

General Service in Malang, July 28, 2019 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 9:13-21 is about the sixth trumpet or the sixth condemnation of Son of God to men in the earth, so a third of mankind die in body, soul, and spirit because of the great war.

Revelation 9:16-19

9:16 Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

9:17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone.

9:18 By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed--by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths.

9:19 For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm.

It is called a great war because the number of the army of the horsemen are two hundred million. The victims are a third of mankind in the earth.

The soldiers ride horses. The horse refers to the power and speed.

Isaiah 30:15-16

30:15 For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not,

30:16 And you said, "No, for we will flee on horses" --Therefore you shall flee! And, "We will ride on swift horses" --Therefore those who pursue you shall be swift!

Nowadays, Satan is recruiting and training men who like riding the horse.

The spiritual meanings are as follows:

1. The fleshly man including the servant and minister of God who only hope the fleshly power in the riches, intelligence, position, *et cetera*. So, they cannot rely on God.
2. The fleshly man including the servant and minister of God who will not repent and do not want to repent, but swiftly do sins. They also do not want to serve to God, but Swiftly do physical things.

There are three weapons which are used in war as follows:

1. The fire.
Physically, it was used in the first world war. Spiritually, it refers to the tongue which is powered by the trinity of Satan to kill body, soul, and spirit of men.
2. The smoke.
Physically, it refers to bomb and nuclear which were used in the second world war which burst and produced smoke like giant furnace.
3. The brimstone.
Physically, it refers to biologic weapon which will be used in the third world war.

ad. 2. The smoke.

Satan does not want to kill only the body, but also the soul and spirit of men until they perish in hell forever.

Revelation 9:1-2

9:1 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit.

9:2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit.

The spiritual weapon of smoke comes out from the bottomless pit like the locusts and scorpions.

The scorpion is Well-known by its sting. The sting of death is sin.

1 Corinthians 15:55-56

15:55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

So, the weapon of smoke refers to sins up to the peak or the sins of eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

John 19:28-30

19:28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

19:29 Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

19:30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Jesus drank the sour wine mixed with bile or the sins up to the peak which bring men to the death and make them in weariness, heave-burden, difficulties, bitterness, until perdition.

After that, He said "it is finished" and submitted His life.

So, He died on the cross to finish sins up to the peak, except the sins of unbelieving, because it cannot be finished.

Do not let the sins increase and burst like the atomic bomb which causes the perdition up to the hell forever.

Therefore, our attitude now is that we do not multiply the sins, but must finish them up to the peak.

How? By the encouragement of the word which points out the sin, so we can realize, regret, and confess it to God and other people honestly. After being forgiven, do not do it anymore! We must stop sinning or finish the sin.

Jeremiah 9:3-9

9:3 "And like their bow they have bent their tongues for lies. They are not valiant for the truth on the earth. For they proceed from evil to evil, And they do not know Me," says the LORD.

9:4 "Everyone take heed to his neighbor, And do not trust any brother; For every brother will utterly supplant, And every neighbor will walk with slanderers.

9:5 Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; They weary themselves to commit iniquity.

9:6 Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me," says the LORD.

9:7 Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: "Behold, I will refine them and try them; For how shall I deal with the daughter of My people?"

9:8 Their tongue is an arrow shot out; It speaks deceit; One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, But in his heart he lies in wait.

9:9 Shall I not punish them for these things?" says the LORD. "Shall I not avenge Myself on such a nation as this?"

If the sin is not stopped, it will become yeast which continues destroying and increasing.

How small the sins of speaking that begin from lies and idle words, if they are stacked up and not finished by the blood of Jesus, they will go up to the presence of God and will burst to become the condemnation.

Genesis 18:21

18:21 "I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know."

Genesis 19:24-25

19:24 Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens.

19:25 So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

It had happened that the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah were hidden until they went up to the presence of God and caused the fire of condemnation of God.

The consequences of the condemnation of fire and brimstone are as follows:

- Physically, Sodom and Gomorrah became the dead sea and there was no life in it.
If one keeps sins, he will live in difficulty, weariness, heavy-burden, and bitterness.
- Spiritually, ones die in fire of hell forever.

It will happen again in the last days.

Luke 17:28-30,32

17:28 "Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

17:29 "but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

17:30 "Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

17:32 "Remember Lot's wife.

In the age of Noah, only eight people were saved. It refers to the salvation of bride or four spouses.

In the age of Lot, only four people were saved, but one was failed, even there was not the salvation of the bride. Lot's wife was not obedient, but Lot firmly did not look back with his wife. Whatever happens around us, we must keep on loving God more than anything.

Looking back means as follows:

1. Not being bound to the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah.

If there is a bond of sins, the more one follows God, the more he feels the bond of sins. His life is heavier until sometime it becomes a bond which cannot be released anymore, so he looks back.

The sins of Sodom and Gomorrah means as follows:

- a. The sins of uncleanness or the sins of eating-drinking, namely smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse and the sins of marrying-being given in marriage, namely adultery between man and woman who are not a legal spouse, homosexuality, lesbianism, sexuality to oneself and with animals, and so on.
- b. The sins of planting and building, namely one is busy in the activities in the world until he is not faithful in serving and ministering to God.
- c. The sins of buying and selling or the bond of money which makes one stingy and greedy.
Being stingy means that one cannot give. Being greedy means that one only looks for the physical benefits in the service and ministry to God. Moreover, he looks for profit in illegal ways, namely he steals the possessions that belong to God or the tithe and special offering and the possessions of other people including the heritage, *et cetera*.

2. Being bound to the characteristic of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Ezekiel 16:49

16:49 "Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

It refers to the arrogance which makes one hope to something in the world, so he does not hope God as well as the egoism or not loving other people.

Combining them, the characteristic of Sodom and Gomorrah is the one without love.

3. Not obeying the Word.

When God commands not to look back, actually it is to lighten our life, not to aggravate it.

Hebrews 4:12-13

4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

We must attempt to hear and obey the word.

When we are obedient, we are stopping sins and we experience the sanctification that starts from the heart as the source of sins. It continues that the words and deeds are sanctified, until someday we are perfect and without blemish.

Acts 10:1-2,4

10:1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment,

10:2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.

10:4 And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?" So he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.

So, we can raise the sweet smelling aroma before God. We can give to other people and pray to remember God.

Psalms 103:10-14

103:10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

103:11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;

103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

103:13 As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

103:14 For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

He remembers that we are dust or we are unable and unworthy. He gives extra power or Holy Spirit. The results are as follows:

- Holy Spirit gives life in the midst of difficulties in the world until the time when Antichrist rules over the world. Holy Spirit helps us to live in righteousness and holiness.

Genesis 2:7

2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

- Holy Spirit forms the earthen vessel to be the glorious one to be used to glorify God forever. Holy Spirit gives the gifts of Holy Spirit which determine our ministry.

Romans 9:23-24

9:23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory.

9:24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

The glorious vessel refers to the vessels of mercy. It means that we live from the mercy of God.

- Holy Spirit renews us from the earthen vessel to the golden pot that contains manna, namely we are perfect like Jesus. We can be strong and courageous. We are not hopeless and disappointed, and we do not leave God. We keep on serving, ministering, and hoping to God until someday we can welcome the second coming of Jesus on the glorious clouds.

God blesses you.