

Bible Study Service in Malang, February 19, 2015 (Thursday Evening)

To Coincide with Priests and Priests to be Upgrading Service III

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

Revelation 2:12-17 is about the church in Pergamos.

Revelation 2:17

2:17 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

The promises of God to the church in Pergamos that experience the last sanctification and deliverance from the false teachings are as follows.

1. The hidden manna.
2. The white stone on which a new name is written.

ad.1. The hidden manna.

Exodus 16:14-16

16:14 And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

16:15 So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.

16:16 "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 'Let every man gather it according to each one's need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.'

Manna is the same as the bread coming down from heaven or God's Word that is revealed by God through a verse that explains other verses in the Bible. It refers to the true teaching Word.

Psalms 78:23-25

78:23 Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,

78:24 Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.

78:25 Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

Manna is also the same as angels' food. The food refers to the Word of God and the angel refers to the shepherd. Thus, manna means the shepherding Word or the true teaching Word God trusts to a pastor to preach to the congregation faithfully, regularly, and repetitively.

Numbers 27:15-17

27:15 Then Moses spoke to the LORD, saying:

27:16 "Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation,

27:17 "who may go out before them and go in before them, who may lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the LORD may not be like sheep which have no shepherd."

Although there are many kinds of priests' offices in the congregation, God only trusts a pastor to shepherd them.

There are three functions of manna in Exodus 16:16-36 as follows.

1. [Exodus 16:16-21] Manna for the preservation of our daily life.
2. [Exodus 16:22-31] Manna for Sabbath day.
3. [Exodus 16:32-36] Manna for being kept in a golden pot eternally.

Consuming manna, there is preservation for our life now up to the future and eternal one.

ad. 2. Manna for Sabbath day.

Exodus 16:22-23

16:22 And so it was, on the sixth day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

16:23 Then he said to them, "This is what the LORD has said: 'Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning.'"

The house of Israel gathered twice as much bread on the sixth day, for the sixth and seventh day.

2 Peter 3:8

3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

One day is the same as one thousand years. Six days are the same as six thousand years as the time God has appointed for the life of human in the world.

The six thousand years can be divided in three ages as follows.

1. The first age or the one of Father God that is counted from Adam to Abraham.
2. The middle age or the one of the Son of God that is counted from Abraham to Jesus's first coming.
3. The last age or the one of Holy Spirit that is counted from Jesus's first coming to the second one.

The seventh day is the Sabbath that is the same as one thousand years. It refers to one thousand years kingdom of peace or the Future Paradise.

The house of Israel gathered manna doubly on the sixth day as follows.

- a. One omer for the sixth day.
It means that the Shepherding Word preserves and sanctifies our daily life until we can say "I shall not want", namely we have abundant life until we can give thanks to God, even we are as perfect as Him.
- b. One omer for the seventh day.
It means that the Shepherding Word gives the peace.
 - o The little Sabbath means the peace in Holy Spirit.
 - o The great Sabbath means the peace in the one thousand years kingdom of peace or the Future Paradise.
 - o The eternal Sabbath is the eternal rest in New Jerusalem forever.

Thus, the shepherding Word is able to give us peace in Holy Spirit every day. It will increase day by day until we enter the Future Paradise up to New Jerusalem forever.

The process and function of Sabbath are as follows.

1. **We learn from Jesus on the cross, namely His lowliness and gentleness.**

Matthew 11:28-30

11:28 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

11:30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

The function is to remove the weariness and heavy burden that is the atmosphere of curse bringing perdition.

The lowliness is an ability to confess our sin to God and others. After being forgiven, do not repeat the sin. It is contradictory to arrogance, namely not confessing sin; even the peak is blaming others after sinning.

The gentleness is an ability to forgive the sin of others and forget it. On the contrary, one who is hard in heart will not forgive others.

If we are lowly in heart and gentle, all sins will be finished by the blood of Jesus and Holy Spirit is poured out in our heart to give us peace and rest so that all things become easy and light. The easiest and lightest condition happens when we are lifted up on the glorious clouds to meet Jesus forever.

