

Ascension Service in Malang, May 25, 2017 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 6:1-2

6:1 *Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."*

6:2 *And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.*

The opening of the first seal refers to the revival of the white horse or the one of Holy Spirit at the latter rain. It means the revival in the true teaching Word to sanctify and renew our life until we can be as perfect as Jesus is. It is also said as the revival for the edifying of the perfect body of Christ.

We are commemorating the ascension of Jesus Christ now.

John 14:1-3

14:1 *"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.*

14:2 *"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

14:3 *"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.*

Jesus ascends to heaven to prepare the place for us, namely the eternal heavenly kingdom. Afterwards, He will come a second time in the glory as the Head, the King of kings, and the Heavenly Bridegroom to lift up the perfect church on the glorious clouds to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb, the One Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace or the Future Paradise and the eternal New Jerusalem forever. We are not separated from God forever.

We must enter the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain or the one for the edifying of the perfect body of Christ to be able to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds. It starts from the marriage, church, and inter-shepherding fellowship service, until the church becomes perfect.

John 2:19-21

2:19 *Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."*

2:20 *Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?"*

2:21 *But He was speaking of the temple of His body.*

The Lord turns from the edifying of the physical temple to the spiritual one. Why?

1. The edifying of the physical temple was in the law system, in which the Gentiles could not enter.
2. The physical temple could not accommodate the glory of God because of being dominated by the spirits of the antichrist or the selling-buying spirits.

The edifying of the spiritual temple or the body of Christ is signified by three days, namely the system of the cross or mercy in which the Gentiles may enter.

The facts found in the ministry for the edifying of the body of Christ which is signified by the three days are as follows.

1. The foundation is Jesus' death on the cross with four main wounds to redeem and save the house of Israel or the chosen people of God. It refers to His love. The fifth wound or the biggest and the deepest one, out of which the blood and water came out, redeems and saves the Gentiles or all of us. It refers to the mercy of God.

John 19:31-35

19:31 *Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.*

19:32 *Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.*

19:33 *But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.*

19:34 *But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.*

19:35 *And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe.*

To enter the edifying of the body of Christ, the Gentiles must receive the fifth wound in Jesus' side or the sign of blood and water.

The sign of blood means that we can believe Jesus and our mouth can confess our sins to God and other people. After being forgiven, we do not repeat the sin. It means that we repent. We can also forgive and forget the sins of other people.

The sign of water refers to the true water baptism, namely one who has repented is buried in water with Jesus to be raised with Him in the new life.

Romans 6:4

6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

1 Peter 3:20-21

3:20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

As a result, we get the good conscience, namely the sincere and honest heart like the dove.

Titus 2:7

2:7 in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,

We say "yes" if yes and "no" if no. we are honest in the matter of the true teaching Word.

Hebrews 13:4-6

13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

13:6 So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

We must also be honest in our marriage or household, especially about the bed. The holiness of marriage must be kept from adultery with other man or woman.

We must also be honest about finance. We must return the possession of God, namely the tithes and offerings.

If we can be honest about God or the Word, marriage, and finance, we will be able to be honest in all things.

John 19:37

19:37 And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

Zechariah 12:10-12

12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

12:11 "In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

12:12 "And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

We only need to see the side of Jesus which has been pierced by receiving the sign of blood and water or repenting, being baptized of water, and living in honesty. As a result, God will struggle for and pay attention to us. He is able to give us rest or peace, so our life becomes easy and light.

2. **The execution of the edifying of the body of Christ upon the foundation**, namely we serve and minister to God with the sign of three days or Jesus' death and resurrection.

Exodus 3:7-8, 17-18

3:7 And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.

3:8 "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.

3:17 "and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the

Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey."

3:18 "Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'

It means as follows.

