

Bible Study Service in Malang, November 13, 2014 (Thursday Evening)

Taken from Delayed Broadcast of Fellowship Service in Palangkaraya

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

John 8:12

8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Jesus appears as the light of the world to illuminate the man who has been blind from birth or lived in the darkness.

John 9:5

9:5 "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

The meanings of being blind spiritually from birth are as follows.

1. Not experiencing the power of water baptism.

It means there is no life renewal. The life is without any control. He falls and rises in sin. The facts found in it are as follows.

- o Life like dog and swine.

The dog licks the vomit. It refers to idle words such as lie, gossip, slander, and so on.

The swine returns to the wallowing in the mire. It refers to unclean deeds up to the sin peak, namely sins concerning eating-drinking (smoking, drugs abuse, and getting drunk) as well as marrying-being given in marriage (sexuality sin with all its kinds and wrong marriage).

- o Begging like Bartimaeus.

It means being burden for others.

- o Sitting by the road.

It is the same as Christians who wander, become wild and not shepherded. For example, Esau as the Christian who has potential because of the firstborn right, the sign of repentance, and Holy Spirit, often went out of the tent to hunt or look for strange food or physical things. Finally, he lost all things and wept forever. Jacob did not have any potential because he was not the firstborn son, but he dwelt in the tent and ate the shepherding Word. Finally, he got all things.

Dinah also went out of the tent. Consequently, she lost her virginity. It means losing the true teaching Word and holiness.

- o Hating others, even with hatred without any cause.

1 John 2:11

2:11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

For example, the brothers of Joseph to him, and Esau to Jacob.

We must enter the water baptism to get new life so that we do neither become like the blind man from birth nor live without any control.

Romans 6:2, 4

6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The right water baptism is like the way Jesus was baptized. One who has died to sin or repented must be buried in water and come out of water together with Jesus to get new life or heavenly one.

1 Peter 3:20-22

3:20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves usâ€”"â€”baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

The water baptism is the same as the ark of Noah. Formerly, there were many arks, but only the one of Noah could be saved. Nowadays, there are many kinds of water baptism, but only the one like the way Jesus was baptized can save us.

The water baptism results in new life, namely heavenly one. It means that we have a good conscience that can reject the sin or false things so that we can live in righteousness.

The good conscience is the strong foundation to receive the blessings from heaven as well as the physical and spiritual ones. It is also a strong foundation that we can be lifted up physically and spiritually by God to sit together with Him on the throne of heaven.

2. Not being able to see nor worship God.

Worship is the peak of our service and ministry to God. If our heart is neither good nor obedient, we will not be able to worship God. Consequently, there is spiritual dryness and no heavenly satisfaction, so one looks for worldly satisfaction until he falls in the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage. Moreover, the worldly satisfaction is brought in the church and it becomes the den of thieves. One who cannot worship God will be made worship the antichrist.

3. Facing impossible things such as economy, disease, future, and so on.

God is not willing that we become such blind man from birth. He appears as the light of the world to help such spiritual blind man. **The ways He gives the help are as follows.**

1. He spat on the ground.

John 9:6

9:6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

The ground refers to sinful men. The saliva refers to something that goes out of the mouth of Jesus or the Word Jesus Himself has spoken.

John 15:3

15:3 "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

It is the revelation of the Word that comes from God through a verse that explains other verses in the Bible. It is called as the true teaching Word or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword that is able to sanctify our life.

If the verse of the Word is explained with logic, knowledge, joke, and so on, it will not be able to sanctify.

Hearing the true teaching Word is the same as being spat by Jesus. We feel that we are insulted and our flesh is hurt. Nevertheless, God is illuminating us with the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ or Bride Tidings so that we do not live in the darkness.

The hand of the Lord made clay with the saliva. The clay refers to the one of sin that is disgusting. His hand anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. The target was right indeed. The true teaching Word that is preached in the anointing of Holy Spirit will show us our disgusting sins rightly on the target. We are pointed by the Word.

Judas always avoids the Word, so he never gets the sanctification. Consequently, someday God will reveal and he is ashamed. Moreover, there is no opportunity anymore.

The right attitude when we are pointed by the Word is confessing all our sins to God and other people. After being forgiven, we do not repeat them, so the blood of Jesus finishes all our sins. Actually, sin is the heaviest burden. It can be finished by the blood of Jesus. Thus, the other burdens or all problems will also be finished by the blood of Jesus. Confessing sin is the shortest way to get the help of God.

2. The Lord gave command through the true teaching Word.

John 9:6-7

9:6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

9:7 And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

The command in the true teaching Word often seems to be illogical. This is the test for our obedience. The teaching Word preached by God through the revelation is not to be criticized or discussed, but obeyed, regardless of any risk that must be taken. As a result, we experience the power of the true teaching Word and the miracle happens. If we are obedient to the Word that is not in line with our logic, we will experience the power of God that is not in line with our logic too. **The miracle happened to the blind man that he could see. It means as follows.**

- a. We can see ourselves with our infirmities.

Moses had served two people with his own power and become a murderer before he was sent by God. Nevertheless, he could be sent by God after he knew himself with his infirmities.

Exodus 3:10-12

3:10 "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

3:11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

3:12 So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

The more we realize our weaknesses, the more we are used and accompanied by God.

- b. We can know the Lord well and more clearly.

John 9:10-11, 17, 24, 31-33

9:10 Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?"

9:11 He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."

9:17 They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

9:24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner."

9:31 "Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him."

9:32 "Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind."

9:33 "If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

It means that we can get the revelation of the Word that is more abundant so that we can be encouraged to surrender more to God and we will be sent by Him (Siloam is translated Sent). It begins from testifying about Jesus or the true teaching Word.

3. God lets us experience the sprinkling of blood or suffering in the flesh together with Him.

John 9:34-38

9:34 They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.

9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

9:36 He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

9:37 And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."

9:38 Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

Do not be afraid because we are not left alone. Jesus is with us who willingly experience the cross. We have a private relationship with the Lord, namely we worship, see, and speak to Him.

Numbers 6:25

6:25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

God will illuminate us with the light of grace. The results are as follows.

1. God alone is able to help us from all problems in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalms 136:4

136:4 To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever;

Lazarus had been dead for four days, but the Lord was able to revive him. He will never be late.

2. God alone is able **to make all things beautiful** in time of need.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

We just need to wait the time of the Lord. He will work for us.

3. The Lord is able **to lift us up** in time of need.

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,

Our failure is lifted up to become success. We are used by God in the ministry for building the body of Christ. We are changed from carnal man to spiritual one like Jesus. It begins from obedience. We are changed to be as glorious as Jesus is when He comes a second time and we can see Him face to face.

God blesses you.