

General Service in Malang, April 26, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

CHILD SUBMISSION SERVICE

1 Peter 1:3

1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

The submission of a child into the hands of God is so that the child experiences new birth in God, that is life renewal from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus.

Man is born once from his mother, and he has no hope.

However, if we experience new birth from God, we will have the signs as follows.

1. We receive life that is full of hope.

1 Peter 1:3

1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

It means we fully put our hope in God. We minister Him as the shining stars. A star has no pillar in the world, meaning we do not depend to the world or the others, but we put our hope fully in God.

2. Receiving the incorruptible part, that is the Word, Holy Spirit, and love, so we experience sanctification and renewal from God.

1 Peter 1:4

1:4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

3. Receiving the undefiled part, meaning keeping living in righteousness and holiness. We are not affected by the world, as the lilies are still white although they grow in the marsh.
4. Receiving the part that does not fade away, meaning we are not disappointed and we do not leave God whatever we face.
5. Receiving the part that is reserved in Heaven, meaning we live in the world with the ambience of Heaven.
It is until we enter the kingdom of Heaven when He comes a second time.

God blesses us.

GENERAL SERVICE

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

Revelation 2-3 is about the last sanctification to the seven churches of the Gentiles or the church in the last days, until we become perfect and blameless as Him.

Revelation 2:18-29 is about the church in Thyatira.

Revelation 2:26-29

2:26 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations

2:27 He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels as I also have received from My Father;

2:28 and I will give him the morning star.

2:29 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

The promises of God to the church in Thyatira who overcomes are as follows.

1. Ruling the nations with a rod of iron.
2. God gives the morning star to us.

ad. 2. God gives the morning star to us.

Revelation 22:16

22:16 I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David,

the Bright and Morning Star.

Jesus is the Bright and Morning Star. The church of God is the unfailing shining morning star.

The steps or the processes to become the shining morning star are as follows.

1. Becoming a star.

Especially, a star refers to the pastor of the congregation. Generally, a star refers to the servant of God who glorifies Him.

The requirements to become a star are as follows.

a. Entering the true water baptism.

Romans 6:2,4

6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The true water baptism is one who has repented and died to sin must be buried in water together with Jesus, to be raised from water together with Him in new life, that is the Heavenly life.

Matthew 3:16

3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

Romans 6:11-13

6:11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

6:13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

The Heavenly life is being alive to God in Christ Jesus. It equals to living in righteousness and being used as the instruments of righteousness.

Be careful if one preserves sin while ministering God, he will become the instruments of unrighteousness and be used to harm the body of Christ.

b. Experiencing sanctification by the teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword.

2 Timothy 2:21-22

2:21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

What is sanctification for?

■ To sanctify our heart from evil and unclean desire.

Unclean desire is the youthful lusts, that is sin concerning eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-being given in marriage (sexuality sin with all its variety, wrong marriage, mix marriage, marriage after divorce, free sex).

Evil desire is the lust of money or being bound by money. It causes stinginess and greediness. Greediness means seizing the right of God (the tithe and special offering) and the others. Stinginess means being unable to give for the work of God and the others who are in need.

The proof of being sanctified from evil desire is being able to return the tithe and special offering that belong to God, and having joy in giving more than receiving.

Genesis 13:16

13:16 And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.

God promises that He will make the descendants of Abram as the dust of the earth. It refers to one who ministers God with the aim of getting the physical matters.

Genesis 3:14

3:14 So the Lord God said to the serpent:â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.

If one ministers with the aim of getting physical matters, he (the dust) will be eaten by the serpent, meaning being controlled by antichrist until worshiping him and being destroyed forever.

Genesis 14:20

14:20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.â And he gave him a tithe of all.

Genesis 15:5

15:5 Then He brought him outside and said, âLook now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.â And He said to him, âSo shall your descendants be.â

If our heart is sanctified so we can return the tithe and special offering, God's promise to Abram is his descendants will not be as the dust anymore, but as the stars.

