

Youth Service in Malang, July 27, 2013 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 4-5 in the arrangement of Tabernacle refers to the Altar of Burnt Offerings that is to believe and repent.

Luke 5:1

5:1. So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,

The main purpose of our service and ministry to God is to hear the Word of God.

If we prioritize the Word of God in our ministry, we press about Him. We feel the presence of Jesus as the High Priest in ministry, the power of purification, satisfaction of Heaven and God's help.

Exodus 32:1

32:1. Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."

Unfortunately, there are **lots of ministry which gathered together to Aaron**.

It means the ministry just prioritizes physical things like human profile (artist, famous preacher), looks for standing, money and the happiness of the world, that it does not prioritize but negates the Word.

The consequences are as follows:

Exodus 32:4, 6

32:4. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

32:6. Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

1. Idolatry happens.

It means to love something in the world more than God.

2. Falling into sins up to the peak of sin, that is sin of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage.

Why do we have to prioritize the Word of God?

Romans 3:23-24, 28

3:23. for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

3:24. being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

3:28. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

Galatians 2:16

2:16. "knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

For all have sinned and should perish and cannot be justified by the Law, but only by faith in Jesus who has already died on the cross.

Romans 10:17

10:17. So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith comes by hearing the Word of Christ, the Word that is anointed by Holy Spirit.

The process is by hearing the Word, understanding and believing it (the Word of God becomes faith in our heart and we believe in Jesus who has already died for us).

Romans 10:10

10:10. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

When our heart believes, **our mouth can confess our sins** to God and others. If we are forgiven, do not sin anymore, so we can

be justified.

So, in the ministry, we have to prioritize the Word of God until we are saved.

There are two kinds of faith as follows:

James 2:14-26

2:14. *What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?*

2:15. *If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,*

2:16. *and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?*

2:17. *Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*

2:18. *But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.*

2:19. *You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe "and tremble!*

2:20. *But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?*

2:21. *Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?*

2:22. *Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?*

2:23. *And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God.*

2:24. *You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.*

2:25. *Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?*

2:26. *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

- Passive faith.

It means faith without work, empty faith, dead faith, or faith like satan which does not save.

The passive faith even professes to believe in Jesus, but keeps doing sin like Satan, that perishes forever.

- Active faith.

It means faith with increasing work of faith to become perfect and eternal life.

The examples of the work of faith are as follows:

- **Abraham.**

James 2:21

2:21. Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

Abraham is willing to offer Isaac.

For us now, it means we are willing to sacrifice anything that God asks by the Word even we have to sacrifice something we love so much or we have to suffer.

Abraham **loves God** with his body, soul and spirit.

- **Rahab.**

James 2:25

2:25. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?

Rahab is a gentile and harlot.

For us now, Rahab is the image of sinful gentiles, but still given opportunity to have faith and the work of faith.

The work of faith of Rahab is to hide two messengers by sacrificing her life.

Rahab **loves others** like herself.

So, the faith and the work of faith result in two tablets of stone (to love God and others).

Mark 12:28-34

12:28. Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, "Which is the first commandment of all?"

12:29. Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.
 12:30. 'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.â This is the first commandment.
 12:31. "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.â There is no other commandment greater than these."
 12:32. So the scribe said to Him, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He.
 12:33. "And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love oneâs neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."
 12:34. Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him.

The two tablets of stone should be only for Israel, but **by faith and the work of faith, the Gentiles can receive them too.**

If we have the two tablets of stone, the results are as follows:

1. We have wisdom from Heaven which determines our successful and beautiful future in the middle of difficulties in the world.
Ecclesiastes 10:10
10:10. If the ax is dull, And one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success.

2. Living in the world but we feel the heaven.
Mark 12:34b
12:34 ... "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him.

It means we are in the ambience of blessing that cannot be affected by the world.

3. No more question and doubt.
 If we start questioning the Word, the problem (snake) will come.
4. Destroying the golden calf, that is the hardness of heart.
 We are perfected to become same as God and lifted up to meet Him on the clouds.

God blesses us.