

Bible Study Service in Malang, January 26, 2023 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 18:22-23

18:22. *"The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore."*

18:23. *"The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived."*

The condition of Babylon or the world on the last days is as follows:

1. Verse 22, namely being without the sound. It means having no Word of God or the sharpness of the Word of God that purifies us. It is the same as having no Thummim.
2. Verse 23, namely being without the light. It means having no anointing of Holy Spirit or the light of Holy Spirit that illuminates the hidden sins. It is the same as having no Urim.

Exodus 28:30

28:30. *"And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD. So Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel over his heart before the LORD continually."*

So, the world on the last days is without Urim and Thummim that are in the breastplate of Jesus as the High Priest. It means having no ministry of Jesus as the High Priest or having no purification. Men live in the sin of wickedness, uncleanness, and bitterness.

Sin of wickedness is loving money, so one cannot love God. The fact found in it is being stingy and greedy.

Sin of uncleanness is the fornication and the false marriage.

Sin of bitterness is envy, revenge, and hatred even hatred without a cause.

Revelation 18:24

18:24. *"And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."*

At last, men will kill God's prophets and saints because of hatred without a cause. It is like Herod who beheaded John the Baptist.

Matthew 14:1

14:1. *At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus*

John the Baptist who was beheaded also means giving greater opportunity for Jesus to work. God's working that He has entrusted to John the Baptist is building or putting the base of the salvation. It is the base of the building of the body of Christ. Then, Jesus works on the base up to the building of the perfect body of Christ.

Luke 13:31

13:31. *On that very day some Pharisees came, saying to Him, "Get out and depart from here, for Herod wants to kill You."*

We must be watchful in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ. Herod wanted to kill John the Baptist and Jesus. Now, Satan always hinders and destroys the ministry of the building of the body of Christ. He wants to kill the priests, so they cannot minister the building of the body of Christ anymore. It means being unfaithful as well as leaving the ministry. The priest may look great physically, but if he is not active in the spiritual thing, he will go out of the body of Christ.

Be even more watchful! Do not become the obstacle, the wicked men, or the stumbling-block in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ! A husband may not subvert the marriage by doing bitterly toward his wife. A wife may not subvert the marriage by not submitting her husband. The marriage is the noble gift of God for men. It is not given to animals or plants. We must keep our marriage earnestly. Do not subvert the true shepherding and fellowship! We must be active as the priests and kings who are used in the building of the body of Christ according to the ministry and gift that God gives to us until the finish line.

Matthew 14:12-13

14:12. *Then his disciples came and took away the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus.*

14:13. *When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities.*

Jesus departs when He is against Satan who hinders the building of the body of Christ. Jesus departs to a deserted place or the one that cannot be touched by Satan. We depart through the fasting prayer, all night-long prayer, and prayer like the multitude who follow Jesus. Jesus as the Head will act to defend the righteous man.

Luke 13:32-33

13:32. And He said to them, "Go, tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.'

13:33. "Nevertheless I must journey today, tomorrow, and the day following; for it cannot be that a prophet should perish outside of Jerusalem.

Jesus keeps working although He faces many threats and obstacles. We must also keep working until the finish line. Jesus finishes His working in three days. It means as follows:

1. The cost of the working of the building of the body of Christ is Christ's sacrifice, so it cannot be blocked by anything. This cost cannot be paid by anything, and it will never run out. Whatever thing we have to sacrifice, it must be according to the will of God, namely willingness. We do not demand anything, and we do not feel deserving. The thing we sacrifice for the ministry is not comparable with Christ's sacrifice. Do not be proud of anything! Our sacrifice is too small and it is not comparable with Christ's sacrifice on the cross.
2. The purpose of the ministry of the building of the body of Christ is the New Jerusalem. In the past time, Jesus ministered in the cities, and at last He entered Jerusalem to be crucified. He was dead, but He was risen and glorified.
3. The system of the working of Jesus is today--the first day--, tomorrow--the second day--, and the day following--the third day.

THE WORKING OF THE FIRST DAY

John 19:28-30

19:28. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

19:29. Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

19:30. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

On the cross, Jesus said, '*It is finished!*' Jesus had finished the ministry of reconciliation or the one of the remission of sins by His dead on the cross. The sins of evil, uncleanness, and bitterness have been finished by Jesus on the cross, except the sin of not believing Jesus and the ones that are not confessed--men tend to blame at others. We finish our sin by believing in Jesus and confessing our sin.

