

Bible Study Service in Malang, February 14, 2013 (Thursday Evening)

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28:11-15 is about the lie of the council or the spread of darkness. The soldiers have known that Jesus has risen but they lie because of the money they get from the chief priests by saying that the dead body of Jesus is stolen. The false testimony spreads up to these last days.

The spread of the darkness is the spread of the false testimony or teaching that rejects the resurrection of Jesus, so the Church keeps the sin and flesh and blood human that causes everlasting perdition.

The spread of the darkness or false teaching is encouraged by these two great powers.

1. The power of money or mammon or the spirit of selling-buying that causes the Church to be blind and lame in spirituality with spiritual defect. Consequently, the Church is left when Jesus comes a second time.
2. The power of the spirit of lying or the spirit of the false prophets that causes the Church to become liar.

We learn about the liar tonight.

The meaning of the liar is as follow.

1. **Saying falsely to cover or hide something, even to hide himself.**

The liar cannot be *â??touchedâ??* by other people or God but only Satan or death.

Isaiah 28:15

28:15 Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, And with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, It will not come to us, For we have made lies our refuge, And under falsehood we have hidden ourselves."

Lying means making a covenant with the death and one will perish forever.

Matthew 5:37

*5:37 "But let your *â??Yesâ??* be *â??Yes,â??* and your *â??No,â??* *â??No.â??* For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.*

We must be honest whatever risk we have to face. We must say yes if yes and no if no.

Titus 2:7

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

The beginning of honesty is about godly matter or teaching. Do not follow or plead other teaching which is different from the teaching we have received although it is only a little difference. We must admit and hold fast the true teaching.

If we can be honest about godly matter, we will be able to be honest about marriage and finance.

Hebrews 13:4-6

13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

13:6 So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

Being honest in marriage means there must be no adultery and fornication.

Heed the beginning of the marriage, friendship and engagement time, and during the marriage. Do not do the adultery and fornication.

Moreover, we must be honest about finance, namely the possession of God and other people.

If we can be honest about the teaching, marriage, and finance, there will be a hope to be honest in all things.

As a result, God becomes the Head over our life who takes the full responsibility of our life. He helps us, so other people and Satan cannot *â??touchâ??* our life. In such condition, we live in the hand of God.

2. Saying to love God but not to love other people.

1 John 4:20-21

4:20 *If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?*

4:21 *And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.*

Meaning such life does not love God and other people.

Not loving God means not obeying him.

Not loving other people means hating them.

The disobedient will someday hate other people until there is hatred without any cause.

Loving God refers to the first tablet of the two tablets of stone and loving other people refers to the second tablet of the two tablets of stone. Not loving God and other people means having no two tablets of stone or being a tumbling-block that is as hard as the millstone.

Matthew 18:6

18:6 *"But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.*

The consequence of being the hard stone is being weary and heavy laden as if the neck is hung around with the millstone. There is no beauty in such life. He cannot worship God and there is spiritual dryness in him.

Revelation 18:21

18:21 *Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.*

Not having the love to God and other people, one will sink in the sins of Babylon, namely evil and uncleanness until he sinks in the sea of fire and brimstone.

Luke 3:8

3:8 *"Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, â€œWe have Abraham as our father.â€œ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.*

The solution that the hard stone is not drowned in the sea of fire and brimstone is through being drowned in water baptism to raise in new life that has the two tablets of stone. As a result, we can love God by obeying Him and other people. In such condition, we have the love of God and become His witness to shine the light of shekinah glory, not the darkness.

The result of having the two tablets of stone is as follows.

- o We become wise and obedient.

Mark 12:28-34

12:28 *Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, "Which is the first commandment of all?"*

12:29 *Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: â€œHear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.*

12:30 *â€œAnd you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.â€œ This is the first commandment.*

12:31 *"And the second, like it, is this: â€œYou shall love your neighbor as yourself.â€œ There is no other commandment greater than these."*

12:32 *So the scribe said to Him, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He.*

12:33 *"And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."*

12:34 *Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." But after that no one dared question Him.*

Being wise means we know the limit in our saying, deeds, friendship, and the things that are allowed or not. Not knowing the limit means there is no love.

If there is love, we will be able to do something we cannot do because the wisdom of God.

- o The door of heaven is opened for us, meaning there will always be opened doors to face anything in the world.

