

Prayer Service in Surabaya, July 23, 2014 (Wednesday Evening)

Peace and grace in the love of Jesus Christ. Good evening, let us listen to the Word of God. May the peace and grace from God be within us.

We are still learning **Revelation 2-3**. It refers to the seven blood sprinkles in front of the Ark of The Covenant.

We have to undergo the suffering in the flesh with Jesus, which is the last sanctification for the seven Gentiles churches which is done by Jesus to make them perfect and without blemish like Him.

Leviticus 16:12-14

16:12 Then he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the Lord, with his hands full of sweet incense beaten fine, and bring it inside the veil.

16:13 And he shall put the incense on the fire before the Lord, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on the Testimony, lest he die.

16:14 He shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; and before the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

The seven blood sprinkles have to be completed with the incense.

Aaron was the High Priest, and once a year he entered the Most Holy Place to do the ministry of reconciliation by bringing **blood**(a suffering in the flesh) and **incense**(a worship).

The blood and incense are inseparable.

We have to face the sprinkles of blood (a suffering in the flesh because of Jesus), we have to pray and worship God a lot.

If we don't worship God, we won't be strong enough and will deny God.

For example, Peter was sleeping when God asked him to pray with Him in the Gethsemane, so he, who was great, denied God when he faced the tribulation.

We **have to** undergo the suffering without sins with Jesus (to experience the Gethsemane) to achieve the perfection.

This evening we will study about worships.

1 Timothy 2:1-2, 8

2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

2:2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

2:8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

There are **4 levels of prayer** as follows.

1. **A petition**, which is the lowest level of a prayer.

The center is our needs.

When we are in need, we pray to God, and when we need nothing, it is possible that we forget to pray.

John 15:7

15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will[a] ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

The requirement is the Word abides in us, our will is synchronized with God's will and God will answer our prayer.

If we pray for our own need, which is not in sync with God's will, God will not answer our prayer.

God's Word is God's will.

God's Word abides within us by listening to the Word, understanding, and believing the Word into the heart, and practicing the Word until we are obedient. Our flesh lusts which are not in line with God's willing are braked by the Word so that we will only accept God's will.

Beware, there are other teachings which teach "*if you want something, put it in your heart and pray, and you will surely get it.*" We will get it, but it is not from God, but from Satan, because Satan can answer prayer but it will destroy our lives in the end.

2 Corinthians 13:9

13:9 For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. And this also we pray, that you may be made complete.

The peak of a petition: we pray for a holy life, until a perfect life like God.

2. The second level of prayer is the **intercession prayer**.

The center is other's need, for example for the nations, churches.

The peak of an intercession prayer is we are able to pray for those who consider us as their enemy, those who hurt and torture us. We pray that God will forgive and bless them, **until we have no more interest**.

If we pray for our nations, in the end it is still for our interest.

Matthew 5:44

5:44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

3. The third level of prayer is a **prayer of thanksgiving**.

The center is the blessings that we have received.

However, if the core is solely our blessings, we will murmur and blame others, even blame God if we haven't received any blessings, even more when we are in lack, failure, being unsuccessful, or having a lot of problems.

The peak of a prayer of thanksgiving is giving thanks in any condition, both in blessing or not, both in problem or not.

Ephesians 5:20

5:20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

4. **1 Timothy 2:8**

2:8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

The fourth level of prayer is **the worship**, which is **the peak of all prayers**.

It is not explicitly mentioned in the verse that it is a worship, but praying with lifting up holy hands means a worship.

It is explained in **Psalms 141:2**

141:2 Let my prayer be set before You as incense, The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

The lifting up of hands is like giving an evening sacrifice and an incense (a worship). Aaron brought the blood and incense with his hands (**Leviticus 16:12-14**). It refers to the worship.

The center is Jesus Himself (not a blessing, other's needs or our own needs).

An example is Peter, James, and John, when they were invited by God on the mountain to pray.

Peter, James, and John were also invited by God to the villages and towns. It refers to a fellowship.

Don't reject it, because God invites us.

If God invites us, it will be good.

Peter, James, and John were invited to a man's house, whose child was dead. There were only them who enter, while the other persons were sent outside, and the dead child was raised.

If God invites us, there will be a power of resurrection and everything will be provided.

