

Passover Service in Malang, March 31, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

Being within the shepherding pen, that is perseverance in three main services.

CHILD SUBMISSION SERVICE

Psalm 23:1

23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

The aim of child submission is so that the child lives within the hands of the Good Shepherd. Only within His hands there is assurance guarantee for our life in the middle of difficulties in this world up to the eternal life.

The requirements to be within the hands of Great Shepherd are as follows.

1. Being obedient to the shepherding Word.
2. Worshiping God, fully relying on the mercy of God.

The result is "I shall not want". It means as follows.

- The Good Shepherd is able to care our life starting from now up to eternal life.
- We live in peace, calm, and rest from Heaven.
- We are sanctified and renewed, until we become perfect as Jesus. We will be able to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds, until we reach the last shepherding place in the New Jerusalem.

PASSOVER SERVICE

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Celebrating the Passover means celebrating the resurrection of God. Matthew 28 writes about the resurrection of Jesus to do two great things as follows.

1. [Matthew 28:1-10] To roll back the stone from the door of the tomb.

Matthew 28:2

28:2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.

Now it means the resurrection of Jesus brightens the dark hard heart (getting decayed by sins) so we experience the life renewal from flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus.

Matthew 28:5

28:5 But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified."

The thing that must be renewed is our feeling that easily becomes afraid.

Flesh man often becomes afraid of something in this world until sacrifices God or the Word.

Spiritual man is having the fear of God although he must sacrifice everything in this world. It means we are set free from the physical fear.

Through the resurrection of God, let us become the spiritual man who is afraid of God and lives in righteousness. It means being obedient although we must sacrifice everything in this World, as Jesus who has sacrificed Himself.

2. [Matthew 28:16-20] The commandment to preach the Gospel.

Jesus has risen to send us in the great revival according to the great commandment of God.

There are two great revivals as follows.

- Revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain, that is revival in the gospel Word or gospel of salvation or Good News. It aims to bring sinful life to be saved through repentance and water baptism.

Matthew 28:19

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,

- Revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain, that is revival in the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ or the teaching Word or Bride Tidings. It aims to bring saved life to enter the building of the perfect body of Christ.

Matthew 28:20

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

Through the resurrection of Jesus, let us be active in the revival of Holy Spirit in the early and latter rain, to bring sinful life to be saved and saved life to enter the building of the perfect body of Christ.

The church of God must be active in the revival of Holy Spirit in the early and latter rain, to face the spiritual withering that attacks the church of God in the last days.

In Old Testament, the situation of the church of God is as scattered dry bones.

In New Testament, the situation of the church of God who is dry spiritually is as the fig tree that withers up to its root.

The causes of spiritual withering are as follows.

- a. Rock that denotes life who receives the Word with hard heart and emotion. When the Word matches the flesh, one will be happy. But when the Word does not match the flesh, he will reject it. When he gets temptation, he will depart from God.

Luke 8:6,13

8:6 Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture.

8:13 But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.

- b. Not being shepherded, as a branch is loosed from the vine.

John 15:6

15:6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

- c. Being egoistic, prioritizing himself, or prioritizing carnal things more than God.

Haggai 1:9-11

1:9 You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? says the Lord of hosts. Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house.

1:10 Therefore the heavens above you withhold the dew, and the earth withholds its fruit.

1:11 For I called for a drought on the land and the mountains, on the grain and the new wine and the oil, on whatever the ground brings forth, on men and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands.

The consequence of being dry spiritually is as follows.

- Never being satisfied, always grumbling and provoking. Also easily being desperate and disappointed, until leaving God. Easily becoming proud of something is also the sign of being dry spiritually.
- In curse, tears, sadness, unsolved problems, up to everlasting perdition.

Zechariah 10:1-2

10:1 Ask the Lord for rain in the time of the latter rain. The Lord will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone.

10:2 For the idols speak delusion; The diviners envision lies, And tell false dreams; They comfort in vain. Therefore the people wend their way like sheep; They are in trouble because there is no shepherd.

There are two possibilities when facing spiritual withering that attacks the church of God as follows.

