

General Service in Malang, September 05, 2010 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 25:14-15

We were sinful but now we can serve God because of His mercy and justice.

Matthew 25:16-30 is about **ATTITUDE TO THE TALENT**.

The positive attitude was shown by the servant receiving five talents and the one receiving two talents. Such servants will be faithful and good, faithful and wise, faithful and fervent in spirit, faithful and sincere, and faithful and righteous. As a result, there is wage for present life and future life up to the eternal one.

Nevertheless, there was a negative attitude shown by the servant receiving one talent.

Matthew 25:18,24-26,30

25:18 *"But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.*

25:24 *"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed.*

25:25 *'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'*

25:26 *"But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.*

25:30 *'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

We learn the negative attitude this morning, i.e. **being wicked and lazy**.

Wickedness and laziness happen because of **making the talent little thing**.

Consequently, one is cast into the outer darkness to get everlasting judgment.

Matthew 25:20-21,23

25:20 *"So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.'*

25:21 *"His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'*

25:23 *"His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'*

The servant receiving one talent considered the talent as a little thing.

As a matter of fact, the five talents, the two talents, the one talent are a few things before the Lord, meaning as follows:

- All ministries have the same values before Him and so do the wages.
- We are always able to do the ministries, there is no reason of not doing them.
- All servants of God must humble themselves.
Ministering with superior or inferior feeling will lose its spiritual value.

Actually **the one receiving one talent (the least from the little) got the biggest chance to follow the formula of Heavenly Kingdom**, i.e. being little as a little child/a baby.

Mark 10:13-15

10:13. *Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.*

10:14 *But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.*

10:15 *"Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."*

The process of being the little children is below:

1. Being renewed of water and spirit.

John 3:5

3:5 *Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

Romans 6:2-4

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.

Being renewed of water is water baptism.

The requirement of being baptized of water is being dead to sin, repenting.

The water baptism is done through being buried together with Jesus.

The result is a new life.

Being renewed of Spirit is the baptism of Holy Spirit.

The result is also a new life.

The new life is heavenly life, that is to say **righteous life**, there is no sin.

Proverbs 12:26

12:26. *The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.*

The righteous will dwell in the right shepherding God shows that is in the true teaching Word.

The right shepherding is a place to make the righteousness firm or permanent so we live in the hand of Great Shepherd.

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.*

2. Learning to Jesus on the cross.

Matthew 11:25,28-30

11:25. *At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.*

11:28 *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

11:29 *"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

11:30 *"For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*

Who must learn to Jesus? All who labor and are heavy laden.

One may labor and be heavy laden because of keeping sins.

We must learn to Jesus about these things:

- **Humbleness** or an ability to confess sin to God and other people uprightly.
Do not be proud like Satan who sins but does not confess it even accuses other.
- **Gentleness** or an ability to forgive sincerely and forget the sins of other people they have confessed.

Being humble and gentle, we become as a newborn babe having no sin and get these results:

- We are in the embrace of God's hands where we have peace.
- All things become easy and light.

3. Experiencing the sprinkling of blood or suffering without any sin.

We learn to baby Moses.

The signs of suffering without any sin are as follows:

- Being blamed although we have no fault, even being hated without any cause as the baby Moses who would be killed.
We have to enjoy the death experience through giving thanks and being in silence. Being in silence, God will work for us.
- Being left alone.
Exodus 2:4
2:4 *And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.*

Jesus was left alone on the cross.

Being left alone means we do not hope on other people to help us and it is the time of God's helping us.

- The problems seem to be bigger until there is no way out or we face impossible matters.

Exodus 2:5-6

2:5. Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it.

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."

Do not be hopeless or desperate at that time, do not leave God.

Do not seek your own way outside the Word of God because it will be dead-lock and perdition only.

The right attitude is crying, meaning **we worship God with a contrite heart** to confess that we are powerless and only rely on God's mercy.

The drop of our tear means the stretched merciful hand of God.

The hand of God's mercy and kindness will be stretched to do these things:

1. To perform miracle to lift us up from all falls.
2. To preserve and to give us beautiful future as Moses who turned from the son of slave to the son of king.
3. To employ us in the revival of Holy Spirit at the last rain as Moses led Israelites to go out of Egypt.
4. To lift us up to enter into heavenly Kingdom as we never find the tomb of Moses.

Jude 1:9

1:9 Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

God blesses you.