

General Service in Malang, September 18, 2016 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 4:6

4:6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

A sea of glass like crystal before the throne refers to water baptism.

The history of water baptism is as follows.

1. The Red Sea.

1 Corinthians 10:1-2

10:1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,

10:2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

As the followers of Moses, the Israelites must enter the Red Sea.

Exodus 13 is about the preparation of water baptism.

Exodus 14 is about the execution of water baptism.

Exodus 15 is about the result of water baptism.

Exodus 14:1-31 is divided into two parts as follows.

- Verse 1-14 is about the army of Pharaoh that pursues from behind.
- Verse 15-31 is about the divisions of Israel.

Likewise, our life also consists of two parts, that is physical part or the flesh (the army of Pharaoh) and the spiritual one (the divisions of Israel).

Water baptism is the war between the flesh part and the spiritual one. The winner is the divisions of Israel or the spiritual part. In water baptism, the flesh that likes to do sin, uncleanness, and lie, is beaten.

Why can it be like that?

- Because the Lord fights for us, and we must hold our peace.

Exodus 14:13-14

14:13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

14:14 The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

It means that we keep silent and correct ourselves through the sharpness of the sword of the Word. If the sword of the Word points our sin, we must reconcile it.

- Going forward according to the command from God, or being obedient to the Word of God.

Exodus 14:15

14:15 And the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.

God's command must be received with faith, not with logic (the Israelites were asked to go forward and cross the Red Sea) or five senses.

If it is God who commands, He will take the responsibility.

- Moses lifts up the rod or the cross. It means that we must hold and raise the cross. The practice is repenting and living in righteousness, even becoming the instruments of righteousness.

Exodus 14:16

14:16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

This kind of life will be used in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain, or the revival of building the perfect body of

Christ.

We must sacrifice everything for the building of the body of Christ, except the true teaching Word must not be sacrificed.

- If there are three points above, we will experience the accompanying of God the Trinity.

Exodus 14:16-20

14:16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

14:17 And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen.

14:18 Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

14:19 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.

14:20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

In verse 16, the rod refers to the Son of God (Jesus) with His cross.

In verse 17-18, Father God (Lord) with His glory accompanies us.

In verse 19-20, Holy Spirit God (Christ) accompanies us.

Matthew 28:19-20

28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

28:20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

God the Trinity accompanies us until the last age. Therefore, the name of God the Trinity must be mentioned in the execution of water baptism, so it is sealed in our forehead. We always remember God the Trinity and He remembers us forever.

Romans 8:31

8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

The result of water baptism is God the Trinity is able to save us from the bondage of sin or Satan. He is able to solve all our problems even the impossible ones.

Exodus 15:1-2

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!

15:2 The Lord is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

After water baptism, there is Heavenly joy until we enter the Kingdom of Heaven forever.

- 2. A sea of glass.

Revelation 4:6

4:6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

Exodus 38:8

38:8 He made the laver of bronze and its base of bronze, from the bronze mirrors of the serving women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

The Brazen Laver is made of the mirrors of the serving women. Positively, a woman refers to the church of God. But negatively, she refers to the flesh. A mirror is a tool to beautify the flesh or boost its lust.

The bronze mirrors must be destroyed for making the laver. It means that we must destroy our old life to get the new one.

Thus, water baptism is the process to destroy the flesh with all its lust, desire, *et cetera*, to be built as a useful equipment for the Kingdom of Heaven. We are appointed as the priests and kings, or the servants of God.

To become the servants of God, we must be willing to destroy the flesh as follows.

- The character of the flesh.

Matthew 25:26,30

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.'

The character of the flesh is being wicked and lazy.

Being lazy means being unfaithful in the ministry to God, even leaving it. A faithful deacon is more useful than a pastor who is unfaithful to feed the congregation.

If one is lazy, he will be wicked. Being wicked means having the lust of money as Judas Iscariot. It causes stinginess and greediness. Being stingy means being unable to give for the work of God and the others who are in need. Being greedy means seizing the right of the others, especially the belonging of God, that is the tithe and special offering.

Being wicked and lazy means being useless and destroying the body of Christ.

If the characters of the flesh are condemned, we can become the servants of God who are faithful and fervent in spirit in ministering Him, until the end line. We also like to give more than to receive.

- The flesh deed, that is sinful deeds (liking to dispute or threaten the others, hardening the heart) up to doing the peak of sins, that is sin concerning eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-being given in marriage (sexuality sin with all its varieties, sexual deviation, *et cetera*). The example is Hophni and Phinehas.

1 Samuel 2:16-17,22

2:16 And if the man said to him, "They should really burn the fat first; then you may take as much as your heart desires," he would then answer him, "No, but you must give it now; and if not, I will take it by force."

2:17 Therefore the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord, for men abhorred the offering of the Lord.

2:22 Now Eli was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

The flesh deed must be destroyed so we become the servant of God who is holy and peaceful.

The servant of God who is holy and peaceful, as well as faithful and fervent in spirit, is the apple of God's eye. It means that we are cared and protected miraculously by God in the midst of this difficult days, up to the days of antichrist. We will never dry spiritually, nor be stumbled and fall. We keep following and ministering God until the end line.

3. Water baptism.

Matthew 3:13-16

3:13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

3:14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

3:15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

The followers of Moses were baptized at the Red Sea.

The followers of Jesus must be baptized as He was baptized.

The true water baptism is as follows.

- Following the will of God.
- We must be baptized as Jesus was baptized.

Romans 6:2,4

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

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.

The true water baptism is one who has repented and died to sins, must be buried in water together with Jesus, to be raised with Him and experience the opening of the heaven and receive new life or Heavenly life.

One of the signs of the new life is having a good conscience or the heart of dove, that is a sincere and clear heart, like crystal.

Revelation 4:6

4:6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

It means that there is no more envy, hatred, grudge, bitterness, lust of money, evil, uncleanness, and worry. Having a sincere heart equals to becoming the throne of God.

Revelation 22:1

22:1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

A sincere heart is the place to accommodate the living water, clear as crystal, that is poured from Heaven. It is the power of Holy Spirit.

Ezekiel 47:8-9

47:8 Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed.

47:9 And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.

The usefulness of Holy Spirit is as follows.

- Holy Spirit is able to give us life in the midst of impossibilities. Holy Spirit guarantees our physical and spiritual life.
- Holy Spirit conducts physical miracle. The dead will be raised, the impossible things will be made possible.
- Holy Spirit renews us from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus. An honest heart will result in honest mouth which only says good and right words. We let "yes" be "yes" and "no" be "no". Our mouth only testifies and worships God.

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!"

It is until we welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds with the saying "Alleluia", and we will sit on the throne of Heaven with the sea of glass before.

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!"

God blesses us.