

General Service in Malang, December 26, 2010 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 25:31-34

25:31. *"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.*

25:32 *"All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.*

25:33 *"And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.*

25:34 *"Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

Verse 31-32: Jesus will appear as King of kings and Great Shepherd in the time of His second coming, to **separate sheep from goats**.

Not all Christians and not all servants of God are the sheep of God. There are goats among them.

The separation will become tighter until two people on one bed, referring to marriage, can be separated; one is lifted up, that is to say the sheep, but the other is left, that is to say the goat.

Spiritual problem is individual, one cannot rely on other people but being responsible of his/her own self directly to God.

We may take the example of other people but we cannot rely on them.

The sheep are set on the right hand but the goats are on the left.

Physical matter such as riches, intelligence, and position, has no relationship with the separation.

The base of the separation is as follows:

1. Heavenly wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 10:2

10:2 *A wise man's heart is at his right hand, But a fool's heart at his left.*

2. Character/attitude.

Matthew 25:35, 39-40

25:35 *'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in;*

25:39 *'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'*

25:40 *"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'*

Matthew 25:41-42, 44-45

25:41 *"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:*

25:42 *'for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink;*

25:44 *"Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'*

25:45 *"Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'*

Ad 2. SEPARATION BASED ON CHARACTER/ATTITUDE

The sheep are on the right hand because of loving attitude. Love is eternal, so the sheep can enter into eternal heavenly Kingdom.

The goats are on the left hand because of egoism(self-interest) so there is no love to other people who need = not loving God (**having no love**).

I John 4:20

4:20 *If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?*

Not loving other people who need = not loving God = rejecting Him.

Luke 2:4-7

2:4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,

2:5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

2:6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.

2:7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Bethlehem people were egoistic, not loving other people who need, that is to say Mary, whose days were completed for her to be delivered. It means they rejected Jesus who was going to be born.

John 1:1, 14

1:1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The egoistic Bethlehem people = the egoistic goats.

= The people **who do not provide any place for the teaching Word** that is Jesus Himself.

= The people **who do not prioritize the true teaching Word** or the revelation of God's Word.

Matthew 2:16

2:16. Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

Rejecting the sword of God's Word will make consequence as follows:

There was murdering of children from two years old and under, **meaning the spirituality becomes as little children and one has to face the sword of antichrist's persecution as the consequence of rejecting the solid food or the true teaching Word.**

Such people in the days of antichrist's reigning over the world must fight in order to provide a place for Jesus.

It is better for us from now onto provide place for the revelation of God's Word.

Our attitude in hearing God's Word determines our destiny.

The egoism of Bethlehem people not providing any place for Jesus has become a heritage continually.

There was no place for Jesus to be born in the world, and there is also no place for Him after He was mature.

How long have we followed Him?

Have we provided a place to the revelation of the true teaching Word?

Physical church and our body are the house of God. How egoistic we are if we do not provide any place for Jesus Himself.

Matthew 8:18-20

8:18. And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side.

8:19 Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."

8:20 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but **the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.**"

The scribes had the egoism as the heritage of Bethlehem people.

Not giving any place for Jesus as the Head = not giving any place for the true teaching Word = not prioritizing the true teaching Word, seeing that the head is the most important part.

There are many egoistic churches now because of not prioritizing the teaching Word **but only magnifying the physical matters.**

Do not be proud of physical matters!

How many big a church building is still smaller than the parking area of mall in the world.

How much more our salary is still less than the riches of rich people in the world.

The consequence of not giving any place for the true teaching Word is that not Jesus who becomes the head but foxes and birds.

Do not be careless!

The body of Christ begins with our own selves, marriage, shepherding, and inter-shepherding fellowship, et cetera.

Rejecting the teaching Word, foxes and birds become the head.

>>Foxes = wicked spirit, the love of money.

I Timothy 6:10

6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

The facts found in the love of money are as follows:

- Stinginess= disability to give.
On the contrary, the proof of having Jesus as the Head on our life is we can be more joyful to give than to receive.
- Greediness;
= Seeking money in illegal ways or not in line with the Word of God.
= Leaving service and ministry to the Lord in order to get money. One has no regret or hesitation in leaving the service.
= Stealing the tithes and offerings that belong to God.
= Robbing the right of other people such as not paying debt, corrupting, et cetera.

The stingy and greedy pierce themselves through with many sorrows up to everlasting hell.

>>Birds = unclean spirit bringing men to commit **sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage.**

Only the sharp sword of God's Word is able to keep us saved from the unclean spirit and wicked spirit.

