

Bible Study Service in Malang, December 01, 2016 (Thursday Evening)

From Delayed Broadcast of Fellowship Service in Pekanbaru

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

Revelation 21:5

21:5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

Romans 3:23

3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Since Adam and Eve sinned and were driven out of Eden to enter the world, all men were sinful up to the peak, namely the sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse as well as the ones concerning marrying-being given in marriage such as sexuality sin and wrong marriage. Men lost the glory of God, got naked, lived in curses, and had to perish forever.

Therefore, God wants to create the new men who are as glorious as Him to be put in the New Jerusalem or the everlasting kingdom of heaven. The process is called as a renewal.

Christmas means that the glorious God was born to be a man, namely Jesus, so that the despicable men can be born again to experience the renewal to be as glorious as the Lord is and put in the New Jerusalem.

How can the sinful men get the renewal?

1. **Through water baptism.** It refers to the Court of Tabernacle.

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,

The water baptism is the same as the ark of Noah. Only the ark of Noah could save. It means that only one true water baptism can give salvation.

Noah and his family got the grace to enter the one ark and get the salvation. We also get the grace of God when we enter the true water baptism.

Matthew 3:15-16

3:15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

The true water baptism means as follows.

- Doing the will of God according to the Bible.
- We are baptized like the baptism of Jesus.

Jesus is not sinful, so he does not need the baptism. Nevertheless, He gives the example of water baptism, namely coming up from the water.

Romans 6:2, 4

6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

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

The requirement of the true water baptism is being dead to sin or repenting. Therefore, we must hear the Word that points at our sins much more so that we can realize and confess them to God and others. After being forgiven, we do not repeat them. It starts from not lying and hating which are the deeds of Satan, the father of liars and murderers.

The execution of the true water baptism is one who has died to sin or repented must be buried in water with Jesus to raise or come up from water with Him and get the new life, namely the heavenly one.

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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 new life refers to the good conscience or the heart which is dominated by Holy Spirit [Matthew 3:16]. It means the obedient and sincere heart like the one of a dove. The sincerity refers to being without any hypocrisy, bitterness, or intention to get physical advantage. We can firmly distinguish between the true and the false.

If our heart is obedient and sincere, we can be the house of prayer. We have the presence of God in our life, so we can be peaceful and all things become easy and light.

If the heart is not obedient and sincere like the condition when the dove is sold, the serpent will enter. Consequently, one becomes the den of thieves. He is in weariness and heavy burden. Moreover, he will be whipped or punished by God.

2. Through the worship prayer. It refers to the Holy Place.

Matthew 17:1-2

17:1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;

17:2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

The worship prayer refers to the process to tear or crucify the flesh, so we can experience the life renewal from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus. It starts from the renewal to our face and clothes.

Genesis 4:4-5

4:4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

4:5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

Cain's countenance fell in the service and ministry to God because of envy and hatred without a cause. Nevertheless, he did not correct his ministry, so it decreased.

1 Samuel 1:15

1:15 And Hannah answered and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD."

Hannah had sorrowful face in the marriage or household.

Luke 24:17-21

24:17 And He said to them, "What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?"

24:18 Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?"

24:19 And He said to them, "What things?" So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

24:20 "and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him.

24:21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened."

The sad face also happens in facing impossible problems or when there is no hope anymore.

Let us surrender to God and wait for His time.

The clothes refer to the deeds.

The fleshly deeds [Galatia 5:19-21] must be changed into the true ones according to the Word and the good ones to become blessing for others until we can repay good for evil. As a result, God is able to make all things good.

3. Through the sprinkling of blood. It refers to the Most Holy Place.

It means the suffering in the flesh without any sin. It refers to the experience of the cross with Jesus.

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.

As a result, the spirit of glory or Holy Spirit is poured out to us.

The functions of the spirit of glory are as follows.

- **Holy Spirit like the tongues of fire renews us** from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus.

Acts 2:1-4

2:1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

2:3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The renewal starts from the tongue. For example, Peter who formerly denied Jesus can bravely confess Him or testify. It continues until we can worship God with the tongues like what Holy Spirit teaches to us.

- **Holy Spirit like the rushing mighty wind divided the Red Sea.**

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.

Let us lift up the rod or appreciate the sacrifice of Christ when we are facing impossibilities. We must keep obedient.

As a result, Holy Spirit is able to make all things successful and beautiful in His time.

We are changed to be perfect when Jesus comes a second time. We are worthy to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds and enter the New Jerusalem.

God blesses you.