

Pentecost Fellowship Service in Malang, May 23, 2021 (Sunday Evening)

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

Revelation 13:3-4

13:3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

13:4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

The sign of the Antichrist is that one of his heads was as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. It means that there are no death and resurrection or not ascending to heaven.

The sign of Jesus Christ is being dead on the cross and risen, getting the life renewal or perfection, ascending to heaven, and being glorified forever. It is said as the sign of the cross of Christ.

"*all the world marveled*" at the sign of the Antichrist. It means that there are many servants of God on the last days who marvel at the sign of the Antichrist, namely the physical signs such as being healed from disease and being rich. It is the same as despising and rejecting the sign of the cross of Christ because they only look for the physical signs.

Paul has prophesied that it will happen on the last days.

Philippians 3:18-19

3:18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

3:19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things.

He has said repetitively with crying. It means being with a deep regret and great astonishment that there are many servants of God who become the enemy of the cross of Christ, reject the cross, and receive the sign of the Antichrist.

Let us check ourselves whether we marvel at the sign of the cross or the one of the Antichrist.

The signs of rejecting the cross of Christ are as follows:

1. **The belly becomes the god and the mind is set on earthly things.**

Romans 16:17-18

16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.

16:18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

They do not minister to God, but serve and minister to the Antichrist because they only look for the physical things, namely the prosperity and entertainment.

For example, the performance of Samson is looked for. They serve to God, but they want the atmosphere of the world because the mind is set on earthly things.

Samson refers to Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, he was made make jokes, so the temple of Dagon fell and three thousand people died.

2. **Resisting against the true teaching Word, so there are divisions and offenses.**

One who causes the divisions and slander is one who rejects the true teaching Word, not one who keeps the true teaching Word.

The words are full of lies and they deceive the hearts of the simple.

The Lord has said to us that we must be sincere as dove and clever like serpent. The sincere must use the wisdom of God for fighting against the cunning of the serpent.

3. **The glory is in their shame.** It means being proud of or enjoying in the sinful deeds up to the peak, namely the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

They are proud of living in sins without the punishment.

Being sinful but still helped by God, we must regret and try to be more faithful and serious.

Rejecting the cross, they cannot be sanctified and renewed.

Matthew 16:21-23

16:21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.

16:22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"

16:23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

Consequently, they become the same as the devil or Antichrist who will be destroyed forever in the hell.

Therefore, the servant of God must receive and marvel at the sign of the cross of Christ.

Why do we have to receive the sign of the cross of Christ?

John 16:7

16:7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

As for Jesus, He must go. It means being dead and risen as well ascending to heaven. He must willingly receive and experience the cross for pouring Holy Spirit (Pentecost) for us because He knows that the man of flesh and blood is full of weaknesses and only towards the destruction.

As for us, if we receive and marvel at the sign of the cross of Christ, we will also receive the pouring of Holy Spirit (Pentecost). Behind the cross or the full tearing of the flesh (the number forty), there is Pentecost (the number fifty), namely the pouring of Holy Spirit.

Luke 13:22-24,27-29

13:22 And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. 13:23 Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them,

13:24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

13:27 "But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.'

13:28 "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out.

13:29 "They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God.

The cross cannot be separated from the sword or the true teaching Word. They were found in the journey to Jerusalem. The narrow gate refers to the cross.

"*from the east and the west, from the north and the south*" refers to the cross as well as the Gentiles. The sons of the kingdom refer to the Israelites.

Receiving the cross means striving to enter through the narrow gate or the door of heaven, especially for the Gentiles.

The facts found in the Gentiles' receiving the sign of the cross of Christ are as follows:

1. Striving to enter through the narrow door, namely the door of the ark of Noah.

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,

The ark of Noah refers to the true water baptism.

Matthew 3:16

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 people who have believed Jesus and repented must be drowned in the true water baptism. We get the new life or the heavenly one. We receive the anointing of Holy Spirit or the door of heaven is opened. We can live in righteousness and our heart becomes peaceful. All things become easy and light. We are saved or not drowned in the judgment of the flood (the lake of fire and brimstone in the hell someday).

Maybe there is a question, namely from one who has followed Jesus but is still weary, heavy-laden, and in toil. Just check the foundation, implementation, and result of the water baptism which has been received. If the foundation is good and right, the aircraft can take off. We can feel easy and light.

The narrow door refers to the mercy and goodness of God. From among all people in the world, only eight people or four couples were saved. It means that only few couples willingly enter the one ark or one true water baptism and it is only because of God's mercy and goodness.

Entering the one ark or one water baptism, we can enter the one shepherding.

Acts 2:41-42

2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Verse 41 refers to the water and Holy Spirit baptism.

Verse 42 refers to the shepherding.

The ark of Noah consisted of three decks (Genesis 6) that refer to the three rooms in the Tabernacle, namely the Court, Holy Place, and Most Holy Place.

The water and Holy Spirit baptism (the Court) are not enough. We must increase to the Holy Place. The quantity and quality must be good. It means that the quantity of three thousand people who are baptized is not enough. There must be the quality. The number three thousand refers to the volume of the Holy Place and Most Holy Place.

The volume of the Holy Place is 20 cubits x 10 cubits x 10 cubits.

The volume of the Most Holy Place is 10 cubits x 10 cubits x 10 cubits.

The Holy Place refers to the shepherding with the perseverance in doing the three main services to God or the three kinds of equipment as follows:

- The Golden Candlestick or the perseverance in doing the General Service, including the fellowship service to get the fellowship with Holy Spirit God.
- The Table of Showbread or the perseverance in doing the Bible Study Service and Holy Communion to get the fellowship with the Son of God.
- The Golden Altar of Incense or the perseverance in doing the Prayer Service to get the fellowship with Father God.

