

## Mark 7:24-30

# Bread for the Gentiles

Mark 7:24-30 talks about a Syro–Phoenician woman who believed in God. Mark 6-8 refers to the Table of Showbread in Tabernacle teachings. The Syro–Phoenician woman was one of the Gentiles. Thus, Mark 7:24-30 talks about the bread for the Gentiles.

### **Mark 7:24**

*7:24 From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be hidden.*

Jesus came to the region of Tyre or the one of the Gentiles and wanted no one to know it. It means that Jesus' coming in the world has no relation with the Gentiles. Actually, the nations in the world can be divided into two kinds only, namely Israel or the chosen people of God and the Gentiles.

### **Matthew 15:24**

*15:24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*

Matthew 15 is the same story, namely about a woman of Canaan. From the verse above, it is very clear that Jesus came to the world only for saving the house of Israel, the chosen people of God.

### **Mark 7:24b**

*"..but He could not be hidden. "*

Praise the Lord because Mark 7:24b still continues about His coming that could not be hidden. It means that there is an open opportunity for the Gentiles for being saved through the mercy of God.

### **1 Peter 2:10**

*2:10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*

There are two manifestations of God's mercy for the Gentiles as follows.

1. Jesus died on the cross with the fifth wound.

### **John 19:33-34**

*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.*

Jesus died with four main wounds, namely two in the hands and two in the feet, for saving the house of Israel who had transgressed the Law. Nevertheless, a soldier of the Gentiles pierced the side of Jesus and there

was the fifth wound that was the biggest one for saving the Gentiles from all sins and paganism.

**Ephesians 2:11-12**

*2:11. Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called (1)Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— 2:12 that at that time you were (2)without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and (3)strangers from the covenants of promise, (4)having no hope and (5)without God in the world.*

The conditions of the Gentiles are as follows.

1. Being uncircumcision, namely there is no holiness, but uncleanness.
2. Being without Christ, namely there is no anointing of Holy Spirit, but life in the lusts of the flesh.
3. Being strangers from the covenant of promise. It means that there is no promise of eternal life or one perishes only.
4. Having no hope. One easily gets disappointed and hopeless.
5. Being without God. It means there is neither love nor obedience.

Those are the conditions of the Gentiles that must be redeemed by the fifth wound, so that they can be saved.

The facts found in the salvation for the Gentiles are the blood and water that came out of Jesus' side. The blood refers to the repentance. The water refers to the water baptism resulting in new life, namely righteous one.

2. A part of Israel has hardened their heart and rejected Jesus.

**Romans 11:25**

*11:25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.*

As a result, there is an open opportunity for the Gentiles to get the salvation through the mercy of God.

**Romans 11:26**

*11:26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*

All spiritual Israel consists of the house of Israel and the Gentiles who believe in Jesus and receive the sacrifice of Christ.

**Ephesians 2:13-16**

*2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

*2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,*

*2:15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,*

*2:16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.*

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The sacrifice of Christ saves the Gentiles and Israel, and unites them in one perfect body of Christ or the Bride of God.

We can take a lesson that the Gentiles must pay attention to the mercy of God. We may pay much attention to our study, job, and so on, but do not forget that the Gentiles must pay most attention to the mercy of God.

### **Romans 11:22**

*11:22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.*

The Gentiles must be cut off because of neither paying attention to nor dwelling in the mercy of God. They will get the severity of God, as well as the condemnation and perdition.

The facts found in paying attention to and dwelling in the mercy of God are as follows.

- a. Not falling again in paganism, but living in righteousness and holiness.  
Having the five conditions of the Gentiles again means despising the sacrifice of Christ and rejecting the mercy of God. Consequently, they are cut off. Moreover, they must face the severity of God.  
Let us return to the sacrifice of Christ, repent, and live in righteousness and holiness.
- b. Paying attention to the service and ministry with faithfulness and responsibility.

### **2 Corinthians 4:1**

*4:1. Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.*

### **1 Timothy 4:8**

*4:8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*

We will get the guarantee for the preservation of our present life up to the eternal one directly from God if we faithfully and responsibly do our service and ministry to Him. He will never fool us if we have the faithfulness and responsibility in doing our service and ministry to Him.

### **1 Timothy 4:9-10**

*4:9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.*

*4:10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.*

Let us labor to prioritize the service and ministry more than all things in the world. The sacrifice of Christ becomes the guarantee for preserving our life from now up to the eternity.

There are two things that must be watched in the service and ministry to God as follows.

- Do not lose heart nor become disappointed, even fall and leave the ministry.  
We must keep our ministry. Do not leave it as Judas who finally perished.
- Do not do the service and ministry to God deceitfully or negligently, or else you are cursed.

**Jeremiah 48:10a**

*48:10 Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD deceitfully,*

c. Worshiping God.

**Psalm 5:8**

*5:8 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.*

**Psalm 95:6**

*95:6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.*

It means that we humble our life as low as possible before the Lord our Maker and confess that we are only clay. We confess that we are not worthy because we have many weaknesses, mistakes, and falls in sin. Moreover, we are easily broken, powerless, and unable to do all things. Nevertheless, there will be the help of God if we willingly confess our sin and return to the Potter. The clay is in the hand of the Lord as the Potter. As a result, we can get the power of creation whose functions are as follows.

- Creating something that does not exist yet. The impossibility can be made possible. We get the help of God.  
The power of creation also changes the bitterness into sweetness. We can get the new wine or happiness.
- Renewing our life from physical men to spiritual ones until someday we are as glorious as Jesus is. The beginning of the renewal happens when there is no more lie, but honesty.

**Philippians 3:20-21**

*3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

*3:21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.*

We will be renewed continually until we can be as glorious as He is. We become His bride who can welcome His second coming to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb of God.

God blesses you.

*(taken from Youth Service, Saturday, June 3, 2006,  
preached by Rev. WidjajaHendra)*

Mark 6-8 is about the bread or God's Word. It refers to the Table of Showbread in Tabernacle teachings. There are twelve loaves on it that are arranged in two

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rows, six in a row. They refer to the sixty six books in the Bible, namely the Word of God. The table refers to our heart. It must be filled with the Word of God. Physically, our stomach is filled with physical food for our physical growth and health. Likewise, spiritually, our heart must be filled with spiritual food, namely the Word. If we actively do spiritual things without eating any food, we will be sick. It means that we will sin, and then die spiritually and perish.

Mark 7:24-30 is about the bread for the Gentiles. Actually, the Word is only for Israel, but the Gentiles can get it also by the mercy of God.

**Mark 7:24-26**

*7:24. From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be hidden.*

*7:25 For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His feet.*

*7:26 The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.*

Moreover, the coming of the Lord is a secret for the Gentiles, but God can reveal it if they have the longing or need to Him.

Maybe we come to the church because of these reasons.

- We are the member of the congregation or the minister of God, so we must come to the church.
- We are encouraged by the testimony or invitation of our friend.

It is good, but must be increased, so that we can serve to God because of being encouraged by the longing and need to the Lord or the Word.

**Luke 5:1**

*5:1. So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,*

We come to the church not for looking at artist, listening to the music, or meeting our friends, and so on. We will not reach the real purpose of the service to God if there is no desire or need for hearing the Word.

The Gentile who needed the Word can be read in these verses.

**Matthew 8:5-9**

*8:5. Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him,*

*8:6 saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."*

*8:7 And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."*

*8:8 The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.*

*8:9 "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."*

This centurion was a Gentile. He had supervisors and soldiers or inferiors. The attitude of the Gentiles towards the Word must be humbling themselves to receive the Word. It means as follows.

- a. Feeling unworthy for receiving the Word.

- b. Needing, paying attention to, and appreciating the Word, even not missing one Word.

We will never get bored if we can humble ourselves in receiving it, although the verses are preached repetitively. There always will be the desire to hear and the appreciation to the Word.

