

General Service in Malang, August 02, 2020 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 11:15-19 is about the sound of the seventh trumpet or the last one.

Revelation 11:15

11:15. Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

The seventh trumpet shows Jesus, who comes a second time on the glorious clouds in the glory as the King of all kings and the Heavenly Bridegroom for establishing or restoring the heavenly kingdom on earth, namely the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace or the upcoming Paradise until someday we truly enter the heavenly kingdom or the New Jerusalem forever. Formerly, paradise was corrupted by the serpent, but someday God will restore it.

Revelation 11:16-17

*11:16. And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God,
11:17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned."*

The atmosphere of the heavenly kingdom, paradise, or the heavenly throne on earth is in the worship with a broken heart or falling on our face.

Revelation 19:4

19:4. And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!"

The twenty four elders worship the Lord or the King and the Heavenly Bridegroom with the broken heart and voice "*Alleluia*". Not worshipping with saying "*Alleluia*", one will not meet the King; even he will keep on facing problems and not experience the power of the King. Moreover, he cannot become the bride. The power of the King with the word "*Alleluia*" is able to bring us to paradise.

Whatever our condition, although we have been like the criminal, do not be hopeless! Just fall on face much more! God is able to move us to paradise in a moment. The power of the King cannot be defeated.

Luke 17:16

17:16. and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.

The twenty four elders or the holy men can fall down on their faces. The leper can also fall down on his face. The leprosy means as follows:

- Physical disease.
- Sinful men.

The Samaritan who belonged to the Gentiles could fall down on his face at Jesus' feet.

Thus, all men can fall down on their faces at the throne of heaven and say "*Alleluia*" to feel the atmosphere of Paradise on earth. The important thing is our will, whether we keep the hard heart or the meek one. This is the mercy and justice of God to us.

Luke 17:11-19

*17:11. Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.
17:12 Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off.
17:13 And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"
17:14 So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.
17:15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God,
17:16 and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.
17:17 So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?
17:18 "Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?"
17:19 And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."*

The verses are about the ten lepers.

Verse 11 = '*He passed through the midst*' = the border or separation between Samaria (the Gentiles) and Galilee (Israel) towards Jerusalem.

It means that Jesus wants to unify Israel and the Gentiles to be one perfect body of Christ to enter paradise and the New Jerusalem, so there is no border or separation anymore.

The term 'unify' is the same as breaking down the middle wall of separation.

At least there are **two middle walls of separation between Israel and the Gentiles or the two kinds of hindrances in the fellowship of the perfect body of Christ** that starts from the marriage as follows:

1. **The Law.**

The Israelites have the Law, but they cannot fulfill it, so they are sinful. If they had fulfilled the Law, the Gentiles would have perished.

The Gentiles have no Law, so they are also sinful.

2. **The leprosy.** It means as follows:

- a. The sins of uncleanness, namely the ones concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

Leviticus 13:45-46

13:45. *"Now the leper on whom the sore is, his clothes shall be torn and his head bare; and he shall cover his mustache, and cry, 'Unclean! Unclean!'"*

13:46 *"He shall be unclean. All the days he has the sore he shall be unclean. He is unclean, and he shall dwell alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp."*

Having the sins of uncleanness, one will be expelled automatically.

'*his clothes shall be torn*' = Take heed to the way you get dressed! Do not show the uncleanness. Fashion is not prohibited, but do not want to be the first about fashion!

- b. The sins of evil = the will of money which causes stinginess and greediness until one lies.

The stinginess means that one cannot give.

The greediness means stealing the possession of others, especially God's, namely the tithes and offerings, serving and ministering to God only to look for the physical things like Gehazi, or unfaithfulness in the service and ministry to God because of looking for money. Be careful! Daring to make a relationship or engagement and marriage, one must be faithful. Although one has done adultery, there must be the forgiveness. Being hard hearted and divorcing, there must be no remarrying after that. We must keep faithful.

