

Bible Study Service in Malang, December 08, 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, namely the perfect faith.

The two kinds of men in the world are as follows:

1. The mortar pot, namely our life that is filled by the Word, Holy Spirit, and God's love, so it will surely become the golden pot that had the manna. It means having the perfect faith, so we can greet Jesus when He comes a second time on the glorious clouds.
2. The mortar pot that does not want to be filled by the true teaching Word, so it will surely be filled by the spirits of evil, uncleanness, and hatred. Without faith, one will become perfect in evil and uncleanness. It is the same as the false church that will be destroyed forever.

There are three kinds of men in the book of Revelation 18:9-20 who are dragged and destroyed with Babylon as follows:

1. Verse 9-10, namely the kings of the world. It refers to those who look for the worldly position but reject the heavenly one.
2. Verse 11-16, namely the merchants. It refers to those who just do business physically but not spiritually. They do not do business with their minas, namely the ministry and Holy Spirit's gift that are entrusted by God.
3. Verse 17-20, namely the shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea.

AD. 3. THE SHIPMASTER AND ALL WHO TRAVEL BY SHIP

Revelation 18:17-20

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 shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea are those who work at the sea.

The spiritual meanings are as follows:

- Men and the servants of God who are busy to look for the physical need in the world, so they forget God. They do not minister and worship God.
- The servant of God who ministers to God as the profession or livelihood to get money every month. He ministers to God just for the physical thing.

Revelation 17:1,15

17:1. Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

17:15. Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

One who just looks for the physical thing will become the waters where Babylon sits. He is forced to receive the characteristic of Babylon, so he will be destroyed in an hour with Babylon.

Proverbs 7:10-11

7:10. And there a woman met him, With the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart.

7:11. She was loud and rebellious, Her feet would not stay at home.

The characteristics of Babylon are as follows:

1. *'Her feet would not stay at home'.*

The home refers to the household. One whose feet do not stay at home means that he likes to go out of home even run away. He does not feel at home. He always quarrels, so there is no serenity at home.

The home also refers to the sheepfold or the house of God. One whose feet do not stay at home means that he is not shepherded. He is not faithful in the shepherding, but he likes to walk about. He cannot become calm when hearing the

Word, but joke, get sleepy, *et cetera*. Out of the shepherding, we will surely meet the lion. If we are in the shepherding, we will meet God as the Great Shepherd.

The home also refers to our life. Not staying at home personally means having envy, hatred, revenge, fear, doubt, *et cetera*. The work of unrest will be Babylon. All things become heavy. On the contrary, in God all things become easy and light.

2. '*the attire of a harlot*'. It means uncleanness.

If we do not experience rest, the unclean spirit will come. On the contrary, in the shepherding we are laid down in green pastures, so our soul experiences rest (Psalm 23).

3. '*a crafty heart*'. It means having no sincerity but hypocrisy, so one becomes the same as serpent. He likes to cheat others.

4. '*She was loud*'. Be watchful! If Babylon comes in, a wife will become rebellious. She will arrange all things and become the head of her husband.

5. '*rebellious*'. It means becoming stubborn or hardening his heart. He does not want to be advised and rebuked. He likes to rebel.

If the servant of God is sat or controlled by Babylon, so he receives the characteristics of Babylon, he will become the same as the false church or Satan's bride who will be burnt in an hour up to perdition forever in the hell.

That is why we must do an hour prayer, fasting prayer, and all night prayer to fight against the lust and characteristics of the flesh, so we can reject the ones of Babylon. We can receive the characteristics of Jesus up to perfection like Him. We become the perfect heavenly bride who is ready to greet Jesus when He comes a second time.

Proverbs 30:18-19

30:18. *There are three things which are too wonderful for me, Yes, four which I do not understand:*

30:19. *The way of an eagle in the air, The way of a serpent on a rock, The way of a ship in the midst of the sea, And the way of a man with a virgin.*

We receive the four characteristics of Jesus as follows:

1. **The way of a serpent on a rock.**

John 3:14-15

3:14. *"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up,*

3:15. *"that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*

The serpent on a rock refers to **Jesus as the Man who suffers to bear all of sins**, including the punishment and curse of sin, so He willingly dies on the cross like a serpent that is lifted up. The serpent is the image of the condition of the cursed man. Jesus wants to save the sinners, especially ones who are like a rock, namely the hard-hearted and arrogant.

The facts found in it are as follows:

- Eve was deceived by the serpent with the false teaching. Eve had already known that the voice of serpent was different with God's, but she was arrogant, so she kept hearing. Consequently, she fell into sin and got naked. Eve broke the true teaching Word which is God's own Word.

Moreover, Eve sewed fig leaves and made herself covering. It means that Eve used the self-truth. The fig leaves are dry, fragile, and destroyed easily. It is the self-truth. One easily blames at the Word of God and others. The self-truth will not finish the problem. Eve was cast out of Eden to enter into the world, and she was cursed.

Be watchful! There are many marriages that are stripped by Satan. They commit sin and make themselves covering with the self-truth. They blame at God and the righteous men. They are destroyed because of their arrogance.

Numbers 21:4-6

21:4. *Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way.*

21:5. *And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread."*

21:6. *So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.*

- The Israelites was arrogant and their soul loathed the manna, namely the shepherding Word. The shepherding Word is the true teaching Word that is preached by the shepherd regularly and repetitively to become the spiritual food for the congregation. If one rejects the Word, he will be spiritually dead up to perdition forever.