A testimony:

"For the visa to Australia, people said that it was difficult, but it turned out to be very easy. The embassy called me and it was done not long after that. Although someone said that it was impossible for us to get the visa, but finally all of us got the visa. This was because God invited us. When we were going to the United States, it was the same thing, many people said that it was impossible but in the end we made it. When we went to Europe with 35 persons, it was also impossible because we were only invited by 1 person, but we also made it. If God invites us, everything will be good. When I met Maria Shandy, the singer, who was also invited to the United States, she told me that her visa application was rejected twice. She said, 'wow you prayed earnestly', because my visa was accepted while her was not. She is a great person but her application was rejected, while I am no one. That's the difference between being invited by God or not."

If God invites us, we will see God's amazing power.

Mark 9:8

9:8 Suddenly, when they had looked around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves.

On the mountain, there were Moses, Elijah, and Jesus, but in the end there was only Jesus. It shows that Jesus is the center of the worship, not Moses, nor Elijah, even though they were great people.

Jesus is anywhere, anytime, and in any situation.

Therefore we can worship God in any situation, whenever, and wherever we are. This is God's justice for us.

Even someone who is going to die can call Jesus.

1 Timothy 2:8

2:8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

The requirements are without wrath and doubting. We have to lift up holy hands (deeds), heart, and speech.

Psalms 24:3-4

24:3 Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place?

24:4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

'has clean hands' means a holy deeds.

'has a pure heart' means a holy heart, without dispute.

'has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully' means there is no more lie, but a holy mouth.

Worship depends on our holiness. If we are holy, we can worship God. Men's prayer refers to a strong worship which can penetrate to God's presence, which is like the fragrant incense (men refer to a strength).

One ingredient of a frankincense is a white incense, which produces fragrance.

White refers to holiness. It brings fragrance to God's throne and we will feel His presence.

If we can **worship God in holiness** and our prayer reaches His presence, we can see His face. This is a worship, like when the disciples were on the mountain and they saw Jesus face changed.

Ezekiel 39:29

39:29 And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,' says the Lord God."

If we can see God's face, **the result** is God will pour the Holy Spirit upon us. This is our daily needs.

The usage of the Holy Spirit:

- The Holy Spirit is able to nurture us both physically and spiritually.

Romans 8:11, 13

8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

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.

Physically: The Holy Spirit is able to nurture us in the middle of difficulties, like Jesus, who had died on the cross, was raised by the Holy Spirit.

Spiritually: The Holy Spirit is able to kill the carnal deeds and we are able to live in righteousness and holiness until the everlasting life.

Without the Holy Spirit, we have no power. Our degrees or anything on earth cannot kill our flesh deeds. We see that in the universities, there are a lot of carnal deeds.

"There is a lecturer in a famous university in Malang. It is an expensive university, everyone is elite. A male lecturer told her 'that lecturer cheated on his wife'. The next morning or the day after, he also said 'I also cheated'".

This is a proof that a degree or wealth cannot stop carnal deeds. Only the Holy Spirit can.

- **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.

If there is a sprinkle of blood, there will be the Holy Spirit (*shekinah glory*).

The second usage is the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of glory will give us happiness in the middle of miseries, that we are able to endure the suffering.

- **Romans 15:16**

15:16 that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

The third usage is the Spirit of glory is able to sanctify and change our lives.

Without the Holy Spirit, the life of the Gentiles is like a dog (a bad and wrong speech) and a swine (returning to the wallowing in the mire).

If we have the Holy Spirit, we will be sanctified and changed as **a flesh is burnt and bring a fragrance to God's presence.**

If a swine is bathed, it will return to the mire.

If dog's vomit is cleaned, it will vomit again.

That's why, dogs and swine have to be burnt.

Dogs and swine have to be burnt so that the Gentiles can become obedient sheep.

If the spiritual miracle happens, the physical ones will also happen, all problems are solved even the impossible ones (mountains are flattened), and we can face our beautiful and successful future with God.

When Jesus comes for the second time, we will have the last miracle, we are changed to be like Him and we are raised to the glorious clouds, and we can see Him face to face forever and ever.

Now, we see Jesus' face through holiness and worship (the Holy Spirit controls us).

We give everything to God.

This night, we are happy to see Jesus' face although we are in suffering, and we are sanctified and changed. The sins of the Gentiles are burnt until we become perfect and we see Him face to face forever and ever.

God blesses us.