Bible Study Service in Malang, September 22, 2016 (Thursday Evening)

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

Revelation 4:6

4:6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

There are four living creatures in the midst of the throne and around the throne. <u>They refer to the four pillars of the Veil,</u> namely four people who have lived in the world in the atmosphere and been taken up to the throne of Heaven.

1. Enoch.

Genesis 5:24

5:24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

2. Moses

Deuteronomy 34:5-6

34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. 34:6 And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but <u>no one knows his grave to this day</u>.

3. <u>Elijah</u>.

2 Kings 2:11

2:11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and <u>Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven</u>.

4. The Lord Jesus.

Acts 1:9, 11

1:9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

1:11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same <u>Jesus</u>, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Jesus will come a second time to lift up the church to the throne of Heaven. The throne of Heaven is the same as the activity of our service and ministry to God. We must live in the atmosphere of the throne of Heaven so that we can be lifted up to Heaven. It means that we must serve and minister to God in the system of the throne of Heaven.

The facts found in the service and ministry in the system of the throne of Heaven we learn from the four living creatures are as follows.

1. They are full of eyes.

Revelation 4:6

4:6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures <u>full of eyes</u>in front and in back.

It means that the servants of God must have the opened eyes to do these things.

- Looking at God through the revelation of His Word or the true teaching Word. We only believe and hope in Jesus as the High Priest who sits at the throne of Heaven. We serve and minister to God according to the true ordination or the true teaching Word.
- Looking at our own life with all of our weaknesses. We confess our sins to God and others, so we can serve and minister to Him in righteousness.

Keeping sin, the presence of God will be hidden. There is help from Him. Moreover, the spirituality is dry. The saying is also dry through the gossip. Hiding sins and blaming others, one is under the condemnation of God.

If our eyes can see God and our own life, the eyes of Jesus, the High Priest, will always be opened to look at us with His merciful sight.

2. They did not turn when they went.

Ezekiel 1:1, 26, 5, 10, 12

1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

1:26 And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it.

1:5 Also from within it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man.

1:10 As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle.

1:12 And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went.

It refers to cooperation to create oneness. It starts from marriage and shepherding. We must be one, not being contrary to one another. We serve and minister to God with the gifts of Holy Spirit or the miraculous ability to do the service and ministry. The gifts of Holy Spirit and the ministries are different from each other, but they must be able to cooperate for the interest of the unity of the perfect body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:7-8, 11-12

12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

12:8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 12:12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

The commander is Jesus Himself as the Head, namely the true teaching Word.

3. Each one went straight forward.

Ezekiel 1:12

1:12 And <u>each one went straight forward</u>; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went.

It means that one cannot be blocked or hindered by anything. He keeps on going forward with the Lord.

Exodus 14:15-16

14:15 And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. 14:16 "But <u>lift up your rod</u>, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

If one goes back, he will meet Pharaoh or Satan and die foolishly. On the contrary, we are dying with Jesus when we are going forward, and we will live forever.

The requirement is lifting up the rod or exalting the cross and appreciating the sacrifice of Christ. We can give thanks and cry out to Jesus. Lifting up the hands means surrendering and hoping fully in the grace of God. We surrender and cry out to the Lord. As a result, He will stretch out the hands of His grace to help us and set us free from all impossible hindrances. If our service and ministry are going forward, our life will be in progress and we have the beautiful and successful future life.

If the hindrance gets greater, our surrendering to the Lord must be greater too, so the grace of God will be greater to solve all impossible problems.

Revelation 20:6

20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

It continues up to the greatest hindrance, namely the death. It cannot hinder us. We keep on serving and ministering to God in the One Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace and on the throne of Heaven.

4. Being encouraged by the fire of Heaven.

Ezekiel 1:13

1:13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning.

It refers to the fire of the Word, Holy Spirit, and God's love through the perseverance in doing the three main services to God

as follows.

