

Prayer Service in Surabaya, November 12, 2014 (Wednesday Evening)

Speaker: Deacon Gideon Pakpahan

Peace and grace in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Good evening, let us hear the Word of God. Let the peace, grace, and joy of God be in the midst of us abundantly.

We are still learning **Revelation 2-3**.

In the arrangement of the Tabernacle, it refers to the seven blood sprinkles in front of the Ark of the Covenant. They also refer to the seven letters to the seven churches of Gentiles, which is **the last sanctification** that God does to the seven churches of Gentiles (The seven churches at the end of time) to make them perfect.

We are learning the second sanctification, which is the sanctification to the church of **SMYRNA** (Revelation 2:8-11).

Revelation 2:11

2:11 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."

God's promise to the church of Smyrna: *He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."*

The second death is the death in the hell forever.

If we win, we shall not be hurt by the second death.

What do we win from?

1 Corinthians 15:54-57

15:54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

15:55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We **HAVE TO** win from death in order to not be hurt by the second death or hell.

However, we need to be careful because Satan is not happy if God's servants or the priests win upon the death because he knows if we win upon it, we will be lifted up to the clouds and shall not be hurt by the second death (hell). Satan knows how dreadful hell is so that **he always drags God's servants to enter it and perish** in the flame of hell forever with him.

There are 3 ways that Satan do to drag us into death as follows.

1. **James 1:13-15**

1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

1:14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

1:15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

The first thing that Satan do to drag us is **through temptations**.

Satan is the source of temptations in every aspect which make God's servants fall in them and go to death.

There are 2 sources of temptations as follows.

o **Matthew 4:1-3**

4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

4:2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

4:3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

The first source of temptation is Satan.

Satan launches temptations in every aspects. If we read the first verse, Satan attacks our monetary in our daily lives. Satan's purposes are to make us lose our faith and stop depending on God, so that we leave God and wait for death.

When antichrist rules, no one can buy or sell without his mark (the mark 666). This is when the real crisis happens.

If God lets us experience monetary crisis, don't murmur and expect on anyone, but be strong and of good courage,

keep on holding firmly on God, worship and expect Him.

○ **James 1:14**

1:14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

The second source of temptation is our own desires which are always against God's Word.

Often, we have already known that something is wrong, either in our work or study, but because of our own desires, we still keep it.

Examples are as follows.

- a. Because of pursuing the first rank in the class, we cheat on the exam although we have already known that it is wrong.
- b. In a marriage, we forcefully want to be with someone although we have already known that it is against the Word. As a consequence, we fall into sins (*when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin*).

If we keep our desires like what King Herod did although he knew that it was wrong, he fell into sins. After the sins were full-grown, they became death (a forever death in hell).

If we keep Satan and desires, no one can give us advices and we are going to perish in hell forever.

How can we win from temptations?

○ **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.

'*receive the crown of life*' means shall not be hurt by the second death.

The first thing to do to win from temptation is loving God more than anything by being obedient to the true Word in every aspect of our lives.

If we are obedient to God, Satan can't touch our lives, not even death can, and we have the hope to receive the crown of life from God.

God's promise is certain, He has no fake promise.

A testimony:

"Last evening I said it in Malang, if Heaven were only a fairy tale that pastors preach, I wouldn't be a God's servant. It is better for me to work in this world like what you are doing."

This is why we have to live according to the Word, either you who work in this world or God's servants.

Ministering, being God's servants, marriage, and all things have to be in accordance with the Word. By doing so, we have the hope to get the crown of life.

Being obedient or practicing the Word seems hard for the flesh because the Word is always against it. However, there is a certain promise of God that will give us the crown of life.

For the youth, don't ask those who don't understand God's Word when you are facing temptations (either in your jobs, about marriage, or anything), because their advices will be according to our desires and the result is death.

We have to take Jesus as an example and return to the Word every time we face a temptation.

○ **Matthew 4:10**

4:10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

- The second thing to do to win from temptation is being strong in casting Satan away in the power of Jesus' name.

An advice for us, don't be outside the church in the opening prayer. If we have come, get in and pray together to cast Satan away. On the prayer before the Word, we also cast Satan away so that we won't be sleepy, but serious when we listen to the Word. If we are outside the church in prayer and the pastor in the church says '*Let every evil spirit go out!*', the spirit can get into us.

A testimony:

"Before I became a God's servant, I had used to being outside in the opening prayer to avoid being asked to lead in an opening prayer. Now I realize that it is wrong."

We may argue that we are sleepy during the Word is preached because we are tired of working, but there is a

difference between those who are sleepy because of work and Satan's spirit. This is why we need to pray earnestly and cast Satan away so that we are always victorious over temptations.

2. The second thing that Satan does to draw us is **through sins to the peak of sins**(the sins concerning eating-drinking and the sins of marrying and giving in marriage).

Luke 17:26-29

17:26 *And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:*

17:27 *They ate, they drank, they marriedwives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.*

17:28 *Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;*

17:29 *but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.*

One of many sins that bring us directly to the death are the sins concerning eating-drinking and the sins of marrying and giving in marriage (the sin of sex and all of its variations).

- The sins concerning eating-drinking.

It includes smoking, being drunk, and abusing drugs.

Don't say that it is not written in the Bible that smoking is prohibited. It is indeed true. In the Bible we also can find that we should not abuse drugs or else the government will put us in prison and it is absolutely a violation to God's Word.

Don't use anything to defend yourselves.

- The sins of marrying and giving in marriage.

Revelation 21:8

21:8 *But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*

Satan uses the peak of sins to drag us to the second death.

