

General Service in Malang, November 03, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

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

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."

Holy Bible is started with the book of Genesis that contains the marriage of Adam and Eve, that is the physical marriage destroyed by the serpent. This situation lasts until now.

If the beginning of marriage has been started with committing adultery, the marriage has been dead. If this sin is not confessed, the marriage will decay.

In the journey of marriage, if it is marked with quarrelling, violence, dishonesty, it means that marriage is sick. If they divorce, the marriage has been dead. If it is continued with marrying other people, the marriage is decaying.

The victim of first and second world war can be counted, but the victim of decaying marriage cannot be counted. Fortunately, Holy Bible is closed with the book of Revelation that contains the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. It is the spiritual marriage, the perfect marriage.

The marriage supper of the Lamb of God is the meeting between Jesus who will come for the second time in glory as King of kings and Heavenly bridegroom with the perfect congregation as the Heavenly bride on the glorious clouds. Afterwards, we will enter a thousand years kingdom of peace, and then the New Jerusalem or the eternal Kingdom of Heaven. We sit together with Jesus forever.

God invites us to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. He invites us with Bride Tidings.

Matthew 25:6

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

There are two kinds of the preaching of the Word as follows.

1. Good News or Gospel Word. It is to save sinful life through believing Jesus, repenting, water baptism, and Holy Spirit baptism.
2. Bride Tidings or the true teaching Word or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword. It is to sanctify and perfect saved life, to become the bride of God.

Why does God invite us to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God?

If we do not enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, we will be left on His second coming. It means we will be destroyed together with this world until perdition in the hell forever.

Our attitude is we must struggle to fulfill the invitation from God to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. How is the way?

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.

By living in purity as Jesus is pure. There are three types of purification as follows.

1. Purification of the sins in the past (the Court of Tabernacle).
Past sins are the sins we have done and thought. We must account past sins before God, because the wage of sins is death.

1 John 1:7,9

1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The way is we must confess our sins solemnly to God (vertical) and the others (horizontal). Thus the blood of Jesus will be active to:

- Cover our sin so there is no trace, as we never do that sin. The proof is we do not feel being judged anymore.

- Pull out the root of sin so it will never grow again. We do not do that sin again. We live in righteousness and hold fast to the true teaching Word. Thus we will have fellowship in light with God (as a branch abides on the true vine) and with the others (fellowship between branches).

The results are as follows.

- Bearing sweet fruit, that is the joy of Heaven.
Losing heart and bitterness happen because there is something wrong (sins), other teaching, and other people (the serpent).

- Being surrounded with the blessing and favor of God.

Psalm 5:12

5:12 For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

God protects, pleads, and blesses our life. We are surrounded as with a shield so the ambience of curse cannot enter, and there is only the ambience of Paradise.

2. Purification of the present (Holy Place).

After living in righteousness and being blessed, we must not go out anymore, but we must enter the sheepfold. The Holy Place refers to perseverance in three main services as follows.

- Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in the gifts of Holy Spirit.
- Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
- Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love.

Within shepherding, our body, soul, and spirit attach to God the Trinity, and we experience intensive purification. What will purify us?

- The Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword.

Hebrews 4:12

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.

It is the Word that is revealed by God, and whose secret is revealed through one verse explains other verses.

The process is listening the Word solemnly, understanding the Word, believing and having faith to the Word, until practicing it. The results are as follows.

- a. Living in holiness.

Psalm 119:9

119:9 How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.

A young man represents life who has strong flesh desire. It is the trigger of sins up to the peak of sins. All these things can only be stopped by the Word. The Word is the brake so we do not do sins.

- b. The Word becomes a lamp to our feet, so we do not stumble and we are not ensnared by sins.

Psalm 119:105

119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

Snare is put in the place where we pass frequently, in the hidden one. We must not hide anything starting from small matters.

The true teaching Word will also give light, meaning giving direction to the city of light or New Jerusalem. Do not be deceived and misled to Babylon.

- Chastening.

Hebrews 12:10

12:10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

No matter how hard the preaching of the true teaching Word is, it is the cord of God's love to draw us so we will not be ensnared by sins. If the true teaching Word is rejected, the cords will be spun to become whip to chasten and return us to holiness. If we already return to holiness, all problems are solved.

Jonah is chastened by God until he is drowned to the bottom of the sea. But fortunately he realizes his faults and cries out to God. Jonah returns to God and the true ministry.

But if we reject chastening, moreover if we feel great, it means we are let alone by God as the illegitimate son to wait for His judgments up to perdition forever.

Ephesians 4:11-12

*4:11 And He Himself gave some to beapostles, 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,*

If we are willing to be sanctified by the Word and chastening, the results are as follows.

- We are equipped with the gifts of Holy Spirit and ministry (the beautiful tunic) to be used in the ministry of building the perfect body of Christ. The beautiful tunic means beautiful and successful future. If one does not have it, it means he is naked. If one takes off the tunic, the destiny will be as Judas whose stomach burst.
- Having the wisdom from God to face physical and spiritual hunger, until the peak of hunger in the days of antichrist.

Genesis 41:37-40

41:37 So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants.

41:38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?"

41:39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.

41:40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you."

It is the fence of God's protection from antichrist, so our life will be beautiful and successful.

3. Purification of the future (the Most Holy Place).

It is purification with the sprinkling of blood, that is suffering without any sins with Jesus.

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.

Only life who has hope to welcome Jesus' second coming, will be able to experience purification through the sprinkling of blood until we are pure as He is pure.

1 Peter 4:12-14

4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

The fiery trial is flesh suffering because of God's will. It can be in the form of fasting prayer, night prayer, being slandered, et cetera.

The greater the fiery trial is, the greater glory we receive, and the greater God's usage in our life.

Daniel 6:4-5,10,19,22

6:4 So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him.

6:5 Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God."

6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open

toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

6:19 Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions.

6:22 My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.

Daniel is slandered concerning his work and ministry. But he keeps silent and worships God more. The result is God's hands shut the lions' mouth. If one slanders and blames the others, it equals to opening the lions' mouths.

If we worship God more, the Spirit of glory will shut the lions' mouths. It means as follows.

- The Spirit of glory protects us from sins and false teaching, so we will not fall.
- The Spirit of glory solves all problems even the impossible ones.
- The Spirit of glory repays the deeds of the evil one.
- The Spirit of glory glorifies us physically and spiritually, and renews our life so we can be strong and of good courage. If we are renewed spiritually, our physical life will also be lifted up. When Jesus comes a second time, we will be renewed as glorious as Him.

Daniel 12:13

12:13 But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days.

If one dies in the Spirit of glory, he will be risen on Jesus' second coming.

God blesses us.