

General Service in Malang, April 28, 2024 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 21:14

21:14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The wall of the New Jerusalem had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

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.

It refers to the foundation of the Church, namely the teachings of the apostles in the New Testament as the fulfillment of the prophecy in the Old Testament. It means the true teaching Word, namely the New and Old Testament.

The foundations of the church, the heavenly bride, or the New Jerusalem are as follows:

1. **Persevering in the apostles' doctrine and breaking of bread**--> the Table of Showbread or the perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with the Holy Communion. The sheep are given the food to get the extra power for being able to endure all things and growing spiritually as well as getting the sanctification to the inward and outward man until reaching the spiritual maturity.
2. **Persevering in the fellowship**--> the Golden Candlestick or perseverance in committing the General Service. The sheep are given drink to always be fresh or not dry spiritually, but always faithful and fervent in spirit in the service and ministry to God.
3. **Persevering in prayers**--> the Golden Altar of Incense or perseverance in committing the Prayer Service. The sheep are breathing with the fear of the Lord, loving Him, and obeying Him until getting the eternal life.

Thus, the foundation of the church is the **shepherding**. The church must be shepherded well and correctly or always dwell in the sheepfold through the perseverance in committing the three main services to God. As a result, the following two things will happen:

1. [verse 41] The increase in quantity up to three thousand through the water baptism, Gospel Word, or the Good News. If the church is shepherded, she will enter the revival of Holy Spirit at the early rain. It is in the Gospel Word or Good News that preaches Jesus' first coming to the world as the only sinless man who must die on the cross for saving the sinners.

The signs of salvation is believing Jesus as the only Savior, repenting, and getting the water and Holy Spirit baptism. We live in righteousness. We are saved and blessed.

2. The increase of quality up to the number three thousand through the teaching Word or Bride Tidings.

3000 = 2000 (the Holy Place = 20x10x10) + 1000 (the Most Holy Place = 10x10x10).

If the church is shepherded, she will enter the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain or the revival in the teaching Word or Bride Tidings that preaches Jesus' second coming in the glory as the King of all kings or the Heavenly Bridegroom for choosing the people who have been saved for being sanctified and perfected like Jesus and being the heavenly bride.

Be careful! Many are called, but few are chosen. It means that many Christians have been saved, but they cannot reach the perfection because of being left behind when Jesus comes a second time.

Genesis 19:15-17, 26

19:15 When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city."

19:16 And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.

19:17 So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

19:26 But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Lot and the family have gone out of Sodom and Gomorrah. It means being saved or not getting the punishment. Nevertheless, they

were still commanded to go up to the mountain. It means to increase the spirituality up to the perfection. On the way, his wife looked back until being the pillar of salt. It means not being perfect as the salt of world until reaching the perdition.

Revelation 21:9-10

21:9 *Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."*

21:10 *And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,*

The church that has been saved and blessed by God must try hard to reach the mountain, namely the perfection of the heavenly bride or the New Jerusalem.

Be careful, do not look back like Lot's wife! It means as follows:

1. **We must be obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore.** We are not influenced by anything in the world.

Acts 13:22

13:22 *"And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'"*

Saul was great, but disobedient to God, so he was removed by God. David was obedient, so he could be well-pleasing toward God, chosen by Him, and appointed as king.

The levels of obedience are as follows:

- Obedience in the marriage or household.

The husband must love the wife like he loves himself and not do bitterly toward her.

The wife must obey the husband in everything.

The children must obey the parents.

The marriage or household becomes '*home sweet home*' or the most desired place and the house of prayer.

- Obedience in the shepherding.

John 10:27-28

10:27 *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*

10:28 *"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*

It is the same as stretching out the hands to God and He will stretch out His hands to us. We live in the hands of God, the Great Shepherd, and have the guarantee of life assurance for our present life, the future, up to the eternal one.

- Obedience in all things to God until the flesh does not speak anymore.

2 Corinthians 10:6

10:6 *and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.*

It continues to the perfect obedience.

2. **Do not be bound by Sodom and Gomorrah!** It means as follows:

- **Do not be bound by the world and all its influences such as the business, amenities, sorrows, riches, and so on!**

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.*

The world with all of its influences makes us unfaithful in the service and ministry to God. Being the friend of the world is the same as being God's enemy.

- **Do not be bound by sins up to the peak!** We must become the right servant of God. Do not commit any sin! We must be the faithful and true priests in the service and ministry to God.

Isaiah 11:5

11:5 *Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.*

It is the same as wearing the belt of faithfulness and righteousness. As a result, our life becomes neat and in order.

Luke 17:7-8

17:7 "And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'?"

17:8 "But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'?"

We are always ready for giving food and drink to God for satisfying His heart. As a result, the matter of our food and drink becomes God's concerning.

1 Timothy 6:6

6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

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.

God will give the great gain, namely the two wings of a great eagle for evacuating us to the wilderness, far away from the presence of the Antichrist who reigns over the world for three and a half years. We are preserved directly by God through the true teaching Word and Holy Communion.

Jeremiah 2:32

2:32 Can a virgin forget her ornaments, Or a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.

The belt refers to the ornament of the bride. We are chosen to be the heavenly bride.

3. Do not set the sight on the worldly things, but only to Jesus, the High Priest, who sits at the right side of the throne of Father God!

Hebrews 12:1-2

12:1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

It means as follows:

○ We take the example of Jesus, the High Priest.

a. In the holiness.

We get the sanctification from the burdens of sin. The burden of sin means the sin which we have done, said, or thought. The sanctification happens through confessing sins to God and others. Being forgiven, we must not repeat the sins. We live in righteousness and holiness. Do not add the burden of sin, but finish it!

We are sanctified also from the sins which ensnare us by the work of the sword of the Word, so we do not stumble because of sin, but live in righteousness and holiness.

b. In the perseverance for bearing the cross.

We willingly suffer in the flesh because of Jesus, ministry, or righteousness until we get the heavenly joy. We get the sprinkling of blood or the last sanctification until being as perfect as Jesus is.

○ We rely on the mercy or grace of God.

Psalms 107:43

107:43 Whoever is wise will observe these things, And they will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

The results are as follows:

a. We get the renewal through the water and Holy Spirit baptism.

Titus 3:5

3:5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

It results in the sincere heart like the dove's and the honest mouth. We can confess our weaknesses physically and spiritually.

- b. Jesus is able to reconcile or forgive us our sins as long as we willingly confess our sins.

Hebrews 2:17-18

2:17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

2:18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

We feel peaceful. All things become easy and light. All burdens have been born by Jesus on the cross.

Jesus is able to help and finish all impossible problems in time of need.

- c. Jesus is able to use our life in the revival of Holy Spirit at the latter rain for the glory of God although there are many challenges and hindrances we must face.

2 Samuel 15:25-26

15:25 Then the king said to Zadok, "Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the LORD, He will bring me back and show me both it and His dwelling place.

15:26 "But if He says thus: 'I have no delight in you,' here I am, let Him do to me as seems good to Him."

God makes all things good. Failure is changed into success and beauty. It continues until we are changed to be perfect for welcoming Jesus' second coming.

God blesses you.