

Bible Study Service in Malang, March 16, 2017 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 5:1

5:1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

The scroll in the right hand of God is the same as the Bible we have in the world through the revelation of God to the servants whom He trusts. There are two conditions of the scroll as follows.

1. It is written inside and on the back. It means that the Word is able to sanctify our outward and inward man or our whole life until we can be as perfect as Jesus is.
2. It is sealed with seven seals. It means that it is not revealed or there is no revelation of God.

Revelation 5:2-3

5:2 Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"

5:3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.

No one in heaven, namely the strong angel, no one on earth, namely the weak men, and no one under the earth, namely Satan, is able to open the scroll.

Revelation 5:4

5:4 So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.

John wept much because there was no revelation of the Word. Why?

1. John longed for the revelation of the Word until it could be obeyed, so that the doors or ways out of problems in the world as well as the door of the heavenly kingdom could be opened.
2. If there is no revelation of God's Word, the congregation will be wild like a crazy man who is naked, cursed, and destroyed.

Proverbs 29:18

29:18 Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.

Therefore, let us change our crying, not for physical things such as sickness, economy problem, and so on anymore, but for receiving the revelation of God's Word, so we can hear, understand, believe, and obey the Word. As a result, we get the opening of the doors in the world, namely all problems are solved. Moreover, the door of the heavenly kingdom is also opened. We are not naked, but have on the clean and bright fine linen.

Be careful! Many great people who have received the revelation of God's Word do not obey it; even they resist against and reject the Word. Consequently, they are naked. The examples are as follows.

1. **In the beginning age**, namely from Adam to Abraham for about two thousand years. The representative is Adam and Eve or the first men.

Genesis 3:6-7, 9-10

3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

3:9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

3:10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

Adam and Eve had the fleshly sight, so they opened the ears to hear the voice of the serpent or the other doctrines which are in line with the fleshly will. Finally, they rejected the revelation of the Word or the true teaching Word.

Consequently, they were naked and afraid. It means as follows.

- The fear of hearing the true teaching Word.
- The fear or worry of the needs for the daily life. It causes one to be unfaithful, unrighteous, and disobedient. He will legalize all ways to look for profit and live in paganism. Consequently, he lives in the atmosphere of thorns, weariness, heavy burden, and bitterness.

Matthew 6:31-34

6:31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"
 6:32 "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things."
 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."
 6:34 "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

- The fear of welcoming Jesus' second coming. One is left when Jesus comes a second time. He gets the doomsday and perdition in the hell.

Revelation 6:15-17

6:15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,
 6:16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!"
 6:17 "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

If we have the spiritual sight, we will never give any chance to hear strange voice, so we can be obedient and have the atmosphere of the Future Paradise.

2. In the middle age from Abraham to the first coming of Jesus for about two thousand years. The representative is Saul, the first king of Israel.

1 Samuel 13:6-14

13:6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in danger (for the people were distressed), then the people hid in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in holes, and in pits.
 13:7 And some of the Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.
 13:8 Then he waited seven days, according to the time set by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.
 13:9 So Saul said, "Bring a burnt offering and peace offerings here to me." And he offered the burnt offering.
 13:10 Now it happened, as soon as he had finished presenting the burnt offering, that Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might greet him.
 13:11 And Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered together at Michmash,
 13:12 "then I said, 'The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication to the LORD.' Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering."
 13:13 And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.
 13:14 "But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."

He was disobedient twice. Facing the pressure or distress because of impossible problem, he used his fleshly mind or logic. Consequently, he did not obey the Word, but rejected the true teaching. Something might seem logical according to the fleshly mind, but it will be foolish and reckless if it is not in line with the true teaching Word.

1 Samuel 15:14-15

15:14 But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?"
 15:15 And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed."

Receiving the blessing of God, namely the victory, Saul fulfilled the fleshly feelings until he disobeyed the Word.

1 Samuel 19:23-24

19:23 So he went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah.
 19:24 And he also stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

Consequently, he was possessed by the fleshly spirit. He got naked and had the hatred without a cause.

