

General Service in Malang, November 07, 2021 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 14:9-11

14:9. Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,

14:10. "he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

14:11. "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

The third angel preaches about God's punishment and judgment for those, including the servants of God who worship the Antichrist and receive his mark (666) on their forehead or on their right hand.

How is the condition of the servant of God who receives the mark of 666 on his forehead or on his right hand?

Mark 3:1-3, 5-6

3:1. And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand.

3:2. So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him.

3:3. And He said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward."

3:5. And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.

3:6. Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him.

Luke 6:6

6:6. Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered.

God has given the example in the Bible. Jesus taught in the synagogue on the Sabbath.

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

1. The gospel of salvation. It preaches about Jesus' first coming to die on the cross and redeem our sin, so we are saved and blessed.
The gospel of salvation is important to bring the sinners who are heavy laden in the cursed world, so they enter the synagogue and experience the rest or Sabbath. The synagogue means ministering to God.
The gospel of salvation is like milk for those who just believed in Jesus.
2. The true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword, the Bride Tidings, or the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ. It preaches about Jesus' second coming in the glory of the King and heavenly Bridegroom.

The true teaching Word is like solid food, because milk is not enough. The teaching Word purifies us up to perfection and becoming the heavenly bride, so we can greet Jesus when He comes a second time. We can enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace, and the New Jerusalem (the eternal Sabbath).

Hebrews 4:9-13

4:9. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.

4:10. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

4:11. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

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.

The true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword gives Sabbath, namely the rest in the temple of God. In the Old Testament, Sabbath is the seventh day. In the New Testament, Sabbath is the rest in Holy Spirit. It happens when the sword of the Word shows our sin, so we are purified. It is the small Sabbath that we can experience anytime. We keep experiencing the small Sabbath and it increases up to the big Sabbath or the One Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace, and the eternal one or the New Jerusalem

The gospel and teaching Words are the same as the everlasting gospel which prepares us to enter the eternity. Without the true teaching Word in the synagogue or ministry, the congregation will not experience Sabbath, so they experience the spiritual dryness and are marked 666 on their forehead or on their right hand. The mark 666 has no relation with electronic ID Card, vaccine, *et cetera*. We must watch the spiritual meaning.

There are two kinds of the servant of God who is marked with 666 as follows:

1. The servant of God whose right hand is withered (Mark 3:1). It means that his right hand is marked with 666.
2. The servant of God who is like the Pharisees who harden their heart (Mark 3:5). It means that his heart and mind are marked with 666.

Ad. 1. The facts of one whose right hand is withered are as follows:

1. The right hand's being withered means that **his ministry has no relation with Jesus as the High Priest who sits at the right hand of the Father God**. Being without Jesus, the High Priest means as follows:
 - There is no the ministry of reconciliation, so there is no peace, but only envy, hatred, ambition as well as elbowing one another for getting position, money, *et cetera*.
 - There is no purification but just wicked and unclean deeds, namely the sins of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage until returning evil for good.

Only a holy and peaceful man can see God [Hebrews 12:14]. Otherwise, one will surely experience the spiritual dryness, so he looks for the worldly satisfaction such as discotheque, cinema, *et cetera*, or the ambience of the world is brought into the church. One who is withered spiritually as well as not ministering faithfully and fervently is the same as having the spiritual lukewarmness like the church of the Laodiceans who ministered to God just for the physical thing and touted the physical thing.

2. The right hand's being withered means that **one cannot give but only asks**. He cannot give to others who are in need. It is the same as being stingy. He also cannot return the possession of God and others. It is the same as being greedy.

The true worship means presenting to God, not asking.

3. The right hand's being withered means that **one cannot lift up his hand nor worship God**. One who is greedy and stingy will not be able to worship God, but the Antichrist. If we minister to God but our right hand is withered, our position will be like a sheep that falls into a pit.

Matthew 12:9,11

12:9. Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue.

12:11. Then He said to them, "What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out?"

Sheep should be in the sheepfold. The Sheep who falls into a pit refers to the bottomless pit, namely having the association with wicked and unclean spirits. It is the place of the rest of death (Revelation 9) up to perdition forever.

Jesus helps His servant whose right hand is withered through the preaching of the true teaching Word.

Mark 3:3

3:3. And He said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward."

The true teaching Word returns the position of the servant of God to the correct position, namely in the midst, between Jesus and the congregation or in the ministry of reconciliation to reconcile himself and the congregation with God.

God showed the Tabernacle to Moses as the example. The court of the Tabernacle refers to one who has gotten the salvation, repented, and been baptized in the water. The Most Holy Place refers to the perfection or God's place. So, the place of the priests is in the middle, namely the Holy Place. It refers to the sheepfold or the perseverance in committing the three kinds of main services to God as follows:

- The Golden Candlestick refers to the perseverance in committing the General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and gifts. We drink spiritually
- The Table of Showbread refers to the perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ. We eat spiritually.

- The Golden Altar of Incense refers to the perseverance in committing the Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love. We breathe spiritually.

