

General Service in Malang, September 26, 2010 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 25:14-30 is about parable of talent.

Talent = heavenly property = ministry, which couldn't be compared with everything, since the ministry has the same value with Jesus' blood.

Matthew 25:14-15

If we who are sinful can accept the talent, that is God's mercy and justice.

If you have not ministered yet, let you pray more so you could accept the ministry from God.

If we have ministered, we must be earnest in our ministry.

Matthew 25:16-30 is about attitude to talents.

The positive attitude was shown by the servants receiving 5 and 2 talents. They were called as faithful and good servants.

The negative attitude was shown by the servant receiving 1 talent. He was called as wicked and lazy servant. And he will be cast away into the outer darkness.

Matthew 25:16-30 is also about **GOD'S ATTITUDE TO TALENTS**.

Matthew 25:19,27

25:19. *"After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.*

25:27. *'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.*

God wishes the **growth of talents**.

Matthew 25 refers to Aaron's rod that sprouted, flowered and bore fruit. If that rod had not grown, it would have died and wrecked.

Likewise, the servant of God must have the growth of talent.

At the beginning, God gave $5+2+1 = 8$ talents.

This number of 8 refers to 8 people who were saved from floodwaters in Noah's ark, those are Noah and his wife, Shem and his wife, Ham and his wife, as well as Japheth and His wife.

This is called **bride salvation**.

But, it is not enough up to here. God wants the growth of the talent.

Matthew 25:20-23

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.'*

25:22. *"He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.'*

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 growth is $5+2 = 7$ talents.

The number of 7 refers to **bride perfection**.

So, God wants the growth from bride salvation to bride perfection.

The example of life who has the growth from bride salvation to bride perfection is Lot.

Genesis 19:15-17

19:15. *When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city."*

19:16. *And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.*

19:17. *So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."*

Lot came out of Sodom-Gomorrah (already saved). But he had to run to the mountains, so he would not be destroyed.

Lot's wife had already come out from Sodom-Gomorrah, but finally she became pillar of salt because she didn't have the growth.

Revelation 21:9-10

21:9. Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."

21:10. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

The mountain spiritually refers to New Jerusalem, that is God's bridegroom.

Now, we have been already serving God (has already got the talent) and must go to bride perfection (run to the mountain). Only having salvation is not enough. The salvation is only asset which we have to work until we reach the bride perfection. If we are only safe, we will remain destroyed, be left behind when Jesus comes a second time. and perish forever.

The requirement for gaining bride perfection:

1. Run from Sodom-Gomorrah.

Genesis 19:17

19:17. So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

It means run from Babel's sins. We have to experience purification/escape from Babel's sin. For running, we need speed and power from God.

Luke 17:28-30

17:28. "Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

17:29. "but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

17:30. "Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed."

Babel's sins are:

- Sin of eating and drinking (smoke, drunk, gamble, consume drugs) and sin of marrying and giving in marriage, personal sexual sin with all of its kinds, sexual sins in marriage, and getting married after divorce).
- Sin of selling and buying, meaning allowing all ways to get money.
It includes stinginess (disability give) and greediness (robbing other's right and God's right).
- Sin of planting and building, that is building babel's body, satan's bridegroom.

Where can we be purified from Babel's sins?

The answer is perseverance in committing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion(Table of Showbread). This is the power and speed from God to release us from Babel's sin. Our own power will not be able to run from babel's sin.

The life who runs from Babel's sin, on later will really run to the other desert when antichrist rules. We will run by the power of eagle's wing which can't be countered by anything. At that desert, we will be ready for greeting Jesus's second coming.

Revelation 12:6,14

12:6. Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

12:14. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

2. Do not stop at plain of Jordan.

Genesis 19:17

19:17. So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

The plain will be the place accepting fire and brimstone.

Ezra 4:23-24

4:23. Now when the copy of King Artaxerxes' letter was read before Rehum, Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem against the Jews, and by force of arms made them cease.

4:24. Thus the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem ceased, and it was discontinued until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Now, satan is trying to stop the building of the body of Christ, the perfect God's bridegroom by the letters from ruler, organization and ourselves.

God instructs "don't stop".

The meaning is don't be lax, don't stumble, don't leave ministry whatever the reasons.

If we stop, it is same with existing in the plain of Jordan which becomes place for accepting fire and brimstone, those are God's punishment.

Term of plain also means go down. It means everything will go down until being destroyed.

1 Corinthians 9:25

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 ministry is a racing. Lots of ministries do not reach finish line. We must race until we reach the finish line.

In the marriage, we have to race in the ministry. Lot's family raced and one of them was left behind.

In the racing, it is our own business.

We have to minister God completely, faithfully, and fervently in spirit.

Where can we minister faithfully and fervently in spirit.?

The answer is perseverance in committing General Service(The Golden Candlestick).

The result is we get the eternal crown or bride's crown.

3. Do not look behind.

Genesis 19:17

19:17. So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

The meaning is our eyes look at God, only look at God = worship God.

Worship is the peak of ministry.

We could worship God through committing Prayer Service(The Golden Altar of Incense).

Hebrews 12:1-3

12:1. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

12:2. looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

12:3. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

In worshipping and looking unto Jesus, we will accept heart fortitude, so we do not easily become weak and hopeless.

Psalms 107:43

107:43. Whoever is wise will observe these things, And they will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

We will also accept the lovingkindness of the Lord.

Shepherded people who commit the 3 kinds of service, and are obedient to the Chief Shepherd's voice will live in God's goodness and mercy [Psalms 23].

The results of living in the Hands of the Chief Shepherd are as follows:

- Hands of God's mercy and goodness are able to take care of us not only in the middle of harder world, but also in spiritual meaning that is to give satisfaction and happiness of heaven.

Jeremiah 31:14

31:14. I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance, And My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, says the LORD."

- Hands of God's mercy and goodness are able to make miracles.

Pslams 136:1-4

136:1. Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

136:2. Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever.

136:3. Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever:

136:4. To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever;

Physical miracle is to make the impossible things become possible.

Spiritual miracle is we will be changed from flesh become spritual human like Jesus.

The renewal of life is the biggest miracle.

The first renewal of life is honesty, if yes say yes, it no say no.

Every our life step will become miracle step in both physical and spiritual life, until the last miracle that is we are changed to become as glorious as God.

God blesses us.