2 Kings 5:20,25-27

5:20. *But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "Look, my master has spared Naaman this Syrian, while not receiving from his hands what he brought; but as the LORD lives, I will run after him and take something from him."*

5:25 *Now he went in and stood before his master. Elisha said to him, "Where did you go, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant did not go anywhere."*

5:26 *Then he said to him, "Did not my heart go with you when the man turned back from his chariot to meet you? Is it time to receive money and to receive clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male and female servants?"*

5:27 *"Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever." And he went out from his presence leprous, as white as snow.*

Naaman was leprous and healed by God through Elisha the prophet. He wanted to give something to Elisha, but Elisha rejected it. Nevertheless, Gehazi asked it to him.

The sins of uncleanness and evil are the same as the ones of Babylon which hinder the body of Christ.

- c. The self-truth (being white, but leprous) as follows:

- i. The truth which is outside the Bible. Something which is not in line with the Word will be condemned. Formerly, the world was condemned by the flood, but someday it will be condemned by the fire from heaven.

- ii. Covering sins through blaming at the righteous.

- d. '*Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?*' = not giving thanks, but only murmuring and blaming at others.

The attitudes of children to the parents must be good. Although the parents are evil or unclean, the children must not repay evil for evil, but good for evil. That is the proof that we know to give thanks.

Not giving thanks, someday one will murmur, judge, and so on.

Numbers 14:29

14:29. 'The carcasses of you who have complained against Meshall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above.

Israel was the star, but became the beast (carcass) because of murmuring and blaming at others. Do not murmur, gossip, and so on, especially about the righteous, or else there will be the decrease in life sooner or later.

The wall of separation cannot unite the body of Christ, but it divides until there is no one perfect body of Christ. It means that one cannot become the heavenly bride. He cannot have the atmosphere of paradise in the world. He cannot return to it as well as the New Jerusalem. The consequence is the everlasting perdition.

The solution to heal the leper or break down the middle wall of separation is the grace of God through the sacrifice or cross of Christ.

Luke 17:13-14

17:13. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

17:14 So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.

Jesus as the Heavenly Bridegroom and the King willingly dies on the cross for destroying the two kinds of the middle walls of separation as follows:

1. He dies on the cross **for fulfilling the Law**, so the Israelites who have and transgress the Law can be united with the Gentiles who do not have the Law, by the grace of God through the cross of Christ.

Matthew 5:17

5:17. "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

Ephesians 2:13-16

2:13. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

2:15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

2:16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

'who once were far off' = the Gentiles.

The Israelites and Gentiles can be reconciled by the cross of Christ to become one body which is saved. It is said as the spiritual Israel or the Church of the Lord.

The requirements of receiving the salvation are as follows:

- Having faith or believing Jesus as the only Saviour who has willingly died for fulfilling the law, so we do not get the condemnation.
- Repenting or stopping sinning to return to God. It means being dead to sins or the old life.
The process is through the reconciliation or confessing and forgiving sins one another. After being forgiven, do not repeat the sin!
- Being reborn through the water and Holy Spirit baptism.
The true water baptism means that one who has believed in Jesus and repented or died to sin must be buried in water with Jesus to be raised with Him and get the new or heavenly life, namely the one in the anointing of Holy Spirit or the Holy Spirit baptism. We can live in righteousness.

It is said as fulfilling the Law, namely living in righteousness, so the Israelites and Gentiles can be the one body of Christ that is saved.

Being saved is not enough. We must continue to the next step.

2. Jesus willingly dies on the cross for sanctifying us doubly in our outward and inward man through the water of the water baptism and the rain water of the teaching Word.

Ephesians 5:25-27

5:25. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

5:26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

The rain water of the teaching Word refers to the Word which is abundant and repeated to give us the result.

Jesus sanctifies us doubly for the following things:

- Sanctifying us from the leprosy.

Leviticus 14:8-9

14:8. "He who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean. After that he shall come into the camp, and shall stay outside his tent seven days.

14:9 "But on the seventh day he shall shave all the hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows -- all his hair he shall shave off. He shall wash his clothes and wash his body in water, and he shall be clean.

Being washed only once, one could enter the camp, but not to his own tent.

Therefore, there must be the second washing and then one shall be clean.

