

General Service in Malang, November 29, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 3:14-22 is about the church of the Laodiceans.

They are the seventh church that refers to the congregation in the last days.

Revelation 3:16-17

3:16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

3:17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--

The condition of the church of the Laodiceans or the congregation in the last days is lukewarm. Physically they are rich and have need of nothing. However, spiritually they are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. They are empty spiritually because being unwilling to be filled with the true teaching Word.

The consequence is being vomited by God, meaning being useless, abominable, unclean, and separated from God forever.

Revelation 3:18-19

3:18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

Therefore, God rebukes, counsels, and chastens the church of the Laodiceans or the congregation in the last days, so we buy the richness of the Heaven. There are three types of the richness of the Heaven as follows.

1. Gold refined in the fire, that is the pure or perfect faith.
2. White garment to cover the nakedness.
3. Oil to grease the eyes.

ad. 2. White garment to cover the nakedness.

In the beginning, God created men as perfect and glorious as Him. Men were placed in the Garden Eden and they were happy. Unfortunately, men were deceived by the serpent, so they fell in sin. They were naked and shy. Men were sent out to the world and lived in the ambience of curse, weariness, heavy burden, difficulty, tears, and sadness.

In the world, men including the servants of God keep doing sin up to its peak, that is sin concerning eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-being given in marriage (sexuality sin with all its varieties, sexual deviation, mix marriage, marrying-divorcing, free sex). Men including the servants of God appear as the dog and swine, that is being naked but not shy. It happens in the days of Noah, Lot, until the last days. Men will be condemned with the fire from the Heaven, up to being cast into the lake of fire burning with brimstone in the everlasting hell.

Therefore, let us follow the counsel of God to buy the white garment to cover the nakedness.

Where can we buy the white garment?

John 19:23-24

19:23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece.

19:24 They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots." Therefore the soldiers did these things.

We buy the white garment from Jesus who has become naked until He dies on the cross.

There are two types of white garment from Jesus on the cross as follows.

1. The garment of Jesus that is divided into four parts.
It is called as the garment of salvation or righteousness.
Figure 4 refers to four corners of the world. It means that all men in the world can be saved and justified by the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The matter is whether we want to be saved and justified or not.
Jesus is the only sinless man who can save sinful men through His sacrifice on the cross. Jesus is the only Savior.

Acts 19:1-6

19:1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples

19:2 he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

19:3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."

19:4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."

19:5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

19:6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

The process to obtain salvation equals to entering the Court of the Kingdom of Heaven as follows.

- a. Faith, believing Jesus as the only Savior. We must not be doubtful.
Believing Jesus is through hearing the Word solemnly until we can understand and believe Jesus. If our heart believes, our mouth will confess our sins and we are forgiven by the blood of Jesus. Being forgiven means being saved and not being condemned.
In Tabernacle, it equals to entering the Gate.

- b. Repentance.
In Tabernacle, it refers to the Altar of Burnt Offerings.
Repentance means stopping sinning to return to God. We die to sins.

Revelation 21:8

21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Especially we repent from eight sins that make the servants of God appear as the dog and swine. The end of these eight sins is liar. A liar is naked and not shy. If there is lie, one must be afraid of something in this world until opposing God.

- c. Water baptism.
In Tabernacle, it refers to the Brazen Laver.

Romans 6:4

6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The true water baptism is one who has died to sin must be buried in water together with Jesus, to be raised with Him and receive new life or Heavenly life.

The faults in water baptism are as follows.

- Burying one who has not died to sin and repented.
- One who has died to sin is not buried. The consequence is being decayed.

The result of water baptism is new life, that is being set free from sins. It means we do not want to do sin although there is chance, benefit, threat, pressure. The example is Joseph who does not want to do sin although there is benefit or he must be prisoned.

- d. Holy Spirit baptism.

Acts 19:5-6

19:5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

19:6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

Holy Spirit baptism results in new life, that is living in righteousness. One of the signs of being baptized with Holy Spirit is speaking with tongues. Afterward, it must be continued with living in righteousness.

In Tabernacle, it refers to the door of Tabernacle.

Proverbs 10:2-3

10:2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, *But righteousness delivers from death.*

10:3 The Lord will not allow the righteous soul to famish, *But He casts away the desire of the wicked.*

The results are as follows.

- Righteousness delivers us from death.
- The righteous will be cared by God up to his descendants, even to the eternal life.

