

General Service in Malang, September 27, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 3:11

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

The church in Philadelphia faces difficult situations, that is facing closed door (impossibility), the synagogue of Satan, and trial and crisis that increase until the reign of antichrist for three years and a half.

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

1. "I am coming quickly " means Jesus will shortly come for a second time.
If we suffer, we must not be disappointed and leave God. Because He will shortly come and all suffering will be replaced with joy. There will be no more tears.
If we are happy and blessed, we must not be proud and bound. When Jesus comes a second time, all things will be left.
If we always remember that Jesus will come shortly, we will always experience consolation and new strength from God.
2. "Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown ".
It means that we must prepare a crown to be able to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

The process to obtain a crown is as follows.

1. The crown of life.

Revelation 2:10

2:10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

The requirements are as follows.

- a. Ministering God with faithfulness and righteousness, faithfulness and fervency in spirit in the ministry entrusted by God, until the end line, that is until we die or until Jesus comes a second time.
- b. Enduring in temptation, always giving thanks and being obedient to God in facing everything.

James 1:12

1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Being obedient is being wise [Matthew 7:24], meaning knowing the limit in interacting with the others, in saying and in doing. The limit is purity and righteousness. Our saying must be right and good, as well as become blessing to the others.

Thus we will receive the crown of life, that is the eternal life. We will not be destroyed forever.

2. The crown of rejoicing = the crown of joy = the crown of the bride to welcome Jesus' second coming.

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

2:19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

2:20 For you are our glory and joy.

Song of Solomon 3:11

3:11 Go forth, O daughters of Zion, And see King Solomon with the crown With which his mother crowned him On the day of his wedding, The day of the gladness of his heart.

The crown of rejoicing is to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds, so we can enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. The Head and the body become one unity that cannot be separated anymore. Thereafter, we enter the One Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace or the Future Paradise. Subsequently, we will enter the New Jerusalem.

Song of Solomon 2:14

2:14 "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the secret places of the cliff, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice;

For your voice is sweet, And your face is lovely."

The bride equals to the dove. The dove is related with water baptism. In the past, Holy Spirit descended like a dove from the Heaven after Jesus was baptized.

Matthew 3:15-17

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.

3:17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Thus, dove means the bride that is filled up with Holy Spirit.

We experience renewal by the true teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit until we become the bride of God. The start of renewal is water baptism. The requirement of the true water baptism is repentance or dying to sin. Jesus was baptized to fulfill the will of God and give example about the true water baptism.

Romans 6:4

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 implementation of the true water baptism is one who has repented and died to sins must be buried in water together with Jesus, to be raised from water with Him and receive new life or the Heavenly life (the Heaven is opened). New life means experiencing renewal as a dove.

- a. Having the heart of dove or the heart of the Heavenly bride.

1 Peter 3:20-21

3:20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

It is a good conscience that is occupied by the Holy Spirit, or a sincere conscience. Sincerity means there are no wickedness, uncleanness, and bitterness. The root of wickedness is the lust of money that causes one to become stingy and greedy. Uncleanness refers to sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

If there is one of wickedness, uncleanness, and bitterness, it means the dove has been sold and there is only the twisty serpent.

If there is a sincere heart, we will live in peace and everything becomes easy and light.

- b. Having the voice of dove.

Song of Solomon 2:14

2:14 "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the secret places of the cliff, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your face is lovely."

The voice of dove is a sweet voice. It equals to the voice of the bride, that is worship prayer. A sweet voice refers to worship in resurrection power, when everything is fine and blessed.

Isaiah 38:3,14

38:3 and said, "Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what is good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

38:14 Like a crane or a swallow, so I chattered; I mourned like a dove; My eyes fail from looking upward. O Lord, I am oppressed; Undertake for me!

There is also a mourning voice of dove, meaning worship in death power, groaning and mourning as a woman who will give birth. God lets this happen since He wants to renew our life.

Hezekiah faces two difficult problems as follows.

- King Sennacherib who wants to destroy his kingdom.
- Deadly illness.

Isaiah 37:15-17,20

37:15 Then Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, saying:

37:16 "O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, the Onewho dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

37:17 Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God.

37:20 Now therefore, O Lord our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the Lord, You alone."

Facing King Sennacherib, Hezekiah groans and mourns, and he experiences renewal of four senses as follows.

- The nose is renewed so it smells the incense, meaning we worship God more.
- The ears are renewed so we hear and obey the voice of God or the Word of God. Do not hear the other teaching because it will cause doubt.
- The eyes are renewed so we only see and put our hope in God.
- The mouth is silent. We confess our sins and faults more.

If there is renewal or spiritual miracle, physical miracle will also happen. Sennacherib can be beaten.

But there is still one more sense, so Hezekiah is let face deadly illness.

Isaiah 38:1-3

38:1 In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die and not live.'"

38:2 Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the Lord,

38:3 and said, "Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what is good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

Facing impossible illness, Hezekiah weeps bitterly. He experiences renewal of the skin or feeling. He becomes as a baby who weeps because of putting his hope in God.

Through two types of trial, Hezekiah experiences renewal of countenance (five senses) so he appears as a baby with beautiful countenance and is set free from death. It is as Moses who appears as a beautiful baby so he is helped by God in facing Pharaoh.

Exodus 2:2

2:2 So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months.

Revelation 12:1-4

12:1 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

12:2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

12:4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

Facing trials that increase, we must groan and mourn until we experience renewal of the countenance or heart.

Revelation 12:14

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.

Thus, we will be evacuated to the wilderness for three years and a half during the reign of antichrist in the world. Afterward, two great events will happen as follows.

- Jesus will come for a second time to renew us as perfect and glorious as Him. We will be lifted up on the glorious clouds. We become the Heavenly bride of God with a sweet voice.

Revelation 19:6-8

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!

19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

We are glad and rejoice to welcome His second coming. We get the fine linen, clean and bright, and the crown of rejoicing. We enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, the future Paradise, and the New Jerusalem.

- While in the earth, Jesus will come for a second time to destroy antichrist and false prophet, and the world with all its contents. There will be a loud mourning voice that has not been heard yet.

Let us these days experience renewal and appear as a baby who only hopes to God. Thus, spiritual miracles (renewal) and physical ones will happen, until a sweet voice is heard.

God blesses us.