our inward man.

So, a priest must experience the inward and outward sanctification until producing spiritual silver and gold.

The gold refers to the godly characteristic, namely being obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore.

The silver refers to the right, good, and honest word.

Proverbs 10:20

10:20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; The heart of the wicked is worth little.

Gold and silver are used in edifying the perfect body of Christ.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

2:20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

2:21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

If we are like the gold and silver, we will be used in the revival of Holy Spirit at the later rain or the edifying of the perfect body of Christ. It starts from marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until the perfect body of Christ. He is

with us and the miracle happens. There is nothing impossible for Him.

The function of the wings of the dove is to look for the rest place from the windy storm, tempest, and the wave in the midst of the lake of the world.

Psalms 55:6-8

55:6 So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest.

55:7 Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah

55:8 I would hasten my escape From the windy storm and tempest."

We get peace to face the windy storm and wave which suddenly come to drown our boat, household, job, study, holiness, until destroying all of us.

The windy storm refers to the false teachings and sins up to the peak.

The wave refers to the temptations, impossible problems, and disaster.

We must face the windy storm and wave with peace like Jesus.

Mark 4:35-40

4:35 On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side."

4:36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.

4:37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.

4:38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

4:39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

4:40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

Jesus sleeps; It means as follows:

- Dying on the cross to defeat the death which works in the midst of winds and waves.
- Being the example of peace and silence or the firm faith.
Keeping silent means being still or doing the introspection in our life by the sharpness of the sword of the word. If we find sins, we must confess to God and other people. After we are forgiven, do not do it anymore. But, if we find no sin, we must keep silent and not defense ourselves. let God defense us.

Hebrews 2:17

2:17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

So, we will experience the ministry of reconciliation which is done by Jesus, the High Priest who makes propitiation for or forgives the sins of the people until He dies. The example is a criminal who was crucified beside Jesus.

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."

Being peaceful means controlling our life so that we do not hope to anyone or anything in the world, but God. We can pray and worship Him.

Confessing sins means worshipping Jesus with "Alleluia".

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, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"

The beautiful voice of the dove refers to the experience of resurrection like we are on the mountain and the soft one refers to the experience of the death like we are in the valley. Such voices refer to the new song which attracts Jesus to stretch out His faithful and merciful hand to calm and finish all of our impossible problems.

Hebrews 2:18

2:18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

He can help us in due time, neither too quick nor too slow.

Isaiah 43:15-16

43:15 I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King."

43:16 Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea And a path through the mighty waters.

The red sea was divided; it means that all of our impossible problems are finished by God, so there is the successful and beautiful future life.

Luke 23:43

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

It continues until the door of paradise is opened for us. It means that there is the covering of the preservation and protection from God, renewal, and sanctification, so we have the cheerful face. The criminal changes into the priest and king, the minister, or the servant of God until we are perfect and worthy to be lifted up on the glorious clouds, enter the heavenly kingdom, and experience the covering of the throne of heaven forever with our family.

God blesses you.