As a result, one experiences the work of the Trinity of God that can be described as the job in military, namely General, Centurion, and Soldier as follows.

1. The General refers to Father God.

The work of Father God is giving command, namely sending Jesus to the world for saving sinful people. All men in the world have sinned and they cannot help themselves to finish the sins. Only Jesus, the one sinless man, is able to save the sinners.

2. The Centurion refers to the Son of God.

The works of the Son of God are as follows.

- a. Saying one word to perform the healing.

Jesus' work is being dead on the cross and saying "It is finished". Jesus must die on the cross to bear the death or the punishment for the sinners. As a result, He can release the sinners from the judgment of sin and death. It means that Jesus has become a reconciliation offering.

- b. Commanding: "Go!", "Come!"

**John 16:7**

*16:7. "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.*

"Go!" means that Jesus died, rose, and ascended to heaven to send the soldier, namely Holy Spirit to the world. He sent Holy Spirit to accompany us because we are as orphans after He ascended to heaven. Holy Spirit is called as *parakletos*, namely someone who stands beside us to help us.

"Come!" refers to the fullness of Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit comes to fill up our life.

**Matthew 3:11**

*3:11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

Jesus Himself will baptize, lead, anoint, and fill us up with Holy Spirit.

**Genesis 1:2**

*1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

The requirement of being baptized of Holy Spirit or getting the infilling of Holy Spirit is humbling ourselves as low as possible because Holy Spirit hovers over the face of the waters. It means as follows.

- Being baptized of water.

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- Confessing all sins to God and others, so that the sins are nailed on the cross, forgiven, and finished by the blood of Jesus.
- Feeling unable to do anything.

### 3. The soldier refers to Holy Spirit.

“Do this!” refers to the work of Holy Spirit.

#### **Romans 8:26**

*8:26. Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

The work of Holy Spirit is helping us from our fleshy weaknesses. There are at least three kinds of fleshy weakness as follows.

#### a. Tending to do sinful or fleshy deeds.

##### **Galatians 5:19-21**

*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.*

It means spiritual paralysis or one cannot do spiritual deeds. For example, one cannot serve to God.

##### **Romans 8:13**

*8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

We need Holy Spirit, so that we get the eternal life.

#### b. Being unable to finish many problems that are heaped as a mountain.

##### **Zechariah 4:6-7**

*4:6 So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.*

*4:7 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"'"*

We often become disappointed and leave God when we are facing the heap of problems. The mountain causes inability to move forward. It means a paralyzed or gloomy future life.

Holy Spirit can make the mountain plain or help us from all problems, so that we can see our good future life.

#### c. Being unable to pray or worship God.

##### **Romans 8:26-28**

*8:26. Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

8:27 *Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*

8:28 *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

Human was blown by the Spirit of God after being created. Thus, the Spirit of God is the 'mother' of our spirit. Our spirit always desires to have fellowship with and worship God. One's soul will be tormented and paralyzed, even dead spiritually if he cannot worship God.

Holy Spirit helps us to worship God as if we stretch our hands to Him. As a result, He will also stretch His hand to make all things in our life good. Moreover, we will be made perfect someday.

God blesses you.

*(taken from Youth Service, Saturday, June 10, 2006,  
preached by Rev. WidjajaHendra)*

### **Mark 7:24-26**

7:24. *From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be hidden.*

7:25 *For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His feet.*

7:26 *The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.*

Mark 7:24-30 talks about the bread for the Gentiles.

Actually, Jesus' coming for the Gentiles is a secret. If they have a desire to see Jesus, He will reveal the secret of His coming.

The desire to see Jesus means desiring the Word.

The conditions of the Gentiles who are without the Word are as follows.

1. As a girl who had an unclean spirit, demon, the spirit of Satan or disobedience.

### **Ephesians 2:2**

2:2 *in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,*

### **Hebrews 10: 25-27**

10:25 *not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

10:26 *For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,*

10:27 *but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.*

The facts found in it are as follows.

- Disobedience to God, namely unfaithfulness even leaving the service and ministry to Him, and sinning.
- Disobedience to and resisting against the parents.

**Ephesians 6: 2-3**

*6:2 "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:*

*6:3 "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."*

If we obey our parents, we will rejoice and have long age, even eternal life in heaven. On the contrary, disobedience to the parents will cause sorrow and short age or there is no future life, but forever perdition.

2. As a dog that likes licking the vomit, namely corrupt and idle words such as lie, slander, and unclean words. It means that the whole life is unclean and full of sin.

**Mark 7: 27-30**

*7:27 But Jesus said to her, "Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."*

*7:28 And she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs."*

*7:29 Then He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter."*

*7:30 And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.*

For getting the solution, the Gentiles must have a desire to meet Jesus or hear the Word. The right attitude in hearing the Word is saying "Yes, Lord." It means as follows.

- a. Hearing the Word with a need and always justifying it or receiving it with humble heart although it is not in line with our flesh.
- b. Confessing our sins and weaknesses.

As a result, we will experience the sanctification done by the power of the Word and our life becomes useful. Formerly, we were as a dog licking the vomit, but now we willingly lick the crumbs or consuming the Word and speaking according to it. We have faith in our life.

The good attitude towards the Word is the same as the worship to God with our faith and holiness as if we stretch out our two hands to God. As a result, God will also stretch out His merciful hand to perform miracle for us.

**Matthew 15:27-28**

*15:27 And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."*

*15:28 Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.*

There is nothing impossible for God. If we have been sanctified, our will must be in line with the will of God and He can say "Let it be done to you as you desire". Until the highest miracle can happen, namely we become the same as Him in the perfection as his bride.

God blesses you.

*(taken from Youth Service, Saturday, June 17, 2006,  
preached by Rev. WidjajaHendra)*

Mark 7:24-30 talks about the bread for the Gentiles.

**Mark 7:27-30**

*7:27 But Jesus said to her, "Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."*

*7:28 And she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs."*

*7:29 Then He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter."*

*7:30 And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.*

The Gentiles are unworthy to eat the bread or receive the Word. The characteristics of the Gentiles are the same as dog and sow. The dog refers to evil sins and the sow refers to uncleanness ones. The Gentiles only live in the sins of evil and uncleanness. Consequently, they may not eat the bread of life. It means that they cannot get the eternal life, but perdition.

**Revelation 22:14-15**

*22:14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.*

*22:15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.*

The dog means false prophets as well as the Gentiles who keep on living in evil and uncleanness sins, so they cannot enter New Jerusalem.

**Acts 13:46**

*13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles."*

Nevertheless, a part of Israel has rejected the Word. There is an open opportunity like the eye of a needle for the Gentiles, so that they can eat the Word. This opportunity must be used as well as possible. The opportunity for the Gentiles comes from these two sides.

1. A part of Israel rejected the Word, so the opportunity to eat the Word is open for the Gentiles. If the Gentiles reject it through joking in hearing the Word, they will get disaster.
2. From our own life.

As for us, we must have a longing and need to the Word as well as appreciate it more than anything. For example, a woman confessed that a dog also licked the crumbs. We must willingly appreciate every crumb of the Word.

Consuming or eating the Word means that we hear it seriously, understand, believe in it to become faith in our heart, and obey it. The results are as follows.

1. The work of faith or the deeds that are in line with the Word.  
For example, not cheating at school and not deceiving others.
2. The words of faith.

**John 15:7**

*15:7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."*

We must pay attention to our attitude towards the Word. We can say the words of faith when we appreciate and need the Word more than anything or we can consume it. In such condition, our prayer is lifted up with the faith and we will get the mercy of God to answer it.

The words of faith have happened from age to age as follows.

- a. The first age or the one of Father God. It was counted for two thousand years from Adam to Abraham.

For example, Abraham obeyed the Word and had the words of faith after God had commanded him to offer Isaac, his only son. Abraham said to his young men "I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." This refers to the words of faith.