Thus, through the sanctification of the heart and returning the tithe and special offering, our spirituality will be elevated from the dust to the star, that is the servant of God who glorifies Him.

2 Timothy 2:22

2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue (1)righteousness, (2)faith, (3)love, (4)peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Ministry with a pure heart is marked with righteousness, faith, love, and peace.

- To sanctify us from strife.

2 Timothy 2:23-26

2:23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

2:24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

2:25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,

2:26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

A servant of God must not quarrel. One who likes to quarrel cannot become a servant of God.

One who likes to quarrel is he who likes to oppose righteousness.

If we are sanctified from strife, we will be able to minister with patience, gentleness, and humility, to be able to glorify God and help the others who are in the snare of the devil.

2. Becoming the shining star.

Philippians 2:12-15

2:12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

2:13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing,

2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

The process is as follows.

- a. Ministering with fear and trembling, meaning being faithful and responsible to God.

- b. Ministering with will and pleasure from God.

Will is the encouragement from God through the preaching of the Word. If one always rejects the encouragement from God and is unwilling to serve Him, sometime there will be no more chance to serve Him. If one does not serve God, the star will get darker. But if one serves Him, the star will shine more.

Pleasure is willingness to sacrifice the time, energy, money, thought, feeling, until being able to offer our whole life to God.

- c. Ministering without complaining and disputing.

Complaining and disputing happen since preserving the unrighteousness.

Let us serve with silence, meaning correcting ourselves through the sharpness of the sword of the Word. If we have fault, we confess it to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we must not repeat it again. Afterwards, we give thanks and worship God more. Thus, the star will shine more.

3. Becoming the unfailing morning star.

There was the morning star, that is Lucifer. But he was fallen because of his arrogance. He was disobedient and opposed God. He fell to the world and became Satan who will be destroyed.

Isaiah 14:12-15

14:12 *How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!*

14:13 *For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;*

14:14 *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.*

14:15 *Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.*

Philippians 2:8-9

2:8 *And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*

2:9 *Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,*

The peak of humility and obedience of Jesus is His death on the cross with five wounds.

Revelation 22:16

22:16 *I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.*

Therefore, He is highly exalted as the Bright and Morning Star.

If we want to become the unfailing morning star, we must also humble ourselves and be obedient until the flesh does not sound anymore. The examples are Abraham who is obedient to offer his son, the widow of Zarephath who is obedient to make food for Elijah first, and Mary who is obedient to be pregnant without a husband.

Obedience until the flesh does not sound anymore equals to believing and fully surrendering our life to God.

Revelation 1:16

1:16 *He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.*

Thus, God will stretch out His right hand to hold the star so it will not fall and be destroyed.

Psalms 118:15-16

118:15 *The voice of rejoicing and salvation in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the Lord does valiantly.*

118:16 *The right hand of the Lord is exalted; The right hand of the Lord does valiantly.*

The result is the right hand of God is exalted, meaning as follows.

- a. He makes everything beautiful and successful in His time.
- b. He uses our life in the building of the perfect body of Christ.
- c. He renews our life from the flesh man to the spiritual one.

One of the miracles in the Bible is the miracle of wine made from water.

- It is started from the renewal of the performance or outer appearance (the way of attiring, the way of associating).
- Renewal of the characters to become the sweet ones, that is humility (being able to confess our sins) and gentleness (being able to forgive the others). If the sins are reconciled, there will be the sweet wine. If the sins are preserved, there will be only bitter gall.
- There is also changing in taste when water becomes wine, meaning the mouth is renewed so we can be honest and say good and right words.

If spiritual miracle happens, the physical one will also happen. The prayer of the upright is the delight of God. We become a house of prayer.

Proverbs 15:8

15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, But the prayer of the upright is His delight.

Physical miracles mean creating the things that do not exist before and making possible the impossible things. The tasteless marriage will be made sweet.

When Jesus comes a second time, we will be renewed as glorious as Him and welcome His coming on the glorious clouds.

God blesses us.