- a. Sacrificing the offering to God, not looking for or asking. We have been blessed by God.
All things must be sacrificed for the edifying of the body of Christ, except the true teaching Word.
- b. Being far away from Egypt or not being influenced by the worldly ways. We can be faithful and fervent in spirit in serving and ministering to God.
- c. Having the renewal of life, namely we die to old life and live in the new one.

John 19:36-37

19:36 For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken."

19:37 And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

2 Kings 13:21

13:21 So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band of raiders; and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

The bone is not broken refers to the power of Jesus' resurrection to renew our life.

Romans 8:11

8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Holy Spirit renews us. We are changed from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus is.

Galatians 5:16-17,19-21,25-26

5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

5:17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

5:20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

5:21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

5:26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

The fleshly desires are changed into obedience to God.

The fleshly deeds are changed into the right, holy, and good ones.

The characteristics of the flesh are also changed. Being conceited is changed into honoring one another. Provoking one another is changed into serving to one another. Envying one another is changed into loving one another.

Galatians 5:22-23

5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

5:23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

To change is the same as to bear the nine fruits of the Spirit as follows.

- i. Love, joy, and peace are the image of Father God.
- ii. Longsuffering, kindness, goodness are the image of the Son of God.
- iii. Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control are the image of Holy Spirit God.

We can live in holiness and glory and our face can be cheerful. We are equipped with the nine ministries, nine gifts of Holy Spirit, and nine deeds of the love of Father God. As a result, we are used in the ministry of the edifying of the perfect body of Christ. We are preserved abundantly by God in our physical and spiritual life. We become strong and of good courage, so we never stumble. We keep on waiting for the second coming of Jesus.

3. The roof or finishing.

John 2:1-11

2:1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

2:2 Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.

2:3 And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

2:4 Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

2:5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

2:6 Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece.

2:7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim.

2:8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it.

2:9 When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom.

2:10 And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!"

2:11 This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

The marriage must be kept well, namely being signified by the three days or Jesus' sacrifice by His death and resurrection. Many Christians have the destroyed and bitter marriage because of having no wine anymore.

The marriage must be signified by the sacrifice of Christ. It means that the waterpots must be filled with the water, namely God's Word. The three waterpots refer to the body, soul, and spirit of the husband while the other three are the body, soul, and spirit of the wife. Both the husband and wife must be filled with the one kind of the water of the true teaching Word. The six waterpots also refer to the children. The husband, wife, and children must be filled with the water of the Word of God. There is the gospel Word, but we must continue to the teaching Word to sanctify and change our life until we can be the heavenly bride.

John 19:36

19:36 For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken."

John 5:24-25,28-29

5:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

5:25 "Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.

5:28 "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice

5:29 "and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Although we die physically, as long as we are sanctified by the Bride Tidings, we will be resurrected in the glorious body when Jesus comes a second time. If we are still alive until Jesus comes a second time, we will be changed in the body of glory.

How great a man or clay is, he will be broken and destroyed if he is not filled with the Word.

We are filled with the Word through the perseverance in doing three kinds of service to God in the shepherding pen as follows.

- a. Golden Candlestick or perseverance in doing General Service to have the fellowship with Holy Spirit God in the gifts.
- b. Table of Showbread or perseverance in doing Bible Study Service with Holy Communion to get the fellowship with the Son of God in the Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
- c. Golden Altar of Incense or perseverance in doing Worship Prayer Service to get the fellowship with Father God in the love.

Our body, soul, and spirit are filled up by the Word. It happens through hearing the Word seriously, understanding, believing, and obeying it.

John 2:8-10

2:8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it.

2:9 When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom.

2:10 And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!"

Obedying the Word is the same as stretching out the hands to God. As a result, He will stretch out His hands to us and the miracle happens. The water can be changed into wine. It means that our characteristics are changed. The husband can love the wife. The wife can be submissive to the husband. The children can obey the parents. The mouth can speak the good and right words. The physical miracle will also happen. Nothing can be changed into something and the impossible things can be made possible.

God blesses you.