

Bible Study Service in Malang, December 01, 2022 (Thursday Evening)

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

In the arrangement of the Tabernacle, Revelation 18 refers to the golden pot that had the manna.

Babylon is the mortar pot that does not want to be filled by Jesus, namely the true teaching Word, Holy Spirit, and God's love. If one is not filled by Jesus, he will surely be filled by the spirits of uncleanness, evil, and hatred, so he must experience the destruction and God's last punishment. He keeps becoming the mortar pot that will be destroyed in the hell forever.

We must be careful with the spirit of hatred. There is no righteous man that hates the false one. In the Bible from the beginning till the end, only the false man hates the righteous one.

Revelation 18:9-20

18:9. *"The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning,*

18:10. *"standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'*

18:11. *"And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore:*

18:12. *"merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble;*

18:13. *"and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men.*

18:14. *"The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all*

18:15. *"The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,*

18:16. *"and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!*

18:17. *'For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.' Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance*

18:18. *"and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is like this great city?'*

18:19. *"They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.'*

18:20. *"Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"*

The three kinds of men who experience the punishment with Babylon are as follows:

1. Verse 9-10, namely the kings.
2. Verse 11-16, namely the merchants.
3. Verse 17-20, namely the shipmasters.

We learn the first one, namely the kings. **The kings means as follows:**

1. One who has the high position in the world but he does not have the position in heaven or not becoming the priest and king. He is not a holy man. He blackmails and oppresses others. He is unjust and does corruption, so he will surely be dragged by the sin of Babylon and destroyed in Babylon. We must be careful, so we do not only pay attention to the physical position.
2. Those who have the spiritual position but they do not minister to God according to their calling and election or the ministry that God gives to them. They just look for the physical advantage and self-interest that make the flesh comfortable. They oppress and blackmail the congregation who are entrusted by God. They also oppress other servant of God like the officers when the Israelites were in Egypt. The elders of the Israelites were used to become the officers in Egypt.

That is why we must receive God's calling and election to become the priests and kings, so we have the heavenly position. We must have the characteristics of Jesus as the High Priest and the King of kings, so we can live in God's mercy like Moses and Aaron. Only the priests and kings can enter the New Jerusalem.

Matthew 5:13-16

5:13. *"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.*

5:14. *"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.*

5:15. *"Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.*

5:16. *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

The position of the citizen of heaven or the priests and kings is as the salt and the light. The salt and the light are indeed underestimated in the world. No one is proud when having lots of salt. The light is just considered normal. But men will confuse when there is no light. That is why the priest and king must be willingly underestimated. It means that we must be simple. We are not self-assertive. We may not feel so great or put high price for ourselves.

The priest and king refer to one who does not have right but just does the duty, so he cannot demand anything. He just does his duty obediently and faithfully. He even cannot demand thanks.

Why do the priest and king have to become the light?

1. The light is needed on the last days where the world is getting dark because of the sins up to the peak, the shocks, and the crises in all things until the Antichrist reigns over the world.
2. We become the light of the world like Jesus.

Romans 13:14

13:14. *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.*

Isaiah 9:1

9:1. *The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.*

The source of light is the Trinity of God in Jesus. How can the Trinity of God emit the light to the world? The Trinity of God must be born in Jesus (Christmas). He is the only innocent Man but He must die on the cross to emit the light to the dark world. Now, the Holy Communion is the source of light for us. We must put on the armor of light, namely we believe in, hope in, and love Jesus more than anything, so we become the light like Him.

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The increase of light is as follows:

1. The light in the household (verse 15).
2. The light before men (verse 16).
3. The light of the world (verse 14).

ad 1. **The light in the household.**

Colossians 3:18-24

3:18. *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

3:19. *Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.*

3:20. *Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.*

3:21. *Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.*

3:22. *Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.*

3:23. *And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,*

3:24. *knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.*

The relationships in the household are husband and wife, parents and children, and masters and bondservants. It will form the lampstand with the seven lights. The lampstand has a shaft and six branches that are in pairs. The closest light to the shaft is the relationship between husband and wife. Then, parents and children, and the last is masters and bondservants.

A husband must love his wife, and a wife must submit to her husband. The children must obey their parents, and the parents must not provoke their children and make the children lose hearts. The parents may be angry and chasten their child if he is wrong, but it must be with the love of God, not emotion. The child who is wrong may not be supported. If the parents support or agree their child who is wrong, he will lose heart.

A bondservant must obey his master as to God in sincerity of heart, fearing of God. As a result, the bondservant will receive the wages from God. God never lies. The masters in the world have mercy for the obedient bondservant, moreover God. We will always

have all sufficiency in all things up to abundance, so we can give thanks to God and become the blessing for others. But, if the bondservant does not obey his master but always demands, his wages will never be enough, so he lives in shortage.

Revelation 18:10

18:10. "standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'

These days we must be wise. We must persevere in the prayer, especially one hour prayer including the morning prayer, so we are not destroyed in Babylon. A child must learn to pray for his parents. If we have the light in the household, the darkness of basket and bed will not attack us. The darkness of basket is the difficulties of economy and sins of eating-drinking. The darkness of bed is the sins of marrying-giving in marriage, namely mixed-marriage and divorce-remarrying

ad 2. The light before men or the one of ordination.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

2:20. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

2:21. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

The light in a great house is the one in the body of Christ, namely the one of purification and renewing.