On the cross, Jesus said, '*I thirst!*' It means that there is greater opportunity for the sinners to minister to Him by giving Him the sour wine mingled with gall to drink. It means that we must confess the sin of evil, uncleanness, and bitterness to God--vertical--and others--horizontal. Jesus will drink the sour wine mingled with gall. Jesus bears all of our sins. He forgives us and forgets our sins; even He gives us the new wine.

The priest to be must come first to the cross and confess all of his sins, so he is forgiven. The priests must always come to the cross to experience the reconciliation of sin. The fact found in it is that we do not commit sin anymore but live in the anointing of Holy Spirit, namely life in righteousness, so we experience the heavenly bliss that cannot be influenced by anything in the world.

John 19:29

19:29. Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

God used hyssop in the ministry of reconciliation on the cross. Hyssop is the small and weak plant. It is the image of the priest.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

1:26. For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

1:27. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;

1:28. and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,

1:29. that no flesh should glory in His presence.

Hyssop refers to one who is not strong, rich, and clever, but chosen. God chooses us who are weak, so we do not boast and

become proud of the things in the world, so we have the great opportunity to totally surrender to God. Having something in the world such as the great riches and intelligence, we must struggle to assume those things as the garbage that means nothing, so we can totally lean on God. The more we surrender to God, the more He uses us.

The hyssop is used in the ministry of reconciliation as follows:

1. Exodus 12:22

12:22. "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning.

The hyssop must be dipped in the blood and being struck to the lintel and the two doorposts of the houses of the Israelites, so the death could not enter their houses.

The spiritual meanings are as follows:

- We must experience the ministry of reconciliation by the blood of Jesus. We live in righteousness and peace, so we can become a bunch of hyssop. It means that we are united in the true fellowship which is based on the true teaching, and we are used to strike with the blood.

As long as we keep sinning, we will not be able to become one. The light and the dark cannot become one. There is a separation, so we must be careful. We must do the introspection in our life to ensure whether we are true and peaceful or not.

- We must endure and willingly suffer in the flesh with Jesus like the hyssop that can absorb the blood. The more we endure and willingly suffer in the flesh because of Jesus, the more blood can be absorbed, and the more doors can be struck with the blood. It is the secret of God's employment. The more we are purified, the more we are used in the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18

5:18. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

We will be used to preach and testify the good news, so there are many people who can be saved. It starts from the household. Further, we testify about the Bride Tidings to the saved people up to being perfect.

We become selfish when we know the true thing but we follow the false one or let the false one and not rebuke him. We must testify, so he returns to the righteousness. Gossiping and not testifying causes the death to come into our life and marriage.

2. John 19:29

19:29. Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

The hyssop is filled with sour wine. The sour wine refers to the bitterness and burden of life. Jesus must bear all of our burdens and sins. A priest must also bear others' burden, even others' sin. We may not become burden for others. The sour wine must be put to Jesus' mouth. It means that the duty of a priest is lifting up the intercession prayer for others who are in need until all of sins and problems are finished, even we become perfect like Jesus is.

If the hyssop does not want to be dipped in the blood, it will become dry. It means the dry words, namely lie, gossip, evil-speaking, *et cetera*. Such life will be used by Babylon up to perdition forever.

1 Kings 4:33

4:33. Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish.

The result of becoming a hyssop is that it can spring out of the wall or dry land. It means that we can live anywhere, anytime, and in any circumstances in the world. Even, we can receive eternal life in heaven.

THE WORKING OF THE SECOND DAY

Revelation 16:17-21

16:17. Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the

throne, saying, *"It is done!"*

16:18. And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.

16:19. Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

16:20. Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

16:21. And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

Verse 21 refers to the last condemnation, namely the twenty first condemnations of the three times seven condemnations. God's condemnation has been finished for the world and those who reject the ministry of reconciliation of the High Priest, namely those who keep committing sin up to the peak.