The outward and inward man is sanctified through the water baptism and the rain water of the teaching Word.

Deuteronomy 32:1-2

32:1. "Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

32:2 Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass.

We are sanctified from the leprosy or the self-truth which makes us separated from God and other people.

- Perfecting all of us to be the Heavenly Bride.

Ephesians 5:27

5:27. that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

We place Jesus as the Head. The proof is not stumbling in words, but only crying out "*Alleluia*" for welcoming Jesus second coming on the glorious clouds.

Unfortunately, from among the ten lepers (nine lepers were Israelites and one was a Samaritan or Gentile), only the Gentile returned to Jesus for placing Him as the Head.

Actually, the nine Israelites had the main chance for being cleansed and entering the edification of the perfect body of Christ or placing Jesus as the Head. Unfortunately, they were not willing. They kept the self-truth. Only the physical leprosy was healed, but the spirituality kept on rejecting God or not placing Jesus as the Head. There are many services like that, namely only aiming at the physical things, but the spirituality keeps leprosy in the self-truth. It means being separated from God and other people.

In the teaching Word, God works for changing the spiritual matters first, and then the physical miracle will happen for sure.

Because the Israelites were not willing, the chance was opened for the Gentiles to enter the edification of the perfect body of Christ and place Jesus as the Head.

The proofs are as follows:

- a. Always glorifying God, not making Him grieved.

Luke 17:17-18

17:17. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?"

17:18 "Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?"

1 Corinthians 6:20

6:20. For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 7:2-3

7:2. Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.

7:3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

We become the faithful and true servants of God who serve and minister to Him with the manners which can please Him, not to be in line with men. It is the same as the service to God in the system of the heavenly kingdom or the Tabernacle. Such ministry will glorify God.

Hebrews 12:28

12:28. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

If the ministry is according to the heavenly kingdom or the perseverance in the shepherding, we will feel the heavenly kingdom on earth. Maybe it is painful for the flesh, but later it will be sweet.

We will experience the protection and preservation from God miraculously in the world and all things become easy and light. There are many temptations indeed, but do not look at them! Just look at the Great Shepherd and we will be calm.

God lets us get the temptation to make us seriously shepherded. Do not doubt His love!

The higher the temptation is, we are not being drowned, but glorifying God and we are being glorified more until someday we are as glorious as Jesus is. This is the difference between the system of the heavenly kingdom with the one of the world.

b. Returning the tithes which belong to God.

The tithes mean as follows:

- i. The confession that we live by Jesus as the Head who is responsible for our life until we get the eternal life.
- ii. The confession that we are God's.

c. Falling down at Jesus' feet means as follows:

- i. Giving thanks that we have Jesus as the King of all kings, the Great Shepherd, and the Heavenly Bridegroom, who has the power which cannot be defeated by anything. So, we are not proud of anything we have and we do not get disappointed or hopeless when others hurt us. We only give thanks to Him and we will not fall forever.
- ii. Worshiping with a broken heart and saying "*Alleluia*". We confess that we are only the clay. Spiritually, we have many sins and physically, we cannot do anything. Nevertheless, we fully entrust ourselves to God. We have faith in Him and we are not doubtful.

Luke 17:19

17:19. And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

We only hear and obey the voice of the Shepherd. We fully rely on His grace. The need of the Gentiles is only His grace.

Facing all things, we must keep on giving thanks and only falling down on our face or relying on God's mercy.

We stretch out our hands of faith and God will stretch out His merciful hands. The faith which is added with mercy will make us experience the miracle of God, namely the steps of Jesus Himself for going to the New Jerusalem. We only follow Him.

Galatians 5:6

5:6. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

2 Kings 5:7

5:7. And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God,

to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me."

Formerly, the leprosy was a disease which was about to die or to live.

Maybe our condition now is like being between death and life. God will help. The miracle will happen until we have the steps of miracle to the New Jerusalem. We are renewed until we are perfect and we shout for joy "Alleluia" when Jesus comes a second time. We enter the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace or the Future Paradise and the New Jerusalem.

God blesses you.