2. The tunic that is drawn by lot.

John 19:23b-24

19:23 ... and also *the tunic*. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece.

19:24 They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, *And for My clothing they cast lots.*" Therefore the soldiers did these things

It has two meanings as follows.

a. The tunic of holiness or ministry.

This tunic is drawn by lot, meaning only life who receives the mercy and trust of God will get the tunic of ministry.

The requirement of ministering God is holiness.

Exodus 28:1-2

28:1 "Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron's sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

28:2 And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.

How can we live in holiness? We must be within the Holy Place.

Leviticus 21:12

21:12 nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the Lord.

The Holy Place is the shepherding pen. There are three types of equipment inside it that refer to perseverance in three main services as follows.

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

In the shepherding pen, our body, spirit, and soul cling to God the Trinity. We have fellowship with God the Trinity. The result is our body, spirit, and soul are cared abundantly so we can thank God and testify to the others.

In the shepherding pen, our body, spirit, and soul are protected by God the Trinity, so we cannot be touched by Satan. We are not dry spiritually. We keep being anointed by Holy Spirit. We are passionate in spiritual matters. We do not fall in sins. The easiest detection of being dry spiritually is saying useless words, lie, gossip, and slander. If we are not touched by Satan, we will experience peace. Everything becomes easy and light, and we can pray to God.

In the shepherding pen, our body, spirit, and soul are sanctified by God the Trinity. We are sanctified starting from our heart to our mouth.

Genesis 37:2

37:2 This is the history of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.

Joseph experiences sanctification of his heart until his mouth is honest. He says 'right' for right thing and 'wrong' for wrong thing. Joseph does not want to hide something.

Genesis 37:3

37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors.

Thus, Joseph receives the tunic of many colors or the tunic of ministry.

Ephesians 4:11-12

4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, 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,

Holiness decides whether we will get the beautiful tunic or not. It is God Himself who gives the tunic of ministry.

If we are sanctified, God will give us the beautiful tunic, that is the ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit, so we are used in the ministry of building the body of Christ.

John 19:23

19:23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece.

The tunic is without seam, meaning there is no interference from men. Everything comes from God. Being woven from the top in one piece means the unity of the perfect body of Christ, starting from within marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding.

For you who have not received the tunic yet, let us pray to receive the tunic of ministry. For you who have received the tunic, we must keep the tunic so it will not be given to the others. Judas Iscariot leaves his tunic so at the end of his life he is naked and he bursts open in the middle.

Preserving the tunic means as follows.

- Being faithful and fervent in spirit in the ministry until the end line.
- The tunic must be dipped in the blood, meaning suffering because of ministering God.

Genesis 37:31

37:31 So they took Joseph's tunic, killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the tunic in the blood.

Thus, the tunic will become fine linen, clean and bright.

If there is beautiful tunic, our life will be beautiful and tidy.

b. The Bride Tidings.

Revelation 19:11,13,16,7

19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

19:13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

19:16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

The tunic refers to the Bride Tidings.

The Gospel Word preaches Jesus' first coming to save sinful lives. Afterward, it must be continued with Bride Tidings, or the teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword, or the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ [2 Corinthians 4:3-4]. It preaches Jesus' second coming in glory as the King of kings and Heavenly Bridegroom to sanctify the church of God until we are perfect and blameless as Him. We enter the Most Holy Place.

What must be sanctified?

The condition of the church of the Laodiceans or the church in the last days is as the condition of the woman who has a flow of blood for twelve years [Mark 5:24-28]. After hearing about Jesus, she can say "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."

Having a flow of blood for twelve years means as follows.

- Being rotten and having unpleasant smell in words and deeds, up to doing sin concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.
- Being weak and powerless in facing problems.
- Facing impossibilities.
- Facing disunity and broken marriage.

Everything that comes from the world (richness, smartness, job, *et cetera*) cannot solve the problem of the woman who has a flow of blood for twelve years.

It only can be solved by touching the train of the clothes of Jesus, meaning as follows.

- Humbling ourselves to be able to receive the Bride Tidings and practice it in our daily lives.
- Stretching out our hands to God, believing and fully surrendering our life to Him, to the Bride Tidings.

Thus, He will also stretch out His hands and this woman is healed. God is able to recover our life until we are as perfect as Him. We become the Heavenly bride who is worthy to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

God blesses us.