**Genesis 22:5**

*22:5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."*

If the Gentiles can eat the Word, they will also have the words of faith like Abraham's. The words of faith of Abraham made him meet JehovahJireh, or God the Creator. He is able to create something that does not exist yet and make impossible things possible. The destroyed things can be made good.

**Genesis 22:12**

*22:12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."*

- b. The middle age or the one of the Son of God that was counted for two thousand years from Abraham to Jesus' first coming.

**Mark 7:29-30**

*7:29 Then He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter."*

*7:30 And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.*

If the dog has eaten the bread, there will be the words of faith. On the contrary, there will be no words of faith if we have not eaten the bread. Consequently, the prayer has not been answered by God yet. The mother had the words of faith, appreciated, and obeyed the Word. The words of her faith equal to the prayer. She could get the grace to meet Jesus, the Great Shepherd.

**Matthew 15:24**

*15:24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*

The Gentiles who have eaten the bread of life will become the sheep of God.

**Matthew 15:28**

*15:28 Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.*

If we meet the Great Shepherd, there will be the preservation of God for our body, soul, and spirit. The proof is evident when we can lie down on the bed [Mark 7:30], namely we have quietness or peace.

**1 Peter 2:25**

*5:25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

Physically, we are preserved in the midst of the world that is full of difficulties. All things cannot be predicted well in the world, but our daily life is preserved up to our future one. King David also confessed "He makes me lie down ..." It means that we have comfortable life in the hand of Great Shepherd.

- c. The last age or the one of Holy Spirit God that is counted for approximately two thousand years from Jesus' first coming to the second one. The Lord has the longsuffering towards us when He has not come a second time yet.

**Revelation 22:20-21**

*22:20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!*

*22:21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."*

If we have the words of faith, there will be the grace of God that brings us to Him, the Heavenly bridegroom. It is the mercy of God for us, the Gentiles.

**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.*

The duty of the Heavenly Bridegroom is washing, cleansing, and renewing us with the teaching Word or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword. The first sharpness is for sanctifying us and the second one is for growing the new part or renewing us. Our whole life is changed little by little until we can be the same as Jesus is. We are glorious and without blemish, saying "Amen, Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" We can meet Him on the glorious clouds to get eternal life forever.

God blesses you.

*(taken from Youth Service, Saturday, June 24, 2006,  
preached by Rev. Widjaja Hendra)*

# Revelation 1:13

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

## **Revelation 1:13**

*1:13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.*

The appearance of Jesus in the glory as The High Priest is signified by these things.

1. Being clothed with a garment down to the feet. It refers to the deeds of righteousness and goodness, or the garment of ministry in the holiness and the anointing of Holy Spirit.
2. Being girded about the chest with a golden band.

We are learning the second one.

## **Isaiah 11:5**

*11:5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.*

The belt means the righteousness and faithfulness.

The chest refers to the heart or love.

Being girded about the chest with a golden band means the righteousness and faithfulness in love. The love is eternal. Thus, the righteousness and faithfulness of Jesus, the High Priest, are also eternal.

As the priests and servants of God, we must serve and minister to Him in the eternal righteousness and faithfulness in love. Do not stop on the way.

The righteousness and faithfulness in love are related to the name of Jesus (Faithful and True).

## **Revelation 19:11**

*19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.*

If we serve and minister to God in the righteousness and faithfulness in love, our whole life, namely the body, soul, and spirit, will be girded with the name of Jesus. As a result, Satan cannot gird our life with sins, problems, temptations, and so on because we have been set free by the name of Jesus.

The Faithful and True has an activity, namely sitting on a white horse. It refers to the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain or the one of building the perfect body of Christ. If we serve and minister to Him in the righteousness and faithfulness in

love, we will be used in the revival of the white horse or the one of Holy Spirit at the latter rain, namely the revival of building the perfect body of Christ.

Actually there are two kinds of spiritual revival as follows.

1. The revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain, namely the one in gospel of salvation [Ephesians 1:13], gospel word, or Good News [Proverbs 25:25].

**Acts 1:8**

*1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

The gospel word preaches Jesus' first coming to die on the cross and save the sinners. Only Jesus, a human who does not sin, can save the sinners. Thus, the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain is the revival in gospel word to call the sinners to believe in Jesus and get the salvation and blessings of God.

**Acts 13:46**

*13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles."*

Actually, the gospel word is only for the house of Israel, but a part of them has rejected it, so the mercy of God and opportunity are opened for the Gentiles. They can receive the gospel of salvation, believe in Jesus, and get the salvation done by the death of Jesus.

The direction of the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain is from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, western countries, eastern ones, up to the end of the earth (Papua).

We have commemorated the death of Jesus to make the salvation we have received firm. Do not be doubtful. The facts found in receiving the gospel of salvation or making our salvation firm are as follows.

- a. Believing in Jesus as the Only Savior.
- b. Repenting or stopping sinning to return to God. Jesus has died to make our sins dead.
- c. Being baptized of water. The right water baptism happens when one who has died to sin or repented is buried in water together with Jesus to rise in new life.
- d. Being baptized of Holy Spirit.  
Water baptism added with Holy Spirit one means being renewed of water and Holy Spirit to result in new or heavenly life in righteousness. Do not keep false things or support the false. It means that we are saved and blessed by God up to our descendants and we can become blessings for others.

2. The revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain, namely the revival in the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ [2 Corinthians 4:3-4], the solid food, the Word that

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is sharper than any two-edged sword [Hebrews 4:12], or the Bride Tidings [Matthew 25:6].

It is the Word preaching the second coming of Jesus in the glory as The King, Heavenly Bridegroom, to choose the saved people, sanctify, and perfect them to become the heavenly bride who is ready to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds.

**Matthew 24:27**

*24:27 "For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

The direction of the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain is from the east (because Bride Tidings was revealed by God to Rev. FG van Gessel completely until his death in Abepura, papua) to the western countries, Samaria, Judea, up to the New Jerusalem or the eternal heavenly kingdom. The house of Israel has rejected Jesus who came for the first time as the son of a carpenter. They are still waiting for the Messiah. The Bride Tidings preaches Jesus who will come a second time as The King or Heavenly Bridegroom. If the house of Israel receive the Bride Tidings, both them and the Gentiles will be one perfect body of Christ or the heavenly bride who is ready to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds up to entering the New Jerusalem.

Thus, the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain is the one of building the body of Christ.

**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.*

It took forty six years to build the physical temple.

The figure four refers to the four commandments written in the first tablet of the two tablets of stone. They arrange our relationship with God.

The figure six refers to the six commandments written in the second tablet of the two tablets of stone. They arrange the relationship between us and our neighbor.

The two tablets of stone are the same as the Law.

Thus, the foundation for building the physical temple is the Law, so it is valid only for the house of Israel. The Gentiles cannot enter the physical temple.

Nevertheless, the building of the spiritual temple takes time for three days.

The three days refer to the death of Jesus.

Thus, the foundation of the building of the spiritual temple is the sacrifice of Christ or God's mercy, so the Gentiles may enter it.

The revival of building the body of Christ is the one in the mercy of God, in which the house of Israel and Gentiles can become one perfect body of Christ or heavenly bride to welcome Jesus' second coming.

Thus, let us commemorate the death of Jesus for being active in the revival for building the body of Christ or the one of God's mercy.

The fact or manifestation of the revival of building the body of Christ is a fellowship or unity as follows.

1. Marriage.

The fellowship of the body of Christ starts from the least one, namely marriage. We must keep the righteousness according to the Word in the beginning of our marriage as well as the holiness and unity. If we have been righteous, holy, and one in the marriage, we will serve to one another. The ministry in the marriage must be according to the right structure or position of each member in it. The husband must love his wife; the wife must obey her husband; the children must obey the parents.