On the contrary, one will be weary and heavy laden if he is arrogant and hard-hearted; even not confessing and forgiving sin, but keeping it. Sinning again, he will be weary and heavy laden more up to the peak, namely being drowned in the sea of fire and brimstone forever.

2. **Learning from Jesus on the cross is the same as learning from Jesus who was sleeping in the boat that was being hit by the wind and wave.** It means we learn to be silent and quiet.

Isaiah 30:14-16

30:14 And He shall break it like the breaking of the potter's vessel, Which is broken in pieces; He shall not spare. So

there shall not be found among its fragments A shard to take fire from the hearth, Or to take water from the cistern."
 30:15 *For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not,*
 30:16 *And you said, "No, for we will flee on horses" "Therefore you shall flee! And, "We will ride on swift horses" "Therefore those who pursue you shall be swift!"*

If we are silent and quiet, there will be a restoration. The destroyed things can be made good.
 The meanings of being silent are as follows.

- Not blaming others and God.
- We correct our life through the sharpness of the sword of the Word and Holy Communion, especially through the perseverance in doing Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.
 After we find our sins, we must confess them to God and others and not repeat them. Repenting and stopping sinning are the same as making the destruction and drowning stop. Not repenting means a total destruction up to the everlasting perdition.

Being quiet means we are shepherded well and correctly to the true teaching Word. We always dwell in the shepherding pen and persevere in doing the three main services to God.

If we are quiet, we will be able to control our life until we do not hope in others, but only God as the Great Shepherd.

1 Peter 4:7

4:7 But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

Being silent and quiet is the same as repenting and praying or lifting up our two hands to God. Afterwards, He will stretch out His hands to us.

Mark 4:37-39

4:37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.

4:38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

4:39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

All destroyed things will be good. The wind and storm are made calm. We get all things from God.

3. Our eyes only look upon Jesus as the High Priest and Great Shepherd sitting at the right hand of the throne of Father God. It means that we worship God. We are learning to Jesus about perseverance and patience in the worship.

Hebrews 12:2-3

12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

12:3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

What do we learn about the perseverance and patience for?

- **For facing the cross, the sprinkling of blood, or the suffering in the flesh with Jesus, without any sin.**
 It is useful to make us neither disappointed, hopeless, nor leave God, but experience His glory, namely the life renewal from carnal men to spiritual ones. It begins from obedience.

2 Corinthians 4:16-17

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

2 Timothy 2:3-4

2:3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

2:4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

The **obedient** servant of God is the same as His soldier. We willingly sacrifice all things for being obedient to God.

As a result, our death and life are in His hands. Our future life is in His hand up to the eternal one.

○ **For waiting the time of God.**

James 5:7-8

5:7 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.

5:8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

The servant of God who perseveres and has patience to wait can be described as a farmer who waits patiently to get the fruits. Likewise, we must persevere and have patience to get the help of God and wait for His second coming.

John 7:4-6

7:4 "For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."

7:5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

7:6 Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready."

God has not helped us yet means as follows.

- He is still busy with our spirituality that has not reached the measure yet. He wants to renew and sanctify us.
- He wants that we can fully surrender, believe and entrust our life to Him.

John 16:19-21

16:19 Now Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him, and He said to them, "Are you inquiring among yourselves about what I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'?"

16:20 "Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy."

16:21 "A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world."

Persevering and being patient are like a pregnant woman who will give birth. The short time means the peak of suffering when the burden becomes heavier and we cannot do anything anymore.

- The positive attitude is in the peak of our surrendering that we only weep and lament to Jesus. That is the time of Jesus to come. The baby is born. It means that we can rejoice in the midst of sufferings. All problems are solved in time of need and we experience the life renewal. The mouth of a baby only cries. We only worship God and cry "Alleluia" when Jesus comes a second time.
- The negative attitude is disappointment, hopelessness, leaving God, and looking for the solution that is not in line with the Word.

God blesses you.