

Bible Study Service in Malang, August 18, 2022 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 16:16

16:16. And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

It is about the battle of Armageddon. Armageddon is located at the North of Canaan, namely the hill of Megiddo. It is a place where there has never been a war including the first and second world wars. It is the safest place where the army has never been there, and there is no bullet sound there.

But, on the last days when the seventh bowl of the wrath of God is poured out, Armageddon becomes the battle place. It means that there is no safe place on the earth when the bowl of the wrath of God is poured out. The battle of Armageddon will get bigger up to the one of the world.

Why does the battle of Armageddon have to happen? It is because the descendants of Abraham fight over the land where Abraham sacrifices Isaac, his only son, namely Jerusalem. At this time, Jerusalem in the Middle East is the holy place for some religions, and they will fight over it.

Galatians 4:21-24

4:21. Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law?

4:22. For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman.

4:23. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise,

4:24. which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar--

Hagar is the current Jerusalem. It refers to one who is brought by the sin. God promised Abraham that his son was from Sarah. But, Abraham took Hagar because of his wife and his own lust. The marriage must be in line with the will of God. Do not follow our own lust! We also may not follow the congeniality with the fleshly desire. The marriage that follows the lust and interest of the flesh will make us become the slave of sin. We must obey God.

Galatians 4:26-28,23

4:26. but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.

4:27. For it is written: "Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband."

4:28. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise.

4:23. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise,

Genesis 17:15-16

17:15. Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.

17:16. "And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her."

Sarah refers to the free woman, namely the Jerusalem above. Sarah shall be a mother of kings of peoples. It refers to the priests and kings. The king means one who wins over the sin or one who is set free from the sin.

So, the current Jerusalem will be fought over by the sinners (the slaves of the sin) up to the battle of Armageddon that triggers the world war. That is why we must become the priests and kings who are set free from the sin. Do not keep becoming the slave of the sin! We must keep pursuing and fighting over the Jerusalem above or eternal kingdom of heaven.

Revelation 16:13-14

16:13. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

16:14. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

The unclean spirits or the ones of demons possess the kings, the leaders of the countries, provinces, and companies, including the husband as the leader of wife and household who are negligent. Possessing is the same as coming inside, staying, and controlling. Consequently, they become wicked and unclean. The wickedness means loving money. The uncleanness means hunting man or

woman. They are masterful, sadistic, and cruel. They assume men as animal. They will be gathered and directed to the battle of Armageddon.

God allows us to be close with the leader to testify and warn him, so he is not possessed by Satan that makes him become unclean, evil, and masterful. In the household, a wife should not want to become a leader. If a wife is possessed by the spirit of demon, her husband and children will not be able to do anything, and the marriage will be broken. The matter of wife becomes the leader is the most negligent condition. We must always watch.

Galatians 4:22-23

4:22. For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman.

4:23. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise,

The descendant of Abraham from Hagar is the slave of the sin, namely a Christian who lives according to the flesh, so he never experiences the renewal of life from the fleshly man to the spiritual one like Jesus. He keeps the sinful flesh and blood man, so he must experience the persecution of the Antichrist for three and a half years. He becomes the army of the Antichrist in the battle of Armageddon.

Revelation 11:1-2

11:1. Then I was given a reedlike a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.

11:2. "But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months.

A reed refers to the repeated Word of God or shepherd's rod, namely the shepherding Word that we have heard. It will become the measuring of our holiness, ministry, and prayer to God. The more we are purified, the more our ministry and worship (the tearing of the flesh). We are more well-pleasing before God up to the measurement, namely the veil is torn or the flesh does not speak anymore. We do not keep the characteristic of the flesh anymore. We will not experience the tribulation of the Antichrist who will reign over the world for three and a half years. We are evacuated to the wilderness far from the eyes of the Antichrist where we live in the shadow of God.

1 Peter 1:23,3-7

1:23. having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1:3. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

1:4. to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

1:5. who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1:6. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

1:7. that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

We can be changed too. We are not only purified but we must also be born again from the flesh men to the spiritual ones like Jesus. We die to sin and rise to the new life through the true water baptism and the power of the Word of God. We are happy even though in the suffering because we have moved to a living hope, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for us. Now we are living in the world but we can feel the heavenly bliss.

