

Youth Service in Malang, August 05, 2017 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 11:37-54 is about 'Woe to the Pharisees and Lawyers'

Luke 11:37-41

11:37. *And as He spoke, a certain Pharisee asked Him to dine with him. So He went in and sat down to eat.*

11:38. *When the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that He had not first washed before dinner.*

11:39. *Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness.*

11:40. *"Foolish ones! Did not He who made the outside make the inside also?"*

11:41. *"But rather give alms of such things as you have; then indeed all things are clean to you"*

A Pharisee invites Jesus to eat means the fellowship with Jesus to enjoy the word of God earnestly like one who needs food because he is hungry. It is the same as **hearing and obeying the word**. As a result, we experience the purification of our heart and whole life.

The Pharisees and Lawyers only take heed to the physical thing (outside one), so they do not prioritize the word. Consequently, they do not want to be purified, so they are fulminated. They experience six times of 'woe'.

ad. 1. **The first 'woe'** namely the Pharisees **tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass by justice and the love of God.**

Luke 11:42

11:42. *"But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass by justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone."*

Why? The Pharisees tithe mint so they look holy (kelihatan suci), but their hearts are not holy, so they are fulminated by God.

The requirement to return the tithe correctly is as follows:

- Based on purification of heart, so we are not bound by money, but we can return the tithe with joy, not of necessity.
- Based on confession that we have already been blessed by God.
- Based on confession that our life and all things we have belong to God.
There are three kinds of God's that may not be charged against, namely the tithe, prayer, and His bride.

If we return the tithe based on three things above, we can do the justice through the ministry up to worship to God.

The worship is the closest fellowship with God. It is the same as neck (the relation between the head and body). It is the relationship that cannot be separated forever.

Exodus 28:31-32

28:31. *" You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue.*

28:32. *"There shall be an opening for his head in the middle of it; it shall have a woven binding all around its opening, like the opening in a coat of mail, so that it does not tear."*

The provision of neck is that it must be in the middle. It means as follows:

1. **God's justice about the worship.** It means that everyone is able and allowed to worship God anytime, anywhere and in any circumstances.
2. If we worship God earnestly, **He will be present in the midst of us** to do the things as follows:
 - **Jesus as the High Priest performs the ministry of reconciliation. It is the same as giving peace to us whatever condition we have.**

John 20:19-20

20:19. *Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."*

20:20. *When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.*

Matthew 11:28-30

11:28. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

11:29. "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

11:30. "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

The sins make us afraid, labor and become heavy laden. But thanks to God, if we cry out Jesus' name, He will be present in the midst of us to perform the ministry of reconciliation. The way is learning to Jesus on the cross, namely being gentle and lowly in heart.

Being lowly in heart is the ability to confess our sin to God and others. Do not sin anymore after being forgiven!

Being gentle is the ability to forgive others' sin and forget it.

If we are lowly in heart and gentle, the blood of Jesus will take away our sins. All of weariness and heavy burden have been borne by Jesus on the cross, so we experience peace, serenity, relief and rest. All things become easy and light. All of us are happy and our faces beam.

- **Jesus as the High Priest lifts up the intercession prayer for us, so we become strong and of good courage to be against shock and temptation in all things.**

Luke 22:27-32

22:27. "For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves.

22:28. "But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials.

22:29. "And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me,

22:30. "that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

22:31. And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.

22:32. "But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."

We are not disappointed or desperate, and do not give up or leave God. We keep holding fast and obeying the true teaching word up to the finish line.

We keep believing in and hoping Jesus no matter anything that happens.

As a result, God will stretch out His merciful hands to us.

The results are as follows:

- a. **God's merciful hands make all things good.**

1 Chronicles 19:13

19:13. "Be of good courage, and let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. And may the LORD do what is good in His sight."

The thing that has been destroyed can be good. Failure is changed into success and beauty. The impossible thing becomes possible.

All of our problems are finished in His time.

- b. **God's merciful hands are able to purify and change us little by little to become as glorious as He is.**

1 Thessalonians 3:13

3:13. so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

God blesses us.