

General Service in Malang, December 11, 2022 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 18 refers to the golden that had manna or the perfect faith or life.

It is the clay pot that is filled with the true teaching Word until the faith is increased up to the perfection as the perfect life or the heavenly bride who is ready for welcoming Jesus' second coming and receiving the eternal life in heaven forever.

Babylon refers to the clay pot that does not want to be filled with manna or the true teaching Word, so it is filled with evil and unclean spirits as well as hatred until being perfect in evil and uncleanness and she must get the punishment of God up to the doomsday and everlasting perdition in the hell.

There are three groups of men who may be dragged by the sins of Babylon to perish together with her as follows:

1. [Revelation 18:9-10] Kings = the priests and kings or the servants of God.
2. [Revelation 18:11-16] Merchants who only trade physically, but not spiritually. It means not being active in the ministry for the edification of Christ's body.
3. [Revelation 18:17-20] Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea.

ad. 3. **Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea.**

Revelation 18:17-20

18:17 'For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.' Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance

18:18 "and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is like this great city?'

18:19 "They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.'

18:20 "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"

They have their occupation on the sea as follows:

1. Men or God's servants who are busy only to look for physical things in the world until they forget to look for God or serve and minister to Him.
2. The servants of God who serve and minister to Him but only as occupation to earn a living for getting the physical things.

Revelation 17:1,15

17:1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

17:15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

Consequently, they become like the sea waters on which Babylon sits or rules. They are forced to get the characteristics of Babylon until being punished with her.

Proverbs 7:13-24,26-27

7:13 So she caught him and kissed him; With an impudent face she said to him:

7:14 "I have peace offerings with me; Today I have paid my vows.

7:15 So I came out to meet you, Diligently to seek your face, And I have found you.

7:16 I have spread my bed with tapestry, Colored coverings of Egyptian linen.

7:17 I have perfumed my bed With myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

7:18 Come, let us take our fill of love until morning; Let us delight ourselves with love.

7:19 For my husband is not at home; He has gone on a long journey;

7:20 He has taken a bag of money with him, And will come home on the appointed day."

7:21 With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, With her flattering lips she seduced him.

7:22 Immediately he went after her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as a fool to the correction of the stocks,

7:23 Till an arrow struck his liver. As a bird hastens to the snare, He did not know it would cost his life.

7:24 Now therefore, listen to me, my children; Pay attention to the words of my mouth:

7:26 For she has cast down many wounded, And all who were slain by her were strong men.

7:27 Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death.

The characteristics of Babylon are as follows:

1. [verse 14] Lying, teaching the false teaching.
2. [verse 18] Being full of fleshly lusts that aim at the sin of uncleanness.
3. [verse 19] Not appreciating the marriage as the glorious gift from God only to men. It means unfaithfulness, quarrel, sexual affairs, and so on.
4. [verse 21] Seducing, tempting.
5. [verse 26] Spiritual murder until many are dead spiritually or not fervent in spirit in the spiritual things. It means only committing sins up to the peak.

Receiving the characteristics of Babylon, one will be the same as her, the false church, or the bride of Satan that will be burnt in one hour to perish forever.

Therefore, we must pray for one hour and add it with fasting prayer and all night-long to tear the flesh with all of its lusts prayer until receiving the characteristics of Jesus and being as perfect as Jesus is.

Proverbs 30:18-19

30:18 There are three things which are too wonderful for me, Yes, four which I do not understand:

30:19 The way of an eagle in the air, The way of a serpent on a rock, The way of a ship in the midst of the sea, And the way of a man with a virgin.

There are four characteristics of Jesus as follows:

1. The way of an eagle in the air = Jesus as the King of all kings.
2. The way of a ship in the midst of the sea = Jesus as the serving Servant.
3. The way of a man with a virgin = Jesus as the Son of God or the Heavenly Bridegroom.
4. The way of a serpent on a rock = Jesus as the suffering Man.

