

Bible Study Service in Malang, February 23, 2012 (Thursday Evening)

Taken from delayed broadcast of fellowship in Soroako.

Theme: Luke 1:37

1:37 *"For with God nothing will be impossible."*

God is able to remove all impossible things we face.

Mark 9:23

9:23 *Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."*

Luke 1:37 -->For with God nothing will be impossible.

Mark 9: 23 -->All things are possible to him who believes.

Thus, one who believes equals to God. Meaning one who believes or has faith receives the power of God to remove all impossible things.

1. Power to remove impossible things physically.

For example, the problem of disease, finance, and all impossible things for us can be solved by God as long as we believe in Him.

2. Power to remove impossible things spiritually.

It is that carnal men who are sinful and deserve of death can be changed little by little to become perfect as God to welcome Jesus's second coming.

Therefore, we have to become the son or servant of God who has **TRUE FAITH** up to the **PERFECT ONE**.

Where can we get the true faith?

Romans 10:17

10:17 *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

The true faith comes by hearing by the word of God in the anointing of Holy Spirit, the Word which is revealed by Holy Spirit through a verse's explaining other verses or the true teaching Word.

In shorts, **the true faith comes by hearing the true teaching Word.**

We have to seriously heed to our spiritual food.

There is false faith which is not healthy as follows.

1. **John 6:25-26**

6:25 *And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You come here?"*

6:26 *Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled."*

Faith because of a feeling. For example, feeling so full, joyful, being employed by God or other things that are pleasant for the flesh. It can also happen that one joins a fellowship because of feeling to honor the speaker.

Those things are not the faith itself but only feelings or emotion.

The practice is in all ministries and offerings without the encouragement of the true teaching Word.

Matthew 7:21-23

7:21 *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."*

7:22 *"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'"*

7:23 *"And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"*

We often prioritize the great ministry without looking to the accordance to the will of God.

How great one's ministry is, he is only an evildoer if the ministry is not in line with the will of God.

Consequently, someday God will make him depart from Him.

2. John 20:28-29

20:28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

20:29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Faith by sight = faith which is not firm and there is no joy.

For example, we believe in God when we see that ill people are healed but someday we doubt God when we see that ill people are not healed even they are dead.

John 2:23-24

2:23. Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did.

2:24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men,

Someday false prophets and antichrist will make signs of heaven.

Having faith by sight, one will be easily deceived and depart the faith.

As for THE SPEAKER

I Corinthians 2:3-5

2:3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

2:4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

2:5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

A servant of God has to use the strength of Holy Spirit, not the strength of flesh such as intelligence or experience or ability to make performance to touch the emotion of the congregation, et cetera.

The practice or result of preaching the Word relying on the strength of Holy Spirit is as follows.

- Being responsible to God and congregation.
- Being sure first to the Word and then being able to make the congregation believe in it. It is only the power of Holy Spirit that can make us believe in the Word.
- The faith of the congregation does not rely on any human but the power of God.

As for THE CONGREGATION:

I Thessalonians 2:13

2:13. For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

The congregation hears the Word with the power of Holy Spirit.

The preaching of the Word is not limited with time, intelligence, human's power, et cetera.

If the congregation can receive the Word with the power of Holy Spirit, they can believe in the Word as the saying of God Himself and receive the power of the Word to sanctify and change them.

Faith without any work is vain.

The practice of having the true faith is as follows.

a. **I Corinthians 5:7**

5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

We live not by seeing physical things but hearing the revelation of the true teaching Word.

For example, we see and think all things we need for working, studying, choosing marriage partner, et cetera according to the revelation of God's Word.

b. **I Corinthians 5:8**

5:8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

Being confident, strong and of good courage.

- We do not become desperate or disappointed in the time we are facing temptation. We also do not hope in other people.
We have to endure in the time we are facing the peak of temptation because we only need to wait for the short time of God's help coming to us.
The Lord is testing the firmness of our heart.

- On the contrary, do not become proud when we are facing blessings!
The practice of being proud and arrogant with blessings is beginning to be stingy and greedy after being blessed or beginning to feel so powerful after having good position.

Being confident or firm, one always gives thanks to God.

- We keep holding fast to the one true teaching Word when false teachings come.

c. II Corinthians 5:9

5:9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

Living for righteousness and being well pleasing to God.

