Bible Study Service in Malang, September 16, 2010 (Thursday Evening)

Matthew 25:14-30 tells us about the parable of talents or holy heavenly goods or the ministry.

We were sinful but now we can receive the talent because of God's mercy and justice. Let you pray when you have not had the talent or ministry and be serious for you who have had the talent.

There are two attitudes to the talent as follows.
The positive one was shown by servants receiving five talents and two talents or the faithful and good servants so they get wages for present life up to the eternal one.
The negative attitude was shown by a servant receiving one talent.

Matthew 25:18, 24-26, 30
25:18 "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.
25:24 "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed.
25:25 'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'
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.'

The servant receiving one talent hid his talent in the ground so he was called as **wicked and lazy servant.**

Lazy servant
Proverbs 18:9
18:9. He who is slothful in his work Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.

The definition of being lazy is being unfaithful, slothful, or negligent in ministry even unwilling to minister. It equals destroying or making the body of Christ suffered, not building Christ's body. It indicates that one ministers without love or mercy.
Wicked servant
Matthew 18:28-30, 32-33
18:28 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'
18:29 "So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'
18:30 "And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt.
18:32 "Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me.
18:33 'Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?'

Taking other people by the throat means often judging them, accusing without any reason, slandering (saying right what is wrong or saying wrong what is right) even judging God, and accusing He is not just, cruel, et cetera because of considering the work of God and His blessings little.

Matthew 25:24
25:24 "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed.

Consequently, he/she will be taken by the throat also, meaning there is a disturbance in the relationship with God, and in worship until the worship does not reach the quality. The service and ministry are also be disturbed.

We are learning about the neck.

There are three possibilities about the neck as follows:

1. The neck is broken.
   Exodus 13:13
   13:13 "But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

It refers to a separation with God, there is no relationship with Him or perdition forever.

The reason of the broken neck is as follows:

a. Gentiles are not redeemed by Jesus' blood or the blood of the Lamb of God. It equals there is no relationship with Jesus, who has been crucified, or Christ's sacrifice.

   Revelation 1:5-6
   1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
   1:6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

   Gentiles who receive Jesus, who has been crucified, will get these results:

   1. His blood redeems and sets us free from our sins so we can live in righteousness and have salvation. Living in sins equals the neck which is broken, referring to a spiritual death. Do not keep false things.

   2. Jesus' blood lifts us up to become priests and kings, the servants of God who are employed by Him.

b. Not having the ark of covenant.
   1 Samuel 4:16-18
   4:16 Then the man said to Eli, "I am he who came from the battle. And I fled today from the battle line." And he said, "What happened, my son?"
   4:17 So the messenger answered and said, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been a great slaughter among the people. Also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead; and the ark of God has been captured."
   4:18 Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that Eli fell off the seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck was brokenand he died, for the man was old and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

   The ark of covenant refers to the relationship between Bridegroom (the mercy seat) and the bride (the ark) in glory.

   "His neck was broken", it indicates that there is no relationship with Jesus in His glory as Heavenly Bridegroom or rejecting Bride Tidingsbecause the ark of covenant refers to Bride Tidings. Consequently, one is left at the time of Jesus' second coming.

   Bride Tidings is the teaching Word sharper than any two-edged sword. It is able to sanctify our lives privately, our marriage and household, until we become perfect as Jesus is, we become His Bride.

   Revelation 19:6-7
   19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!
   19:7 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

   Therefore, Paul, as the apostle for the Gentiles, preached about Jesus in two points of view as follows:

   1. Preaching Jesus who has been crucified so the Gentiles can be saved.
      1 Corinthians 1:22-24
      1:22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;
      1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,
      1:24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

   2. Preaching Jesus who is Heavenly Bridegroom in His glory so the Gentiles can be perfected.
      Colossians 1:27-28
      1:27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
      1:28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

      It is the teaching Word or Bride Tidings which can perfect the Gentiles to become God's Bride. None may separate us with Him and our neck will not be broken.

2. The neck is strangled.
   Matthew 18:28
   18:28 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'

   Meaning there is a disturbance in worshiping God or the worship does not reach the quality.

   Revelation 11:1
   11:1. Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.

   The quality of worship is the tearing of flesh from all its lusts, until the flesh does not sound anymore. It equals **obeying God until the flesh does not sound anymore**; the veil is torn.

   Revelation 11:19-12:1
   11:19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seenin His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.
   12:1 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

   If the worship reaches its quality, the veil will be torn and we can see the ark of covenant, referring to a woman with sun, moon, and stars, or the perfect Bride of God. There is no darkness. In shorts, the worship that reaches its quality is the worship of Bride.

   Revelation 11:2
   11:2 "But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months.

   The neck is strangled indicates that the worship does not reach its quality because the flesh still sounds and there is no obedience.
   Consequently, one will be persecuted by antichrist.

   There are two possibilities at the time of antichrist's reigning over the world as follows:
   a. The biggest one is the flesh cannot stand enduring the persecution of antichrist so he/she denies Jesus, worships antichrist, and receives the mark 666. The flesh will be comfortable for a moment because it is free from the persecution but it will be destroyed at the time of Jesus' second coming.

   b. The small one is the flesh can endure in facing the persecution of antichrist. He/she still believes in Jesus and does not worship antichrist. In such a manner, he/she will be persecuted and the head will be cut. It is also the mercy of God to make the worship reach its quality, namely the flesh does not sound anymore.

3. The neck of Bride that is as the tower of David.
   Song of Solomon 4:4
   4:4 Your neck is like the tower of David, Built for an armory, On which hang a thousand bucklers,All shields of mighty men.

   It means the worship that reaches its quality, that is obedience or until the flesh does not sound anymore.

   If our neck is like the tower of David, we will receive these two things:
   a. The shield of faith.
      Ephesians 6:16
      6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

      It is useful to protect us from the fiery darts of the wicked one which is as follows:
      1. The fire of temptations in all aspects such as in marriage or household, economics, health, education, et cetera.

      2. The fire of sins, up to the peak, that is the sins concerning eating-drinking such as smoking, being drunk, gambling, consuming narcotics and the sins concerning marrying-giving in marriage or sexual sins with all of its kinds.

3. The fire of false teachings.

Disobedience equals releasing the shield of faith so there is no power to encounter the fiery darts of the wicked one. The shield of faith gives us **power to endure, to live righteously, and to minister God faithfully**. Do not be disappointed or desperate whatever happens in your life!

b. The neck is for an armory, meaning there is no more war but **a peaceful heart**. As a result, the God of peace or Jesus, High Priest, will be there with His power as follows:

1. The power of victoryto crush enemies.

   Romans 16:20

   16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

   - To crush sins so we can live righteously and holily.
   - To crush temptations; all problems are settled by God.
   - To crush all failures so we can be successful in due time.

2. The power to preserve us.

   1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

   5:23. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
   5:24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

   God is able to preserve our body, soul, and spirit in the midst of many difficulties and impossibilities in the world.

3. The power of sanctification.

   God sanctifies our body, soul, and spirit until we become perfect, blameless, and glorious as Jesus is. We become His Bride who is ready to welcome His second coming on the clouds to enter into the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. We are with Him forevermore.

God blesses you.