

General Service in Malang, April 15, 2018 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 7:4-8

7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed.

7:5 of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed;

7:6 of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed;

7:7 of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed;

7:8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.

The people who receive the seal of God on their foreheads are one hundred and forty-four thousand who have been redeemed from Israel.

The tribe of Dan was not sealed, but replaced by the tribe of Manasseh
Why?

Genesis 49:17

49:17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, A viper by the path, That bites the horse's heels So that its rider shall fall backward.

Because Dan changed from the descendants of Abraham to the ones of the viper.

Revelation 12:3-5

12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

12:4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

12:5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

One of the characters of the serpent is drawing with tail.

The tail refers to the false teaching which draws the servant, the minister, and the children of God so that they do neither hear and obey the Word nor want to be shepherd.

The consequences are as follows:

1. Being weary and scattered.

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.

Being weary means being in heavy burdens, sufferings, and tears.

Being scattered means being hungry, thirsty, and dry spiritually, or not satisfied. So, one looks for the satisfactions in the world or the satisfactions of the world are brought to the church. Consequently, he is sick spiritually, namely falling in sins up to the peak and enjoying the sins until being dead spiritually. It means aiming at the second death in the hell forever.

2. Suffering inward and outward until the eternal one forever like Esau.

Zechariah 10:2

10:2 For the idols speak delusion; The diviners envision lies, And tell false dreams; They comfort in vain. Therefore the people wend their way like sheep; They are in trouble because there is no shepherd.

Esau seems to have everything, but at the end he cries and becomes in the gnashing of teeth forever.

So, the main or absolute need of sheep is the shepherd. If there is a shepherd, all of the needs of the sheep will be provided by Him.

There are four proofs of the importance of the shepherding as follows:

1. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob lived in tents or being shepherded in the true teaching word or the Word which is in line with the Bible.
2. In the Old Testament, Israel lived in Goshen. At that time, all of the Egyptians were condemned by the plague, until the death of the firstborn. Goshen was the place of the slaves who had no ability, but they were in the system of shepherding, so they were saved and preserved.
3. In the New Testament, Jesus was born in Bethlehem. It refers to the shepherding. In the shepherding or Bethlehem, there were heavenly glory and joy, but outside the shepherding pen or Bethlehem, Herod killed the little children.
4. Jesus asked Simon Peter three times. Now it refers to the perseverance in doing the three main services.

John 21:15-17

21:15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

21:16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

21:17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

- The Golden of Candlestick refers to the perseverance in doing General Service to get the fellowship with Holy Spirit in the anointing and the gifts. The sheep are given drink, so they are fresh and not dry in spirituality, marriage, and the service.
- The Table of Showbread refers to the perseverance in doing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion to get the fellowship with Son of God in the true teaching word and the sacrifice of Christ. It is the true food from heaven so that we do not enter the future spiritual famine, stumble, or fall. We are satisfied and do not look for the satisfactions in the world anymore.
- The Altar of Incense refers to the perseverance in doing Prayer Service to get the fellowship with Father God in His love. We breathe by His love. The love is eternal, and so is our life.

Why must we persevere in the three kinds of service? Because God is trinity and we are too, namely we have the body, soul, and spirit. Satan is also trinity.

So, in the shepherding pen or the perseverance in doing the three main services, our body, soul, and spirit attach to the trinity of God like a branch that attaches to the true vine, so the trinity of Satan cannot touch us.

After we enter the shepherding pen, we will be led to the New Jerusalem or the last shepherding which is eternal forever.

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."

The proofs of being shepherded well and correctly are as follows:

1. In the shepherding pen, we receive the double food.

Psalms 23:1-2,5

23:1 <<A Psalm of David.>> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

23:2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

The shepherding word refers to the word which is entrusted by God to a pastor to be preached to the congregation faithfully, continually, consecutively, and repetitively, so it becomes food for them. The double food means as follows:

- [Psalms 23:2] Green pastures and still water refer to the Gospel Word which makes the sheep always in peace in the midst of the wilderness of the world, shaking, and the attack of beast, so all things become easy and light.
- [Psalms 23:5] "a table before me" refers to the solid food, the true teaching word which is sharper than any two-edged sword, or the Bride Tidings. It increases the spiritual growth of the sheep to be mature spiritually or perfect like Jesus.

Growing means being sanctified until being as perfect as Jesus or without blemish.

The signs of being mature spiritually are as follows:

- Living in righteousness and holiness like Moses.

Hebrews 11:24-25

11:24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

11:25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.

We willingly sacrifice everything so that we are not influenced by the world, flesh, and sins. We can keep the righteousness and holiness.

- Being in silence more or doing the introspection through the sharpness of the word. When we find sin, we must confess it to God and other people immediately. After being forgiven, do not do sin anymore. If there is no sin, do not defend yourself, but keep silent. So, God will fight for us and we become more than a winner.
- [Psalms 23:5] There is the anointing oil on head so that we are not deceived by the serpent.

2 Corinthians 11:3

11:3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

The mind is anointed by Holy Spirit so that we are not deceived, but we can be firm to hold fast to one true teaching word and reject other teachings which are false. We can be shepherded well and correctly.

After being mature spiritually, we can say "I shall not want" until we are without blemish and perfect.

Psalms 23:1

23:1 <<A Psalm of David.>> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. In shepherding pen, we get the tunic of many colors..

Genesis 37:2-3, 12-13

37:2 This is the history of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.

37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors.

37:12 Then his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem.

37:13 And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers feeding the flock in Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." So he said to him, "Here I am."

In the shepherding pen, we experience the sanctification continually up to our heart and mouth. It means not compromising with sins regardless of any risk we must take. So, we get the character of God, namely honesty. If one compromises with sin, he will get the character of the serpent and perish forever.

[Genesis 37:12] Shechem means shoulder which refers to the responsibility.

"Yes father." means that we are like Jesus in Gethsemane who was obedient until His death on the cross. We can be obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore.

If we are holy, faithful, responsible, and obedient, we will get the tunic of many colors.

Ephesians 4:11-12

4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

We are used in edifying the perfect body of Christ. It begins from the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until Israel and Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ. Our life becomes beautiful. If we have served Him but our life is not beautiful yet, we must do the introspection, maybe we are negligent, unfaithful, irresponsible, not fervent, or we hide the unrighteous, unholy, and dishonest things.

3. In the shepherding pen, we are sanctified continually until we can humble ourselves before God. We confess that we are not worthy and un able before Him.

1 Peter 5:6-9

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

*5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.
5:9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*

We can stretch out our hand, surrender, and cry out to God. It means as follows:

- [verse 7] Submitting all of worries to God, so we can believe and entrust ourselves to Him.
The proof is that we can prioritize Him more than everything. We can be faithful and fervent in spirit in the service and ministry. So, all things shall be added. It means that we live from the cross. We will not live in a minus condition. Our life is always surplus until we can give thanks to God.

Matthew 6:33

6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

- Submitting whole life to God.

John 21:18-19

21:18 "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish."

21:19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

We can submit our whole life with all of the weaknesses physically and spiritually. So, God will stretch out His merciful hand to lift us up in His time. [1 Peter 5:6]. It means that we are lifted up from the fall and restored, so we can be righteous. The failure is changed into success and all of the impossible problems are finished. We are used in the revival of the later rain, sanctified, and changed continually to be as perfect as Jesus. So, we are lifted up on the glorious clouds to rejoice with Him forever until entering the last shepherding.

God blesses you.