

General Service in Malang, October 16, 2022 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 17:3-7

17:3 *So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.*

17:4 *The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.*

17:5 *And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

17:6 *I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.*

17:7 *But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.*

There are two secrets that are prophesied or have not happened yet, but must happen as follows:

1. The secret of a woman.
2. The secret of an animal.

Both happen in the wilderness that refers to the dry world. All riches in the world are only like sand. Therefore, do not be proud when you have been blessed and do not be disappointed when you have not been blessed yet, but we must give thanks.

2 Peter 1:20-21

1:20 *knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,*

1:21 *for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

All men cannot interpret the Word because it cannot be reached by human's intelligence. Only Holy Spirit is able to reveal the Word.

Revelation 17:6

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Revelation 17:7

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1 Corinthians 15:44-49

15:44 *It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.*

15:45 *And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.*

15:46 *However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.*

15:47 *The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.*

15:48 *As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly.*

15:49 *And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.*

The meanings of the two secrets are the same as the two bodies in one persona as follows:

1. The natural body or worldly man in the flesh and blood is the same as the beast or having no Holy Spirit.
2. The spiritual body or heavenly man coming from the Spirit of God that is blown on man or woman.

Nevertheless, we often become unjust to our body, namely the outward man or natural body is always paid attention to in all things such as food, drink, clothes, and all other comfortable things for the flesh, but the spiritual one or the inward man is not, namely only once a week eating through hearing the Word, moreover only once a year until the spirituality gets sick through committing sins until being dead spiritually and perishing forever.

2 Corinthians 5:9-10

5:9 *Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.*

5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

All deeds of our physical or fleshly body must be accounted for by the spiritual body or spirit before the judgment seat of Christ.

There are two possibilities as follows:

1. If the spirit is defeated by the flesh, we will be the man of flesh and blood whose deeds only tend to do evil and uncleanness up to the everlasting perdition.

Genesis 6:5

6:5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

2. If the spiritual body or our spirit can control the flesh with all of its lusts, we will not commit sins anymore. We do not repeat the sin which has been forgiven by the blood of Jesus until we cannot commit sin anymore. We are as righteous as Jesus is [1 John 3:7].

1 John 3:9

3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

The heart of the man of flesh and blood is empty. Actually, the heart can be satisfied only by being filled by the Word, Holy Spirit and God's love. The empty heart cannot be satisfied by the worldly things such as intelligence, riches, marriage partner, and so on. Such problem cannot be solved by the fleshly ways such as accusing, blaming at, or hating others.

Genesis 2:16

2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

Genesis 3:4-6

3:4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

3:5 "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

For example, Adam and Eve have been given the opportunity by God to eat all fruits or the Word freely, except of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Being outside the will of God will not give satisfaction, but dryness.

Nevertheless, Adam and Eve did not use the opportunity to fill the spiritual life with the will of God which could satisfy their life, but they heard the persuasion of Satan to eat the forbidden fruit or go out of the will of God. Consequently, the heart and spirit were empty or dissatisfied. Such condition made them fall in sins up to the peak and being naked until being driven out to enter the dry wilderness of the world.

Revelation 12:10

12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Satan is the accuser of the sinful men, so they become dissatisfied, unquiet, fearful, and distressed more until the physical and spiritual lives die up to the perdition.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

5:18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

5:19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Jesus sacrifices Himself on the cross for reconciling the sinful with God. All sins have been taken away.

Let us take the example of Jesus in our private life, marriage, and household, namely we make peace one another. We confess and forgive sins one another, so the blood of Jesus washes away all of our sins. We feel the satisfaction of heaven and peace. All things become easy and light and we always give thanks.

1 Peter 3:1-2

3:1 Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

3:2 when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear.

A wife that takes the example of Christ willingly suffers for being submissive, living in holiness, and serving to God. As a result, she can win the husband who is harsh and outside the Word. Likewise, a husband that takes the example of Christ can win the wife who is outside the Word.

1 Peter 3:3-6

3:3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward--arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel--

3:4 rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

3:5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,

3:6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

Actually, man is the inward man or spiritual body that needs and has to be filled by the spiritual adornments, namely meekness, quietness, and submission that are precious before God like the characteristics of Jesus.

The meekness refers to the ability to receive the Word, no matter how hard it is. It also means the ability to forgive the sins of others and receive them in their weakness.

The quietness means doing the correction in our life by the sharpness of the sword of the Word and ability to confess sins.

The submission means obeying the Word until the flesh does not speak.

Revelation 17:3

17:3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

The woman of Babylon or the great harlot is the great outward man, but the spirituality is rotten until one only commits sins and perishes.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

4:18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Therefore, we must willingly suffer in the flesh because of Jesus, so we get the process of sanctification and renewal. Our outward man is perishing, but our inward man is being renewed day by day.

Why do we have to be renewed

1. **Because God will weigh the outward man and the inward man like what he has done to King Belshazzar.**

Daniel 5:25-28

5:25 "And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

5:26 "This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it;

5:27 "TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting;

5:28 "PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

If the outward man is heavier than the inward man (= Tekel), one only commits sins and Mene happens or there is no more time for repenting and he perished (= Peres).

2. [2 Corinthians 3:16] **So that we do not lose heart in facing all things, but we are strong and of good courage by Holy Spirit.**

Ephesians 3:16

3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

We are not disappointed and hopeless and we do not leave God or faith, but keep on believing, hoping, and worshipping God.

The results are as follows:

- Holy Spirit teaches the true teaching Word to us.

John 14:26-27

14:26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

14:27 "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

We can understand, believe it to become faith in our heart or remember it, and obey it, so it is ingrained in our life. We get the comfort when we face sorrow.

- Holy Spirit renews us until there is no lie.

Titus 3:5

3:5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

He sanctifies our stomach of heart until we can speak with other tongues, be honest and obedient, and become the house of prayer.

- Holy Spirit makes the mountains a plain.

Zechariah 4:6-9

4:6 So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.

4:7 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"'

4:8 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

4:9 "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know That the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you.

Facing the mountain of temptation that gets worse, Holy Spirit is able to solve all impossible problems or temptations.

Facing the mountain of sins up to the peak, Holy Spirit helps us, so we can live in holiness and be equipped with the ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit for being used in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain or the edification of the perfect body of Christ. We become the witness of God.

It continues until we are changed to be perfect or we do not stumble in words for welcoming Jesus' second coming.

God blesses you.