All righteous things come from God.

If one lives in unrighteousness, he is serving Satan although we see him serving God.

I Peter 1:6-7

*1:6. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,
1:7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,*

The true faith is the foundation of all things that determines whether we can welcome Jesus's second coming or not.

The true faith must BE TESTED to result in pure and perfect faith that we can believe and entrust ourselves fully to God. The perfect faith is as golden pot that had manna.

We only believe and entrust ourselves fully to the true teaching Word as the golden pot that is only filled with manna.

The result is as follows.

1. We receive power to remove all impossibilities.
2. We receive the power to exalt us on the glorious clouds when Jesus comes a second time.

Luke 18:8

18:8 "I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

If one has already loathed the Word and wanted the physical things more than the Word, he will be as the house of Israel who was punished in the wilderness. They got what they wanted but perished before they could consume it.

The Lord gives us great chance to pass the test of faith so we can only see or believe in God and entrust ourselves fully to Him or the true teaching Word.

1. Mark 9:22-25

9:22 "And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

9:23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

9:24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

9:25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!"

A father or pastor faces the test of faith through his son who had deaf and dumb spirit or epilepsy.

The spiritual meaning of having epilepsy is as follows.

- Moral degradation. One does sin up to the peak, namely sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, being drunk, gambling, and drugs abuse, as well as marrying-being given in marriage such as sexuality sin with all its

kinds, sexuality sin to oneself, and false marriage.

- Marriage and children destruction because of violation, dispute, divorce, sexual affairs, marriage after divorce, et cetera.
(It is not written about the mother of the boy in Mark 9).
- Living without any control in darkness and considering all teachings and powers are same.

The epilepsy is an international problem all over the world.

The spiritual epilepsy is one sign of the time of Jesus's second coming which is drawing near.

The condition on the days of Noah and Lot will happen again in the last days.

The weakness of the father is unbelief to the power of the true teaching Word because of using self-truth as follows.

- It is he who sins but blames other people even God is blamed.
- Considering all powers are same as long as there is help.
- Considering all teachings are same.

Consequently, one doubts and does not believe in the true teaching Word anymore.

There is power of God's help after the father **could be sanctified from the self-truth**(he could confess that he was wrong and say 'Help my unbelief'), **believe and entrust himself fully to God (holding fast to one true teaching Word)**. As a result, there is God's power to heal his son from the epilepsy.

2. I Kings 17:11-15

17:11 And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."

17:12 So she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die."

17:13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son.

17:14 "For thus says the LORD God of Israel: The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth."

17:15 So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days.

A mother or widow, including the pastor as spiritual mother faces test of faith, namely economic crisis.

Economic crisis is also one sin when the time of Jesus's second coming is drawing near, that is the time when antichrist reigns over the world for three years and half.

The weakness of mother is egoism in facing the crisis.

Consequently, death comes (verse 12).

If the egoism is sanctified, we are able **to prioritize God or the true teaching Word more than anything**.

As a result, there is power of God's preservation miraculously.

At the last days, the Church of God will receive the two wings of a great eagle to flee from antichrist. We are preserved by God directly in the wilderness and we live only by the Word and Holy Communion.

From now on, the full-time and the part-time servants of God must learn to prioritize God in all matters.

3. Luke 1:37-38

1:37 "For with God nothing will be impossible." 1:38 Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Young people face the test to their faith, that is to say with suffering physically and inside the heart, even the persecution or torment in the days of antichrist's reigning over the world.

Mary suffered physically and mentally when she had to be pregnant although she was a virgin, even she had to bear risk of being stoned.

Young people often do not believe but God still gives chance and help.

Mary, who previously did not believe (Luke 1:34) still had chance and help through the Word and testimony, but Zechariah,

who did not believe, was punished with being mute immediately.

Mary could believe and entrust herself to God.

As a result, the door of womb was opened and Jesus could be born. Meaning the door of heaven is opened for us.

- The door of salvation is opened, meaning as follows:

We can live in righteousness and holiness even God employs our life to become the armor of righteousness. He also opens the door of our future life.

- The door of perfection is opened, meaning as follows:

We are sanctified and changed, **beginning from being OBEDIENT youth** until we are perfect and we can welcome Jesus's second coming on glorious clouds.

God blesses you.