

General Service in Malang, December 03, 2017 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 6:12-17

6:12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.

6:13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

6:14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

6:15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,

6:16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!

6:17 "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

The sixth condemnation of Holy Spirit God is great earthquake which causes these things:

1. Darkness [verse 12-13]
2. Shaking [verse 14]
3. Fear [verse 15-17].

ad. 1. Darkness.

The great earthquake spiritually means the influence of world with all of its activity, trouble, difficulty, uncleanness, wickedness, hatred, *et cetera* that cause these things:

1. The sun becomes black as sackcloth. It means that there is no more the love of God.
2. The moon becomes like blood. It means that the redemption of God has been finished or there is no more forgiveness to the sin.
3. The stars of heaven fall to the earth.

ad. b. The moon becomes like blood.

2 Peter 1:9

1:9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

Because of the great spiritual earthquake, many servants and ministers of God forget the forgiveness that they have got. It is the same as repeating sin up to the peak, the forgiveness is canceled, and there is no forgiveness anymore. Their spiritual life becomes blind or they cannot see the word of God.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

4:3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

There are two kinds of the preaching of the word as follows:

1. The Gospel word, the Gospel of salvation, good news, or milk.
It preaches the first coming of Jesus to die on the cross to save the sinful man.
2. The teaching word, the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, Bride Tidings or Solid food.
It preaches the second coming of Christ to sanctify the people who are saved to be mature in spirituality until they are as perfect as Jesus is.

Spiritual blindness means that one cannot see the light of the glory of the gospel of Christ. The consequences are as follows:

1. His spiritual condition is the same as a child or not being mature in spirituality, so he is deceived by the false teaching.
The spiritual condition as a child means that he cannot become the bride of God or he cannot welcome Jesus second coming.
2. He does not have the apple of eye. He does not know the direction to the New Jerusalem.

Proverbs 7:2

7:2 Keep my commands and live, And my law as the apple of your eye.

For example, Bartimaeus who is blind and always stays in Jericho. He never goes to Jerusalem. Jericho refers to the world with all of its joy, riches, *et cetera*. One who is blind will stay still in Jericho until perish with the world forever.

Mark 10:46

10:46 Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging.

The facts founds in one who is blind in spirituality are as follows:

1. He sits by the road. It means that He is not shepherded but walk around.

The meanings are as follows:

- His mind wanders or does not consecrate in hearing the word of God. Consequently, the seed of the word of God is eaten by bird, so he does not understand and believe the word. He does not have faith.
- His heart wanders. It means doubtful heart, so one is double-minded and he cannot enjoy the true teaching word. Consequently, He enters the spiritual famine and enjoys in sin up to the peak. He falls and cannot rise anymore. How filthy we are, if we want to hear and receive true teaching word, we can be resurrected.
- The feet wander. It means starting to hear other Teaching and gossips. The servant of God who gossips will not be able to preach the word of God. The congregation who gossip will not be able to eat the true teaching word.

2. Begging. It means as follows:

- One do not want until cannot sacrifice or give time, energy, money, *et cetera*. Do not count everything that we have done for Jesus. If we count it, we are the same as Judas. Finally, he was replaced by Matias.
- Serving and ministering only to look for physical profit until doing everything to get it.

3. Having on filthy mantle.

Mark 10:50

10:50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.

It means serving and ministering to God, but still keeping the old life.

Psalms 109:29

109:29 Let my accusers be clothed with shame, And let them cover themselves with their own disgrace as with a mantle.

It also means serving and ministering to God with indicting and judging others, so there is no opportunity to do introspection in his life.

4. Blindness means being in suffering, heavy burden, and darkness until the darkest one that is in hell forever.

God does not want if His become blind in spirituality until perish forever. Therefore, Jesus passed through the place where Bartimaeus was sitting. Now, Jesus also passes through in the midst of us to help us. He helps us when the true teaching word is being reached continually. The Word of God is preached repetitively to give us wide opportunity to receive His help.

The process of God's help to us are as follows:

1. Jesus passed to be near Bartimaeus. It means that He comes near the sinful man or man who has heavy burden and suffering through the preaching of the true teaching word. The sinful men do not have ability to come near God. Instead, they run away from Him. It has happened since in Eden.

Our attitude is that we must open our heart widely to hear the true teaching word. The time we can hear, obey and enjoy the word of God is the time we are near God the most.

2. Jesus called Bartimaeus.

Mark 10:49

19:49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you."

Jesus calls all of us who are in suffering and heavy burden. It happens when the true teaching word shows all of our conditions, and sins personally. Other people do not know our condition.

When the word of God rebukes us, we have personal relation with Him. It becomes the moment to pour our heart to Him. Do not be angry like Herod when the word of God rebuked Him.

Isaiah 59:1-3

59:1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

59:3 For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity.

Next, we can confess our sins. After being forgiven, do not do sin anymore. So we will become the main priority to be helped by God.

3. Jesus answered and said to him, *"What do you want Me to do for you?"*

Mark 10:51

10:51 So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."

It means that God offers the healing or the help that cannot be limited by man's mind and logic or by anything else because Jesus has cried out "it is finished". All things have been finished by Jesus on the cross.

The main need of the blind man is to see, namely to see the true teaching word.

We can hear the word of God seriously, understand, believe, trust and obey it. It is the time we see God. We can lift our hand to God. God will see us and all of our sufferings. He hears our crying and stretches His great merciful hand, so we can see the miracle of the word.

Psalms 119:18

119:18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.

We experience the spiritual miracle. We can see our sin and weakness, so we do not judge others.

The physical miracle will happen too. He is able to make something from nothing to preserve our life. All things become successful and beautiful when we can see the word of God.

Mark 10:51-52

10:51 So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."

10:52 Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

God has done everything in our life, and what have we done for Him? Let us follow Him until the end line or until we can welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

God blesses you.