

Prayer Service in Malang, June 05, 2012 (Tuesday Evening)

The whole Matthew 27 refers to **the seven sprinklings of blood upon the Ark of Covenant**. It means the suffering Jesus experiences until He dies on the cross to save, sanctify, and perfect us.

Matthew 27:1-10 is about the first sprinkling of blood, namely Jesus handed over to Pilate and the death of Judas Iscariot.

Matthew 27:6-10

27:6 *But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood."*

27:7 *And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.*

27:8 *Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.*

27:9 *Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced,*

27:10 *"and gave them for the potter's field, as the LORD directed me."*

Judas Iscariot rejected the sprinkling of blood so he betrayed and sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. The thirty pieces of silver were used to buy the Field of Blood, to bury strangers in, and the potter's field.

The thirty pieces of silver are used to buy the Field of Blood, it means trampling the blood of Jesus underfoot. It has been explained in the previous service.

The thirty pieces of silver are used to buy field to bury strangers in, so the Gentiles may get a part in Canaan or New Jerusalem. It also has been explained already.

Now we will discuss the thirty pieces of silver to buy the potter's field.

Jeremiah 18:6

18:6 *"O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says the LORD. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!"*

Jesus shows Himself as the Potter for the house of Israel in the Old Testament. He shows Himself also as the Potter for the Gentiles in the New Testament.

Jesus as the Potter is worthy of forming the Gentiles as the vessel of glory and He is able to do it. The Gentiles can be made as glorious as He is.

Therefore, the Gentiles must be in the hand of God, the Potter. Otherwise, they will be in the hand of Satan which crushes and destroys.

Nevertheless, there is a problem that all men have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

3:23 *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

The sinful men cannot go near God. Moreover, they cannot be in His hand.

The condition of the sinful outside the hand of God is as follows.

- a. In fear, distress. There is no peace although being in Eden, referring to being in the preservation of God, et cetera.

Genesis 3:7, 10

3:7 *Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.*

3:10 *So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."*

- b. Facing unsolvable problems even increasing ones. There are many tears, hopelessness, and disappointment.

Isaiah 59:1-2

59:1. *Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.*

59:2 *But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.*

- c. Being in spiritual death or dryness. There is no joy or fervency to do spiritual matters.

Ephesians 2:1

2:1. And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

It equals to broken mortar pot. If it continues, one will have the second death, namely forever destruction and perdition.

Romans 3:24-25

3:24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

3:25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

The only solution is the peace offering of Jesus to redeem and justify the sinful men.

The wage of sin is death. Actually, the sinful should have been judged and destroyed but why does Jesus not judge them but wants to help and forgive them? We can compare it to an angel who falls in sin and gets the judgment immediately.

Psalm 103:8-14

103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

103:9 He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever.

103:10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

103:11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;

103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

103:13 As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

103:14 For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

It is because the Lord remembers that the Gentiles are only dust with many faults and weaknesses. He does not judge but He forgives the Gentiles who want to be reconciled. In such condition, they can go near God to be in His hand.

As the Gentiles, we must also remember that we are only dust, so we can be in the hand of God.

The facts found in it are as follows.

1. Making peace, meaning as follows.
 - a. We confess our sins to God and other people. Being forgiven, we should not do the sins anymore. We repent or die to sin. It begins from inside our heart and mind or thought which are wicked and unclean. Moreover, must repent from sinful deeds, saying, and the sin of self-truth. Job is the example.

Job 32:1-2

32:1. So these three men ceased answering Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes.

32:2 Then the wrath of Elihu, the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, was aroused against Job; his wrath was aroused because he justified himself rather than God.

Job 42:5-6

42:5 "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

42:6 Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

The self-truth often happens in saying which blames other people, God, and the true teaching. Maybe the saying seems to be wise but it has been not in line with the Word.

The self-truth equals to the truth outside the Word.

- b. We forgive the sins of other people and forget them.
2. Surrendering fully in the hand of God.

1 Peter 5:7

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Meaning as follows.

- a. We are shepherded with perseverance to do the three main services, namely General Service, Bible Study Service with Holy Communion, and Prayer Service.
- b. We obey the shepherding Word until our flesh does not speak anymore.

As a result, we become as clay in the hand of God as follows.

1. The merciful hand of God forms us to become the vessels of mercy or His servants who glorify His name, so we live by His mercy.

Romans 9:22-24

9:22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,

9:23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,

9:24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

2. The merciful hand of God is able to make all things good and beautiful in His time.
3. The merciful hand of God forms us to become as the first creation.

Genesis 1:26

1:26. Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

The merciful hand of God sanctifies us little by little until we become as glorious as He is.

God blesses you.