1 Samuel 18:7-9

18:7 So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands."

18:8 Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?"

18:9 So Saul eyed David from that day forward.

He hated David who had been so good to him. The hatred also happened in the marriage.

1 Samuel 20:30

20:30 Then Saul's anger was aroused against Jonathan, and he said to him, "You son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother's nakedness?"

Finally, he became like the antichrist.

1 Samuel 22:18-19

22:18 And the king said to Doeg, "You turn and kill the priests!" So Doeg the Edomite turned and struck the priests, and killed on that day eighty-five men who wore a linen ephod.

22:19 Also Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and nursing infants, oxen and donkeys and sheep--with the edge of the sword.

Saul killed the priests. The priests refer to the servants of God whom He uses.

Consequently, he lost his kingdom. The first becomes the last. It means losing the ministry as well as the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace and the heavenly kingdom.

3. **In the last age** from the first coming of Jesus to the second one for about two thousand years. The representative is **Peter**, the first disciple who receives the calling of the Lord.

Matthew 4:18-19

4:18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

4:19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

John 21:3, 7

21:3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.

21:7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea.

Peter fulfilled his fleshly will which seemed more logical and better than God's. Consequently, he was disobedient to the teaching Word. He got failure and nakedness. He caught nothing and could not do anything. He did not bear fruit like a branch which did not dwell in the True Vine.

John 15:4-6

15:4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

15:6 "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

Not obeying the revelation of the Word, one gets naked and afraid, naked and hateful, and naked and failed; even in total failure and everlasting perdition. The first will be the last.

Therefore, God makes efforts to help us as follows.

1. **Jesus was willingly stripped and dead on the cross to defeat the trinity of Satan who is the source of disobedience.**

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,

Jesus was willingly stripped to give His garments and robe to cover our nakedness. The process is as follows.

- We believe in Jesus though hearing the Word of Christ.
- We repent or stop sinning to return to God. We die to sin.
- We are baptized of water and Holy Spirit.

The true water baptism happens when one who has died to sin is buried in water with Jesus and raised with Him to get a new life, namely the heavenly one in the anointing of Holy Spirit. As a result, we have the new conscience like dove's heart. Living in the righteousness is the same as wearing the garment of salvation. We are saved and blessed by God. The good conscience will make us obedient and holy. We can love one another.

1 Peter 1:22

1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

Afterwards, we receive the robe of ministry which is beautiful. We become the priests and kings whom God uses in the edifying of the body of Christ. Our life becomes beautiful until we have the clean and bright fine linen to be worthy of welcoming Jesus' second coming.

2. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, must die on the cross to stretch out the hand of His great grace and help the sheep which have fallen to the deep pit like a broken vessel.

John 10:11

10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

John 21:15, 17-18

21:15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

21:17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.

21:18 "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish."

Peter became like a broken vessel because of his disobedience, but the Lord still stretched out His hand through the repeated Word or the perseverance in doing three main services to God. The repeated Shepherding Word is able to sanctify and change us from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus is. We can be obedient until our flesh does not speak anymore. We can stretch out our hands to God.

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,

As a result, God stretches out His hand to lift up or exalt us right in His time. The hand of God's grace is able to restore us from all falls. The broken vessel can be reformed to be the one of glory for glorifying God.

Isaiah 49:4

49:4 Then I said, 'I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the LORD, And my work with my God.'"

The hand of God's grace gives us the guarantee of assurance for our present life. He preserves our life miraculously. He also gives us the guarantee for our beautiful successful future life.

The hand of God renews us. It starts from being patient in the suffering, not murmuring, not being hopeless or disappointed but giving thanks always. We must also patiently wait for the time of God. Do not take the way which is not in line with the Word because such way is a dead-end and perdition. We can surrender fully to God until our heart is peaceful. We do not feel anything which our flesh feels anymore. We are not afraid or worried. All things become easy and light. The hand of God finishes all things in His time.

It continues until Jesus comes a second time. All things are perfect and we are worthy to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds and sit on the throne of the heavenly kingdom with the Lord forever.

God blesses you.