Bible Study Service in Malang, March 16, 2021 (Tuesday Evening)

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

Revelation 12: 3-18 is about the clear and complete appearance of Satan or dragon with his activities on the last days as follows:

1. [Revelation 12:4a] His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven.
2. [Revelation 12:4b] Devouring.
3. [Revelation 12:7] Fighting.
   [Revelation 12: 3-12] It happens when Satan is still able to go to heaven to accuse men and do his three activities.

4. [Revelation 12:13] Persecuting or catching up fast.
5. [Revelation 12:15] Causing the woman or the church of God to be carried away by the flood.
6. [Revelation 12:17] Making war or persecuting.
   [Revelation 12:13-18] It happens when Satan has been defeated and cast to the earth. He has no place in heaven forever, so he uses his short time before he is bound and destroyed to come down to men, having great wrath in his three activities.

Ad.6. **Making war or persecuting**.
Revelation 12:17-13:1
12:17. And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.
13:1. And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea.[(the NIV translation)]

Satan makes war with the rest of the woman's offspring who are not evacuated to the wilderness for three and a half years. It means that Satan tramples, persecutes, and beheads the church of God.
Who are they?

1. The descendants of viper.
2. The servants of God who are like the sand of the sea who will be trampled by the dragon for three and a half years.

The servant of God who is like the sand of the sea means one who does not want to cross the sea towards the haven of peace, namely Paradise and the New Jerusalem.

Crossing the sea means working for the revival of Holy Spirit at the last rain or the one of the building of the perfect body of Christ, so we are ready to greet Jesus when He comes a second time on the glorious clouds. We enter into Paradise and the New Jerusalem or the heavenly kingdom forever.
It starts from the ministry in the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding until the Israelites and Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ.

Not being willing to cross the sea is the same as not being willing to work in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ.

Matthew 8:18-19
8:18. And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side.
8:19. Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."

Following Jesus is the same as crossing the sea towards the haven of peace.
Our following God must be increased as follows:

- Son's following the Father. It is good, but there is a lost child.
- Sheep's following the Shepherd, but there is a lost sheep.
- Student's following the Teacher, but student and teacher can be separated.
- The last following is that we follow Jesus wherever He goes. It is the following of body to the Head.
  It means that we minister the building of the perfect body of Christ or the heavenly bride who is ready to greet Jesus when He comes a second time as the Bridegroom or the Head on the glorious clouds, so the Head and the body become one forever. We are not separated, but we enter into Paradise and the New Jerusalem.

We must take heed three things in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ as follows:

1. **The purification by the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword**.
   Matthew 8:18-22
   8:18. And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side.
   8:19. Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."

8:20. And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."
8:21. Then another of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father."
8:22. But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Why do we have to be purified with the sword of the Word? Because we face two big hindrances as follows:

- [Matthew 8:20] The hindrance from outside, namely foxes and birds.
  The foxes refer to the evil spirit that controls the hard heart up to being as hard as Satan, Herod, or Judas Iscariot.
  The facts found in it are as follows:

  - The love of money, so one becomes greedy and stingy.
    Stinginess means that one cannot give.
    Greediness means that one steals the possession of God.
    He follows Jesus just for the physical thing until he sells Jesus like Judas Iscariot.

  - Having hatred and violence like Herod who beheads John the Baptist because he rejects the hard teaching word.

  The birds refer to the unclean spirit that controls the dry heart up to being as dry as Satan or Herod.
  The facts found in it are as follows:

  - The sins of eating-drinking, namely smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse.
  - The sins of marrying-giving in marriage, namely fornication, false marriage and so on.

  Revelation 18:2
  18:2. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

  The foxes and birds or the evil and unclean spirits drag the servant of God to the building of the body of Babylon or Satan's bride who is perfect in evil and uncleanness, and will be destroyed in one hour.

  That is why the servant of God must receive the true teaching word, so we experience the purification from the evil and unclean spirits, and we live in holiness.
  If we are holy, we will be equipped with the ministry and Holy Spirit's gift. It is the same as becoming the priests and kings.

  Ephesians 4:11-12
  4:11. And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
  4:12. for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

  Actually, the positions as the priest and king are only given to the house of Israel, but because of the mercy of God which costs Christ's sacrifice on the cross, the Gentiles can become the priests and kings to be used in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ.

