

General Service in Malang, June 02, 2024 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 21:15

21:15 *And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.*

There are three things which are measured by the gold reed as follows:

1. The New Jerusalem city.
2. The wall.
3. The gates.

ad.2 Measuring the wall.

Revelation 21:17-20

21:17 *Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.*

21:18 *The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.*

21:19 *The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald,*

21:20 *the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.*

The foundation is adorned with the twelve precious stones. It refers to the adornment or precious beloved thing.

Exodus chapter 19 is for welcoming two great things as follows:

1. The two tablets of stone or the perfect love of God.
2. The Tabernacle or the edification of Christ's body.

In Exodus 19, the house of Israel was shown in two following things:

1. The special treasure of God.

Exodus 19:5

19:5 *'Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.'*

It is the same as a glorious or shining jewel.

Luke 8:18

8:18 *"Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him."*

The ways to become the precious stone of the special treasure of God are as follows:

- Paying attention to the way we hear the Word seriously or with a need and what we hear, namely the true teaching Word only. It determines whether we become the hard stone or the precious one.
- Holding fast to the true teaching Word and obeying it.

2. The priests and kings from now on in the world until being in the heavenly kingdom.

Exodus 19:6

19:6 *'And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.'*

Nevertheless, Israel has gone away from the ordinances of God.

Malachi 3:6-9

3:6 *"For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.*

3:7 *Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances And have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," Says the LORD of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?'*

3:8 *"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.*

3:9 *You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation.*

It happens because of stealing the tithes and offerings, the smallest possession of God. The second possession of God is the temple, the service and ministry, and worship to God. Stealing it means unfaithfulness in committing the service and ministry or being lazy in worshipping God. The greatest possession of God is the bride. Stealing it means that one cannot reach the perfection, but keeping sins and being left behind when Jesus comes a second time.

Consequently, Israel got the curse and was made equal to the Gentiles.

Nevertheless, God called them to return.

Zechariah1:3

1:3 *"Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Return to Me," says the LORD of hosts, "and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts.*

Malachi3:7b, 13-18

3:7 ... *Return to Me, and I will return to you," Says the LORD of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?'*

3:13 *"Your words have been harsh against Me," Says the LORD, "Yet you say, 'What have we spoken against You?'*

3:14 *You have said, 'It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, And that we have walked as mourners Before the LORD of hosts?'*

3:15 *So now we call the proud blessed, For those who do wickedness are raised up; They even tempt God and go free."*

3:16 *Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.*

3:17 *"They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him."*

3:18 *Then you shall again discern Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.*

The purpose is to make them the special treasure of God, the precious stone, or priests and kings still.

Romans11:25-26

11:25 *For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.*

11:26 *And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*

Nevertheless, a part of them keeps on being hard-hearted or rejecting Jesus as the Savior, so the opportunity and mercy of God to the Gentiles or hard stone to become the precious stone, the special treasure of God, or priests and kings are opened.

1. The twelve precious stones in the breastplate of the High Priest.

Exodus28:15-20

28:15 *" You shall make the breastplate of judgment. Artistically woven according to the workmanship of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, you shall make it.*

28:16 *"It shall be doubled into a square: a span shall be its length, and a span shall be its width.*

28:17 *"And you shall put settings of stones in it, four rows of stones: The first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and an emerald; this shall be the first row;*

28:18 *"the second row shall be a turquoise, a sapphire, and a diamond;*

28:19 *"the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst;*

28:20 *"and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold settings.*

Exodus28:28

28:28 *"They shall bind the breastplate by means of its rings to the rings of the ephod, using a blue cord, so that it is above the intricately woven band of the ephod, and so that the breastplate does not come loose from the ephod.*

The High Priest wore the breastplate with the twelve precious stones. The position of the breastplate was that it had to be bound to the ephod.

Titus 2:1-10

2:1 *But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:*

2:2 *that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;*

2:3 *the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things--*

2:4 that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,
 2:5 to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.
 2:6 Likewise exhort the young men to be sober-minded,
 2:7 in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,
 2:8 sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.
 2:9 Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back,
 2:10 not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

Adorning the doctrine means that we are honest in the teachings.

Our life manners must be according to the Word. We know the border. All things in our life are in the border of righteousness and purity.

As a result, God will adorn our life to be successful and beautiful in time of need.

2. The breastplate with the twelve precious stones was put on the bosom of the High Priest. It means serving and ministering to God with the encourage of His love.

The fact found in it is prioritizing the service and ministry to God more than anything, ministering to Him with obedience and sacrifice, and loving others like we love ourselves or only doing good things until repaying good for evil.

As a result, God is able to make all things in our life good.

3. Urim and Thummim were put in the breastplate with the twelve precious stones over the heart of the High Priest.

Exodus28:30

28:30 "And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD. So Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel over his heart before the LORD continually.

Thummim refers to the sword of the Word.

Hebrews4:12

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.

Urim refers to the light or Holy Spirit.

Hebrews4:13

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.

The teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit is able to sanctify us. It starts from the heart, namely from the evil desire or the will of money, the unclean desire or the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage, and the bitterness of heart.

1 Samuel 14:37,40-45

14:37 So Saul asked counsel of God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will You deliver them into the hand of Israel?" But He did not answer him that day.

14:40 Then he said to all Israel, "You be on one side, and my son Jonathan and I will be on the other side." And the people said to Saul, "Do what seems good to you."

14:41 Therefore Saul said to the LORD God of Israel, "Give a perfect lot." So Saul and Jonathan were taken, but the people escaped.

14:42 And Saul said, "Cast lots between my son Jonathan and me." So Jonathan was taken.

14:43 Then Saul said to Jonathan, "Tell me what you have done." And Jonathan told him, and said, "I only tasted a little honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand. So now I must die!"

14:44 And Saul answered, "God do so and more also; for you shall surely die, Jonathan."

14:45 But the people said to Saul, "Shall Jonathan die, who has accomplished this great deliverance in Israel? Certainly not! As the LORD lives, not one hair of his head shall fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day." So the people rescued Jonathan, and he did not die.

Urim and Thummim sanctify the great sinful deeds up to the peak as well as the small ones we often do not realize.

Nehemiah7:64-65

7:64 These sought their listing among those who were registered by genealogy, but it was not found; therefore they were excluded from the priesthood as defiled.

7:65 And the governor said to them that they should not eat of the most holy things till a priest could consult with the Urim and Thummim.

Urim and Thummim also sanctify the characteristics of sin, namely leprosy, self-truth, or covering sin by blaming at others and God.

As a result, we can live in holiness.

Ephesians4:11-12

4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

We are equipped with the ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit to be used in the ministry for the edification of the perfect body of Christ. It is the same as placing Jesus as the Head. The connection between the Head and the body happens in the neck. We worship God much more or submit all our weaknesses physically and spiritually. Although we are only a powerless piece of hair that cannot do anything and not precious at all, but we become the special treasure of God. The results are as follows:

- Jesus, the High Priest, is able to perform the ministry of reconciliation for our sins.

Hebrews2:16-18

2:16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

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.

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

As a result, we can feel peaceful. All things become easy and light.

Jesus is able to help us and solve all impossible problems or temptations.

- The merciful hands of the High Priest are able to create something that does not exist yet for preserving our life in the midst of the difficulties in the world.

John21:5-6,11

21:5 Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No."

21:6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

21:11 Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken.

- Jesus, the High Priest, reveals His decision or will to us. It will be the most righteous, best, and most perfect for our life.

God blesses you.