

Youth Service in Malang, May 11, 2013 (Saturday Evening)

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

In the arrangement of the Tabernacle, Luke chapter 4 and 5 refer to the Altar of Burnt Offerings.

In the past time, the Altar of Burnt Offering was the place to burn animal offering to take away the sins of Israel.

The altar comes from word "altare", which means a high place and it refers to the cross.

So, the Altar of Burnt Offerings refers to **the cross of Christ**. The animal refers to the sacrifice of Christ which is without blemish.

Leviticus 4:7-12

4:7. *'And the priest shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which is in the tabernacle of meeting; and he shall pour the remaining blood of the bull at the base of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.*

4:8. *'He shall take from it all the fat of the bull as the sin offering. The fat that covers the entrails and all the fat which is on the entrails,*

4:9. *'the two kidneys and the fat that is on them by the flanks, and the fatty lobe attached to the liver above the kidneys, he shall remove,*

4:10. *'as it was taken from the bull of the sacrifice of the peace offering; and the priest shall burn them on the altar of the burnt offering.*

4:11. *'But the bull's hide and all its flesh, with its head and legs, its entrails and offal--*

4:12. *'the whole bull he shall carry outside the camp to a clean place, where the ashes are poured out, and burn it on wood with fire; where the ashes are poured out it shall be burned.*

The treatment to the sin offering is as follows:

1. Blood is poured at the base of the altar and some of the blood is put on the horns of the altar.

It means we experience **sin remission**.

We need the blood of Christ for sin remission because we are dust.

The sin remission encourages us to give thanks and worship God.

2. The bull's hide and all its flesh and offal must be burned outside the camp. It refers to purification or freedom from sinful deeds (physical sin).
3. All the fat must be burned. It refers to feeling (spiritual sin) purification.

So, if we believe in Jesus who dies on the cross, we will experience remission and freedom from physical and spiritual sin, so that we **live for righteousness**.

It is like the burned fat that produces fragrance before God.

Luke 4:1-13 is about 'the temptation in the wilderness'. It is about the **test of faith**.

As for Satan, temptation is used to make our faith fall, so that we perish.

As for God, He allows us to experience the test of faith to result in righteousness and perfection.

In verse 1-12, Jesus is tempted three times, but **He keeps on winning because He is always in God's will**. We must win over the test and temptation as Jesus who has won.

If we lose, Satan will bind us in sin.

Moreover, do not become arrogant when we win because Satan will keep looking for opportunity.

Luke 4:13

4:13. *Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.*

Therefore, **we must watch**. Especially, we have to watch so that we will always be in God's will.

The place for watching is in the **sheepfold**.

Leviticus 21:12

21:12. *'nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.*

In the Tabernacle, the sheepfold refers to the Holy Place. Inside, there are three kinds of instruments as follows:

- The golden candlestick: perseverance in committing general service.
- The table of showbread: perseverance in committing bible study and holy communion service.
- The golden altar of incense: perseverance in committing prayer service.

So, we always experience the anointing oil of Holy Spirit like a candle that remains lit, so that we keep watching and the darkness cannot go inside.

Luke 2:8-10

2:8. Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

2:9. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

2:10. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

In the sheepfold, a shepherd is anointed by Holy Spirit so that he always watches to receive news from God and feed his sheep. A shepherd also watches to raise intercession prayer for the salvation of sheep.

In the sheepfold, the sheep are anointed by Holy Spirit, so that we can watch to eat true shepherding Word which is same as repeated true teaching Word.

The process for eating the true shepherding Word is as follows:

1. Holy Spirit teaches the true shepherding Word, so that we hear it well and understand.

Job 32:8

32:8. *But there is a spirit in man, And the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.*

2. Holy Spirit teaches the true shepherding Word, so that we **believe in it.** It means the Word becomes faith in our heart and we always remember it.

John 14:26-27

14:26. *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*

14:27. *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

If we understand and remember the true teaching Word, we will experience peace, no more worry, anxiety, and fear. We just feel the great love of God, so all things become easy and light.

3. Holy Spirit teaches the true shepherding Word, so that we **hear and obey the voice of the Shepherd.**

Romans 8:15

8:15. *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."*

This man will live in the hand of the Chief Shepherd.

John 10:27-28

10:27. *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*

10:28. *"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*

Our position is in the hand of the Chief Shepherd which is strong and cannot be defeated by Satan.

The results are as follows:

- The merciful hand of the Chief Shepherd gives certainty for our lives in the middle of hard world at this moment until beautiful future.
- The merciful hand of the Chief Shepherd gives certainty to win over all temptations. It means all problems are finished even the impossible one. We just wait the time of God.
- The merciful hand of the Chief Shepherd gives certainty for eternal life, which is same as being at the last sheepfold at New Jerusalem forever. It means we experience renewal by renewal until we are as perfect and glorious as God.

The renewal of life starts from not being doubtful.

John 10:24

10:24. Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly."

We must be assured in the shepherding, do not doubt a little.

We must believe that all things are in the hand of the Shepherd.

Our fate is like sheep among wolves. But, if we are in the hand of the Chief Shepherd, the merciful hand of God is able to protect and help us.

God blesses us.