

General Service in Malang, August 23, 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.

The seventh trumpet presents three things as follows:

1. Verse 15-17 is about Jesus, who will come 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 in the world, namely the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace (the upcoming Paradise) and the heavenly kingdom or the eternal New Jerusalem (it has been explained).

2. God's wrath to the world

Revelation 11:18

11:18. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

3. The ark of covenant that refers to the perfect church or the heavenly bride.

Revelation 11:19

11:19. Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

ad. 2.

Revelation 11:18

11:18. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

The seventh trumpet presents God as the righteous Judge, namely God's wrath to the world and those who are worthy to be destroyed by the three times seven punishments, doomsday up to the hell forever. But, He also gives reward to those who are worthy to receive it.

Who is worthy to receive the reward from God?

1. 'Your servants' refers to the servant of God (it has been explained).
2. 'the prophets' refers to one who hears and obeys the true teaching word (it has been explained).
3. 'the saints' means becoming the saints.

ad. 3.

The meaning of the saints is the people who can comprehend, understand, feel, and experience what is the width and length and depth and height of the love of Christ.

Ephesians 3:18

3:18. may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height-

Without love, all things will be in vain up to perdition forever.

The facts of comprehending, understanding, feeling, and experiencing the love of Christ are as follows:

1. **What is the depth and height of the love of Christ.** It means as follows:

- 'The height' refers to ascending.
- 'The depth' refers to descending.

Ephesians 4:8-12

4:8. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

4:9. (Now this, "He ascended" --what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

4:10. He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

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,

Jesus has descended into the lower parts of the earth or the Hades to the point of death on the cross to set the sinners free from the captivity of death or perdition.

This is the depth of the love of Christ.

So, comprehending the love of Christ until we understand it means that we as the sinners must be set free from the captivity of sin, especially three sins as follows:

- Liar.

Isaiah 28:15

28:15. *Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, And with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, It will not come to us, For we have made lies our refuge, And under falsehood we have hidden ourselves."*

Lying is the same as making a covenant with death.

Do not lie in all things!

A liar cannot be touched by human and God. He is just in the hand of Satan to be destroyed.

If we comprehend the love of Christ until we understand it, we must be set free from sins right now, namely producing the true and good words.

- Not loving others. It is the same as being unjust and harming others moreover the fellow priest.

1 John 3:14-15

3:14. *We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.*

3:15. *Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.*

Hophni and Phinehas hurt the servants of God. The consequence was Ichabod. It is dangerous!

Not loving others is the same as hating and returning evil for good.

- The sin of Babylon, namely the sins of eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, and drugs abuse) and marrying-giving in marriage (fornication by words, mind, and sight, fornication between man and woman who are not husband and wife, homosexuality, lesbianism, and intimate relationship between man and animal).

Proverbs 5:3,5

5:3. *For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, And her mouth is smoother than oil;*

5:5. *Her feet go down to death, Her steps lay hold of hell.*

If we are set free from these sins, we will live in righteousness and holiness. This is called the saint who comprehends, understands, feels, and experiences the depth of the love of Christ.

Ephesians 4:8,11-12

4:8. *Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."*

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,*

Jesus ascends on high and sits at the right hand of the throne of Father God to give the ministry to the saints or uplift the saints to become the priests and kings who are used in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ.

This is the height of the love of Christ to set us free from the captivity of death to be bound in the spirit.

Revelation 1:5-6

1:5. *and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,*

1:6. *and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

'washed us from our sins' refers to the depth of the love of Christ.

'made us kings and priests' refers to the height of the love of Christ.

Acts 20:22

20:22. *"And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there,*

The height and depth of the love of Christ set us free from the captivity of death to be bound in the Spirit.

This is what we must experience these days.

Do not keep becoming the captivity of death! Now we must be set free from sins at least the three sins above, so we are used by God, not Satan. Do not wait until tomorrow!

The signs of being bound in the spirit are as follows:

- The humble servant of God.

Acts 20:17-20,22-24

20:17. *From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church.*

20:18. *And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you,*

20:19. *"serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews;*

20:20. *"how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house,*

20:22. *"And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there,*

20:23. *"except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.*

20:24. *"But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

'proclaimed it to you, and taught you' means the Gospel word and the teaching one.

Being humble means as follows:

- a. The ability to confess the sins to God and others. Do not sin anymore after being forgiven!
- b. The ability to recognize others' superiority, so we can work together.
Do not be envious to others' superiority! Just follow his teaching and example!
If we are haughty, we will be alone and unable to work together.

- The servant of God who ministers with many tears. It means as follows:

- a. Having seriousness or responsibility in every ministry.
- b. Sacrificing for God and others, not the opposite.
- c. Struggling at Jesus' feet many times to face any problems until God gives His mercy.
God can do all things in His mercy.

The Gentiles should be destroyed, but we can be saved because of His mercy on the cross.

Let us weep to face anything!

Our effort is limited but the love of God is not limited in the world, even He can open the door of heaven for us. Do not be afraid!