- Golden Candlestick or the perseverance in doing General Service. We get the fire of Holy Spirit.
- Table of Showbread or the perseverance in doing Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We get the fire of the Word.
- Golden Altar of Incense or the perseverance in doing Prayer Service. We get the fire of God's love.

Do not minister to God in the fire of the world, namely the emotion, ambition, and so on, because it will end in the denial to the Lord like what has happened to Peter.

Being encouraged by the fire of Heaven, we will always keep faithful and fervent in spirit in serving and ministering to God until the end line; even until we have the eternal life on the throne of Heaven. We can minister to God as fast as the lightning, namely we do not postpone the time. We do not linger.

Matthew 24:27

24:27 "For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Do not postpone ministering to God when you are stirred up by the preaching of the Word to sacrifice, pray, minister to Him, and so on because we are competing with the time of Jesus' second coming which is as fast as the lightning. Do not be late or left and destroyed.

5. With the thanksgiving and worship to God.

Revelation 4:8-11

4:8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

4:9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,

4:10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

The worship prayer is a process to tear the flesh with all of its desires and wills, so we can experience the renewal from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus is.

Mark 14:32-36

14:32 Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 14:33 And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to <u>be troubled</u> and deeply distressed. 14:34 Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly <u>sorrowful</u>, even to death. Stay here and watch."

14:35 He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

14:36 And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, <u>not what I</u> will, but what You will."

Gethsemane is the place for pressing the olive fruits. It means that **our flesh is pressed, so we can be renewed**. The fear of the flesh [verse 33] is renewed to be the fear of the Lord. The sorrow and hopelessness of the flesh [verse 34] are changed to be the thanksgiving to God. The will of the flesh [verse 36] is pressed to be the obedience until the flesh does not speak anymore. As a result, the Veil is torn and the Ark of the Covenant can be seen. The mercy seat is made of pure gold, referring to the Lord Jesus Christ or the Heavenly Bridegroom. The ark is made of acacia wood overlaid with gold, referring to the perfect Church or the Heavenly Bride.

Matthew 24:30-31

24:30 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

24:31 "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Revelation 4:8

4:8 The four living creatures, each having <u>six wings</u>, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

As a result, we get the six wings or three couples of wing as follows.

1. The two wings of a hen.

Luke 13:34

13:34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as <u>a hen gathers her brood under her wings</u>, but you were not willing!

How great a man in the world is, he is only like a powerless chick. The thing we must have is the hand of God's great grace which is able to preserve, protect, and make us warm and joyful.

2. The two wings of a dove.

Psalm 55:6-8

55:6 So I said, "Oh, that I had <u>wings like a dove</u>! I would fly away and be at rest. 55:7 Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah 55:8 I would hasten my escape From the windy storm and tempest."

They refer to the wings of serenity and peace to face the windy storm and tempest in the sea of the world which come suddenly. We can be quiet and silent in facing all things.

<u>Being silent</u>means that we correct ourselves by the sharpness of the sword of God's Word. Finding the sins, we confess them to God and others. After we are forgiven, we do not repeat them, but repent.

Being quietmeans that we control ourselves. We do not hope in other people, but only in God, so we can pray.

As a result, God stretches out His hand of mercy to make the wind and waves calm. All things become easy and light. We have the beautiful successful future life.

3. The two wings of a great eagle.

Revelation 12:14

12:14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

- a. <u>To fly us to the wilderness</u>, far away from the eyes of the antichrist who reigns over the world for three years and six months.
- b. <u>To give us extra power, so we can be strong and of good courage to welcome Jesus' second coming</u>. Isaiah 40:29-31

40:29 He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.40:30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,40:31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles,They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

We are not weary or heavy laden. We do not get bored, but our life is easy and light. We do not stumble or fall in sins up to the peak, namely the sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage, but we keep on living in righteousness and holiness. We do not stumble or fall in the ministry, but keep faithful and fervent in spirit until the end line.

c. <u>To lift us up to the clouds when Jesus comes a second time</u>. It means that we are sanctified and changed until we are as perfect as Jesus is and worthy to welcome His second coming.

God blesses you.