The two kinds of furniture in the household are as follows:

- The furniture of wood and clay. It looks great but without purification, so it will be burnt.
- The furniture of gold and silver. It is a little but having the quality. Gold and silver are God's.

2 Timothy 2:22-25

2:22. Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

2:23. But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

2:24. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

2:25. in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,

The light of purification is as follows:

1. The purification from youthful lusts that is mounting up to being unable to be controlled anymore. One cannot be advised by the Word and parents.

The two kinds of the lust are as follows:

- The evil desire, the will of money or the love of money, so one cannot love God and others. His ministry is just to get money, mate, *et cetera*, or he leaves the ministry to get money. He looks for money by legalizing all ways that are not in line with the Word or faith. He even steals the possession of God, namely the tithe and special offerings.
- The unclean desire, namely the lust of the flesh that aims at the sins of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage, namely the fornication, infidelity, violence in marriage, mixed-marriage, and divorce-remarrying.

If we are purified, we will have a peaceful heart. We can cry to God with the pure heart.

2. The purification of quarrel.

Matthew 12:14-15a

12:14. Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.

12:15a. But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there.

The false fellowship is the conspiracy to kill Jesus. The attitude of Jesus in quarrel is withdrawing. Starting the quarrel is the same as releasing water that will destroy everything. If we are purified, we will become the servant of God who is gentle, able to teach, patient, and in humility correcting those who are false to return to the righteousness.

Proverbs 17:14

17:14. The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.

Colossians 3:9-14

3:9. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

3:10. and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,
 3:11. where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.
 3:12. Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;
 3:13. bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.
 3:14. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

The light of renewing is started from having no lie. We are still controlled by Satan as long as we lie because we keep the old man. The new man is signified with the following things:

1. Tender mercies, namely we do not judge the sinner, but bring him to Jesus.
2. Kindness, namely good-doer.
3. Humility.
4. Meekness.
5. Longsuffering.
6. Forgiving one another.
7. Having love.

If we have tender mercies and kindness, we will be able to give like the churches of Macedonia who are rich in liberality. They can give for others who are in need although they are in deep poverty and in a great trial. We can give not because of being rich or poor but because of being purified and changed, so we can be used in the building of the body of Christ. As the one body of Christ, we can repay good for evil.

2 Corinthians 8:2-4

8:2. that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.
 8:3. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing,
 8:4. imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

ad 3. The light of the world.

Revelation 12:1

12:1. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

Revelation 11:19

11:19. Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The light of the world is God's bride who has the light of the sun, moon, and stars. How can we get it? We get it in the perseverance in committing the three kinds of main service to God. These days we must be shepherded well and correctly. If we go out of the sheepfold, we will be dragged by Babylon.

We must run away from the strange voice of Babylon. We must avoid the strange voice no matter the challenge and obstacles are. If we stay in Babylon, we will surely be affected.

The sheepfold refers to the Holy Place of the Tabernacle that has three tools as follows:

1. The Table of Showbread refers to the perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ. We receive the power of redemption of our sins. If we persevere, we will be set free from all sins. It is the perfect redemption or the moon under the bride's feet. The fact of perfect redemption is being honest or saying yes if yes, no if no.
2. The Golden Candlestick refers to the perseverance in committing the General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and gifts. If we persevere, we will have the perfect gift, namely a garland of twelve stars on the bride's head.
3. The Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in committing the Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love. If we persevere, we will receive the perfect love, namely the clothes of the sun.

The world is really dark when the church of God is appeared as the light of the world. The world has been controlled by the Antichrist for three and a half years. The world is dark. It is without love, submission, and purity, but just falsity (the false prophet).

At that moment we need the two wings of a great eagle to evacuate us, far from the Antichrist. We must evacuate from the Antichrist like Jesus has done from the conspiracy that wanted to kill Him.

Revelation 12:13-14

*12:13. Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.
12:14. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.*

The increasing of the two wings of a great eagle is as follows:

1. Psalm 17:8

17:8. Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings,

We experience the shadow of the eagle's wings. We are like the chicks under their mother's wings because we are small and powerless. We are protected specially like the apple of God's eye. We are hug by God's merciful hands. God's merciful hands are able to protect and take care of us in the midst of the difficulties of the world. He warms and beautifies us. God makes us safe and secure. God's hand is able to make us alive when we face disease and impossible problem.

2. Deuteronomy 32:10-12

32:10. "He found him in a desert land And in the wasteland, a howling wilderness; He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye.

32:11. As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them on its wings,

32:12. So the LORD alone led him, And there was no foreign god with him.

We are carried by the two wings of a great eagle like the eagle's young that is trained to fly by its mother. We are carried to pass the storm of the world. We just believe in and hope God's mercy in facing all things. All things in the world are just medium, but God's mercy determines everything for us. We believe in the power of God, so the sea becomes calm, and we can cross it. We experience calm and peace, so all things become easy and light.

3. Revelation 12:14

12:14. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

We receive the two wings of a great eagle to be evacuated to the wilderness, far from the eyes of the Antichrist. We are directly taken care of by God through the Word and Christ's sacrifice (Holy Communion). The two wings of a great eagle will lift us up on the glorious clouds to greet Jesus when He comes a second time. It means that we are changed to become strong and of good courage. We do not fall as well as get disappointed and desperate. We are strong and of good courage to wait for Jesus' second coming until we can enter the New Jerusalem forever. The more light we have in our life, the bigger wings we have.

God blesses us.