

General Service in Malang, September 20, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 3:7-13 is about the church in Philadelphia.

Revelation 3:11-13

3:11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

3:12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

3:13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Jesus appears to console and warn about two things as follows.

1. Jesus is coming quickly for the second time.
2. We must prepare a crown to be able to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

The process to obtain the crown is as follows.

1. We must fight for receiving the crown of righteousness through keeping the faith until the end line, that is until we die or until Jesus' second coming.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

4:8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

1 Timothy 4:1

4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

Be careful since in the last days many people will depart from the faith. The faith fails because they are deceived by false teaching, lies, and untrue gossips.

'The faith fails' means as follows.

- Leaving the true teaching Word and switching to the false one.
- Living in unrighteousness, the marriage is unrighteous.
- No longer following Jesus, denying Him.

Through the anointing of Holy Spirit, we must be firm to reject the other teaching or untrue gossips, so our faith does not fail. We fight to keep our faith until the end line.

The practices are as follows.

- Fighting to keep believing Jesus until the end line.
- Fighting to keep living in righteousness until the end line.
- Fighting to keep holding fast the true teaching Word until the end line.

The results are as follows.

- Faith delivers us from death.

Proverbs 11:4

11:4 Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteousness delivers from death.

- We are blessed up to our descendants, and we become blessing to the others.

Psalms 37:25

37:25 I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.

- Until we become righteous as Jesus is righteous.

1 John 3:7

3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

It equals to receiving the crown of righteousness, to welcome His second coming.

2. Fighting to get the imperishable crown.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

9:24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

9:25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

The process is as follows.

- Entering the spiritual race, meaning consecrating ourselves to God to minister Him.
- Being temperate in all things so we can keep being faithful and fervent in spirit in ministering God until the end line. We are also temperate in obeying the Word and following its commands.

Thus, we must fight to minister God with faithfulness, fervency in spirit, and obedience until the end line.

The result is He opens the door of Heaven so we receive the rain of blessings from the Heaven.

Deuteronomy 11:13-15

11:13 'And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul,

11:14 then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil.

11:15 And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled.'

The spiritual blessings are grain, wine, and oil.

Grain is the Word of God, wine is the love of God, and oil is the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 104:15

104:15 And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart.

These things are for making us glad (having a shining face) and giving us extra power from Heaven so we keep following and ministering God until the end line.

The physical blessing is grass for the livestock, meaning we are blessed for our daily needs and for ministering God.

We also receive the rain of eternal blessing, that is the imperishable crown.

3. Fighting to get the crown of glory.

1 Peter 5:4

5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

The practice is being well and right shepherded.

The task of a pastor (a shepherd) is feeding the sheep with the true teaching Word and raising intercession prayers as the protection cover for the sheep.

The task of the sheep is eating the shepherding Word provided by the shepherd. Hence, all our needs are included in the Word.

We must struggle to be shepherded in the true teaching Word, as a branch abides on the true vine. The shepherding pen in the Tabernacle refers to the Holy Place. There are three types of equipment that refer to three main services as follows.

- Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts. The sheep drink.
- Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the true teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ. The sheep eat.
- Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love. The sheep breathe.

In the shepherding pen, our body, soul, and spirit cling to God the Trinity so Satan cannot touch us. Entering the shepherding is as entering a narrow door, but everything becomes easy and light inside the shepherding.

1 Peter 5:5-6

5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

We fight to become humble and obedient until the flesh does not sound anymore. It equals to stretching out our hands to God, and He will exalt us in His time. We only wait for His time.

Exalting us equals to glorifying us physically and spiritually.

Physically, we are cared and protected directly in the middle of this difficult world until the days of antichrist. We are helped and all impossible problems are made possible. Everything becomes successful and beautiful in His time.

1 Peter 5:4

5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Spiritually, we are sanctified and renewed from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus. Not fading away means not being proud or disappointed of something. We are strong and of good courage in facing everything. We keep worshiping God and waiting for His time. We are renewed continuously until exalted on the glorious clouds on His second coming.

God blesses us.