Thus, we get the four characteristic of Jesus from the cross. Receiving the cross, we receive the four characteristics of Jesus until being perfect.

Mark 6:7-8

6:7 And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.

6:8 He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff--no bag, no bread, no copper in their money belts--

One of the provisions is the staff or cross.

In the New Testament, the staff or cross becomes the support of strength so that we are able to follow or minister to God (being sent by Him) up to the New Jerusalem because we must face many challenges, hindrances, and obstacles up to the impossibilities. In the Old Testament, the staff becomes the support of strength for Moses and Israelites to follow God up to the land of Canaan because of facing many challenges, hindrances, and obstacles.

There are three hindrances which can be overcome by the rod or cross as follows:

1. **The Red Sea**= impossibility.

Exodus 14:13-16

14:13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

14:14 "The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

14:15 And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.

14:16 "But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

It refers to the world with all of its influences, difficulties, and impossibilities.

Our attitudes must be as follows:

- [verse 16] Lifting up the rod or cross. Do not be afraid or worried, but keep on standing in the promise of God or the true teaching Word!
- [verse 14] Holding our peace or do not be panic or hopeless!
We do the introspection in our life to know how our relationship with God is. Our business is repairing our personal relationship with God or being shepherded seriously. The impossible things become God's.
- [verse 15] Going forward is the same as being obedient until the flesh does not speak.

Exodus 14:21-22

14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east

windall that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

14:22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

As a result a strong east wind flows from the cross. It refers to the power of Holy Spirit to divide the Red Sea or finish all impossible problems and give the beautiful successful future life until the door of heaven is opened.

2. **Marah**= bitterness.

Exodus 15:22-25

15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

15:23 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.

15:24 And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

15:25 So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them. And there He tested them,

Life in the world faces many bitter things because of sins up to the peak. Satan fools men to commit sin and then he hinders them to confess or finish the sin, so their life is bitter until they perish. Where the sin is hidden, there must be the bitterness and sufferings.

The solution is in the rod or cross which God shows us to see.

Let us look at the cross.

John 19:28-30

19:28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

19:29 Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

19:30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

The fact found in it is confessing and forgiving sins one another.

As a result, the blood of Jesus finishes all sins and Holy Spirit is poured out to make our life sweet or joyful in the midst of sufferings and impossibilities. We can always give thanks to God.

3. **The flesh with all of its lusts.**

Exodus 17:1-7

17:1 Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink.

17:2 Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, "Give us water, that we may drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the LORD?"

17:3 And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, "Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"

17:4 So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!"

17:5 And the LORD said to Moses, "Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go.

17:6 "Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

17:7 So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The flesh with its lusts will cause the following things:

- [verse 2] Quarrel in Meribah.
- [verse 3] Murmuring when facing the temptation in Massah.
- [verse 7] Doubt to God Himself or the true teaching Word and His power.

Consequently, they were ready to stone Moses. It means the hardness of heart, self-truth, or blaming at others, hating, and murdering.

Our attitude [verse 5-6] must be taking the rod in hand. It means holding to the cross or appreciate it. Jesus willingly dies on the cross like a rock which is struck, so we can be broken-hearted to confess sins, forgive, and pray for one another. As a

result, Holy Spirit is poured out to satisfy our life like a rock which is struck to secrete water.

John 4:14

4:14 "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

Holy Spirit encourages us to give thanks and worship God. As a result, Holy Spirit changes us from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus is, namely being honest and believing.

John 7:37-39

7:37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."

7:38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

7:39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."

Holy Spirit makes us able to testify to others who are dry spiritually and physically.

Zechariah 4:6-9

4:6 So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts."

4:7 "Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"

4:8 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

4:9 "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know That the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you."

Holy Spirit makes mountains a plain. It means finishing sins until we are blameless and solving the impossible problems or temptations. Holy Spirit gives us gifts and ministry to send or use us in the edification of the perfect Christ's body.

God blesses you.