The facts of receiving the characteristic of Jesus as the Man who suffers are as follows:

- We must humble our life to confess our sin to God and others.
- We must be shepherded well and correctly.

The duties in the shepherding are as follows:

- The shepherd prepares the spiritual food, namely the true teaching Word that is preached regularly and repetitively.
- The congregation must eat the shepherding Word, namely hearing and obeying it, so it becomes the brake to not sinning.

1 Peter 5:5-6

5:5. Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

5:6. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

One who is shepherded is under the mighty hand of God, so he is surely exalted in due time. Do not lose heart when we are degraded and scolded by others!

2. The way of a ship in the midst of the sea.

A ship in the midst of the sea refers to **Jesus as the Servant** to bring physical and spiritual blessing as well as the one for our household, namely the blessing of salvation and perfection for us. As a Servant, He becomes obedient and faithful to the point of death on the cross.

Philippians 2:8-10

2:8. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

2:9. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

2:10. that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

As the servant of God, we must also become obedient and faithful until the flesh does not speak anymore. The example is Abraham.

The results are as follows:

- We receive the power of the name of Jesus to defeat the trinity of Satan who hinders the servant of God to not receiving God's blessing. If Satan is defeated, we will receive the blessing of the Word, Holy Spirit, and God's love as well as the physical one for our daily life up to the one of salvation and perfection from heaven.
- Jesus becomes obedient to the point of death on the cross to set us free from the captivity of sin, so we can live in righteousness and holiness. Further, He equips us with the ministry and Holy Spirit's gift. We become the priests and kings. It is our position in the heavenly kingdom. We are used in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ. We must keep doing the ministry that God gives to us obediently and faithfully until the finish line. Do not stop on the way!

Ephesians 4:8-12

4:8. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

4:9. (Now this, "He ascended" --what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

4:10. He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

4:11. And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

4:12. for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

- If we become obedient and faithful, we will be under the mighty hand of God. We receive the guarantee of certainty for daily life in the world up to eternal life in heaven. As long as we are obedient and under the hand of God, we cannot be possessed or destroyed by anyone.

John 10:27-28

10:27. "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

10:28. "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

3. The way of an eagle in the air.

The eagle in the air refers to **Jesus as the King of kings or the Great King** who gives us strength.

Isaiah 40:30-31

40:30. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,

40:31. But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Jesus gives us strength, so we become strong and of good courage to face the impossible temptations and problems. We do not get disappointed and desperate. We keep trusting and hoping God. We surrender and cry out to God until He helps us. We keep holding fast the true teaching Word when we face the false teaching. We keep living in righteousness and holiness when we face the sins up to the peak.

Psalms 27:14

27:14. Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

We keep being strong and of good courage to wait on the LORD. We keep ministering to God faithfully and fervently. The results are as follows:

- We are used in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain.
- God will make all things good in due time. The thing that has been destroyed can be good. Failure becomes success. The impossible thing becomes possible.

1 Chronicles 19:13

19:13. "Be of good courage, and let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. And may the LORD do what is good in His sight."

4. The way of a man with a virgin.

A man refers to Jesus as the Heavenly Bridegroom. A virgin refers to us as the church of God who receives the characteristics of Jesus to become the heavenly bride.

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.

Jesus as the Husband loves His wife. He willingly dies on the cross to purify and change us. We can be filled by the love of God or the perfect love, so we can love God more than anything as well as love others as we love ourselves. We just do the good thing even repay good for evil--loving our enemy.

Zephaniah 3:16-18

3:16. In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak.

3:17. The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

3:18. "I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, Who are among you, To whom its reproach is a burden.

As a result, the perfect love is able to change us from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus.

The facts found in it are as follows:

- We do not speak too much, but keep silent. We do the introspection in our life by the sharpness of the sword of the Word. Finding sin, we must confess to God and others.
- We cry to God like a baby surrenders and cries out to God. We just cry to God regardless of anything that happens.

God will carry and remember us. God struggles with us. We worship God to receive His characteristics.

Song of Solomon 8:5-6

8:5. A RELATIVE Who is this coming up from the wilderness, Leaning upon her beloved? I awakened you under the apple tree. There your mother brought you forth; There she who bore you brought you forth.

8:6. THE SHULAMITE TO HER BELOVED Set me as a seal upon your heart, As a seal upon your arm; For love is as strong as death, Jealousy as cruel as the grave; Its flames are flames of fire, A most vehement flame.

The results are as follows:

- God will take care of us.

Isaiah 49:14-16

49:14. But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, And my Lord has forgotten me."

49:15. "Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you.

49:16. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.

- God protects us ("Your walls are continually before Me").

Psalms 122:7

122:7. Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces."

God's merciful hand is able to protect and take care of us in the midst of the difficulties of the world. God bears our weariness and heavy burden, so all things become easy and light. We experience the atmosphere of Paradise.

- The hand of God gives us victory over all enemies. All of impossible problems such as economy, disease, future, and sins up to the peak are finished by God. God gives victory. It means that He gives the heavenly bliss.

Zephaniah 3:17

3:17. The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

It continues until Jesus comes a second time that we are changed to become as perfect as He is. We can pass the wall of the New Jerusalem and we live forever.

God blesses us.