Satan launches the sins through many advanced media such as hand phones. Don't use technologies wrongly and fall into sins.

Sins and the peak of sins are everywhere. We can see it around us. It means that the world has come back to the age of Noah and God's punishment will soon come.

"I saw elementary students were smoking. This is a disaster. I saw other high school students when I was in the court of the church, they were like husband and wife. I said, this is a disaster. I am sorry I have to say this to make us aware."

If those people are not in God, they are Satan's target. We, who are in God, should be aware.

Sins and the peak of sins can't be overcome by intelligence, wealth, or anything in this world.

There are a lot of wealthy people falling in sins. If God blesses us, use it for God's work and family. If we are blessed with intelligence, don't be haughty because there are many bright people that fall into sins. **Let's live in God's hands.**

The solution to win from the peak of sins are as follows.

- **Matthew 5:28-29**

5:28 *But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*

5:29 *If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

'committed adultery with her in his heart' refers to the sins of sex.

Psalms 119:9

119:9 *How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.*

The first way, for the youth, is always having sanctification done by the sharpness of the true Word or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword. We may have it by persevering in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.

Perseverance is one way to cut all of our unclean desire.

The unclean desire starts from the eyes, and then we commit adultery. This is why the eyes have to be cleansed by the sharpness of the Word.

When the Word is preached and shows us our sins, don't be mad, because it is God's mercy to sanctify our lives.

Why is the Word preached repeatedly? This is because we also commit sins repeatedly. This is why we need to listen to the repetitive Word and be sanctified.

Whenever there are unclean desires that come up in our heart, we listen to the Word and they will be cut until one day we have no more unclean desire.

o **Proverbs 23:1-2**

23:1 *When you sit down to eat with a ruler, Consider carefully what is before you;*

23:2 *And put a knife to your throat If you are a man given to appetite.*

It refers to the sins concerning eating-drinking.

Often, the sins concerning eating-drinking are caused by a big appetite.

The solution is putting a knife to the throat, which means always remembering the Word and be sanctified.

3. The third thing that Satan does to drag us is **through false teaching.** Satan puts false teaching in the church so that God's servants and the whole congregation are cast to the hell.

"This is everywhere now. I have heard a teaching that says 'We should not mention God's name'. The fact is, it is clearly written in the Bible that there is God Trinity. It happens within us, in GPT. This is awful."

If God's servant preaches the wrong Word, the whole congregation is going to the hell.

This is the cunning of Satan. If the first and second ways are failed, Satan is looking for the third way to make the whole congregation go to the hell.

Don't go to any church without analyzing the teaching beforehand!

There are 2 false teachings as follows.

- o The teaching of Jezebel that allows women to teach and command men in the middle of congregation.
- o The teaching of the Pharisees that allows divorces.

1 Corinthians 15:57

15:57 *But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

By being obedient to the point of death on the cross, Jesus has won from the 3 attacks from the Satan Trinity (temptations, sins, and false teachings).

Philippians 2:8-11

2:8 *And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*

2:9 *Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,*

2:10 *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,*

2:11 *and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

To win, we also have to be obedient until our flesh speaks no more and we earn the power of Jesus' name.

Through prayers, we have the flesh tearing (being obedient) until our flesh speaks no more like Jesus.

Matthew 26:36

26:36 *Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there."*

At Gethsemane, Jesus prayed to God to have a flesh tearing until His flesh spoke no more and He was able to say 'Abba, Father'.

For us, through a prayer this evening, we can have a flesh tearing until our flesh speaks no more and we can receive the power of Jesus' name.

The usages of the power of Jesus' name are as follows.

a. **Hebrews 1:2-4**

1:2 *has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;*

1:3 *who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of*

His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 1:4 having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

The first usage of the power of Jesus' name is that it is able to beautify our lives.

Whatever our conditions, even if we have fallen to the peak of sins or had troubles, as long as we are willing to be obedient to the Word and have the flesh tearing, there will be the power of Jesus' name to beautify our lives.

When we have fallen to the peak of sins or temptations, don't be lazy to come to the services and worships, because it is dangerous.

Be diligent in worships and faithful under the feet of God and He will lift us up.

A testimony:

"If I said to the full time servant of God, 'don't be disappointed and discouraged, Among the full time servants of God, I am the worst. Don't see me as someone who preaches the most Word. Among us, maybe I am the most sinful one'. I said to them, 'I have hopes'. As long as we can shout Jesus' name, there is still hope to have the flesh tearing, as long as we are willing to kneel under God's feet, there are hopes that our lives will be beautified by Him."

- b. Our lives are not only beautified, but God will also take away every disgrace and we can be His bride. We are ready to welcome Jesus' second coming.

Isaiah 4:1

4:1 And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, "We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel; Only let us be called by your name, To take away our reproach."

'seven women' refers to the sinful Gentiles.

If we are sanctified until we are perfect and as glorious as God, we shall be His unblemished bride and ready to welcome His second coming.

Youth are maybe in temptations and so is our family. Maybe we are in sins and falling. **Let's shout Jesus' name through kneeling down under His feet** and confessing that we can do nothing to face the temptation, sins, and the peak of sins.

We need to kneel down under God's feet and shout His name, especially when we can do nothing. God will help us and make everything beautiful, and change our lives.

A testimony:

"According to my experience, I felt like I was almost dead. I couldn't breathe because I couldn't think when my mother passed away. I remembered what our Pastor had said, 'if we can do nothing, shout Jesus' name'. I only shouted 'Jesus, Jesus!' and I could breathe."

When we are facing sins, we also shout 'Jesus, Jesus!' and the power of His name will help us.

God blesses us.