- [Matthew 8:21-22] The hindrance from inside, namely the dead body. It refers to the characters of flesh, namely being unfaithful in marriage and ministry.
  Isaiah 22:15-21
  22:15. Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts: "Go, proceed to this steward, To Shebna, who is over the house, and say:
  22:16. 'What have you here, and whom have you here, That you have hewn a sepulcher here, As he who hews himself a sepulcher on high, Who carves a tomb for himself in a rock?
  22:17. Indeed, the LORD will throw you away violently, O mighty man, And will surely seize you.
  22:18. He will surely turn violently and toss you like a ball Into a large country; There you shall die, and there your glorious chariots Shall be the shame of your master's house.
  22:19. So I will drive you out of your office, And from your position he will pull you down.
  22:20. 'Then it shall be in that day, That I will call My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah;
  22:21. I will clothe him with your robe And strengthen him with your belt; I will commit your responsibility into his hand. He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem And to the house of Judah.

A priest is one who is over the kingdom of heaven, no matter his ministry is.
Being unfaithful is the same as leaving the heaven to hew one's own sepulcher.

The consequences are as follows:

- All things become in vain and useless, so they cannot be enjoyed.
- Experiencing the total failure.
- Being tossed by Satan as a ball, so one suffers up to being destroyed.
- The robe is given to others, so he is naked. He brings shame to God, and he will be ashamed, so his life is not beautiful. He has no place in the body of Christ up to perdition forever.
  For example, Shebna is replaced by Eliakim and Judas Iscariot is replaced by Matthias.

That is why we must experience the purification from unfaithfulness by the sword of the Word, so we become faithful until the finish line, namely Jesus' second coming.

So, the true teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword purifies us from foxes, birds, and unfaithfulness, so we become the servant of God who is faithful and holy as well as loving one another. It is like a branch that abides in the true vine. We are taken care of anywhere, anytime, and in any circumstances up to eternal life, and we surely bear sweet fruits.

2. **The ministry of reconciliation by Jesus as the High Priest**.
   Matthew 8:23-27
   8:23. Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him.
   8:24. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep.
   8:25. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"
   8:26. But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.
   8:27. So the men marveled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"

   Jesus is asleep. It means that He dies on the cross.
   What happens when Jesus dies on the cross?

   Matthew 27:50-51
   27:50. And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.
   27:51. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

   The veil of the temple is torn in two when Jesus dies.
   Jesus dies and ascends to the heaven. It is the same as entering into the Most Holy Place to become the High Priest who sits at the right hand of the Father God.
   Jesus becomes the High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek, not the law. Jesus becomes the High Priest to watch the priests including the Gentiles who are crossing the sea towards the haven of peace or working in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ.

   Why do we need the ministry of reconciliation of the High Priest?
   [Matthew 8:24-25] Because we face the winds and waves. It refers to the crisis in all aspects of life that are ready to drown the priest's boat of life, ministry, and marriage.
   Be watchful! The winds and waves come suddenly. It cannot be predicted.
   The winds and waves increase up to the peak on the last days.

   That is why Jesus as the High Priest must always be in our boat of life.
   Luke 21:25-27
   21:25. "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;
   21:26. "men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken.
   21:27. "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

   The peak of the crisis in the world causes fear up to stress. It happens to people including the servants of God who do not minister to Him earnestly, so they experience the physical and spiritual death, namely committing sins up to the peak. Consequently, they will be destroyed.

Haggai 2:6-7
2:6. "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land;
2:7. 'and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts.

God allows the shocks to show His right time to finish the building of the perfect body of Christ. It has been prophesied by the book of Haggai up to the end of days.
God allows the shocks, so we just hope Jesus as the Head and the High Priest who has died on the Place of a Skull. He is the Head who is responsible over His body.

The way out to face the winds and waves is that Jesus is asleep. It refers to the pattern of faith and serenity or peace in the waves.
The priests must imitate Jesus who is asleep. It means that we are silent and calm in the midst of winds and waves or crisis.
Being silent means that we do the introspection in our life through the sharpness of the sword of the word. Finding sin, we must confess to God and others. Do not sin anymore after being forgiven!
Finding no sin, we must keep silent. We do not defend ourselves. It is the same as experiencing the sprinkle of blood.

Being calm means that we control ourselves, so we do not hope anything in the world, but God only.

Repenting and praying are the same as bringing blood and incense. We live in the merciful hand of the High Priest. We experience the shekinah glory to finish our sins, so we experience peace. All things become easy and light.
If the sin is finished, our prayer will be answered by the High Priest. All impossible problems will be finished. We can keep crossing the sea in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ.
We keep living in the will of God up to the haven of peace.

3. **The shepherding**.
Matthew 8:28-34
8:28. When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way.
8:29. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"
8:30. Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding.
8:31. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine."
8:32. And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water.
8:33. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.
8:34. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.

All of the priests and kings especially the Gentiles must be shepherded, so we are not replaced by others.
The two men refer to the marriage. It means that the marriage must be shepherded, so it does not experience stress, madness, up to perdition, but entering into the marriage supper of the Lamb of God.