2. Shepherding. The true shepherding begins from the true food and consecration. We must keep the holiness and unity in the shepherding. We will perish because of being pounced by the beast if we go out of the unity in the shepherding. The ministry in the shepherding must be according to the determined positions. Moreover, we can minister to God only because of His mercy. For example, the mother of Moses could nurse the baby Moses. She had not been able to do that because the baby had been thrown away on the river. Then, she was called by the daughter of Pharaoh to nurse Moses. She would do that for sure, regardless of not earning any money. Let us be serious in our ministry because the mercy of God costs the blood of Jesus.

3. Inter-shepherding, up to the unity of the perfect body of Christ internationally between the house of Israel and the Gentiles.

The true fellowship of the body of Christ must heed the True Vine, namely Jesus Himself as the Head or the true teaching Word. We must heed the True Vine or the true teaching Word when we want to get married, serve and minister to God, or join a fellowship. The true teaching Word is written in the Bible, revealed through a verse that explains other verses in the Bible, and obeyed.

The fellowship without the True Vine is the one of dry branches. It can be detected from the dry words, gossip, lie, and so on.

The atmosphere of the building of Christ's body is as follows.

1. Being natural. It means not being forced, of necessity, nor forcing. Do not use any position in church organization to force other people to join a fellowship, or else it will be not natural anymore. The organization is different from the organism.

2. Fearing the Lord, living in righteousness, and hating sins.

**Haggai 1:12**

*1:12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and*

*the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him; and the people feared the presence of the LORD.*

3. Being faithful and fervent in spirit because of the encouragement of the Word and sacrifice of Christ.

**Haggai 1:14**

*1:14 So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,*

4. Being strong and of good courage.

**Haggai 2:4**

*2:4 'Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the LORD, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the LORD of hosts.*

We are not disappointed or hopeless and do not leave God, regardless of anything we have to face. We keep on holding fast the true teaching Word, regardless of any risk we have to take. We keep on believing and hoping in Him.

5. The atmosphere of shaking or crises in many fields of life.

**Haggai 2:6-7**

*2:6 "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land;*

*2:7 'and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts.*

God allows the crises to happen to make us not rely on the world. The building of Christ's body must rely on the true teaching Word and God's mercy. The late Rev. In Juwono always said that we would not be defeated by money in our ministering to God if we brought the true teaching Word. Thus, we will never ask for any money, owe, or steal, but minister to God in the atmosphere of His mercy.

If the revival of building the body of Christ is in the mercy, we will be able to reach the peak of the revival of building Christ's body, namely the worship or the relationship between Head and the body.

**Psalms 5:7**

*5:7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.*

The peak of the revival in God's mercy is the one in worship. Ministering to God without the worship means that there is no mercy of God, but our own power. Consequently, we cannot do anything.

### **John 4:23-24**

4:23 *"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.*

4:24 *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

### **John 17:17**

17:17 *"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.*

The requirements of the true worship are as follows.

1. Being encouraged by the truth and spirit, namely the true teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit. It is the teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword to sanctify us, from our heart to our whole life.

#### **Matthew 15:19**

15:19 *"For out of the heart proceed (1)evil thoughts, (2)murders, (3)adulteries, (4)fornications, (5)thefts, (6>false witness, (7)blasphemies.*

The heart will be dark if it is ruled over by the seven evil and unclean lusts. Moreover, one cannot control his life and he becomes the same as dog and swine. On the contrary, our lamp will be burnt and the eyes of our heart will shine, so that we will be able to see and worship the Lord, if our heart has been sanctified from the seven evil and unclean lusts.

#### **Matthew 5:8**

5:8 *Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.*

The worship is not about the place where we can pray, but our holy heart. If our heart is holy, we will be able to worship God.

2. Worshiping God with humble heart.

#### **Psalms 95:6**

95:6 *Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.*

We confess that we are neither able nor worthy because of many mistakes we have. We confess that we cannot do anything because we are only clay. We only rely on God's mercy. It is especially for the Gentiles who are the same as the woman of Canaan confessing that she was useless and meaningless as unworthy dog.

As a result, we experience the power of renewal from fleshy man to spiritual one as Jesus is, even we can be as perfect and glorious as Him. We become the heavenly bride or New Jerusalem.

#### **Revelation 21:9-11**

21:9 *Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."*

21:10 *And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,*

21:11 *having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.*

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The beginning of the renewal is through the worship until we can be as a jasper stone, clear as crystal. It means being honest to say "yes" if yes and "no" if no. The beginning of honesty is about God or teachings. If we can be honest about the teachings, we will be able to be honest about marriage and finance, even all things. Being as clear as crystal also refers to the tested pure faith or full belief in God.

Let us be girded with the honesty and pure faith through the worship. It means that we are girded with the grace and mercy of God.

On the contrary, not having the honesty and pure faith, but a doubt, one is girded by Satan with sins, problems, and so on.

### **John 8:2,4,11**

*8:2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them.*

*8:4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.*

*8:11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."*

The woman was in fear, shame, failure, uncleanness, destroyed marriage, and without any hope as if she was girded by Satan when she was caught in adultery. Nevertheless, she could be honest in confessing her sin. As a result, there was help and restoration from God. The death of Jesus will deliver us from the girding of Satan and gird us with the mercy of God.

The other example is the woman of Canaan, whose daughter was demon-possessed. Her life was the same as a dog. Her marriage and daughter were destroyed, but she honestly confessed her sin and condition that was as the dog. She also honestly confessed the truth of the Word and believed or had faith in Jesus. As a result, she got the help from the Lord.

### **John 11:39-40**

*11:39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."*

*11:40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"*

Lazarus had been dead for four days. "Take away the stone" means honestly confessing all rotten things before God. Do not cover the rottenness with a hard stone, or else the destruction will become greater. If we have the honesty and faith in the Lord, the mercy of God will be able to help us although we face rottenness and impossibility.

### **Matthew 8:5-8,10**

*8:5 Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him,*

*8:6 saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."*

*8:7 And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."*

*8:8 The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.*

*8:10 When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"*

The paralyzed servant of a centurion of the Gentiles can be helped by God. We only need to be honest and believing. The Gentiles often get the paralysis, especially on the bed that refers to uncleanness and destruction in marriage and children. Nevertheless, God is able to help us until we become His bride. The death of the Lord delivers us from the girding of Satan, even it girds us with honesty and faith, until the mercy of God comes upon us.

God blesses you.

*(taken from Good Friday Service in Malang, April 18, 2014,  
preached by Rev. Widjaja Hendra)*

## *The Power of Passover*

Peace and grace in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. We celebrate the Passover to commemorate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus and experience the power to defeat the death.

### **Revelation 1:14**

*1:14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;*

It is about the appearance of Jesus in glory as The King of all kings.

The signs are as follows.

1. His head and hair are white like wool, as white as snow.
2. His eyes are like a flame of fire.

We learn the first part.

John the apostle saw the head and hair of Jesus that are white like wool on Patmos Island. It was also seen by Daniel.

### **Daniel 7:9**

*7:9 "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire;*

Daniel saw Jesus with His white hair and He sat on the throne of Heaven.

### **Proverbs 16:31**

*16:31 The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness.*

White hair is a crown that is found in the way of righteousness.

Thus, Jesus has the crown of righteousness and sits on the throne of Heaven. It means that He is The King of all kings. Only life that has the crown of

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righteousness will be able to sit together with Jesus on the throne of Heaven. Therefore, we must struggle since we are inside the womb, during our childhood and youth life, until we have the white hair or old age, even until the end line, namely we pass away or Jesus comes a second time, to be able to get the crown of righteousness. As a result, we can sit together with Jesus on the throne of Heaven forever.