Moreover, we will always have the ambience of heavenly kingdom.

- There is no question anymore, meaning there is no problem and our tears are wiped away by God until someday there is no more tears.

3. **Denying Father God (the Lord), the Son of God (Jesus), and Holy Spirit (Christ).**

1 John 2:22

2:22 Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.

Peter, a great servant of God, can deny Jesus three times. It means he denies the Lord Jesus Christ and becomes the liar. We must be careful.

1 John 2:18-19

2:18 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

The beginning of the denial is because we are not serious.

Luke 22:54-55

22:54 Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance.

22:55 Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

Not being serious means following Jesus at a distance.

Be alert! Facing the suffering or the cross or temptation, or even the blessings, one is often at a distance with God, meaning not being faithful or patient anymore in the sheepfold.

The perseverance in the sheepfold or the Holy Place means the perseverance in doing three main services to God as follows.

- Golden Candlestick or perseverance in doing General Service.
It is the fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and the gifts. It means we are made warm by the fire of Holy Spirit.
- Table of Showbread or perseverance in doing Bible Study service with Holy Communion.
It is the fellowship with the Son of God in the teaching Word and His sacrifice. It means we are made warm by the fire of God's Word.
- Golden Altar of Incense or perseverance in doing Prayer Service.
It is the fellowship with Father God or we are made warm by the fire of God's love.

Peter follows Jesus at a distance means he does not persevere in the sheepfold but makes himself warm with the strange fire [Luke 22:55], namely the fire of the sin, the flesh, and the world. Consequently, he denies Jesus for sure.

How is the manifestation of the denial? Peter denies Jesus through his mouth or saying. Now, the denial can happen not only through the mouth but also through the deeds. How great a human is, he is only clay. The clay burnt with the strange fire of the sin, the flesh, and the world will result in brick.

Exodus 1:11,14

1:11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.

1:14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage -- in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.

The brick is used to build Pithom and Raamses, the supply city of Satan. Meaning such person only seeks worldly things until he leaves the service and ministry in the shepherding. He will be employed by Satan.

Genesis 11:3-4,9

11:3 Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and

they had asphalt for mortar.

11:4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

11:9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

The brick is also used to build the city of Babylon, namely one sins in the peak of evil and uncleanness up to the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage. His life becomes in chaos, there is no peace, quietness, and righteousness, and his marriage and children are scattered.

Peter who is great can be dragged. We will be dragged by the strange fire too if we are not serious.

We must become serious as the sons or servants of God, meaning we persevere in our service, ministry, and in the sheepfold.

The clay is burnt by the fire of heaven in the shepherding, namely the fire of Holy Spirit, the Word of God, and His love. As a result, it becomes living stone or precious one, namely the priests and kings God employs to build the perfect body of Christ.

If one does not want to become the living stone, he will become the brick for sure. There is no neutral position.

1 Peter 2:4-5

2:4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Being living stone means we are employed in the building of the body of Christ according to the ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit. Being employed in the building of the body of Christ means our life is well arranged and beautiful.

The living stone also means we live by the mercy and love of God, not from the world. The pastor does not live by the congregation but the grace and love of God.

The example of human who lives in the hand of God's mercy and love is Daniel.

Daniel 6:20-22

6:20 And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?"

6:21 Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever!

6:22 "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you."

Daniel can be alive in the den of lions because the hand of God's mercy and love is able to shut the lions' mouths. It means as follows.

- The hand of God's mercy and love is able to preserve our life in the midst of difficulties and impossibilities. The hand of God's mercy and love is able to help us and solve all problems, even the impossible one.
- The hand of God's mercy and love is able to exalt us and make all things beautiful and successful.

Daniel 6:27-28

6:27 He delivers and rescues, And He works signs and wonders In heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

6:28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

- The hand of God's mercy and love is able to employ us as the witness spreading the light of Shekinah glory or the gospel of the glory of Christ or Bride Tidings wherever He sends us.

Daniel 6:26

6:26 I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, And steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, And His dominion shall endure to the end.

- The hand of God's mercy and love is able to sanctify and renew us continually until we become the precious stones in New Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:11

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

The beginning of the precious stone is the jasper stone, namely the burning longing, faithfulness, and fervency in spirit to serve and minister to God as well as the crystal, meaning honesty or clarity.

God blesses you.