

Youth Service in Surabaya, June 27, 2015 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 9:10-11

9:10. And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.

9:11. But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing.

Jesus went aside privately to face the cruelty of Herod. It is the same as Satan's act in the form as follows:

1. Sins up to the peak of sin, namely sin of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage.
2. Temptations and impossible problems, so we become disappointed and leave God.
3. Hatred without a cause up to persecution of antichrist.

To face the cruelty of antichrist, our attitude is going aside like Jesus did.

If we always go aside from Satan, one day we will get away from him to the wilderness for three and half years and we are taken care of by God.

Going aside means as follows:

- a. Acting to be far away from Satan who works by the power of sin.
- b. Acting to attract God's mercy.

The practices of going aside are as follows:

1. **The praying** (Luke 9:10).
In praying, we attach to God and become far away from Satan.

2. **Becoming the priests and kings.**

Luke 9:13

9:13. But He said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people."

Exodus 19:6

19:6. 'And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

1 Peter 2:9

2:9. But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Actually, only Israelites and their generation are worthy to become the priests and kings.

Genetically, the Gentiles are not worthy and cannot become the priest and king. That is why God opens the opportunity for the Gentiles to become the priest and king, namely God's mercy that is worth the Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

The duties of the priest are as follows:

- Testifying.
We testify about the salvation that we have received, namely how God calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
We can also testify about God's helping that we have experienced and renewal of life that we experience by the work of the word of God.

Every time we serve, we must radiate the light of life renewal, so one who is in the darkness may be called out into His marvelous light too.

- Ministering in the building of the perfect body of Christ actively.

1 Peter 2:5

2:5. you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Our ministry is started from household.

As the son, we obey the parents and ease their burden.

Further, the ministry is in the shepherding. We serve according to our ministry.

It is until the fellowship of inter-shepherding.

Luke 9:12

9:12. *When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here."*

2 Peter 1:10-11

1:10. *Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;*

1:11. *for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Be watchful of 'the day began to wear away'. At night, there are a lot of the priests who stumble, so they fall and leave the ministry.

Judas Iscariot was an Israelite, prophet and treasurer (one who got God's trust). But he could stumble, how much more we are as the Gentiles.

The Gentiles must make effort earnestly, so we do not stumble but make our call and election sure, namely we minister faithfully and fervently up to the finish line and we receive an entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.

If the door of Heaven is opened, the one in the world will be opened for us too.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

9:24. *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.*

9:25. *And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.*

The ministry is a race to get imperishable crown, so we may enter the eternal kingdom of Heaven.

The terms of the race to get imperishable crown are as follows:

- **Running.**

It means we do not delay when God moves us to minister Him, because we have a race with the time of the coming of the antichrist to the world.

- **Endurance.**

Hebrews 12:1

12:1. *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,*

We must run from the beginning till the end.

Endurance means one thing that we do continuously and cannot be hindered by anything.

Perseverance in the ministry is the one in the sheepfold, namely the one in three kinds of main service as follows.

- a. The Golden Candlestick: perseverance in committing General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts.
- b. Table of Showbread: perseverance in committing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion. We have fellowship with Son of God in true teaching Word and Christ's sacrifice.
- c. 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. We are like a branch that abides in the true vine, so we are always purified continuously from the burden and snare of sin.

The burden is the sin behind us that we have done, spoken and thought.

We can realize, regret, and confess sin. If we are forgiven, do not sin anymore.

The snare is the sin in front of us or the one which has already become our attention.

We must be purified like a branch is pruned, so we bear sweet fruit. We are happy until perfect like God.

- **Our eyes look at Jesus. It means we worship Him a lot, namely trusting and crying to God.**

Hebrews 12:2

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.

And God will stretch out His hand too to us. We live in God's merciful hand.

The results are as follows:

- a. **God's merciful hand is able to take care of our life miraculously and He fulfills all of our needs.**

Mark 6:34

6:34. And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.

- b. **God's merciful hand is able to wipe all impossibilities.**

Luke 7:13-14

7:13. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."

7:14. Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."

God's merciful hand is able to make alive the dead one both physically and spiritually.

There are physical miracle and spiritual one in our life.

And when Jesus comes a second time, we are changed to become perfect and as glorious as Him.

We look at Jesus face to face

God blesses us.