Why do we have to be shepherded? Because we face the tombs, namely the extension of the hand of death.
How great we are, we are just sheep for the slaughter. There is but a step between us and death.

Psalm 49:15
49:15. Like sheep they are laid in the grave; Death shall feed on them; The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

We must choose sharply, either being shepherded well and correctly by God up to perfection or being shepherded by the grave up to perdition.

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

Jesus dies on the cross as the true and good Shepherd to graze the sheep especially the Gentiles.

The facts of being shepherded well and correctly are as follows:

1. We must become a witness of the sufferings of Christ. It means suffering in flesh because of Jesus to enter into the sheepfold through narrow gate.
   1 Peter 5:1
   5:1. The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:

   The sheepfold is the Holy Place. It refers to the perseverance in committing the three kinds of main service to God as follows:

   - The Golden Candlestick refers to the perseverance in committing the General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and gifts.

   - The Table of Showbread refers to the perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ.

   - The Golden Altar of Incense refers to the perseverance in committing the Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love.

   In the sheepfold, our body, soul, and spirit attach to the Trinity of God, so the trinity of Satan cannot touch us.

   Leviticus 21:12
   21:12. 'nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.

   A priest must be shepherded well and correctly, always be in the sheepfold, or have the perseverance in committing the three kinds of main service to God.

   The results are as follows:

   - We keep living in holiness. We do not experience the spiritual death.
   - We always experience the anointing of Holy Spirit upon us.

   2 Corinthians 11:2-4
   11:2. For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.
   11:3. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.
   11:4. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted--you may well put up with it!

   Our mind is anointed by Holy Spirit, so we firmly hold fast the true teaching word that we have received and becomes our experience. We also firmly reject the false teachings, so we are not deceived. We are not poisoned. We do not experience the spiritual death. We do not drown in sins up to perdition.

   The sheepfold or the Holy Place is 20 cubits in length, 10 cubits in width, and 10 cubits in height, so the volume is 2,000.
   If we enter into the sheepfold we will have the 2,000 in positive meaning, namely holiness and ointment.
   If we are not shepherded, we will enter into the tombs or the extension of the hand of death, namely cinema, discotheque, prostitution, *et cetera*; even we can enter into the church or fellowship which is the extension of the hand of death, namely teaching false teachings and without the true teaching word.

   Psalm 23:1
   23:1. <<A Psalm of David.>> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. We minister in the shepherding like Jesus, the good Shepherd, serves us.
   1 Peter 5:2-3
   5:2. Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;
   5:3. nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

   The facts found in it are as follows:

- We serve, not by compulsion, being forced or forcing, but willingly and happily.
- We serve eagerly. We do our duty without demanding the right. We do not look for dishonest gain but sacrificing anything for the ministry except the true teaching word.

- We have to become the example.

1 Timothy 4:12
4:12. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

The five examples which come from Christ's sacrifice are as follows:

- in word.
- in conduct.
- in love.
- in faith.
- in purity.

We can become the example just because of the power of five Jesus' injuries.

3. <u>We must appreciate Christ's sacrifice on the cross</u>.
   The facts found in it are as follows:

   - Casting our care upon God, so we can totally trust and commit ourselves to Him. There is no doubt anymore.
     1 Peter 5:7
     5:7. casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

   - Like David fighting against Goliath.
     1 Samuel 17:40
     17:40. Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

     '*a shepherd's bag*' refers to the heart of a shepherded man that has Christ's sacrifice. It means appreciating Christ's sacrifice, so we love and obey Him until the flesh does not speak anymore.

     Philippians 2:8
     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.

     Jesus becomes obedient to the point of death on the cross, so He receives the powerful name.
     If we become obedient until our flesh does not speak anymore, we will be able to call on Jesus' name. We are entrusted the powerful name of Jesus.

     1 Samuel 17:45
     17:45. Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

   <u>The results are as follows</u>:

   - **Proverbs 18:10**
     18:10. The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

     We are on a strong tower. It means that we experience God's protection and caring miraculously in the midst of the shocks of the world on the last days until the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years. We receive salvation, so we are not destroyed.

   - The power of winning over Goliath. David called on Jesus' name, so he won over Goliath.
     It means that all impossible problems are finished. We have beautiful and successful future.

- **Matthew 14:30**
  14:30. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

  The power of Jesus' name lifts us up from falling, so we keep living in righteousness and holiness, and we are used in the building of the body of Christ.

  Matthew 16:18
  16:18. "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

  The Hades is defeated, and Peter is used. We are used in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ.

  We are guided to the haven of peace or the New Jerusalem when Jesus comes a second time. It means that we are changed until we do not stumble in words. We just say: "*Alleluia*" to be lifted up on the glorious clouds. We enter into Paradise and the New Jerusalem forever.

God blesses us.