By the test and suffering, our faith can be increased, so it becomes more stable and pure up to perfection like pure gold though it is tested by fire. We need it, so we are worthy to greet Jesus when He comes a second time on the glorious clouds (verse 7).

Revelation 21:21

21:21. The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

We need to become pure gold to walk in the New Jerusalem whose street is pure gold, like transparent glass. If we are not trained to walk on gold, we will surely keep falling.

So, those who are blessed are those who are born again by water baptism and the Word of God, so they can live in righteousness according to the will of God. It is the same as living in God.

Revelation 14:13

14:13. Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'""Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord and renewal of life because they will not face the Antichrist. But, do not try to commit

suicide! Suicide is the high way to the hell. We must fight to be renewed. Our life and death must be in the hand of God, faith, and renewal.

The three things about the battle of Armageddon are as follows:

1. The battle of Armageddon has not happened yet, but **it will surely happen** because it has been prophesied by the prophets since the Old Testament.

Deuteronomy 32:43

32:43. "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people; For He will avenge the blood of His servants, And render vengeance to His adversaries; He will provide atonement for His land and His people."

Satan and the false prophet will be defeated in the battle of Armageddon.

Jeremiah 25:31

25:31. A noise will come to the ends of the earth--For the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead His case with all flesh. He will give those who are wicked to the sword,' says the LORD."

2. **Who will enter the battle of Armageddon?**

- Satan, the Antichrist, and the false prophet along with the nations that become their armies including those who worship the Antichrist.
- God with His angels and armies.
- The son of God who is left in the age of the Antichrist but keeping worshipping God, not the Antichrist.

The purpose of the battle of Armageddon is destroying Jerusalem in the Middle East.

3. **The end of the battle of Armageddon is that Jesus comes a second time to do the things as follows:**

- Defeating Satan, the Antichrist, and the false prophet with all of the armies.
- Punishing those who do not believe and obey the Word of God.

Revelation 19:19

19:19. And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

Revelation 16:17

16:17. Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

The attitudes in the battle of Armageddon are as follows:

1. **We must be willingly purified and washed in the true water baptism and the power of the Word of God.**

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 true water baptism is that one who has died to sin or repented must be buried in the water with Jesus and come out or rise from water with Him to receive new life or the heavenly one.

1 Peter 3:20-21

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

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

We experience the renewal of the heart that tends to do evil continually to become a good conscience and obedient heart. It is God's mercy when our marriage is in one true baptism, so we can be brought to the spiritual and perfect marriage. The base of the true marriage is obedient heart. After entering the water baptism, we must deepen or dive in the true teaching Word. We are purified and renewed until we are set free from sin. We are not the descendants of Hagar, but Sarah.

2. We must always keep the peaceful heart.

Romans 12:18

12:18. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

We must make peace with everyone. It starts from confessing our sin to God, and we do not commit sin anymore. We confess earnestly to others who are harmed by us, and we do not commit sin anymore. We must also forgive others' sin and forget it. Making peace is the same as coming to the cross of God, and a sound will be heard: *"It is finished!"*

John 19:28-30

19:28. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

19:29. Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

19:30. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

All of sins have been borne and finished by the blood of Jesus on the cross, so we can live in righteousness. The results are as follows:

- The sour wine is changed into the sweet new wine. All of our weariness, labor, and bitterness are changed into the heavenly bliss. We are happy even though in suffering.

Proverbs 12:25-26

12:25. Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.

12:26. The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

- The righteous people are stable in the shepherding. It is the same as entering the narrow gate, namely the tearing of the flesh to persevere in the three kinds of main service to God in the sheepfold. Behind the narrow gate, we will find pasture. God gives life in abundance until we can confess: *"I shall not want."*

John 10:1,9-10

10:1. "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

10:9. "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

10:10. "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Matthew 23:27

23:27. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

The position of shepherded life is in the covering of the wings of a hen. It means that there is no more worry or fear. All things become easy and light. Moreover, we can live in abundance. We are full until we can give thanks to God as well as become the blessing for others.

If enemy comes, the hen will fight for us. It means that God fights for us to finish all of impossible problems. It continues until God perfects us. All things such as the sin, problem, fear, *et cetera* are finished. We can enter the New Jerusalem forever. We are unable, but God finishes all things for us.

Revelation 21:6

21:6. And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

God blesses us.