In the sheepfold, we are purified continuously until we say "*I shall not want*". It means that we are full physically and spiritually. We are quiet in green pastures up to perfection like Jesus. On the contrary, without the true teaching Word, we will become like the sheep that falls into a pit, not in the pen.

ad. 2. **The facts of one who is like the Pharisees who minister with the hardness of heart are as follows:**

Mark 3:2,4-6

3:2. *So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him.*

3:4. *Then He said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they kept silent.*

3:5. *And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.*

3:6. *Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him.*

1. **Ministering but only to watch and accuse Jesus.**

One hears the true teaching Word just for criticizing, accusing, and rejecting it. He surely likes to blame the righteous man, so he cannot do the introspection in his life. He sins but he always feels right and blames others including God or the true teaching Word. He cannot repent but just grumbles, gossips, slanders, *et cetera*.

2. Keeping silent means **not being honest nor experiencing the working of the true teaching Word**, namely purification and renewal.

Keeping silent means having no reaction even though he knows that he is wrong. If we are wrong, we must confess. We may not keep silent. If we are accused without sin, we keep silent. God will prove it.

Keeping silent means not being honest in the true teaching Word and confessing sin, but hiding sin, namely sinful deed, envy, hatred, bitterness, and dispute. One who is like the Pharisees defends the false man and fights against God.

2 Corinthians 12:20

12:20. For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults;

It starts from jealousies, then contentions, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, and tumults. We must keep ourselves, so there are no contentions and jealousies in the marriage and shepherding.

3. **Plotting means having fellowship because of contentions and jealousies, not the true teaching Word**, so they plotted to kill Jesus (the righteous Man).

1 Corinthians 3:3-4

3:3. *for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?*

3:4. *For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not carnal?*

They conspire and create groups to cause divisions and destroy the body of Christ. It is the same as killing Jesus. Consequently, if anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. He will never experience Sabbath.

That is why we must enter the true fellowship, not conspiracy. It means as follows:

- The fellowship between branches. It refers to the fellowship with others in the household, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until the Israelites and Gentiles become one perfect body.

John 15:12

15:12. "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Loving one another means that we just do the good thing. We do not harm others or do the evil thing. We do not repay evil for evil but repaying good for evil until there is no more enemy. It is the same as becoming one body.

- The fellowship between branch and the true vine. It refers to the fellowship between body and the Head, namely we and Jesus. The fellowship between branch and the true vine is the one of holiness. We must live in holiness.

John 15:3-4

15:3. *"You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.*

15:4. *"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.*

If we live in holiness and faithfulness as well as love one another, we will worship God as one body, and we put Jesus as the Head. We will never worship the Antichrist, but we always worship God. Let us worship God many times! If we do not want to worship God from now on, we will be forced to worship the Antichrist, or else we will be beheaded.

The relationship between body and the Head is in the neck. It refers to submission or obedience. If we become obedient, God will take the risk. Otherwise, we will take our own risk. Without obedience, all of greatness and miracle will be in vain. For example, Ishmael was born because of the disobedience of Abraham; Moses struck the rock so the waters came out while God had told him to speak to the rock.

The Word often does not match our logic, but we must become obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore. It is the same as stretching out our hands to God. We totally surrender to God, and He will stretch out His merciful and powerful hands to remember, help, and struggle for us.

The examples and results are as follows:

1. Exodus 14:21,16

14:21. *Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*

14:16. *"But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.*

Moses is the image of men, fathers, and shepherds who face the impossibilities. We must return to the correct position and obey God. God told Moses to stretch out his hand when there was no way. If we become obedient, God will divide the Dead Sea.

James 1:6

1:6. *But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.*

It means as follows:

- The power of renewing from hard and doubtful heart to believing in God. Do not doubt! Jesus can do anything for us. If the spiritual miracle happens, the other miracles will happen too.
- The dead thing becomes alive. God's merciful hands are able to take care of us in the midst of the difficulties and impossibilities. He finishes all of impossible problems.
- The hands of God use us who are powerless in the building of the perfect body of Christ.

2. A woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years as the image of women, mothers, and widows who face the impossible disease and the one in the marriage [Mark 5:25-29]. A flow of blood means disunity. There are no oneness and happiness in the marriage.

The way out is "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well". It means stretching out our hands to God. We return to the correct position (being shepherded), and the true fellowship until we can stretch out our hand to God and place Him as our Head. God is able to heal and restore.

3. 1 Peter 5:5-6

5:5. *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."*

5:6. *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,*

The young men must submit and stretch out their hand to God. No matter how great we are, if we do not submit, we will drown. If we submit, we will always be in the attention of God. We can do nothing but we submit and we are shepherded. We just surrender to God. God will exalt us in due time. Our life becomes successful and beautiful in due time until we are perfected. We are lifted up on the glorious clouds. We can enter the Paradise (the big Sabbath) and the New Jerusalem (the eternal Sabbath).

God blesses us.