- Verse 20 and 24 means being faithful and fervent until the finish line, namely our death or Jesus' second coming.
'none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself' means that we are unwilling and unable to be blocked by anything.

2. The length and width of the love of Christ mean washing us of water by the 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.*

Washing of water refers to the true water baptism.

The true water baptism is that one who has died to sin or repented must be buried in water with Jesus and come out or rise from water with Him to receive new life or heavenly one, namely life in righteousness.

Washing of by the word refers to the rain of the true teaching Word.

Deuteronomy 32:2

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.

The teaching word must be repeated abundantly to wash us. This is the shepherding word.

The true teaching word which is repeated abundantly is the longsuffering of God. It is the same as the length and width of the love of Christ for us, especially the priests who still repeat the sins up to the peak.

If we have already known the word, but we keep sinning, we will become the stone or hard-hearted man, not the mortar.

That is why we must be purified doubly up to perfection.

After diving in the water baptism, we must dive into the rain of the true teaching Word, especially in Bible Study Service.

Just choose! The hard stone is drowned in the water baptism and the teaching word or in the lake of fire and brimstone because of keeping sinning.

Jesus washes us. It means as follows:

- Purifying us doubly, namely physically and spiritually, so we do not lie but become honest and sincere.

Colossians 3:5-9

3:5. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication⁽¹⁾, uncleanness⁽²⁾, passion⁽³⁾, evil desire⁽⁴⁾, and covetousness⁽⁵⁾, which is idolatry⁽⁶⁾.

3:6. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

3:8. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger⁽¹⁾, wrath⁽²⁾, malice⁽³⁾, blasphemy⁽⁴⁾, filthy language out of your mouth⁽⁵⁾.

3:9. Do not lie to one another⁽⁶⁾, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

Verse 5 contains six physical sins.

Verse 8-9 contains six spiritual sins.

- Renewing.

The teaching word is sharper than any two-edged sword.

The first sharp edge sanctifies us from physical and spiritual sins.

The second sharp edge renews us from fleshly men to spiritual ones like Jesus.

Colossians 3:10-14

3:10. and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

3:11. where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

3:12. Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies⁽¹⁾, kindness⁽²⁾, humility⁽³⁾, meekness⁽⁴⁾, longsuffering⁽⁵⁾;

3:13. bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do^(6: forgiving one another).

3:14. But above all these things put on love⁽⁷⁾, which is the bond of perfection.

Tender mercies means that we do not judge the sinner and caress the sin but bring him to God.

Kindness means a generous man.

Meekness is the ability to receive the hard teaching word.

Longsuffering means that one is patient in waiting the time of God.

These are the seven signs of the new man and the peak is love. We love God more than anything. It means obeying God until the flesh does not sound anymore.

This is the new man who comprehends the length and width of the love of Christ until he experiences it, namely becoming the servant of God who is honest and obedient. This is what God judges.

Honesty and obedience are the same as saying: "*Abba, Father.*" This is the prayer that culminates to God until we surrender our life.

The value is very high.

There are many beautiful virgins, but Esther has additional value. This additional value makes God become fervent and choose us.

God is writing in our heart what is the height and depth and length and width of His love to us, so we are bound in the Spirit up to perfection like Him.

We must also prove that we are honest, sincere, and obedient regardless of anything that happens especially in suffering. This is what God waits for.

We just worship God and He will stretch out His hands to us personally to perform miracle in the midst of us, not punishment.

The example is a woman caught in adultery.

John 8:2-11

8:2. Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them.

8:3. Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,

8:4. they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.

8:5. "Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"

8:6. This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

8:7. So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."

8:8. And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

8:9. Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

8:10. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"

8:11. She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

'a woman caught in adultery' refers to the hard stone.

'Jesus was left alone' means that the love of God is written personally.

The hard stone means that one lives in sins up to the peak and experiences the destruction in marriage and children, and failure in study and work. He is ashamed and in fear, stress, and tears up to stalemate and perdition forever.

'went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last' means that we must be careful because there are many people who realize that they have sinned, but they leave Jesus or they do not confess the sin.

The woman caught in adultery was like the hard stone, but she wanted to be written by God twice as follows:

- The first one is the writing of the height and depth of the love of Christ. This woman wanted to confess her sin.
- The second one is the writing of the length and width of the love of Christ. This woman wanted to be purified and changed up to honesty and obedience.

This is what God waits for. God allows something that is overwhelming to happen to us beyond our mind and ability because He wants us to personally experience with Him. He who is alone on the cross is able to do great wonders.

Psalm 136:4

136:4. To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever;

God longs for us experiencing His love personally.

Job had never experienced the love of God personally, so he had to experience the total test to see God personally.

Job 42:5

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

Let's see the height and depth and length and width of the love of Christ. Do not see anything else! We will not depart from God's love.

On the cross, He alone does the miracle for us until Jesus comes a second time that we are changed to become as perfect as He is. We do not stumble in words. We just say, "Alleluia" on the glorious clouds. We are with God forever and of course with our family.

God blesses us.