### **Romans 3: 9-13,15,18**

*3:9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.*

*3:10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;*

*3:11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.*

*3:12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."*

*3:13 "Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips";*

*3:15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood;*

*3:18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."*

Nevertheless, the fact is all people, both the Israelites and the Gentiles, children and old people, have sinned. Nothing is righteous from the top of the head to the sole of the feet, even to the deepest feeling.

How can we get the crown of righteousness?

### **Romans 4: 25**

*4:25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.*

Jesus must die on the cross (we commemorate it in Good Friday Service) to redeem our sins. And He is raised (Passover) to justify all of us, so that we can live in righteousness until we get the crown of righteousness. We celebrate the Passover in order to get the power, namely the power of Jesus' resurrection encouraging us to struggle from we were inside our mother's womb to the old age. Do not struggle only for physical things in the world because all things we get in the world without the crown of righteousness are in vain, even they will be destroyed forever.

There are three levels of righteousness as follows.

1. Righteousness because of forgiveness of our sins by the blood of Jesus.

The process is as follows.

- Our heart believes and we have faith in Jesus.

#### **Romans 10:17**

*10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

The true faith comes from hearing the Word that is anointed by Holy Spirit. Preaching or hearing the Word must be in the anointing of Holy Spirit so that it becomes faith in our heart.

If the Word is preached or heard only based on logic, intelligence, knowledge, and experience, it will only become knowledge and cause

the debate that will make the faith fall and there will be perdition. Therefore, we must hear the Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit so that we can hear it earnestly with a need, understand, and believe in it to become faith in our heart.

- Our mouth confesses the name of Jesus.

**Romans 10:10**

*10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

If our heart believes, our mouth will confess the name of Jesus. It means confessing our sins solemnly to God (vertical line) and the others (horizontal line).

**1 John 1:7**

*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.*

Thus the blood of Jesus will actively forgive our sin and cover it, so there are no remains, as if we never do it. His blood also sanctifies us from all sins and pulls out the roots of sins so that we stop sinning and return to God or repent.

Celebrating the Passover is for getting the power to encourage us to repent.

**Jeremiah 9:5-6**

*9:5 Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; They weary themselves to commit iniquity.*

*9:6 Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me," says the Lord.*

The beginning of repentance is not lying. It equals to confessing our sins. Lying means hardening the heart and not willingly confessing the sins. It will be continued with being lazy to repent, unwilling to repent, until being unable to repent and becoming the same as Satan. There is no truth in such person.

A person whose heart is hard will cover the sin with lie in order not to get any punishment. A liar will store up sins with sins, lies with lies. He seems to be free for a while, but actually he is treasuring up the wrath of God and will be destroyed forever when the time of His judgment comes.

**Romans 2:5**

*2:5 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,*

2. Righteousness because of being set free from sins.

Being set free from sins means we do not sin although there are chances, benefits, threats, and so on.

### **1 John 3:9**

*3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.*

For being set free from sins, we must be born of God or experience new birth through water baptism. There is power of Passover or resurrection of Jesus in the water baptism.

### **1 Peter 3:19-21**

*3:19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison,*

*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,*

The true water baptism happens when one who has died to sin or repented is buried or dived in water together with Jesus to raise in new life. We experience the renewal of our conscience from the bad conscience to the good one.

A bad conscience tends to do sin up to its peak, that is sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse and marrying-being given in marriage or sexuality sin with all its kinds, sexual deviation, wrong marriage, mixed marriage, and remarrying.

Let us pray that the power of Passover helps us so that we will not live in such sins anymore. A good conscience does not do sins anymore, regardless of any risk we have to take, and although there are chances, benefits, threats, and so on. We are set free from sins.

### **Revelation 21:8**

*21:8 But (1)the cowardly, (2)unbelieving, (3)abominable, (4)murderers, (5)sexually immoral, (6)sorcerers, (7)idolaters, and all (8)liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”*

Especially, we are set free from eight sins that will bring us directly to the sea of fire and brimstone or the hell as follows.

- Being coward means being afraid or worried of something until one does not have the fear of the Lord, but sins and resists against Him.
- Not believing; being doubtful.
- Being abominable and evil.
- Murdering and hating without any reasons.
- Being sexually immoral.
- Sorcerers.
- Idolaters.
- Liars.

Celebrating the Passover is for receiving the power of the Passover or Jesus' resurrection that will encourage us to be dived in the true water

baptism. As a result, we will have a good conscience and be set free from sins, so we will not be drowned into the lake of fire and brimstone or the hell.

If we are set free from the eight sins, we will be the same as the eight people entering the ark of Noah.

The facts found in being set free from sins are as follows.

- Living in righteousness in all aspects of our life, regardless of any risk we have to take.
- Being without blemish. It means honesty or we say 'yes' if yes and 'no' if no. Especially we must be honest in the matter of the teachings, regardless of any risk we have to take.

**Titus 2:7**

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

If we can be honest in this matter, we will be honest in all things.

- Walking with God or being shepherded.  
The ark of Noah refers to shepherding. If we live in righteousness and honesty, it will not be difficult to be well and correctly shepherded.

Being well and correctly shepherded means we always dwell in the shepherding pen. It refers to the Holy Place of Tabernacle, where there are three kinds of equipment. Now, they denote the perseverance in three main services or feasts as follows.

- a. Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in His Word and the sacrifice of Christ. It equals to Passover Feast that is marked with figure seven.

**Leviticus 23:5-6**

*23:5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the Lord's Passover.*

*23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.*

- b. Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts. It equals to the Pentecost Feast or the day of the firstfruits that is also marked with figure seven.

**Leviticus 23:15-16**

*23:15 'And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed.*

*23:16 Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord.*

- c. Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love. It equals to the Feast of Tabernacles that is also marked with

figure seven.

**Leviticus 23:34**

*23:34 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD.*

If we walk with God or we are rightly and well shepherded, our body, soul, and spirit will attach to God the Trinity. We will also be marked with 777, so the antichrist cannot give the mark 666. We are led to the perfect body, soul, and spirit. We are set free from the judgment of God to the world and the one in hell.

3. Being righteous as Jesus is righteous.

**1 John 3:7**

*3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.*

The process is being newly born by Holy Spirit, or experiencing Holy Spirit baptism.

The results of Holy Spirit baptism are as follows.

- Being faithful and righteous as well as fervent in spirit in ministering to God.

**Romans 12:11**

*12:11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;*

If one is lagging in diligence in ministering to God, he will lose the crown of righteousness, fall in sins up to the peak, and be burning in the lust.

- Being obedient to the true teaching Word, until our flesh does not speak anymore, regardless of any risk we have to take.

**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."*

If we obey the true teaching Word, we will get the results as follows.

- a. We cannot sin as Jesus does not sin.

**1 John 3:9**

*3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.*

- b. We cannot be deceived.

**1 John 3:7**

*3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.*

If one is disobedient, he will fall and lose his way for sure. On the contrary, we will not sin or fall in sin or be deceived if we are obedient. We will be as righteous as Jesus is, until we receive the crown of righteousness.

A pastor must take the responsibility in preaching the Word. If a pastor sins, he himself will enter the hell. Nevertheless, if he preaches false teachings, all members of the congregation will be deceived and destroyed.

Therefore, we must struggle for living in righteousness, repenting, being well and correctly shepherded, being faithful and obedient since we are in the womb, as child, adult, until old. As a result, our position is as a baby in the embrace of God's merciful hands.