1. Wending one's way, not being shepherded, and running to the idols. It means doing idolatry (believing in magicians, charms, dreams, prophecies, etc.). When one is dry spiritually, he will bring in entertainment from the world. The consequence is being drier spiritually up to everlasting perdition.
2. Asking for the early and latter rain. The requirements for the rain are as follows.

- Providing the good ground, meaning the meek and obedient heart.

Hebrews 6:7-8

6:7 For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;

6:8 but if it bears thorns and briers, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.

An obedient heart is able to drink the rain of the true teaching Word. The process is as follows.

- Starting from listening the Word solemnly, up to understanding the Word.
- Believing and having faith to the Word.
- Practicing the Word.

1 Peter 1:22

1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

The result is bearing the fruit of purification and sincere love, which are the fruits that satisfy God. The result is we will be satisfied and blessed by God. There are no more curses and withering. We always give thanks to God.

- We must be in the shepherding place, and well shepherded.

Joel 2:22-23

2:22 Do not be afraid, you beasts of the field; For the open pastures are springing up, And the tree bears its fruit; The fig tree and the vine yield their strength.

2:23 Be glad then, you children of Zion, And rejoice in the Lord your God; For He has given you the former rain faithfully, And He will cause the rain to come down for you again. The former rain, And the latter rain in the first month.

Judas is shepherded by Jesus the Great Shepherd, but he becomes the betrayer because his heart is not good. He believes the strange voice more than Jesus.

Who must be shepherded? All servants of God for every ministry must be shepherded. Starting from the pastor must be shepherded.

Why?

- So that our ministry leads to the building of the perfect body of Christ, to put Jesus as the Head.
- Because in the shepherding there is the early and latter rain.

Joel 2:24

2:24 The threshing floors shall be full of wheat, And the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil.

Within the shepherding, we receive abundance from God.

- Wheat denotes the revelation of the Word of God. If God provides the spiritual food, He will also provide the physical one.
- Wine denotes joy from the Holy Spirit.
- Oil denotes the anointing of Holy Spirit.

We live in abundance until it becomes the early and latter rain of Holy Spirit. We experience this in the true shepherding.

The results are as follows.

- Holy Spirit pours the gift of Holy Spirit, so we can serve Him according to the ministry.

Joel 2:28-29

2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.

2:29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

- Holy Spirit puts to death the deeds of sins up to the peak of sins, so we can serve Him in holiness, faithfulness, and fervency in spirit [Romans 12:11].

Romans 8:13

8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the

body, you will live.

A servant of God who is holy, faithful, and fervent in spirit equals to the apple of God's eye. Even one grain of sand is not allowed to enter our life in the wilderness of the world.

The apple of eye is never dry, meaning God always satisfies us.

- Living in the ambience of Canaan, the situation of hills and valleys, meaning the death and resurrection experience with Jesus, or the sprinkling of blood.

Deuteronomy 11:11-12

11:11 but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven,

11:12 a land for which the Lord your God cares; the eyes of the Lord your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year.

The sprinkling of blood means as follows.

- Flesh suffering to put to death the sins, so we can live according to the will of God. When one preserves the sins, he will be dry spiritually.

1 Peter 4:1-2

4:1 Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

4:2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

- Experiencing life renewal from flesh man to become spiritual man, starting from being happy in the middle of suffering, always giving thanks to God, not grumbling or murmuring.

1 Peter 4:12-14

4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

- We can fall down at His feet.

John 11:5-6,32

11:5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

11:6 So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.

11:32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

We confess that we are only as clay. We are unworthy and sinful. We are not precious and only to be trampled down. We worship God with a broken heart, until we do not feel the things that our flesh feels. We only depend on the mercy of God.

If we throw away the sins during the sprinkling of blood, give thanks to God and fall down at His feet, we will attract the rain of God's mercy to be poured over our life. We will never be dry spiritually.

Deuteronomy 11:12

11:12 a land for which the Lord your God cares; the eyes of the Lord your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year.

God cares every step of our life to become beautiful and successful step. Lazarus who has died is risen. The impossible things will be made possible. Spiritually, we are sanctified and renewed until we become as perfect as Jesus is. We will be lifted up to the glorious clouds on His second coming.

God blesses us.