

General Service in Malang, March 02, 2014 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 1:9-20 is about the vision of John on Patmos island.

Revelation 1:9

1:9 I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

John the apostle was on Patmos island and experienced flesh suffering for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. He experienced it not because of doing sins. It was flesh suffering without any sins. Thus, it encouraged him to enter true fellowship with God and the others. Fellowship with the others is fellowship of the perfect body of Christ, based on the true teaching Word. It is started with fellowship within marriage, continued with fellowship within shepherding, between shepherding, up to the perfect body of Christ. Fellowship with God is fellowship of the body with the Head, or fellowship of the bride and the Bridegroom forever.

There are three important things in the true fellowship as follows.

1. Fellowship in the tribulation = the way of death, the way of the cross.
2. Fellowship in the kingdom = the way of resurrection.
3. Fellowship in perseverance in waiting Jesus who will come for the second time = the way of glory.

ad. 3. Fellowship in perseverance in waiting Jesus who will come for the second time.

Mark 13:33-37

13:33 Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

13:34 It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch.

13:35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—^{in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning}

13:36 lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping.

13:37 And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!

It is the parable about Jesus Himself. Jesus must go means He must die on the cross, arise, and go to the Heaven, but He will come for the second time. Our attitude is we must be watchful so we do not sleep spiritually. We must be in spiritual revival. Jesus' second coming is as a thief, therefore we must be watchful so we are not left.

Thus, perseverance in waiting Jesus' second coming is being watchful so we do not sleep spiritually, but we are always in spiritual revival.

Mark 13:35

13:35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—^{in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning}

There are four times to watch as follows.

1. In the evening (6pm-9pm).

Luke 24:29-32

24:29 But they constrained Him, saying, ^{Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.} And He went in to stay with them.

24:30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

24:31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

24:32 And they said to one another, ^{Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?}

Toward evening, we must be watchful about faith so it does not fail. In the past, being watchful is through hearing Jesus explaining the Holy Bible and breaking the bread. Nowadays, it refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.

We must have perseverance and fervency in spirit in hearing the true teaching Word with Holy Communion, so the Word trenches in our life. The results are as follows.

- Our eyes are opened to know Jesus. It means we more understand and have faith to the true teaching Word. Thus, our life will not depend on this world, but to the true teaching Word. Where there is revelation of the Word, there is way out from every problem.
- We have a steadfast faith, up to the perfect one. It means as follows.
 - a. We do not become unsteady because of any temptations, but we keep putting our hope to Jesus and not to the others.
 - b. We do not become unsteady in facing false teaching, but we keep holding fast the true teaching Word.
 - c. We do not fall in sins up to the peak of sins. We keep living in righteousness.

Luke 18:8

18:8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?

Steadfast and perfect faith will be able to welcome Jesus' second coming. Outside faith, everything is in vain.

2. At midnight (9pm-0am).

Mark 13:35

13:35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming "in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning"

Matthew 25:1-6

25:1 Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

25:2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

25:3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them,

25:4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

25:5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

25:6 And at midnight a cry was heard: "Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!"

We must be watchful about hope so it is as the lamp that keeps burning and is not quenched. We must have oil for supply, that is Holy Spirit that overflows in our life. We can be watchful about hope through perseverance in General Service, where we have fellowship with Holy Spirit God who pours His Spirit and gifts in the midst of us. Thus, we will experience the anointing and fulfillment of Holy Spirit, until Holy Spirit overflows in our life. Hence, we have oil for supply and the lamp keeps burning to face darkness at midnight.

Only Bride Tidings or the true teaching Word, that always reminds and wakes up us so we are always watchful to keep the lamp burning.

The practices of having hope in Jesus are as follows.

- There are good deeds within marriage, church, up to all people wherever and whenever.

Matthew 5:15-16

5:15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

- Ministering God in the last days (midnight) with faithfulness and fervency in spirit.

Luke 12:35

12:35 Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning;

Thus, the practice of having hope is ministering God with faithfulness and goodness, starting from a few things. That is the maximal light.

Matthew 25:21

25:21 His lord said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord."

The results are as follows.

- God gives trust over many things, meaning being used in the ministry of building the perfect body of Christ or revival of Holy Spirit in the last days.
- God will also give us Heavenly joy that cannot be affected by anything in this world.
- Living in hope, meaning living in holiness as Jesus is. We are not swallowed up by the peak of darkness in the last days, that is sins up to the peak of sins.

1 John 3:2-3

3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

3:3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

3. At the crowing of the rooster (0am-3am).

Mark 13:35

13:35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is comingâ"in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morningâ"

It is the coldest time. We must watch the love so it is not cold. We can watch it through perseverance in Prayer Service. Worshiping God means seeing His face as the sun. The perfect love will be radiated so the love will always warm.

Matthew 24:12

24:12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

Luke 22:54-57,60

22:54 Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance.

22:55 Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

22:56 And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him."

22:57 But he denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him."

22:60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.

Peter experiences crisis of love. The consequences are as follows.

- Being unsatisfied, so one always looks for another satisfaction from this world and heats on the fire of sins.
- Rebellion within marriage. There is hatred without any reasons, revenge, divorce, slandering one another, killing one another. There is also rebellion within house of God, that is being unfaithful in ministry until denying God through bad, evil, and unclean words and deeds.

Titus 1:15-16

1:15 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

1:16 They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

Thus, the place to watch is the shepherding pen, that is perseverance in three main services.

But we must be careful within the pen so we do not become as Judas who sells Jesus. It happens because he preserves the desire of the flesh (the fourth time to watch).

Psalm 23:6

23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.

In the shepherding pen, we experience the mercy and goodness of God. Every step of our life and every beat of our heart are within His mercy and goodness. The results are as follows.

- a. We experience the steps of God's care, meaning the mercy and goodness of God decide our death and life.
- b. We experience the steps of spiritual revival. We do not sleep spiritually, so we are always ready to wait for His second coming. We are always faithful and fervent in spirit in ministry and worshipping Him.

- c. We experience the steps of lift up from God. Peter actually must be destroyed. But fortunately there is crowing of the rooster, that is the repeated shepherding Word to revive us.

Luke 22:60-62

22:60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.

22:61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

22:62 So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Peter can realize his sin, regret and confess it. God recovers and lifts him up. David also falls in sins. But he can receive the Word preached by Nathan. David confesses his sins to God and the others, and he does not repeat it. David experiences lift up from God, and he is used by God.

- d. We experience the steps of miracle.

Psalms 136:1-5

136:1 Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

136:2 Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever.

136:3 Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever:

136:4 To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever;

136:5 To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy endures forever;

Jesus Himself is able to help and make miracle for us. Physical miracle is He makes the thing that does not exist before, and also makes possible the impossible matter. Our life becomes successful and beautiful in His time. Spiritual miracle is there are steps of life renewal from flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus, that is being obedient. The beautiful steps are continued until His second coming and we are renewed as glorious as Him.

God blesses us.