**Isaiah 46:3-4**

*46:3 "Listen to Me, O house of Jacob, And all the remnant of the house of Israel, Who have been upheld by Me from birth, Who have been carried from the womb:*

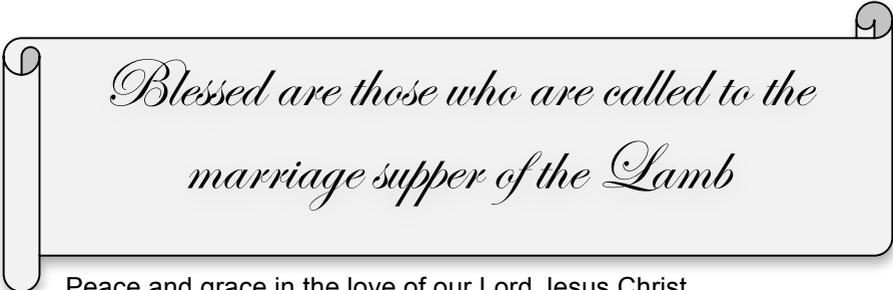
*46:4 Even to your old age, I am He, And even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; Even I will carry, and will deliver you.*

The power of Passover moves us from the hand of Satan or the death to the embrace of the merciful hand of God or the nail-pierced hand with the power of resurrection. The results are as follows.

1. God bears us. It means that He is responsible for our life and death. He determines our life and death. The merciful hands of God are able to care our life physically in the midst of impossibilities. We are as a baby in the wilderness and Daniel in the den of lions. The merciful hands of God care our health and economy. They also preserve our spiritual life so that we can live in the righteousness and holiness in the midst of sin peak on the last days. Our marriage is preserved, so that it keeps righteous and holy until it becomes perfect.
2. God carries all our weariness and heavy burdens, so we can live in peace. It means that we live in the embrace of His merciful hands and all things become easy and light. His merciful hands solve all problems, even the impossible ones. We will not lose our way. Our life will keep on reaching New Jerusalem.
3. God upholds or lifts us up and makes everything successful and beautiful in His time. He lifts up and heals us from all falls. He also uses us in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain.
4. God saves us, so we can be as righteous and holy as Jesus is. We will be as perfect as Jesus is and lifted up on the glorious clouds when He comes a second time. We can sit together with Him on the throne of heaven forever.

God blesses us.

*(taken from Passover Service in Malang, April 20, 2014,  
preached by Rev. Widjaja Hendra)*



*Blessed are those who are called to the  
marriage supper of the Lamb*

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

The theme is "Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

**Revelation 19: 9**

*19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."*

The Bible starts with the book of Genesis that contains the physical marriage between Adam and Eve. A marriage is the glorious gift of God only to human. The marriage of Adam and Eve was joyful and beautiful in the Garden Eden, but it was corrupted by the sin. Consequently, they were naked, ashamed, and driven out of Eden to enter the world which was in the atmosphere of curse, misery, sorrow, and tears. Nevertheless, the marriage was not better in the world. It decreased and became more corrupted than the first one, including the marriage of the sons and servants of God. Finally, they were naked and did not feel ashamed like dogs and swine.

The number of the victims of the First and Second World War could be counted, but the one of the destroyed and naked marriage cannot. The destroyed marriage is in the curse. It is going to the eternal condemnation in the hell.

There is no power, riches, intelligence, good position, and so on in the world that is able to mend the destroyed marriage that is going to the perdition. Therefore, Jesus must come to the world, die on the cross, and rise to correct or restore the destroyed marriage so that it can reach the perfect and spiritual one.

The Bible is ended with the book of Revelation that contains the spiritual or perfect marriage, namely the marriage supper of the Lamb. This is God's grace for us.

The marriage supper of the Lamb is the meeting between Jesus, the last Adam, the Head, Husband, or Heavenly Bridegroom and the congregation, the perfect body of Christ, or heavenly bride, on the glorious clouds. The meeting refers to the spiritual and perfect marriage between Jesus, the Heavenly Bridegroom, and the congregation or the heavenly bride. Afterwards, we enter the Future Paradise or the One thousand-year kingdom of peace, up to the New Jerusalem or heavenly kingdom, and we are with God forever.

One of the meanings of Passover is deliverance.

In the Old Testament, Passover was the deliverance of the house of Israel out of Egypt to Canaan.

In the New Testament, it is the deliverance of the perfect Church out of the world to the New Jerusalem.

There are three steps of Israel's deliverance out of Egypt to Canaan that prophesy the three steps of the Church's going out of the world to the New Jerusalem as follows.

1. The deliverance of Israel out of Egypt by the power of the blood of Passover lamb.

**Exodus 12: 21-23, 29**

*12:21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover lamb.*

*12:22 "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning.*

*12:23 "For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you.*

*12:29 And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock.*

All of the firstborn of Egyptians were dead at midnight because there was no blood on the doors of their houses. On the contrary, there was no death in the house of Israelites because of the blood of the Passover lamb. Moreover, they could go out of Egypt by the power of the blood of the Passover lamb.

**1 Corinthians 5: 7-8, 11**

*5:7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.*

*5:8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

*5:11 But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral<sup>(1)</sup>, or covetous<sup>(2)</sup>, or an idolater<sup>(3)</sup>, or a reviler<sup>(4)</sup>, or a drunkard<sup>(5)</sup>, or an extortioner<sup>(6)</sup>—not even to eat with such a person.*

The blood of the Passover lamb [verse 7] prophesies the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God. The Church of God must have the deliverance from sin or death by the blood of Jesus, or else the destiny will only be like Egypt in the death. The blood of Jesus is able to deliver us from six ingrained sins [verse 11] that rule over our body, soul, and spirit as follows.

- a. The sins binding the body, namely the drunkard or the sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse as well as the sexually immoral or sins concerning marrying-being given in marriage such as sexuality sin with all its kinds, sexual deviation, sexuality to one's self, and wrong marriage.
- b. The sins binding the soul and becoming the characteristics, namely the covetous or inability to give or enter the building of the body of Christ, the reviler or considering the right as the false and vice versa, the extortioner or lie.
- c. The sin binding the spirit, namely the idolater or charm, fortune-telling, something that hinders us to love God or serve to Him, and disobedience.

Being ruled over by the six ingrained sins, one will be dry and dead in the spirituality. If it is continued, he will rot and produce worms, even perish in the hell. Let the power of the blood of Jesus we get in celebrating the Passover deliver us from the six ingrained sins, so that we can live in the sincerity and truth [verse 8].

**Psalm 5: 12**

*5:12 For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.*

As a result, we feel the shield of God's blessings and grace that surrounds us up to our descendants. Moreover, we can be the blessings for others and the curse as well as the judgment of God which is to come cannot enter our life.

2. The deliverance of Israel from the Red Sea.

The house of Israel was in pressure or distress in the wilderness after they had gone out of Egypt. They had to face the Red Sea in front of them and Pharaoh and his soldiers behind them. Logically, they would have died for sure. We often face such condition after we believe in Jesus and have the deliverance from sins.

**Exodus 14: 15**

*14:15 And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.*

Facing the Red Sea or problems and temptations, the house of Israel cried. It means being noisy, grumbling, blaming at one another, and telling the problems to other people. Consequently, the problem was not solved.

Nevertheless, God said to them to go forward. It means that we must only surrender and obey the Word when we are facing the problems or temptations. Do not resist the Word.

If we try to solve the problem by transgressing the Word or looking for the solution that is not in line with the Word, it will not be the real solution, even we will find dead-end and perdition.

**Exodus 14: 16, 21**

*14:16 "But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. 14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*

The way God helps us is by commanding Moses to lift up the rod and stretch out the hand over the sea. Then, the strong east wind blew to divide the waters of the sea and the house of Israel could walk on the dry ground. The rod refers to the cross.

**John 16: 7**

*16:7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.*

Moses lifted up the rod and stretched out his hand over the sea. It prophesies Jesus' death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension to heaven for pouring out Holy Spirit or the Spirit of Helper that cannot be limited.

Let us lift up the rod or exalt the cross every time we face the temptation or difficulty. It means that we exalt or appreciate the sacrifice of Christ so that Holy Spirit is poured out to us. As a result, the power of Passover namely the Holy Spirit is able to set us free from the problems or temptations, even the impossible ones.

