

General Service in Malang, July 24, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:17-19

26:17. Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

26:18 And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.'""

26:19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

Now, the Passover means our deliverance from sins by repenting and being newly born. The Passover feast will peak on the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:9

19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

The marriage supper of the Lamb is our deliverance from all sins and the world, to welcome Jesus in the glorious clouds in His second coming.

In Matthew 26:18, the Passover is related to "My time is at hand". It points to Jesus' death as the Lamb of Passover was drawing near. Jesus had to die on the cross, but then He was raised and lifted up to the Heaven, sat on the right hand of God the Father.

At the last days, "My time is at hand" means Jesus' second coming is drawing near, to lift us up in the glorious clouds, to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb.

What must be prepared in this little time to be able to welcome Jesus' second coming? Everything we have in this world will mean nothing if we are left on Jesus' second coming.

1 Corinthians 7:29-32

7:29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none,

7:30 those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess,

7:31 and those who use this world as not misusing it. For the form of this world is passing away.

7:32 But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord—how he may please the Lord.

The thing we must prepare is **LIVING WITHOUT CARE.**

Matthew 6:31-34

6:31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

6:32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

6:34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

There are three types of worry as follows:

1. Worry about daily life (food, drink, clothes).
2. Worry about future.
3. Worry about death.

The consequences of worry are as follows:

- Cannot prioritize God, cannot prioritize the ministry.
- Cannot live in righteousness, cannot be obedient.
- Cannot change, cannot experience renewal of life.

Proverbs 12:25

12:25. Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.

Anxiety is as the woman who was bent over for eighteen years, to keep being the Gentiles with eighteen flesh characters.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

3:1. *But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:*

3:2 *For men will be lovers of themselves(1), lovers of money(2), boasters(3), proud(4), blasphemers(5), disobedient to parents(6), unthankful(7), unholy(8),*

3:3 *unloving(9), unforgiving(10), slanderers(11), without self-control(12), brutal(13), despisers of good(14),*

3:4 *traitors(15), headstrong(16), haughty(17), lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God(18),*

3:5 *having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*

Life who keeps these flesh characters will be marked 666 by antichrist and will be perished together with antichrist.

THE WAY OUT IN FACING WORRY

Luke 12:22,24,27-28

12:22. *Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on.*

12:24 *Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds?*

12:27 *Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

12:28 *If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?*

The way out such that we do not worry is we have to pay attention to three things as follows:

1. The ravens in the sky do not sow nor reap, but God feeds them.

We are more than birds. It means that we have to sow and reap the Word of God.

Leviticus 19:19

19:19. *'You shall keep My statutes. You shall not let your livestock breed with another kind. You shall not sow your field with mixed seed. Nor shall a garment of mixed linen and wool come upon you.*

The requirements to enter the sowing and reaping activity are as follows:

- Only one type of seed is allowed. If there are two or more types, it will be unclean.
 - Good heart soil, that is meek heart, being able to receive the teaching Word no matter how hard it is.
- Judas had hard heart soil, he could not receive the Word which clearly pointed his sin.

If the requirements are right, the true teaching Word will grow and bear ripe fruits, such that we can make bread.

This activity denotes the Table of Showbread, that is perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion. God gives spiritual food for us, that is the Heavenly bread to glut and satisfy our spiritual life, such that we can always give thanks to God.

If we cannot give thanks to God or not being satisfied, the consequences are as follows:

- Having many comments, grumbling, saying words which weaken the others.
- Falling into sins up to the peak of sins, that is eating-drinking sins and marrying-giving sins.

In Bible Study Service, we do not waste our time, but we use our time to eat the Heavenly bread.

2. The lilies do not toil nor spin, but they are very beautiful.

Luke 12:27

12:27 *Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

We are more than the lilies. It means we have to join toiling and spinning activity spiritually to get beautiful spiritual cloth.

This activity denotes the Golden Candlestick, that is perseverance in General Service. In this perseverance, Holy Spirit gives the gifts of Holy Spirit to all of us. The gifts of Holy Spirit are miraculous abilities from Heaven to do the ministry.

With the gifts of Holy Spirit and ministry, we will be used in the revival of building perfect body of Christ. It is started from marriage, shepherding, fellowship between shepherding, up to the perfect body of Christ.

Through the General Service, Holy Spirit is toiling and spinning the beautiful tunic, such that our life is more beautiful each day.

Before having the beautiful tunic, our life has not been beautiful yet.

3. The grass which today is in the field and tomorrows is thrown into the oven.

Luke12:28

12:28 If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?

We are more than the grass, such that we must enter grooming activity.

This activity denotes the Golden Altar of Incense, that is perseverance in Prayer Service. There we will experience God's love which beautifies our lives, that is renewing our lives from flesh men to become glorious men as Jesus. It is started from meekness, being silent (having not many comments), and patience in suffering, patience in waiting God's time. If spiritual grooming is finished, God will do the physical.

Thus, such that we do not worry, we must **persevere in the shepherding pen.**

Luke12:32

12:32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

If we are shepherded, the results are as follows:

1. There will be no more cares; we experience peace, no more fear, no more depression.

1 Peter5:7

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

2. We can submit our whole life to God.

1 Peter5:5-6

5:5. Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for " God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

It equals to stretching out our hands to God, and God will also stretch out His strong loving hands to us. The results are as follows:

- The strong loving hands are able to care our daily life up to eternal life. There is certainty guarantee to give us victory over all problems up to defeating the death.

John10:27-28

10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

10:28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

- The strong loving hands are able to exalt us on His time, to lift us up from any failures.

1 Peter5:5-6

5:5. Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for " God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

Exalting means purifying and renewing our life, until we become as glorious as Jesus.

God blesses us.