

General Service in Malang, October 28, 2012 (Sunday Morning)

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 27 refers to seven sprinkling of blood upon the Ark of the Covenant. It means the suffering Jesus experiences until He dies on the cross to save, sanctify, and perfect us.

There are seven passages in Matthew 27 that refer to the seven sprinkling of blood. We are learning the seventh one, namely Pilate Sets a Guard.

Matthew 27:62-66

27:62 On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, 27:63 saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.' Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first." 27:65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how." 27:66 So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

The chief priests and Pharisees seal the tomb of Jesus and set the guard from Pilate. The aim is to prevent the resurrection of Jesus.

The chief priests and Pharisees represent the servants of God who reject the resurrection power of Jesus.

There are three kinds of Jesus' resurrection power as follows.

1. Resurrection power in the true teaching Word.

John 5:24

5:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

The Word spoken by Jesus Himself is the Word whose secret is revealed. One verse explains another verse in the Holy Bible. This is the true teaching Word.

Within Tabernacle, the Word refers to two rows of showbread (six in a row) on the Table of Showbread. It denotes sixty-six books in the Holy Bible.

Now, the Table of Showbread refers to Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.

Thus, we experience resurrection power in the true teaching Word by persevering in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.

John 6:60-61,65-66

6:60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?" 6:61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?" 6:65 And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father." 6:66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

If we can receive and enjoy the true teaching Word, it is only by His grace.

If we persevere in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion, it is also only by His grace.

Matthew 15:19-20

15:19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. 15:20 These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.

Through perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion, our heart is sanctified from seven evil and unclean desires, so we experience the resurrection power of God that removes us from death to life. The practice is living in righteousness and holiness, until sometime we become blameless as Jesus to enter eternal life forever.

But there are rejection attitudes to the resurrection power of Jesus as follows.

- Complaining and arguing in listening the true teaching Word.

John 6:61

6:61 *When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?"*

- Not being willing to understand nor believe the true teaching Word.

John 6:64

6:64 *But there are some of you who do not believe. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.*

- Drawing back from the true teaching Word, not following Jesus anymore but following the flesh desire.

John 6:66

6:66 *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.*

2. Resurrection power in Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:11-13

8:11 *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

8:12 *Therefore, brethren, we are debtors "not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.*

8:13 *For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

It is proved when Jesus dies and afterward the Holy Spirit raises Him.

Within Tabernacle, it denotes to the Golden Candlestick. Now, it refers to perseverance in General Service.

Thus, we experience resurrection power of Holy Spirit by persevering in General Service.

Resurrection power in Holy Spirit put to death the deeds of the body that lead us to death or perdition.

Galatians 5:19-21

5:19 *Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,*

5:20 *idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,*

5:21 *envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

If resurrection power in Holy Spirit puts to death the deeds of the body, we will experience renewal of life from flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus. If there is renewal of life, we will bear the fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23

5:22 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*

5:23 *gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

Nine fruits of the Spirit are divided into three groups as follows.

- Love, joy, peace ☐ the character of God the Father.
- Longsuffering, kindness, goodness ☐ the character of the Son of God.
- Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control ☐ the character of God the Holy Spirit.

If we reject the Holy Spirit and follow the flesh, there is only the image of Satan. But if we put to death the flesh deeds, we will receive the image of God the Trinity.

Rejection attitude to resurrection power in Holy Spirit is not being willing to experience renewal of life but keeping the flesh characters which lead us to perdition forever.

3. Resurrection power in the love of God.

1 John 3:13-14

3:13 *Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.*

3:14 *We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother*

abides in death.

Within Tabernacle, it refers to the Golden Altar of Incense. Now, it refers to the perseverance in Prayer Service.

Thus, we experience resurrection power in the love of God by persevering in Prayer Service.

Resurrection power in the love of God is able to pass us from death to life.

Matthew 5:43-45,48

5:43 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

5:44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

5:45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

The warmth of the sunshine of God's love makes us able to love the others and our enemies.

If the love has been perfect, we will become one perfect body of Christ, namely the Heavenly bride who is ready to welcome His second coming.

Rejection attitude to resurrection power in the love of God is hatred that peaks on hatred without any reasons.

The positive attitude besides struggling in this world is we must struggle to experience resurrection power in the Word, Holy Spirit, and the love of God by persevering in three main services within shepherding. Thus, we move from death to eternal life.

1 Corinthians 15:50-52

15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed

15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

If we persevere in the shepherding and experience resurrection power, little by little we will be renewed. It continues until Jesus' second coming, and we will be renewed as glorious as Him, to receive eternal life forever.

But life who rejects shepherding will be in the death forever.

Daily practices of living in resurrection power are as follows.

1. Being strong and of good courage.

1 Corinthians 15:53-58

15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

15:54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory.

15:55 O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?

15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

It means as follows.

- Holding fast the true teaching Word and being obedient.
- Not being doubtful, not being desperate or disappointed in facing problems, but keeping on hoping on Jesus.
- Not doing any sins whatever the risk.

2. Always being keen on the work of God, being faithful and fervent in spirit in ministry.

Being strong and of good courage and being faithful means stretching out both our hands to God. Thus, He will also stretch out His hands to us.

The results are as follows.

1. The hands of God are able to make everything beautiful in His time and to give victory.

1 Chronicles 19:13

19:13 Be of good courage, and let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. And may the Lord do what is good in His sight.â

2. We are used in the ministry of the building of Christ's perfect body.

Joshua 1:6

1:6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.

3. Our labor is not in vain. It means we will be successful and there is reward for our present life up to the eternal one forever.

1 Corinthians 15:58

15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Revelation 22:3

22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

God blesses us.