

General Service in Malang, March 10, 2024 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 21:9-27 to Revelation 22:1-5 is about the New Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:9-11

21:9 *Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."*

21:10 *And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,*

21:11 *having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.*

The New Jerusalem city means as follows:

1. [verse 9] The bride of God or the perfect church.
2. [verse 10] A city on the high great mountain.
3. [verse 11] A city which is full of God's glory.

The steps of reaching the glory of God in the New Jerusalem are as follows:

1. **The way of the death or cross, namely the sufferings in flesh together with Jesus.**

Colossians 3:3

3:3 *For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

Philippians 1:29-30

1:29 *For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,*

1:30 *having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.*

We get the grace of God as follows:

- Giving us faith, so we can believe Jesus.
- We can suffer because of Jesus.

The way of the cross means having faith and sufferings together with Jesus. It refers to the true and firm faith. The facts found in it are as follows:

- [verse 30] Keeping on not committing sins and lying in facing all kinds of struggles[2 Corinthians 6:4-5].
- Enjoying the sufferings because of Jesus, so we can feel joyful because of being counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus.

Acts 5:40-42

5:40 *And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.*

5:41 *So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.*

5:42 *And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.*

It also refers to the sufferings because of holding fast to the true teaching Word.

- Persevering in the true and firm faith for entering the New Jerusalem.

Acts 14:22

14:22 *strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."*

The way of the cross is the only way to enter the heavenly kingdom.

2. **The way of resurrection with Jesus.**

Colossians 3:1-2

3:1 *If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of*

God.

3:2 *Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.*

The facts found in it are as follows:

- Living in righteousness.

Romans 4:25

4:25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

- [verse 2,1] Setting mind on and looking for the heavenly things more than the worldly ones. It means being faithful and fervent in spirit in the service and ministry to God.

The way of resurrection is that we become the faithful and true servant of God although we must sacrifice all things in the world.

Romans 8:33-34

8:33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

As a result, Jesus as the High priest pays attention to, accompanies, pleads, and prays for us so that we are always victorious over sins, hindrances, and challenges and we keep on being the faithful and true servant of God until the end line.

Isaiah 11:5

11:5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

It is the same as wearing the belt of faithfulness and righteousness.

Luke 17:7-8

17:7 "And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'?"

17:8 "But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'?"

It is also the same as giving God food and drinks to satisfy His heart. Our concern is to become the faithful and true servant of God to satisfy His heart. Our food and drink will be God's concern as follows:

- He is able to satisfy our heart with the satisfaction of heaven, so we do not look for the worldly satisfaction that makes us fall to sins or the worldly satisfaction is not brought into the church. We always give thanks and become God's witness.
- God preserves our physical life abundantly. We can give thanks and become blessings for others.

3. **The way of glory with Jesus.**

Colossians 3:4

3:4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

The last purpose of our following and ministering to Jesus is being glorified with Him forever until we reach the New Jerusalem.

Mark 11:1-2,7-11

11:1 Now when they drew near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples;

11:2 and He said to them, "Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring it.

11:7 Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it.

11:8 And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

11:9 Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'"

11:10 Blessed is the kingdom of our father David That comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

11:11 And Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at all things, as the hour was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The last journey of Jesus to Jerusalem is by sitting on a donkey. It prophesies about the Gentiles' being used in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain or the ministry for the edification of the perfect Christ's body to go towards the New Jerusalem or the heavenly kingdom. It starts from the ministry in the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until Israelites and Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ.

The requirement is that the donkey must be tied to the true Vine or the Gentiles must be shepherded through the perseverance in committing the three main services to God. We get the continual sanctification from the unclean desires such as the sins concerning eating drinking and marrying-being given in marriage, bitterness or envy and revenge as well as wickedness or the love of money, stinginess, and greediness. As a result, we can live in holiness. We can feel more joyful to give than to receive until we can give our whole life to Jesus to be used by God.

There are three kinds of surrendering life to God as follows:

- [verse 8a] '*many spread their clothes on the road*' It means many servants of God generally, namely surrendering life, but still being bound by the worldly things, ministering to God to get the blessings, praise, and so on. Nevertheless, they took back the clothes after getting all the physical things. It means returning to the old life or committing sin.
- [verse 8b] '*others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread them on the road*' The leafy branches refer to the food for the donkey, namely many servants of God generally join the edification of Christ's body to look for the self-interest until being the stumbling-block. It is the same as the neck's being tied with the millstones and being drowned. It means that the life is not beautiful, but weary, heavy-laden, decreased, and perishing.
- [verse 1,7] '*Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it*' It is the two disciples' surrendering by throwing their clothes on the donkey where Jesus sat on. It refers to the full surrendering for being used in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain. Being ridden by Jesus means that we are given the burden in the ministry according to the will of God. We get the suffering so that we can be obedient.

Romans 8:15

8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

As a result, there is Holy Spirit to make us strong and of good courage.

Romans 5:5

5:5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

We do not get disappointed or hopeless and leave God, regardless of anything we must face.

Romans 8:11

8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give lifeto your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Holy Spirit is able to revive the dead. Impossible things can be made possible. Holy Spirit is able to preserve our life and solve all impossible problems.

1 Chronicles 28:20

28:20 And David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD God--my God--will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

God blesses you.