

General Service in Malang, October 02, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:26-29

26:26. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."

26:27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you."

26:28 For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

26:29 But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

About eating Holy Communion.

Holy Communion which has been brought in the preaching of the true teaching Word and has been prayed is really the body and blood of Christ. It is no longer merely a symbol.

Therefore, we cannot eat Holy Communion carelessly.

There are regulations for eating Holy Communion. This morning, we learn about the usefulness of Holy Communion.

THE USEFULNESS OF HOLY COMMUNION.

The usefulness of the body of Christ:

1. **The body of Christ bore our sins on the cross.**

I Peter 2:24

2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness by whose stripes you were healed.

The results are as follows:

- **We can die to sins. It equals to stopping sinning and coming back to God = repentance.**

The process is confessing sins to God and the others, and if we are forgiven, we shall not do sins anymore.

If we repeat sins, we are just like dog and swine. We are being naked and having no shame, even feel great in the church.

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."

First, we must repent from eight sins which will drown us in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone (the hell).

The end of sins is liar (saying untrue words/ lying, including hiding something).

As long as we lie, there will be other sins.

Jeremiah 9:5-6

9:5 Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; They weary themselves to commit iniquity.

9:6 Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me," says the LORD.

Lying equals to hardening the heart and being lazy to repent, not wanting to repent until one no longer can repent and will be perished forever as Satan.

As long as we still have our flesh body, we CAN and MUST REPENT.

Satan cannot repent since he has no flesh body.

If we do not want to repent, sometime we no longer can repent as Satan and will be perished forever.

- **We may live for righteousness.**

I Peter 2:24

2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness by whose stripes you were healed.

Now, we must already live in righteousness in everything.

If we do not live in righteousness, it equals to not honoring the body of Christ.

Starting from marriage (husband and wife), family (parents and children), and in society (at school, at office), everything must be right!

Thus, eating the body of Christ encourages us to **repent and live for righteousness. It equals to being SAVED and entering the court of Tabernacle.**

Remember! Eight people entered the ark of Noah and were saved.

Let us advise each other, starting from marriage, such that all of us may repent (starting from eight sins which will drown us in the hell) and live for righteousness.

If we repent and live for righteousness, **we will experience the power of God's stripes, that is healing power physically and spiritually**, more than medicines.

- Physical illnesses are financial problems, sickness, study problems, etc.

- Spiritual illnesses are sins, bitterness inside the heart/ hatred, marriage problems, etc.

By the power of God's stripes, our marriage becomes right and holy to be able to enter the marriage supper of the lamb of God.

(There is no medicine in this world which is able to heal sins disease. Even, if people have been healed from physical illness, they do sins more).

2. **The body of Christ sanctifies our lives.**

Hebrews 10:10

10:10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

I Corinthians 6:19-20

6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

6:20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

The body of Christ sanctifies our lives such that we become the temple of God which is always holy. It equals to always living in the anointing of Holy Spirit, always experiencing the anointing oil of Holy Spirit.

When there are sins (sins are kept), there will be no Holy Spirit.

On the contrary, when there is Holy Spirit, sins cannot rule anymore.

Darkness and light cannot be united.

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 place to preserve and increase holiness is the Holy Place.

Inside the Holy Place, there are three equipments as follows:

- Golden Candlestick = perseverance in General Service.

- The Table of Showbread = perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.

- Golden Altar of Incense = perseverance in Prayer Service.

The Holy Place denotes perseverance in three main services. It equals to shepherding pen.

Outside the pen, lion or Satan will overpower the sheep with false teaching and sins up to the peak of sins.

Shepherding system is pattern system, not by forcing.

If a pastor perseveres in shepherding, the congregation (sheep) will follow.

But, we must keep being watchful!

After being inside the pen, we must keep being careful!

If we already persevere in three main services, but

- we do not obey the shepherding Word, we listen false teaching frequently,

- we preserve sins (harden our heart) although the Word rebukes us, the pastor advises us, etc.,

sins will increase even become permanent (cannot be forgiven), until there is perdition forever.

The example is Judas Iscariot.

The shepherd of Judas is Jesus himself. But, since Judas' heart was not good in the shepherding, his sins became permanent and he was perished forever.

On the contrary, if we may live in holiness and anointing of Holy Spirit, we will be able to glorify God, not to make God grieves.

The practices of glorifying God.

Proverbs3:9-10

3:9 Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;

3:10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Glorifying God with our possessions by returning the tenth, special offering, firstfruits.

Then, God will also glorify us, care us physically and spiritually.

Glorifying God is started from the smallest thing (with possessions), and then **glorifying God with our body**, that is through:

- holy deeds and words, holy society,
- ministry,
- marriage which pleases God.

If a life makes God grieves and it reaches God's presence, he will be punished and perished.

The example is in the days of Noah, when the marriage of God's children made God grieved.

Revelation14:7

14:7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Genesis22:11-12, 14

22:11. But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"

So he said, "Here I am."

22:12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

22:14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Lord tested Abraham's heart when He asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac.

Abraham feared God such that he obeyed God's command without any denials.

We are faced to a test to prove whether we really fear God or not.

Be watchful!

Many youths are prove that they do not fear God when they are faced to mate problems.

The important thing is **fear of God. We must submit everything asked by God, and we will meet Jehovah Jireh (The Lord Will Provide).**

There is **God's power to make something from nothing, to make possible the impossible things, to care our lives.**

Do not rebel God!

3. The body of Christ perfects us, to become blameless body of Christ, to become the same as Him.

Colossians1:21-22

1:21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

1:22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sightâ[?]"

Through Holy Communion, we place Jesus as the Head(Heavenly Bridegroom).

The closest relation between the body and the Head is the neck, that is worship prayer.

We must spend more time to worship God.

Jesus as the Head was willing to wear the crown of thorns, to help us who are frequently punctured in mind (being stressful, etc.).

Jesus was willing to die in Golgotha (the Place of a Skull, skull = head which has died) to help us, all the criminals and sinful people who are controlled by death.

He is the Head who is responsible to His body.

He was willing to go down to the lowest part of the earth to lift us up = there is lifting power of God.

God lifts us up from three kinds of valley as follows:

○ **Song of Solomon 2:2**

2:2 Like a lily among thorns, So is my love among the daughters.

Thorns valley = the curse of sins situation which is full of thorns, sadness, stress, etc. If we are left in this situation, we may become mad.

God wants to lift us up such that we may come back to easy and light situation, peaceful situation.

○ **Ezekiel 37:1**

37:1. The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

Dried bones valley = being desperate, disappointed, dry spiritually (having no joy), living in sins.

God wants to lift us up such that we can have a joyful life and we are used as the multitude in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain.

○ **Shadow of death valley** = the threat of death physically (by accident, distress, disaster, dangerous disease, etc.) and spiritually (by sins) which bring us to the second death in the hell.

God descended into the death world and ascended to the Heaven. He has beaten the death and gives eternal life to us.

We experience the lifting power of God until we will be lifted up in the glorious clouds, we will enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, and death cannot rule over us forever.

God blesses us.