

General Service in Malang, October 17, 2010 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 25:31-46 is about the last judgment.

Matthew 25:31

25:31. "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

Jesus appears in glory as King of kings sitting on the throne of glory.

He has to undergo the way of death, the way of resurrection, and the way of glory in order reach the throne of glory.

1 Peter 2:21

2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

We are CALLED to follow His steps, namely the step of death, the step of resurrection, and the step of glory, so we may reach the throne of glory together with Him forever.

He is calling us, do not ever be deceived!

Following the step of death, the step of resurrection, and the step of glory can be done through WATER BAPTISM.

Romans 6:1-5

6:1. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

6:3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

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.

6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

The requirement of the true water baptism is believing in Jesus and repenting.

Repenting means we stop sinning to return to God or being dead to sin.

It begins with being dead to sins in our heart and mind, in our saying, and in our deeds.

The process of repenting is through hearing the Word of God which shows our sins so we can realize them, confess them to God and other people, and do not repeat them after being forgiven.

The implementation of the true water baptism is through being buried in water together with Jesus. Our whole body from our head to feet is dived in water.

A person has not been baptized yet if s/he has not been buried in water.

The result of the true baptism is rising together with Jesus to get the glory, namely the renewal from carnal men to spiritual men.

The new life is as Aaron's budded rod.

There are three kinds of renewal in water baptism as follows:

1. The renewal of heart.

1 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,

Only eight people were saved in the days of Noah through his ark. Similarly, only few people are saved through the true water baptism now. Meaning there are many Christians who do not want to be baptized rightly.

Genesis 6:2,5-6

6:2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

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.

6:6 And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

The hearts of men tend to do evil and disobedience always.

It can be seen in the destroyed marriage. The glorious marriage God has created is destroyed through mixed-marriage, divorce, and marrying-giving in marriage.

We are renewed from evil heart to good conscience which is obedient and always looks upon God in the true water baptism we have.

1 Chronicles 29:14,17-19

29:14 But who am I, and who are my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You.

29:17 "I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things; and now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here to offer willingly to You.

29:18 "O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intent of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and fix their heart toward You.

29:19 "And give my son Solomon a loyal heart to keep Your commandments and Your testimonies and Your statutes, to do all these things, and to build the temple for which I have made provision."

The facts found in the good conscience are as follows:

- Being faithful and sincere in committing service and ministry to the Lord.
- Being obedient to God, beginning in the marriage. The start of the marriage must be in line with the Word of God. The obedience must continue up to the end of the marriage.
- Tending to give or sacrifice all things for God willingly and cheerfully. Such person will be employed by God in building Christ's body.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

9:7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

With a heart which tends to give, all our offerings will never go with the wind because God will give us His grace which is useful as follows:

1. To preserve our live until we have abundance, and do not lack anything.
2. To give us abundance for every good work.
The good work is as the clean and bright fine linen of God's Bride.

Revelation 19:8

19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

2. The renewal of mouth/tongue.

Exodus 14:10-11

14:10. And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.

14:11 Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt?"

The old men were full of vain saying, grumbling, and murmuring.

Exodus 15:1

15:1. Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!"

Passing through the Red Sea, referring to water baptism, there was the song of Moses.

It indicates that there is a renewal of mouth to become mouth which praises and worships God after being baptized. The song of Moses is the song of victory.

Philippians 2:8-11

2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

2:10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

2:11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus is obedient to the point of death on the cross so He got the power of victory over the trinity of Satan.

Revelation 19:6

19:6 *And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"*

There is only one voice 'Alleluia' to worship God when Jesus comes a second time. It is the true mouth.

Revelation 15:1-3

15:1. *Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.*

15:2 *And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.*

15:3 *They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!"*

We will sing the song of Moses beside the sea of glass in heaven. We worship God day and night forever.

3. The renewal of deeds.

Colossians 2:11-12

2:11 *In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,*

2:12 *buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.*

Water baptism is described as circumcision or putting off the body of the sins of the flesh.

The circumcision was the covenant of God with Abraham in the past but now the spiritual one is our promise to God to put off all sins.

If we can fulfill our promise to Him, He will fulfill His promises to us.

1 Peter 2:1

2:1. *Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,*

If we have been renewed in our heart, mouth, and deeds, we will become as newborn baby who always desires the mother's breast milk, referring to shepherding Word.

1 Peter 2:2

2:2 *as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,*

Exodus 2:6

2:6 *And when she had opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."*

Christians are as baby Moses who is powerless, hopeless, without beautiful future life, and there is none may help in facing many impossible things.

We only weep and cry out the name of Jesus in God's embrace until He stretches His merciful hands to do these things:

- To preserve our life although we are in the midst of impossibilities,
- To help our life,
- To lift up our life from failure to beautiful future life,
- To employ our life in the revival of building Christ's body until we become God's Bride who is ready to be lifted up on glorious clouds at the time of Jesus' second coming.

God blesses you.