In the shepherding, our body, soul, and spirit attach to the Trinity of God. We are firm in the salvation, righteousness, and anointing of Holy Spirit up to the perfection, namely the Most Holy Place, the New Jerusalem, or the everlasting heavenly kingdom.

The true shepherding is based on the true teaching Word.

Only few couples are able to be in the one true shepherding. It is only because of God's goodness.

Acts 2:43-44

2:43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

2:44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

The results are as follows:

- The miracle will happen.
- There is unity in the marriage or household.

Striving to enter through the narrow door or the true water baptism and shepherding is signified by a sacrifice.

On the contrary, the three thousand people died because there was no shepherding. It means perdition.

2. Striving to hold fast the true teaching Word and obey it.

As a result, we get the sanctification from the foxes and birds.

The foxes refer to the evil spirit or the love of money which causes the stinginess and greediness.

The stinginess means not giving to the work of God or others who are in need.

The greediness means stealing the possession of God or the tithes and offerings as well as the possession of others who are in need or cheating about the possession of others.

We must strive to be faithful and fervent in the service and ministry to God until we can be the house of prayer. We can reach the measurement of the worship prayer, namely there is no evil and unclean spirit anymore because the flesh has been torn.

We can say "It is more blessed to give than to receive". Moreover, we can give our whole life to God and prepare the place as the body of Christ for Jesus as the Head. He is the responsible Head until His death on the hill of a Skull. We must be free from the Antichrist. We will not become the same as the Antichrist, but Jesus.

Then, we must be astonished at the cross of Christ.

The facts found in being astonished at the cross of Christ are as follows:

1. We must lift up the rod or appreciate, exalt, and rely on the cross of Christ.

Exodus 14:13-16

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."

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

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.

Our following Jesus on the last days for going out of the world and meeting Him on the glorious clouds is like the Israelites who had to pass through the Red Sea. It means the impossible condition, problem, and hindrance that make us afraid and in panic. The solution is lifting up the cross of Christ.

The proofs of lifting up the cross of Christ are as follows:

- Verse 13: there is no fear or anxiety. We only hope and believe the promise of God regardless of any hindrance we must face.
Do not become like the ten spies! Do not be doubtful! Do not worry! God never deceives us.
- Verse 14: holding our peace or doing the introspection in our life. We must confess our weakness to God and other people. Being slandered, we must keep silent. Do not be in panic, but peace! Do not concern about the temptation or problem, but our relationship with the Trinity of God! Check the perseverance in committing the three main services to God, the worship prayer to God, and the full surrendering to God!
Fighting against Satan, we must not use our power, but 100% the power of God.
- Verse 15: keeping on believing the promise of God through going forward or being obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore.
We stretch out our hands and fully surrender to God.

Exodus 14:21-22

14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

14:22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

As a result, God pours the power of Holy Spirit (Pentecost) to us.

- He finishes all impossible problems.
- He gives us the beautiful future life.
- He uses us in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain for the edification of the perfect body of Christ. We can serve to God. It starts from the marriage, shepherding, and so on.

2. We must look at the cross of Christ. God showed Moses a tree.

Exodus 15:22-25

15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

15:23 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.

15:24 And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

15:25 So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them. And there He tested them,

The condition in bitterness, suffering, hopelessness, disappointment in life like the sourwine, tears, sorrow, or the condition like the Israelites who went out of Egypt happens because of sins up to the peak, namely the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

As a matter of fact, all men in the world have sinned and lost the righteousness, holiness, and glory of God (Romans 3:23), so the life becomes in sorrow and bitterness. Where there is the hidden sin, there will be the bitterness, destruction, and perdition there.

The solution is looking at the cross.

John 19:28-30

*19:28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"
19:29 Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.
19:30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.*

The proof of looking at the cross of Jesus is giving the sourwine to Him. It means confessing our sins to God and others as well as forgiving the sin of others and forget it. The blood of Jesus will wash away all of our sins. All sourwine mingled with gall has been drunk by Jesus on the cross, so all sins and bitterness have been finished. Jesus will pour out the new wine or the living water for giving us the heavenly sweetness, freshness, and satisfaction. We do not need to look for the worldly satisfaction which makes us fall in sins up to the peak anymore. We can be the witness of God.

Holy Spirit is like the new wine. He is able to face Marah, so all things become sweet. All bitterness, anger, murmuring, and strife are changed into the sweet testimony.

3. **We must bear the cross of Christ**, namely when we are in the sprinkling of blood or the suffering in the flesh with Jesus and without sin.

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.*

The two times seven sprinklings of blood were in the Most Holy place.

For example, we are suffering in the flesh when we serve and minister to God, hold fast the true teaching Word, righteousness, and holiness, commit the fasting and all night-long prayer, or when we are slandered, vilified, insulted, and blamed.

The solution is that we must bear the cross. We receive all things with a willing heart, without murmuring or fighting, but in silence and full surrendering to Jesus. We will experience the fire of Holy Spirit. We are strong and of good courage. We are being slandered, despised, and insulted, but we keep joyful without disappointment and hopelessness. We keep on believing and worshiping God.

As a result, God is with us.

1 Chronicles 28:20

28:20 And David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it ; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD God--my God-- will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

Isaiah 49:14-16

*49:14 But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, And my Lord has forgotten me."
49:15 "Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you.
49:16 See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.*

We indeed are not able as if we are left alone and God does not help us also. Do not murmur! Do not be hopeless! We only need to cry to God.

The hand of God or Holy Spirit will carry us. It means protecting, preserving, and finishing all things which cannot be done or thought by a baby.

Moreover, the hand of God or Holy Spirit washes the baby. It means sanctifying and perfecting us until we become the perfect body of Christ.

God blesses you.