

Thanksgiving Prayer Service in Malang, December 30, 2017 (Saturday Evening)

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

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

5:16 Rejoice always,

5:17 pray without ceasing,

5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

There are three things which God wants in our life as follows:

1. To rejoice always in the joy of Holy Spirit.

The proof of having the heavenly joy is that we can keep rejoicing in the time of sufferings.

The requirement is the **peaceful heart**.

Therefore, let us always make peace with God and others. We confess our sins to God and others as well as forgive and forget the sins of others. As a result, the blood of Jesus washes away our sins, so we can feel the peace and joy of heaven or the one of Holy Spirit that cannot be influenced by anything.

If there are no peace and joy, one will be weary and heavy-laden.

2. To give thanks in everything.

The requirement in **being strong and of good courage**.

2 Corinthians 4:7-9

4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

4:8 We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

4:9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed--

How great our life is, we are only like the mortar vessel which is brittle and easily broken.

Therefore, the mortar vessel must be filled by the true teaching Word so that we have the abundant power from God. We do not murmur in facing the temptations or difficulties, but always give thanks to God.

Numbers 13:27-28

13:27 Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.

13:28 "Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there.

Numbers 14:29

14:29 'The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above.

Murmuring and gossiping much more, a star will be an animal. Such life has a weak heart. Therefore, let us keep our heart and mouth.

Hebrews 12:28

12:28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

If we are strong and of good courage, we will always give thanks to God.

The fact found in it is serving and ministering to God acceptably with reverence and godly fear, namely in faithfulness and responsibility to God.

As a result, we receive the heavenly kingdom, which cannot be shaken. It means that we live in the atmosphere of the heavenly kingdom, namely the abundant preservation and protection of God. We can always give thanks to God. We are used in the ministry for edifying the perfect body of Christ.

3. To pray and worship without ceasing.

The requirement is the **broken heart**.

Luke 20:17-18

20:17 Then He looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone'?"

20:18 "Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."

Having the broken heart means that we always appreciate and exalt the sacrifice or cross of Christ. We willingly fall on the chief cornerstone or the sacrifice of Christ.

The fact found in it is the willingness to suffer in the flesh because of Jesus as well as the true teaching Word, ordination, and life. It is the same as the robe is dipped in blood, so Satan cannot strip us.

The robe which is dipped in blood will be more beautiful and whiter until it becomes white, clean, and bright.

We confess that we are only the clay which only relies on God. Then, God will stretch out His merciful hands to us.

Zephaniah 3:16-18

3:16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak.

3:17 The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

3:18 "I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, Who are among you, To whom its reproach is a burden.

The results are as follows.

- The merciful hands of God give us power as follows.
 - a. To keep on serving and ministering to God faithfully and fervently in spirit until the end line.
 - b. To keep on giving thanks to God until the end line.
 - c. To keep on worshiping God until the end line.

It is the same as being the house of prayer.

- The merciful hands of God are able to give victory over the enemies.
- The merciful hands of God are able to perform spiritual miracle, namely to renew our life from fleshly man to spiritual one like Jesus.

We are changed to be as perfect as Him when He comes a second time. We are lifted up to the glorious clouds to meet the Lord. There is no tear at all and we worship God day and night. We only give thanks to Him.

God blesses you.