

Bible Study Service in Malang, October 04, 2012 (Thursday Evening)

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Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 7:8

7:8 "For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of menâ€"the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do."

The Pharisees and the scribes lay aside the commandment of God to hold the tradition of men. The tradition is the rule of human or the world which has no spiritual value. Moreover, it is not in line with the Word of God. Following it, one will do uncleanness and wickedness.

The commandment of God is His will or His Word which is all about spiritual value. Following it, we will result in righteousness, holiness, and perfection as Jesus is.

Mark 7:1-6

7:1 Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Him, having come from Jerusalem. 7:2 Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, they found fault.

7:3 For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands in a special way, holding the tradition of the elders.

7:4 When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches.

7:5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?"

7:6 He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: â€This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.

The example of the tradition the Pharisees and the scribes hold is about the washing of body, hands, cups, pitcher, and copper vessels.

It means the cleansing to life with worldly manners, not according to the commandment of God. Consequently, there is hypocrisy because it seems holy outside but the heart is still wicked and unclean.

Matthew 23:27-28

23:27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead menâ€™s bones and all uncleanness.

23:28 "Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

Mark 7:21-23

7:21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

7:22 "thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness.

7:23 "All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

The heart will be filled with twelve unclean and wicked lusts as a table which is full of vomit and waste until there is no place for the bread (Mark 7 in Tabernacle teaching refers to the Table of Showbread).

The sign of hypocrisy is as the tomb as follows.

1. The lips honor God but the heart is far from Him.

Mark 7:6

7:6 He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: â€This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.

One can cry the name of Jesus every day in his prayer but the heart is far from Him. We must remember that the first thing God sees is the heart.

The facts found in the heart that is far from God are as follows.

- o Being wicked.

Jeremiah 12:1-2

12:1 Righteous are You, O LORD, when I plead with You; Yet let me talk with You about Your judgments. Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why are those happy who deal so treacherously?
 12:2 You have planted them, yes, they have taken root; They grow, yes, they bear fruit. You are near in their mouth But far from their mind.

The wicked keep on doing fleshly deeds, so there is no part for them in heavenly Kingdom.

Galatians 5:19-21

5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,
 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,
 5:21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Malachi 3:18, 4:1

3:18 Then you shall again discern Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.
 4:1 "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch.

The wicked do not want to serve to God. Consequently, they become as stubble that are burnt in the hell.

Psalms 1:4-5

1:4 The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.
 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

The wicked are like the chaff, meaning Christians who are satisfied only with physical matters, without being filled with the Word of God. The chaff is easily blown by the wind, meaning they easily doubt. They will not endure the winnowing or the judgment.

- [Jeremiah 12:1] Unfaithfulness in doing service, ministry, and worship to God.

Matthew 25:21, 26, 30

25:21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'
 25:26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.
 25:30 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Unfaithfulness means wickedness and laziness. Consequently, one is unprofitable before God and will be cast into the outer darkness.

- Following Jesus at a distance facing suffering and rejecting the cross.

Luke 22:54

22:54 Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance.

Matthew 16:21-23

16:21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.
 16:22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"
 16:23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

For example, Peter takes Jesus aside. Jesus is the Shepherd who should walk in front of the sheep. Taking Jesus aside means not being willing to be shepherded or pass through the narrow gate.

The narrow gate is the gate of the tearing of flesh, which is wild and violent. Our flesh must be limited in the shepherding, so it will not speak anymore.

The narrow gate is the way to draw near to the Lord Jesus Christ. There are three kinds of equipment in the Holy Place that refer to the perseverance in doing three main services to God as follows.

- Golden Candlestick -->perseverance in doing General Service in which we get the fellowship with Holy Spirit God.
- Table of Showbread -->perseverance in doing Bible Study Service in which we get the fellowship with the Son of God.
- Golden Altar of Incense -->perseverance in doing Prayer Service in which we get the fellowship with Father God.

The narrow gate is also the way to go to New Jerusalem. It means we must experience the cross to enter New Jerusalem.

The consequence of rejecting the cross is being same as Satan [Matthew 16:23], and perishing forever in hell.

2. They like to judge other people.

Acts 23:2-3

23:2 And the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth.

23:3 Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! For you sit to judge me according to the law, and do you command me to be struck contrary to the law?"

Meaning seeing the fault or weakness of other people fast although they themselves have many more faults and weaknesses.

Matthew 7:1-5

7:1 "Judge not, that you be not judged.

7:2 "For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

7:3 "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?

7:4 "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye?

7:5 "Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

The life of sinner has already been heavy although we do not judge him.

We should not judge other people because of these reasons.

- We will be judged if we judge.
- We also have many mistakes, so we will not be just or righteous if we become a judge.

Romans 2:1-2

2:1 Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

2:2 But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things.

John 8:15-16

8:15 "You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one.

8:16 "And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me.

- The time of judgment has not come yet and it is the right of God.

1 Corinthians 4:5

4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

The true attitude is as follows:

- To bring the sinners to come to God through praying for them or inviting them to serve to God and hear His Word.
- To use the opportunity we have to judge our own life much more.

By what can we judge ourselves?

- The true teaching Word. The process is through listening to the true teaching Word until obeying it whatever risk we have to bear.

John 12:48

12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

Not being willing to be judged by the Word, it will become the judge in the white throne in the end of time.

■ Holy Communion.

1 Corinthians 11:27-31

11:27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

11:29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

11:30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

11:31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

The requirement of consuming the Holy Communion is examining our life through the true teaching Word. Finding a sin, we have to confess it. Moreover, we have to forgive and forget the sins of other people who have confessed to us.

Rejecting the Word, one becomes same as Judas.

John 13:26-27

13:26 Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

13:27 Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly."

Judas does not well use the opportunity although the Word has clearly shown him his sin. Consequently, Satan enters him after consuming the Holy Communion.

Peter has been in fatal fault but he still hears the shepherding Word, referring to the crowing of rooster, so he can be lifted up.

The facts found in Satan's entering Judas are as follows.

- Being a thief, namely stealing the possession of God (tithes and offerings) and of other people.
- Being a liar.
- Being a traitor by selling Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.
There are many Christians who sell the true teaching Word or right matters in order to get physical prosperity

The second requirement of consuming the Holy Communion is confessing seriously that the bread is the body of Jesus and the wine is His blood. We should not consume the Holy Communion habitually but seriously.

The result of consuming the Holy Communion in righteous manner is the blessings and new strength of God to endure all things until the end line of our life.

■ Fiery trial or suffering in the flesh.

1 Peter 4:1-2

4:1 Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

4:2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

Judging our own life is through the fiery trial or suffering in the flesh in order to stop sinning and live according to God's will. For example, one fasts.

Revelation 1:15

1:15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;

The brass refers to judgment.

One who judges himself is being on Jesus's feet where we touch Him and He touches us. The result is as follows.

- He helps us from all problem, disease, et cetera, even the impossible ones.

Matthew 15:30

15:30 Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many

others; and they laid them down at Jesus's feet, and He healed them.

- He protects us from all disasters even the death.

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

15:25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

15:26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

- He exalts us to the throne of the Lamb of God in New Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 43:7

43:7 And He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. No more shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the carcasses of their kings on their high places.

God blesses you.