

Youth Service in Malang, September 07, 2013 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 5:12-13

5:12. *And it happened when He was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy saw Jesus; and he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."*

5:13. *Then He put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately the leprosy left him.*

The meanings of spiritual leprosy are as follows:

1. The sin of uncleanness.

Leviticus 13:45-46

13:45. *"Now the leper on whom the sore is, his clothes shall be torn and his head bare; and he shall cover his mustache, and cry, 'Unclean! Unclean!'"*

13:46. *"He shall be unclean. All the days he has the sore he shall be unclean. He is unclean, and he shall dwell alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp."*

The sin of uncleanness guides to sin of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage.

It the clothes are torn (showing flesh), it is leprosy too or the sin of uncleanness.

2. Being unthankful to God.

Luke 17:16-18

17:16. *and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.*

17:17. *So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?"*

17:18. *"Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?"*

Being unthankful will make us grumble a lot and not satisfied.

Consequently, we change from star to animal.

Being unthankful also means being unthankful to others, especially to parents.

II Timothy 3:1-2

3:1. *But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:*

3:2. *For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

3. To have self-truth.

It means to cover sin by blaming others, even blaming God and teaching Word.

It also means covering sin by pretending to do a good thing.

It happens in marriage and ministry, for example the son judges the parents, the fellow servant of God judges each other, or judges the servant of God.

The consequences of leprosy are as follows:

1. Dwelling alone.

The unclean dwells outside the camp, dwelling alone. Dwelling alone means being separated from God and others (family and community), scattered, and physical and spiritual suffering.

2. To have spot.

Leprosy is a disease which abides in body and becomes spot in the body of Christ, that we cannot become perfect, but left behind when Jesus comes a second time and we perish forever.

The way out to face leprosy is to come to the cross of Jesus.

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Jesus wants to clean us. It means He wants to die on the cross that He can stretch out His hand to do the things as follows:

1. **Helping and saving the sinner.**

If Jesus had not died on the cross, the sinner would have kept on being separated from Him, not being helped, but perishing forever.

Jesus has already wanted to help our life.

Our attitude as the leper is to fall on our face in front of God. It means we confess all our sins and weakness. At that moment, Jesus touches us to stretch out His merciful hand and wash our sin with His blood.

I John 1:7, 9

1:7. *But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

1:9. *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

If we confess our sin, the blood of Jesus works as follows:

- Washing our sin, forgiving us until there is no remnant of our sin.
- Pulling out the root of sin that we do not repeat the sin anymore (we repent).

If we repent, Satan cannot accuse us (we stay calm) and God does not punish us (we are saved).

2. **Cleansing us with the washing of water by the Word.**

Ephesians 5:25-27

5:25. *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,*

5:26. *that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,*

5:27. *that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.*

Jesus washes the congregation twice.

Water refers to water baptism.

Word refers to rain of of true teaching Word.

Leviticus 14:8-9

14:8. *"He who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean. After that he shall come into the camp, and shall stay outside his tent seven days.*

14:9. *"But on the seventh day he shall shave all the hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows -- all his hair he shall shave off. He shall wash his clothes and wash his body in water, and he shall be clean.*

Like in the law era, the leper was washed twice and so are we now that we are washed twice by water and the Word.

Because, if we are washed once only, we are clean, but we keep separated. It is useless.

After being washed by the water, we must be washed by the Word, especially in Bible Study service.

We are washed twice up to deserving to greet God's second coming.

3. **Taking away impossible things in our lives.**

II Kings 5:7

5:7. *And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me."*

Healing the leprosy is impossible. It is same as making alive the dead man. But, when we experience stretching hand of God, **nothing is impossible.** God is able to take away impossibilities in our lives. Our life and death are in the merciful hand of God.

Until Jesus comes a second time, we are lifted up together with Him.

God blesses us.