

Fellowship in Ambon IV, August 26, 2010 (Thursday Morning)

Mark 7:37

7:37. *And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."*

The theme is "HE HAS DONE ALL THINGS WELL "

In the beginning, God has made all things well but Satan destroyed them.

Satan destroyed men, starting from the heart and mind, with wicked and unclean lusts so the heart and mind become vain and they seek satisfaction from the world even in sins. Besides, Satan destroyed the deeds and characteristics of men with sins until they were mixed with sins, and fell and rose in sins. Satan also destroyed the five senses of men until they lived in darkness, and committed the peak of sin, namely the sin concerning eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage. All of them have been discussed in the previous sermon.

The destroyed men are being employed in the building of Babel's body or the bride of Satan which will be destroyed forever.

Through the theme in Mark 7:37, Jesus longs to make the destroyed men good even perfect as He is.

How can it happen?

John 10:11

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

It can happen through the appearance of Jesus as Good Shepherd.

The shepherding system is the system of upbringing. The destroyed people who have no hope will be brought up by the Good Shepherd until they become good even perfect.

Jesus has appeared as the Good Shepherd, and we have to be shepherded well.

Who has to be shepherded?

Pastor, apostle, evangelist, all servants of God, and children of God must be shepherded.

Where do we have to be shepherded?

We have to be shepherded to the true teaching Word as a branch attaining to the True Vine.

Why do we have to be shepherded?

Matthew 9:36

9:36 *But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.*

We have to be shepherded because wandering sheep will become as follows:

- Weary because of bearing heavy burden,
- Scattered because there is none who takes the responsibility of the salvation,
- Mixed with sins or being as dog again,
- Meet a lion, referring to Satan with false teaching deceiving and bringing death.

1 Peter 5:8

5:8. *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

If we are shepherded well, we will be in the hand of Good Shepherd.

As a result, Jesus as the Good Shepherd will do His duty to make all things well and perfectly.

The duties of the Good Shepherd are as follows:

1. To call the sheep with His voice.

John 10:3

10:3 *"To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."*

Shepherding Word is the Word of God He trusts to a pastor to preach to the congregation continually, faithfully, and

repetitively, to become food of the congregation.

Psalm 78:23-25

*78:23 Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,
78:24 Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.
78:25 Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.*

Manna = wheat = angel's food = shepherding Word.

The bread refers to the Word.

The angel refers to a pastor.

The shepherding Word is the grace of God, which cannot be learnt anywhere but under Jesus' feet.

If the pastor gives the congregation food, he will be called as the angel of the congregation.

He is the angel of the congregation as long as he can give the congregation the food of God's Word although he cannot give the congregation money or rice.

On the contrary, if he gives many physical things to the congregation but he cannot give the congregation the food of God's Word, he will be as Satan pretending to be an angel.

2 Corinthians 11:14

11:14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

Shepherd sheep must consume the shepherding Word, and obey it.

Matthew 15:24

15:24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

Jesus actually comes into the world only to call the lost sheep of Israelites.

Romans 11:25-26

*11:25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.
11:26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*

Nevertheless, a part of the Israelites was hard-hearted and rejected the calling so there was a chance for the Gentiles to accept the calling of God, believe in Jesus, and be saved. Thus, all spiritual Israelites from the Israelites and Gentiles will be saved and become the sheep of God.

Acts 2:36-40

*2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."
2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"
2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
2:39 "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."
2:40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."*

The signs of being saved are as follows:

- a. Believing in Jesus to have faith in Him through hearing the Word, not by sight.
It denotes the Gate of Tabernacle (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+gate.html).
- b. Repenting, i.e. stopping sinning to return to God.
It is the Altar of Burnt Offering in Tabernacle teaching (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+altar+of+burnt+offerings.html).
- c. Being renewed from water and Spirit.
It denotes the Brazen Laver in Tabernacle (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+brazen+laver.html) and the Door of Tabernacle (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_door+of+tabernacle.html).

John 3:5

3:5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the

kingdom of God.

The result of the renewal of life is **righteous life**.

There will be a guarantee for our life from God if we live in righteousness, and the death cannot touch us.

Proverbs 11:4

11:4. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteousness delivers from death.

2. Leading the sheep.

John 10:3

10:3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

There are three times of Good Shepherd's leading the sheep as follows:

a. The sheep are lead into the sheepfold.

Ezekiel 20:37-38

20:37 "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

20:38 "I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

The physical sheepfold is church organization which can be different, but the spiritual one is heavenly kingdom which must be same. The Holy Place of Tabernacle refers to the sheepfold.

Acts 2:41-42

2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

There are three equipments in the Holy Place as follows:

- Golden Candlestick (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_golden+candlestick.html) -->patience in committing General Service and Fellowship.
It is the fellowship with Holy Spirit God with the gifts.
- Table of Showbread (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_table+of+showbread.html) -->patience in committing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.
- Golden Altar of Incense (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_blue+golden+altar+of+incense.html) -->patience in committing Prayer Service.

The dog which has been called to be a sheep must enter the sheepfold and **God will reckon it**.

We will be reckoned by the Good Shepherd if we are shepherded although we are only as a piece of hair which is so powerless.

Being reckoned indicates that **we are preserved, protected, and possessed by God**.

Ezekiel 20:38

20:38 "I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

We will also be separated from the sinful and false teachings if we are shepherded well.

b. The sheep are lead out.

John 10:3,16

10:3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

10:16 "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

We are lead out to make a fellowship with sheep from other sheepfold or to enter into **the fellowship of Christ's body to become one body with one Head**.

Fellowship is NOT an equation.

The fellowship means the oneness of different things. There is a difference in the kind of organization, place, and nations. All things can be different in the body of Christ except these seven things.

Ephesians 4:3-6

4:3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4:4 There is (1) one body and (2) one Spirit, just as you were called in (3) one hope of your calling;

4:5 (4) one Lord, (5) one faith, (6) one baptism;

4:6 (7) one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

The fellowship of Christ's body starts from marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until the fellowship of the perfect body of Christ between Israelites and Gentiles happens.

The right fellowship begins with one body, referring to one Head, namely Jesus or the true teaching Word.

John 1:1,14,12-13

1:1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

1:13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Jesus as the Head denotes to the true teaching Word which is born to become a human being.

The body of Christ is human being who is reborn by God through the true teaching Word.

Thus, **one body means human being who is reborn in one womb of one true teaching Word.**

If there is one body, there will be other oneness until we are united when Jesus comes a second time.

- c. The sheep are lead to enter into New Jerusalem.

Revelation 7:17

7:17 "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

We are being lead to New Jerusalem through the fellowship in the seven true things while our tears are being wiped away, and our problems are being settled. There are no more tears in New Jerusalem.

3. Giving His soul to the sheep.

Isaiah 52:13-14

52:13. Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.

52:14 Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men;

Jesus has been dead on the cross with marred visage to change our condition from bad to good.

Mark 5:25-26

5:25 Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years,

5:26 and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse.

Do not be hopeless when you are in bad condition but let God touch us so He will make all things good even perfect.

Philippians 3:20-21

3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

3:21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

And we are ready to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds.

God blesses you.