**1 Peter 4: 1-2**

*4:1 Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,*

*4:2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God..*

The facts found in exalting the cross are as follows.

- a. [verse 1]Willingly suffering in the flesh to stop sinning and live in the righteousness.  
Keep the righteousness, starting from our private life, marriage, study, job, and so on!
- b. [verse 2] Willingly suffering in the flesh to obey the will of God or the Word although it is not in line with our logic, regardless of any risk we have to take.
- c. Willingly suffering in the flesh without any sin.

**1 Peter 4: 12-14**

*4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;*

*4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.*

*4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.*

For example, we suffer in the flesh because of serving and ministering to God, being slandered, and so on.

As a result, Holy Spirit will come and we experience the power of Passover. He is able to make the way in the sea. It means that He is able to give solution from all problems, even the impossible ones. He is able to open the beautiful and joyful future life.

3. The deliverance from Jordan River to Canaan.

**Joshua 3: 14-17**

*3:14 So it was, when the people set out from their camp to cross over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people,*

*3:15 and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest),*

*3:16 that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho.*

*3:17 Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan..*

The deliverance from Jordan River refers to the last deliverance because they entered Canaan after that.

Moses delivered the house of Israel from Egypt with the sign of blood and took them outside Red Sea with the rod. It refers to the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain or the one for building the perfect body of Christ or God's bride and delivering her from the world to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb, the One thousand-year kingdom of peace, and the New Jerusalem.

The revival for entering Canaan was led by the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant consists of two parts as follows.

- a. The mercy seat and the two cherubim were made of pure gold [Exodus 25: 15-18].

The pure gold refers to godly things. The first cherub refers to Father God or the Lord. The mercy seat with the sprinkling of blood refers to the Son of God or Jesus. The second cherub refers to Holy Spirit God or Christ.

Thus, the mercy seat refers to the Lord Jesus Christ in the glory as the Heavenly Bridegroom.

- b. The ark was made of shittim wood overlaid with gold. The black shittim wood refers to the sinners that must be overlaid with the pure gold or the Word, Holy Spirit, and the love, until the wood could not be seen anymore. This is the perfect Church or heavenly bride.

Thus, the Ark of the Covenant refers to the relationship between the Heavenly Bridegroom and Bride or the Bride Tidings.

Actually, there are two kinds of the preaching of the Word as Jesus has given the example and Paul has taught as follows.

- 1) The gospel of salvation [Ephesians 1:13]/ gospel Word/ milk/ Good News [Proverbs 25:25].

It preaches Jesus' first coming to die on the cross and save the sinners.

- 2) The light of the gospel of the glory of Christ [2 Corinthians 4:3-4]/ the true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword/ solid food/ Bride Tidings.

It preached Jesus' second coming in the glory as the King of all kings and Heavenly Bridegroom to sanctify and transform the saved people into the perfect body of Christ or heavenly bride.

Formerly, all the firstborn of Egyptians were dead at midnight. We can read in Matthew 25 that at midnight a cry was heard: *'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!'* It means that the only one tidings we need at midnight or in the last days is Bride Tidings so that we will not perish. It is the true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword or the revelation of God's Word through a verse that explains other verses in the Bible.

The right attitude towards the Ark of the Covenant is bearing it.

The Ark of the Covenant had ever been put on a cart for carrying it in easier way. Consequently, it stumbled and Uzzah tried to hold it with his hand. It means mixing the teaching Word with the hand of human or knowledge and other things. It will cause a spiritual death. Let us only believe in the Word and receive it.

Bearing the ark on the shoulders means we take the responsibility to do or obey the Word and testify the Bride Tidings.

If the Bride Tidings is obeyed in our life journey, the water of Jordan River will be divided or we will get a double sanctification [Joshua 3:16] as follows.

- a. The waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off. It refers to the sanctification done by the sword of the Word to the past sins.

The sins that have been committed must be confessed and accounted for. We must not repeat them after being forgiven.

- b. The waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap. It refers to the sanctification from the future or the snare of sin, namely the sins ensnaring in front of us.

Be careful! Satan sets the snare of sin at the place we usually pass through. Therefore, we need the sword of the Word to set us free from the snare of sin.

If we keep on being sanctified doubly, someday we will be as perfect as Jesus is.

### **James 3: 2**

*3:2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.*

The sign of the perfect life is being without lie, even he does not stumble in word.

### **Revelation 19: 6-7**

*19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 19:7 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."*

The one perfect body of Christ only has one language and one voice, namely "Alleluia."

### **Hebrews 12: 1-2**

*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,*

*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.*

If we are sanctified by the true teaching Word from the weight of past sin and the sin which so easily ensnares us, our eyes will only look upon Jesus, the High Priest, who sits at the right side of Father God. His face shines as the sunshine. It refers to the mercy and grace of God. As a result, He will perform the miracles in the midst of us.

The physical miracles will happen like the house of Israel that could walk on the dry ground and the root that goes out of dry ground.

### **Isaiah 53: 1-3**

*53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?*

*53:2 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.*

*53:3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him..*

The root refers to a powerless life that is able to pass through the stone and grow without being known or hindered by others. Moreover, it cannot be imitated by others. The power of Passover or the true teaching Word is able to perform the miracles and nothing will be impossible.

The spiritual miracle, namely the life renewal from fleshy men to spiritual ones, can happen. It starts from the face. Jesus willingly had the marred visage on the cross to make our face shine.

**Isaiah 52: 13-14**

*52:13 Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.*

*52:14 Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men;*

The bad face as dog and swine's means the fall in sin. It is also the face of Satan. Such face can be changed into the shining one.

The pale face because of fear and worry can be changed into the shining one. Moreover, the sad face because of sorrow, hopelessness, and no hope can also be changed into the shining one.

For example, a woman who was caught in adultery had a bad, pale, and sad face. She was brought to Jesus and He was able to help and illuminate her. Likewise, He will help and illuminate us until we have the shining face and are changed to be as glorious as Jesus is when He comes a second time. Our face shines like the sun and our mouth only cries "Alleluia."

**Revelation 19: 6-7, 9**

*19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!*

*19:7 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."*

*19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."*

We are delivered from the world to look upon Jesus on the glorious clouds. We are with Him forever.

God blesses you.

*(taken from Passover Service in Surabaya, April 15, 2013,  
preached by Rev. WidjajaHendra)*

# Hyssop

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

## **Exodus 12: 22-23**

*12:22 "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning.*

*12:23 "For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you.*

The hyssop is similar to the grass or moss. It refers to the human.

## **1 Peter 1: 24-25**

*1:24 because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,*

*1:25 But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.*

Without the Word, the human is perishable. Hyssop is the weakest among all kinds of grass, but it was chosen by God to strike the lintel and the two doorposts of the houses of Israel with the blood to bring in salvation. Thus, the hyssop refers to one who is weak or meek, but chosen by God to spread the news of salvation or reconciliation. S/he is used by God as His servant.

## **1 Corinthians 1: 25-29**

*1:25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*

*1:26 For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.*

*1:27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;*

*1:28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,*

*1:29 that no flesh should glory in His presence.*

'For you see' means that we must not forget the condition when we were called to minister to God. If we forget it, we will be arrogant and forget God. In such condition, we are in disaster and perdition.

Why does God call the weak and despicable or the people who are not esteemed?

1. Because He puts to shame the things which are mighty or the people are intelligent, and so on.

Ministering to God must not rely on any power, intelligence, title, pride, and so on. The use of God to someone does not rely on anything in the world. Do not rely on anything in the world.

