

General Service in Malang, November 20, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

John 10:10b

10:10b I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

The meanings of "I have come" are as follows:

- Generally, Jesus comes to the world to give life in abundance.
- Specifically, Jesus comes in the middle of us this morning, to give life in abundance.

WHY does Jesus come to the world to give life in abundance?

Isaiah 14:12-15, 17

14:12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!

14:13 For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;

14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'

14:15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.

14:17 Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities, Whodid not open the house of his prisoners?'

1. Since satan has come to the world and made the world as a wilderness, that is:
 - Men are difficult to sow and reap.
 - Many storms and beasts = many trials in every field which bring us into perdition.

Men are difficult to live physically in this world= there is no physical life.

2. Since satan binds men in sins such that they die spiritually and go to perdition.
Men are also difficult to live spiritually in this world= there is no spiritual life.

3. Since the world is passing away, and the lust of it.

I John 2:17

2:17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Who will abide and not pass away with the world?

He who does the will of God, who obeys the true teaching Word.

The conclusion is in this world there is no more life physically and spiritually, such that Jesus must come to the world to give life in abundance.

The MEANINGS of living in abundance are as follows:

1. Life which is always cared by God, no matter getting big or small salary, until **always be grateful to God**.
2. **Living in spiritual revival ambience**, always being faithful and fervent in spirit in spiritual matters = always prioritizing spiritual matters more than the physical one.

If we prioritize physical matters (even for the things outside the Word) until sacrifice the spiritual one (the Word), it equals to dying spiritually, and our life is being crushed by the world.

3. **Eternal life in the kingdom of Heaven.**

HOW does Jesus come to give life in abundance?

John 10:11

10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

Jesus comes as the Good Shepherd, who gives His life for the sheep= gives life in abundance up to eternal life.

Jesus was willing to sacrifice such that we may life.

Our life is not only in the price of our spirit, but in the price of blood or spirit given by Jesus Himself.

Do not be against God! Do not die in sin!

How is our attitude?

If we want to receive life in abundance, **we have to become good sheep.**
(If we only become "sheep", there is still separation between good and bad sheep.)

The meaning of good sheep is life who **has good conscience.**

In fact, since the days of Noah, the intent of man's conscience was only evil continually.
Flesh man is only filled with desire, ambition, emotion, etc. Nothing is good and it only results in evil deeds, such that man will be judged by God.

How is the way to get good conscience?

I Peter 3:20-21

3:20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Water baptism results new life. It equals to renewal process from evil conscience to good conscience.

The signs of good conscience are as follows:

- **Being able to know if there is something which is not okay** in our life, marriage, ministry, work/ study, etc. (**correcting ourselves**).

Not okay means not according to the Word of God.

If we always feel okay and blame the others, it means our conscience has died. Our life will not be okay and we cannot enter the Heaven.

If we found something not okay, we must confess to God and the others, and God will make everything okay.
On the cross, Jesus said, "It is finished."

There is only few people who want to become good sheep, who have good conscience.

- Life who is able to correct himself will also be able to **obey to the true teaching Word, whatever the risk.**
- If there is obedience, sheep will be **well shepherded**, pastor will be able to shepherd well.
We abide in one true teaching Word (Jesus himself), which will bring us to one unity of perfect body of Christ.

The absolute need of sheep is shepherd (pastor). Whether it is dry season or wet season, pastor will always struggle for taking care the sheep.

Conscience decides our life and death in this world, until eternal life in Heaven.
Without water baptism, there will be no good conscience.

The requirements of being shepherded are as follows:

1. **Always being inside the shepherding pen = perseverance in three main services.**

Golden Candlestick: perseverance in General Service.

Table of Showbread: perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.

Golden Altar of Incense: perseverance in Prayer Service.

If we wander (not being shepherded), we will meet wild beast, not the shepherd.

2. **Always listening and obeying (being obedient to) the voice of the Shepherd/ the true shepherding Word.**

John 10:1-5

10:1. "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

10:2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

10:3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

10:4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

10:5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

God gives a pair of ears to us, one for listening and the other for obeying the Word. Thus, there will be no chance to listen to strange voice which is different (not match) with shepherding Word.

Our ears decide our death and life.

Listening and obeying the Word = loving God more than everything.

I Peter 1:22

1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

The results of obedience to the shepherding Word (the voice of the Shepherd) are as follows:

- We experience purification by purification, such that **we may live in holiness**.
What must be purified? It is started from eight sins which bring us directly to the hell.

Revelation 21:8

21:8 But the cowardly (1), unbelieving (2), abominable (3), murderers (4), sexually immoral (5), sorcerers (6), idolaters (7), and all liars (8) shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

The cowardly means fear of something more than the fear of God, such that violating the Word (being against God).

- **John 10:3**

10:3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

While God works to purify us, **God is writing our names in the Book of Life**.

Do not stop being shepherded before our names are fully written in the Book of Life (until we finish the race).

- **I Peter 1:22**

1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

If we are purified, **we can love each other in sincere love**(in holiness), we can serve each other, until we enter the unity of perfect body of Christ.

The POSITION of good sheep is in the hand of Good Shepherd.

The RESULTS are as follows:

1. **John 10:27-28**

10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

10:28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

God's merciful hands give **certainty guarantee for living in abundance** in the middle of wilderness, for our future, up to eternal life.

Moreover, in the hands of Good Shepherd there is also **certainty guarantee to make everything beautiful in His time**.

2. **Psalm 23:1-2**

23:1. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

23:2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

God's merciful hands are able to **lead us and give us rest** in the middle of the wilderness of this world, such that **everything becomes easy and light**.

3. **Revelation 7:17**

7:17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The hands of Good Shepherd lead us to the living fountains of waters, the throne of New Jerusalem.

The proof is there is renewal, starting from HONESTY.

New Jerusalem is the City of Light. We have to be overt (honest).

Honesty wipes tears, solves problems, and prepares beautiful future for us.

Until Jesus' second coming, we will be renewed to become as perfect as Him and enter the New Jerusalem forever.

God blesses us.