

Youth Service in Malang, July 15, 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 11:37-40

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?"*

The Pharisee invited Jesus to eat. It means the fellowship with Jesus through the ministry.

1 Timothy 4:8-10

4:8. *For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*

4:9. *This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.*

4:10. *For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.*

All of our activities in this world that are not linked with the ministry profit a little and will be in vain; even they hinder our ministry to God. They will reach the tomb only and be destroyed, but godliness is profitable for all things as follows:

1. Having promise of the life that now is.
2. Having promise of the eternal life.

That is why we both labor and suffer reproach to prioritize the ministry more than anything in the world.

There are two kinds of fellowship/ministry as follows:

1. **The ministry of the Pharisees and Lawyers**, namely the one of the habit system. It just shows physical thing and man's rule as well as looks for physical profits such as money, position, mate, et cetera, so one does not prioritize God. Without purification, the heart will keep dirty. It contains evil and unclean desires.

The signs are as follows:

- a. Hypocrisy, pretending to be holy, and lie. One becomes the same as Satan.
- b. Foolishness and disobedience to God.

1 John 2:17

2:17. *And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

2. **The true ministry**, namely prioritizing the word.

There are two kinds of the preaching of the Word as follows:

- a. The gospel word/milk for people who have not believed in Jesus yet or just believed in Jesus.
- b. The teaching word/solid food for growing our spirituality to maturity.
Our attitude is that we can enjoy the hard teaching Word like one who eats food because he is hungry.
We can hear and obey or practice the word.

Hebrews 4:12

4:12. *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

We experience purification up to our heart and mind.

Luke 11:39, 41

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.*

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

We are purified from evil desire (the will of money), unclean desire, and bitterness.

As a result, we experience spiritual revival, growth, and maturity.

The ambience of the spiritual revival or maturity is as follows:

1. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Acts 20:32-35

20:32. *"So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

20:33. *"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.*

20:34. *"Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me.*

20:35. *"I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"*

It starts from returning what is God's, namely the tithe and special offerings. We also give alms to others who are in need. Further, we can give our time, power, mind, up to our whole life to God.

As a result, we can be used in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ. It starts from household, shepherding, and inter-shepherding.

If we can give, we will be given or equipped with the ministry and the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the same as tunic of many colors. Our life becomes beautiful.

The more we are holy, the more we are used by God, the more we get the gifts, and the more beautiful our life is.
It continues until the gift becomes permanent as a **garland of twelve stars.**

2. A day in God's courts is better than a thousand.

Psalms 84:10-11

84:10. *For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

84:11. *For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly..*

It means that we can prioritize the ministry more than anything. We minister faithfully and fervently. We are shepherded well and truly. We persevere in doing the three kinds of main service in the shepherding (the holy place) as follows:

- The Golden Candlestick= perseverance in committing General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts.
- The Table of Showbread= perseverance in committing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion. We have fellowship with Son of God in the word and Christ's sacrifice.
- The Golden Altar of Incense= perseverance in committing Prayer Service. We have fellowship with God the Father in His love.

In the sheepfold, our body, soul, and spirit attach to God the Trinity, so we cannot be touched by Satan the trinity and we will not fall. We can love God more than anything and He will illuminate us with His love.

The result is that we experience God's care and protection. God helps us to face all problems up to the impossible ones. God leads every step of our life to successful and beautiful future. It continues until the love of God becomes **the clothes of the sun.**

3. It is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for sinning.

1 Peter 3:17

3:17. *For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.*

We willingly experience the sprinkling of blood or suffer in the flesh without any sin for Jesus, so we experience purification or the last redemption from sins that we often do not realize.

It starts from self-truth. It means covering sin by blaming others.

We are purified until we experience the perfect redemption. It is the same as **the moon under feet.**

Revelation 12:1

12:1. *Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.*

We are appeared as the light of the world or the perfect bride of heaven.

Revelation 12:2-4

12:2. Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

12:3. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

12:4. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

The state of the church of God which has been purified is like a pregnant woman who will give birth (in the weakest state and has to be against the dragon).

The thing that we can do is only groaning and crying to God. It is the same as stretching out our hands to God, and He will stretch out His hands to help us in His time.

It continues until Jesus comes a second time that we are changed to become as perfect as He is. We are with Him forever.

God blesses us.