2. Because He wants us not to be proud of anything, so that we will never fall.

3. In order to make us rely on God's grace and work harder than others.

## **1 Corinthians 15: 9-10**

*15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I*

*persecuted the church of God.*

*15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.*

When we are successful in our ministry, we have to give thanks always to God and confess His grace, so that the new strength is added in us to minister to God. In such condition, we will never be bored of or murmuring in the ministry. Moreover, we will never leave it. On the contrary, we will be weaker in our ministry if we murmur. Finally, we will leave it.

The hyssop must be dipped in the blood in order to be useful to strike the lintel and the two doorposts, so that there is the salvation. If it is not willingly dipped in the blood, it will be dry, dead, and useless. Thus, the hyssop must be dipped or dived in the blood. It means that we can truly understand and enjoy the death experience together with the Lord. Afterwards, it can be used to bring the news of reconciliation, namely the Good News or the gospel of salvation preached to the people who have not known Jesus yet, so that they can believe in Him and get the salvation. Moreover, it can bring the Bride Tidings or the true Teaching Word to the saved people, so that they can enter the building of the perfect Christ' body.

If a servant of God does not willingly experience the death together with Jesus or the hyssop is not willingly dipped in the blood, there will be spiritual dryness. There will be no anointing of Holy Spirit and one cannot do anything. On the contrary, there will be the Spirit of glory that performs the miracles as the result of the hyssop's being dipped in the blood.

#### **1 Peter 4: 12-14**

*4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;*

*4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.*

*4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.*

The Spirit of glory performs the spiritual miracle to change our life from the carnal men to the spiritual ones as Jesus is. It begins from rejoicing in the midst of sufferings, namely we can give thanks. We do not murmur, but become faithful and fervent in spirit when we are suffering. The Spirit of glory is also able to perform the physical miracles. Lazarus who had been dead for four days could be resurrected by the Spirit of glory. All things that have been dead and rotten can be revived and healed by God. He is able to make all things successful and beautiful in its time and there is nothing impossible for Him. We will be changed to be as glorious as Jesus is when He comes a second time. We are lifted up and glorified together with the Lord.

God blesses you.

*(taken from All Night-Long Prayer Service session II – Malang, April 16, 2014, preached by Rev. Widjaja Hendra)*

# The Lord should reform my life first before He helped me

I give thanks to God because of His blessings and grace I have experienced in my life. I will testify that He has helped me finish my study by accomplishing my thesis. I had been so worried of getting an advisor that was supposed as “killer lecturer” before the Head of study program announced it. There were three lecturers in such kind in my study program. Like the experience of the senior students, such lecturers had many requirements in the process of the thesis counseling, so the students could not graduate soon. I prayed to God so that I would not get such advisor. Nevertheless, God permitted me to get two of the three “killer lecturers”. I was happy and sad at the same time. I was sad because I knew that the lecturers would cause difficulties in the counseling process. I was happy because the two best lecturers would advise me in writing my thesis.

I got many problems during the counseling process because the two lecturers had different arguments from one another. The first advisor approved the title and the first, second, and third chapters of my thesis, but the second one rejected it, even he told me to change the title, or else he would not accept my thesis. It meant that I could not continue my thesis to the fourth and fifth chapters. On the contrary, the first advisor would be angry because he authoritatively had the right to determine the title and content of my thesis while the second one only checked the grammar. I was confused about what to do and whom I had to obey. I prayed and asked God to guide me.

Afterwards, I decided to change the title and content of my thesis. My fear came true because the first advisor got angry when I told my decision to change my thesis to him. Moreover, he said that he did not want to be my advisor anymore. It meant that I would not graduate soon. I was so afraid, sad, and angry in such condition. I was really under pressure because of the two lecturers, but I could not do anything. I told all things that happened in my study to Rev. Widjaja and his wife. I asked them to pray for me. After two months, the first lecturer accepted the change of my thesis, up to the third chapter. Nevertheless, a problem came when I was finishing the fourth and fifth chapters. The first advisor did not want to advise me because of many reasons. It happened for one month and two weeks while the registration for thesis examination was opened in one week later. I could not register myself for the examination and graduate this year without the approval of the advisor to the fourth and fifth chapters of my thesis. I felt that my problem had no solution and asked the help of God again.

I did introspection of my life. In the Service of Holy Spirit Filling, I asked for the help of Holy Spirit to show me my sins and weaknesses that had made my problem could not be solved. God showed me my mistake and weakness in the Youth Service that discussed about Jesus’ obedience to the point of death on the

cross. I realized that I was not obedient. I asked for the forgiveness of God, Rev. Widjaja, and his wife. I also asked them to pray for me that I could be obedient to God and my physical as well as spiritual parents.

God helped me only in a short time. Soon after I confessed my sins, I received the message from the first advisor. He asked me to meet him. It was really the help of God because formerly he had never replied all my messages to him due to the change of my thesis. Finally, he accepted my thesis and I could pass the examination and graduate this year with the best mark.

The Word of God is so powerful to help our life. It always says that God is still busy in reforming our life first when He has not answered our prayer and helped us yet. I experienced it when I got the two “killer lecturers” as my thesis advisors in order to change my life. I give thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Dameria Febe Sitanggang, Malang)

## God has arranged my study

I want to testify the love of God in my life.

The first is about my study in Germany. Actually, I had a will to continue my study in Jogjakarta or Surabaya, but my parents and pastor did not permit it. I was angry at that time, but then I could be meek and tried to be obedient. Not so long time after that, Mrs. Wita in Germany offered me to study German there for one year without paying any money. I agreed and went to Germany in 2012. I felt the help of God in my life there. On the first school day, I could not endure because I did not understand what my teacher said. I was hopeless and wanted to go home to Indonesia, but the shepherding Word strengthened me to finish my study for one year in Germany. If God had not helped me, I would have been there for one week only and gone back to Indonesia.

The second is about my study in university after I went back from Germany. I thought that I was unable to pass the admission test to a state university. I had no ability because I had not studied at public school for two years after my graduation from Senior High School. I thought that all materials I had gotten for three years in Senior High School vanished away from my brain. Consequently, I had to study the materials again. For me, it was not easy to do. One day before the admission test, I went to the campus for looking at the place where I would get it. My hands were so cold with trembling although I only looked at the place. The next day, I asked the prayer of Rev. Widjaja and his wife, and then I went to the campus for doing the test. I felt that the prayer strengthened me so much to make me not afraid, but calm. I kept on worshiping God in my heart on the way to go there. The nearer the distance to arrive there was, my heart-beat became faster. I thought I could pass the Academic Potential Test in seventy five percent of certainty. But, I thought I would fail in two hundred percent of certainty for the other tests because I could not answer all the questions correctly. I answered

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them only by my feeling and intuition.

My father phoned me after the test to ask me about that. I wanted to cry because I surely felt that I could not pass the test. That day was Tuesday. I came to the church to do Prayer Service. I cried bitterly to God. I said that I would not pass the test every time my friend or family asked me about that. I also said that it would be a miracle if I passed the test. God's Word always said "SURRENDER TO GOD AND LET HIM MAKE WAR FOR YOU, all things will be good and the miracle will happen for sure." I cried and asked the forgiveness of God because of my disbelief to His power that actually is greater than all things. As a result, I could feel peaceful. I could answer to my friend who asked me that I would surely pass the test because God made war for me. Nevertheless, the sound of my flesh was so strong indeed. I looked for the information of the second test a day before the announcement of the first admission test. God's Word reminded me again in the Morning Prayer Service that He Himself made war for me. Finally, I fully surrender to God. I had prayed to God that He would give me the miracle in my life before I checked the announcement of the result of the test in the website. I got calm and brave to see the result. I saw "CONGRATULATION, YOU PASS." I jumped joyfully and told my parents about that. Afterwards, I cried alone because God really performed His miracle in my life. I would not have passed the admission test if God had not helped me. This is my testimony. I hope it can be blessing for us.

(Sonya Tayomi Hendra, Bondowoso)