In the book of Revelation, there are three times seven condemnations of God as follows:

1. The seven seals of Holy Spirit God for the world and those who reject the working of Holy Spirit.
2. The seven trumpets of the Son of God for the world and those who reject the Word of God.
3. The seven bowls of God the Father for the world and those who reject God's love.

The last condemnation for the world and those who reject the Word, Holy Spirit, and God's love is the hail. Each hailstone is about the weight of a talent. The hail refers to the love that becomes cold, so the lawlessness will abound. The lawlessness happens in the three places as follows:

- The lawlessness will abound in the household.
For example, a husband does bitterly toward his wife, a wife does not submit to her husband, the parents follow the mistake of their children, a child does not obey his parents; even he arranges them. The household is the place of love. Do not let it become the place of lawlessness! The household should become the safe place from the hail.
- The lawlessness in the shepherding.
For example, Joseph's brothers killed him. They did not stay in the shepherding because they left Shechem to go to Dothan. The priest who does not persevere in the three kinds of main service to God must be watchful. Consequently, the hatred without a cause happens in the shepherding, namely murdering, slandering, gossiping one another, *et cetera*.
We as the priests must persevere in committing the three kinds of main service to God, so we growth in the love of God. Thus, we can love God earnestly. We also love others as we love ourselves until we can repay good for evil. The shepherding is the safe place, so our love can increase until we say, *'I shall not want.'* We are taken care of by God up to perfection like Him.
- The lawlessness in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain or the one of the building of the body of Christ.
For example, Achan stole the possession of God. Be careful! On the last days there are many people are like Achan who stole the possession of God, namely the tithe and special offerings. If we return God's, we will be used in the building of the body of Christ up to perfection.

THE WORKING OF THE THIRD DAY

Revelation 21:2-6

21:2. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

21:3. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

21:4. "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

21:5. Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

21:6. And He said to me, *"It is done!"* I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

"It is done!" in the New Jerusalem means that the renewing has been done.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

5:17. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

5:18. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

The priests or the servants of God who have been reconciled and entrusted in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ will surely keep experiencing the renewal of life up to the peak, namely the one of the New Jerusalem or the heavenly bride.

Luke 13:34-35

13:34. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!

13:35. "See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'"

The old Jerusalem must be renewed to become the New Jerusalem.

The old Jerusalem refers to one who hardens his heart. It is signified with stoning the servants of God who are used in the ministry of reconciliation and the building of the perfect body of Christ. The fact of stoning is slandering, degrading, gossiping, and blaspheming. He supports the false thing and blasphemies the true one. Be careful! Do not blaspheme God or the true teaching Word because of something! The old Jerusalem is signified with the spiritual dryness and condemnation up to perdition forever.

We must change to become the New Jerusalem. The fig tree has been leafy for thousand years, but it does not bear the fruits because its branch is hard. It means the total failure. But, if the fig tree has already become tender, it will surely bear the fruits. Now, it is our chance to become tender. Our failure time is shorter than the failure of the fig tree that is unable to bear the fruits for thousand years. Do not be desperate! Do not keep silent! First, we must become tender. It means as follows:

1. We can confess our sins, bitterness, and failure, so we are forgiven and set free from the failures.
2. We confess that we are just a hyssop that is weak. We just depend on God's mercy.
3. We confess that we are just the powerless brood or babies. We just depend on God's mercy.

Isaiah 49:15-16

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.

We just remember God. God will not forget us. He always remembers us. God cares, understands, and struggles for us. God struggles to hug us as a hen that gathers her brood under her wings. God wants to bring up and nurse us. The results are as follows:

1. God's merciful hand is able to protect and take care of us in the midst of the difficulties of the world. God is able to heal any diseases. He is able to finish the problems up to the impossible ones. God is able to give beautiful future that is out of our mind. We surrender all things that we cannot think to God.
2. God's merciful hand is able to give us peace in the midst of the shocks of the world. All things become easy and light. We are safe and serene.
3. God's merciful hand is able to use us in the building of the perfect body of Christ. A baby in the hug will be moved by God's hand. The movement does not come from the baby, but God.
4. God's merciful hand purifies and renews us up to perfection like Him. We do not stumble in words anymore. We can greet Jesus on the glorious clouds with the word: *Alleluia* until we enter the New Jerusalem forever.

God blesses us.