

General Service in Malang, April 22, 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.

One hundred and forty-four people from Israel are the core of the church or the heavenly bride who belongs to God forever.

In Revelation 7:6, the tribe of Dan did not receive the seal of God on their foreheads, but he was replaced by 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.

Genesis 3:14

3:14 So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

The attitude of the serpent is eating dust on the days of life. It refers to the fleshly man who lives according to the world. For example, Judas Iscariot lived according to the world, so he fell and his life was rotten and disgraced.

The facts found in the fleshly man who lives according to the world are as follows:

1. Being the friend of the world or the enemy of God.

James 4:4

4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

It means being bound to the worldly matters such as business, joys, and difficulties which make ones unfaithful in the service and ministry to God.

2. Loving the world.

1 John 2:15-17

2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

2:16 For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world.

2:17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

It means following the lust of the eyes, the flesh which cannot be controlled anymore, and the pride of life which make one arrogant. It means hoping to something in the world more than God, so he cannot be obedient, but resist against to the word of God.

3. Being conformed to the world.

Romans 12:2

12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

It means that one does not change, but keeps the carnal life which is hard-hearted. He also does not want to differentiate between the true thing and the wrong one, such as the true teaching and marriage from the wrong ones. The true one is not from this church or that one, but from the Bible, so we can differentiate the true teaching, the service, and all things from the false ones.

One who cannot differentiate the true thing from the wrong one will be like the people of Nineveh who could not differentiate between the right and the left hand like little children. It means that the spirituality is like little children or being powered by Satan.

2 Peter 3:10

3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

The consequence of the worldly life is perishing with the world by the condemnation of the fire and brimstone from heaven up to the one in hell or the lake of fire and brimstone.

Galatians 3:7

3:7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

Therefore, the Gentiles must be gentle and become the descendants of Abraham spiritually. We live by faith, God, or the true teaching word, not the world.

Where do we get the faith?

Romans 10:17

10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The true faith comes by hearing the word of God, namely the word which is anointed by Holy Spirit and revealed through a verse explains other verses in the Bible or the true teaching word.

Therefore, the aim of our service and ministry must be clear, namely to prioritize the word.

Luke 5:1,3

5:1 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret.

5:3 Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

The true aim of the service and ministry is to press about Jesus. It is the same as hearing the true teaching word which is sharper than any two-edged sword.

If the aim is not to hear the word, it will be same as gathering together to Aaron, not God. It is the same as being hard-hearted.

Exodus 32:1-4

32:1 Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."

32:2 And Aaron said to them, "Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."

32:3 "So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron.

32:4 And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

Be careful! The false service which gathers together to Aaron aims at the things which are not God or true teaching word such as money, position, appreciation, praise, and hesitation, so there is idolatry or the golden calf, namely being hard-hearted or stiff-necked, keeping sin, and enjoying in sin.

Exodus 32:9

32:9 And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!"

The attitude of the shepherd: preaching the true teaching word in the anointing of Holy Spirit so that the true teaching word becomes the word which is given by God. So, the word becomes the answer for congregation who are in heavy burden because of sins, economy, marriage, *et cetera*. The time to preach and content of the true teaching word in the anointing of Holy Spirit cannot be limited.

The attitude of the congregation: hearing the true teaching word in the anointing of Holy Spirit or mind from heaven. So, we hear the true teaching word seriously with a need until we can understand, believe, and trust until it becomes the true faith in our heart. We trust Jesus as the savior, High Priest, and Great Shepherd who is able to bring us to the eternal kingdom of heaven. Be careful, because there is wrong faith like the faith of Thomas or the one because of looking something. Such faith makes ones unhappy and shaken. There is also a faith because of feeling something, namely, feeling full, blessed, rich, and used. It is also easy to be shaken.

The true faith becomes a brake for us, so we can stop sinning and return to God. We repent and die to sin. We enter the water baptism and arise from water to get new life, namely having good conscience. We live in righteousness in all aspects and become the descendants of Abraham.

Galatians 3:7,9

3:7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

3:9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

We, the Gentiles, receive the blessing of Abraham physically up to our descendants. We also the spiritual blessing until we enter the eternal Canaan or New Jerusalem.

James 1:2-4

1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

1:4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

After we have the true faith, there must be the test of faith.

We must experience the test of faith so that our faith increases from the righteous to the perfect one or the golden pot which had manna.

Satan blows the wave and wind or the temptations in all aspects which are impossible, the false teachings, sins, and valleys of fall to make our faith fall, but God permits all of them to happen as the test of faith for us so that our faith becomes perfect.

The test of faith produces two things as follows:

1. The perseverance in the shepherding pen or the perseverance in doing the three main services so that we are not scattered and pounced by the wolf or beast [James 1:3]. In the shepherding pen, the sheep are preserved and protected, so Satan or the wolf cannot touch us.

Hebrews 10:36

10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise.

We need so many things in the last days, even the needs are increasing, but all of them have been covered by the perseverance in the shepherding pen. The guarantee is that the Good Shepherd has given His life so that the sheep can be alive in abundance and lack nothing. When we need something, it is always provided for us until we have the eternal life forever.

2. The gold or the perfect faith.

1 Peter 1:6-7

1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials.

1:7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

The test of faith produces the perfect faith. It cannot be shaken by anything, but it is permanent until we can welcome Jesus' second coming and enter the New Jerusalem.

2 Corinthians 5:7-8

5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

5:8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

The signs of the tested faith until it is perfect are as follows:

1. Being confident, strong, and courageous.

Abraham was not doubtful to the promise of God or the true teaching word although he faced impossible things.

Romans 4:19-21

4:19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years

old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

4:20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,

4:21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

Abraham was not disappointed and hopeless when he faced the suffering in the flesh because of God.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

4:18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Genesis 13:17-18,14

13:17 "Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you."

13:18 Then Abram moved his tent, and went and dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and built an altar there to the LORD.

13:14 And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are -- northward, southward, eastward, and westward."

Abraham was grateful and happy, so he experienced miracle or life renewal. We can pay attention to the spiritual things more than the physical ones. We can be faithful and trustful as well as faithful and fervent in spirit in the service and ministry.

2. Job was permitted to face a full test, but he did not hope to anything in the world until he confessed that he was only the dust and ashes or he was not worthy and able. He only hoped to the mercy of God and the hand of the potter. So, he received the double blessing physically and spiritually until the eternal life forever.

Job 42:5-6

42:5 "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

42:6 Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

3. David did not give up when he faced Goliath or the impossibilities. He did not hope to anyone, but he surrendered and cried out to God.

Psalms 26:1-3

26:1 <<A Psalm of David.>> Vindicate me, O LORD, For I have walked in my integrity. I have also trusted in the LORD; I shall not slip.

26:2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart.

26:3 For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, And I have walked in Your truth.

When we face problems in marriage and children, the falls or valleys of sin, and failure, do not ever blame other people, but surrender and cry out to God, so He will help us.

It continues He comes for the second time that we are changed to be perfect and worthy to welcome Him on the glorious clouds and we are with Him forever.

God blesses you.