

Youth Service in Malang, September 10, 2011 (Saturday Evening)

Mark 16:19-20

16:19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

Mark 16 is about the resurrection of Jesus. He is resurrected in glorious body.

So, Mark 16 also tells about **the light of glory (Shekinah Glory)**.

Verse 19: Jesus was received up into Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God as the High Priest.

Verse 20: Jesus as the High Priest sat down at the right hand of God to be role model for priests and to accompany the priests/servants of God whom he sent.

We don't need to be afraid of being employed by God in all kinds of ministry because Jesus will always be with us.

If we (as priests/servants of God) always imitate Jesus as the High Priest, He will always be with us.

The daily practices of imitating Jesus as the High Priest who sat down at the right hand of God are as follows:

1. Imitating THE HEART FORTITUDE of the High Priest.

Hebrews 12:2-3

12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of [our] faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

12:3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

Jesus was falsely accused, He was scourged, He was tortured, and He was crucified. But He remained steadfast.

Thus, the priests must also be steadfast = **being strong and of good courage**, meaning:

- We do not discourage and not be disappointed to face anything, but always give thanks to God.
- Do not go along/not being contaminated with sins and temptations, so we still can live in righteousness.
- Always being faithful and being fervent in service and ministry to God.

2. Imitating THE HOLINESS of Jesus as the High Priest.

Hebrews 7:26

7:26 For such a High Priest was fitting for us, [who is] holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;

The priests/servants of God must live in holiness.

The requirements are as follows:

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.

The priests must be in the sanctuary (The Holy Place) with 3 kinds of equipments = **being shepherded, perseverance in 3 main services:**

- The Golden Candlestick = perseverance in General Service, including in Youth Service.
- Table of Showbread = perseverance in Bible Service and Holy Communion.
- The Golden Altar of Incense = perseverance in Prayer Service.

Outside the sheepfold, we must easily be contaminated with sins.

If the priests are well-shepherded, they will **be purified continuously** and **live in Holy Spirit ointment** (not being in spiritual dryness).

Isaiah 11:1-3

11:1. There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

11:2 The Spirit of the LORD (1) shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom (2) and understanding (3), The Spirit of counsel

(4) and might (5), The Spirit of knowledge (6) and of the fear of the LORD (7).

11:3 His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;

In the old version; "breathe in the fear of the Lord".

So, the delight of life that is anointed by the Holy Spirit is the fear of the Lord.

The air is dominated by Satan (evil and impure spirit) wherever we always breathe.

We always need the ointment of the Holy Spirit so that we can breathe in the fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 8:13

8:13 *The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.*

To breathe in the fear of the Lord = to hate evil, up to hating lies (not telling lies).

To tell lies = to defy/be against God.

If only fearing parents/teachers/pastor, it is temporary. When there are no parents/teachers/pastor, we tend to return in sin. More than that, we must fear the Lord because God is everywhere.

3. Imitating THE OBEDIENCE of Jesus who was obedient in misery up to dying upon the cross.

Hebrews 5:8-10

5:8 *though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.*

5:9 *And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,*

5:10. *called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek,"*

Philippians 2:8

2:8 *And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to [the point of] death, even the death of the cross.*

We must be obedient even we must sacrifice anything up to the flesh does not sound anymore.

Another example is as follows:

Abraham was commanded by God to sacrifice Isaac, his only child and the son of promise. Abraham was obedient and he met Jehovah Jireh (God provides).

We are obedient = to stretch our hands to the High Priest. He will also stretch His hands (to be with us/accompany us) = we live in the hands of God.

If we imitate the High Priest, we must be with God and we do not need to be afraid.

The results are as follows:

1. Hebrews 2:17-18

2:17 *Therefore, in all things He had to be made like [His] brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things [pertaining] to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.*

2:18 *For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.*

The High Priest stretches His faithful and loving hands to the priests as follows;

- **To make propitiation for our sins.** For who the human who never sins?

The High Priest forgives, lifts, and recovers us from all fallings in sin so that we can return to live in righteousness.

For example:

David had committed adultery with Bathsheba, yet He still could be lifted and returned to live in righteousness and holiness.

Peter had denied Jesus, yet he also still could be lifted and be helped.

The process is as follows:

We confess sin to God and neighbor earnestly. If we are forgiven, do not sin anymore! We return to live in righteousness and holiness.

- **To help us in all problems**, up to the impossible one.

He is able to solve all problems.

As long as sin is forgiven, the problems will also be solved.
Otherwise, if sin is hidden, the problems will more increase.

2. I Thessalonians 5:23-24

5:23. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

5:24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

The High Priest stretches His faithful hands and fulfills His promises as follows:

- **To preserve our body, soul, and spirit** as follows:
 - = to preserve our lives physically in the midst of difficult world.
 - = To preserve our lives spiritually in the midst of world that has already shaken, so that we can feel peace.
 - = To preserve our future, to give the beautiful and happy future life (the hands of parents are limited, yet the power of God is unlimited).

The High Priest will never deceive us, as long as we live by imitating Him.

- **To purify our body, soul, and spirit up to being perfect and being not blemish like Jesus.**
We can be lifted to the glorious cloud to welcome Jesus' second coming.

God blesses us.