Rejecting the true teaching Word until the foxes and birds become the head, **such life is going to be in the building of Babel and perished forever.**

Babel = false church = the bride of Satan = perfection in wickedness and uncleanness. Such people are as the goats that will be destroyed by God.

Revelation 17:1, 5-6, 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,

17:5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

17:6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

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

Be alert! Do not depend on the large number of quantity!Â

The woman of Babel sits on many waters, referring to many people, including the sons of God.

We are not forbidden to get the blessings of God, but do not prioritize the blessings. Only Jesus or the revelation of the true teaching Word we must prioritize in our life and we place it as our Head.

THE RIGHT ATTITUDE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Matthew 8:18-19

8:18. And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side.

8:19 Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."

The term "Teacher" has relationship with Teaching.

The right following to Jesus is following Him wherever He goes like the following of body to its head or the following of bride to her bridegroom. Such is the ministry of bride.

The following of sons to the father is limited because there is lost son but the following of body to its head cannot be separated.

We take the example in physical marriage as follows:

- Husband is the head in marriage. He must lead according to the true teaching Word.
- Wife is the body. She must follow the head according to the Word. Do not be contrary to the husband! Otherwise, there is separation between body and the head, whose consequence is problem in economy or children problem.
- Children should be obedient.

Likewise, **our following to Jesus must in line with the true teaching Word.**

Therefore, **prioritize the true teaching Word always**, not other matter even the physical ones.
Not following the Word results in destruction forever, as a body which does not follow the head.

THE SIGN OF THE FOLLOWING OF BRIDE IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. 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 first sign is we experience the double sanctification done by Heavenly Bridegroom through water baptism and the rain water of the true Teaching Word.

Jesus, Heavenly Bridegroom, has been willing to die in order to cleanse us, His Bride. See how great God's love to His congregation is.

Sinful people are as thirsty ones in the middle of the desert of the world.

In the beginning, novice needs cool water, referring to Gospel, so they get fresh and will not die.

Nevertheless, one has to take a bath in order not to produce body odor in the desert. Therefore, we need the rain water of the true teaching Word.

The double washing is especially for the sanctification from 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.

The meaning of leprosy is as follows:

- Uncleanness(birds).

It is written in Leviticus 13 that a leper must cover his face, crying "Unclean! Unclean!"

This morning we have the strength from our Head as long as we prioritize the teaching Word to sanctify us, whatever unclean sins we have.

- Wickedness= the love of money, or the will of money (foxes).

II Kings 5:25-27

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.

- Self-truth= covering self-mistake by blaming other people.

The self-truth creates the separation in the body of Christ, beginning in physical marriage (separation between husband and his wife), up to the separation between us and Jesus.

Consequently, there is spiritual dryness even spiritual death.

Being sanctified from the self-truth, we can confess our sins to God and men, be forgiven, and leave the sins.

It happens continually until there is no sin anymore.

- Self-interest (egoism) as the result of the self-truth.

Being willing to be sanctified, we can be perfect and blameless.

2. **Philippians 2:5-8**

2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

2:6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

2:7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

The second sign is we have the mind and heart of Jesus, that is to say making Himself of no reputation as the wind:

- **Being real but nothing = not relying on anything in the world** such as intelligence, et cetera, although we have such things.
Jesus has the heaven and all things but making Himself of no reputation.
- Taking the form of a bondservant = **serving faithfully with full responsibility**, being as blowing wind.
Jesus is a king but He takes the form of a bondservant.
- **Being obedient** to the point of death, until the flesh does not sound anymore.

The result will be real as follows:

1. We are employed as the servants of God like **the wind bringing coolness, peace, and fragrance of Christ** in the middle of hot stuffy world, so there are many sinful people can be saved by Christ through the Gospel, and the saved can be reaped in the true teaching Word.
2. We can **pass through locked door**.
We are not obstructed even we can settle all obstructions together with Jesus.
Do not be easy to be obstructed!

3. **The third sign is there is prayer worship**, or the closest relationship between body and its head.

We can experience the love like the sun or the light of glory or the perfect love of God in the worship.

We will be shined with the sunshine of God's love this morning when we worship Him, whatever condition we have now.

Do not neglect the private prayer worship or the worship we lift up together in congregation!

The result will be real as follows:

Genesis 19:21-23

19:21 And he said to him, "See, I have favored you concerning this thing also, in that I will not overthrow this city for which you have spoken.

19:22 "Hurry, escape there. For I cannot do anything until you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

19:23 The sun had risen upon the earth when Lot entered Zoar.

We need the love of God to face the condition of the world which is as Sodom and Gomorrah in these last days. Intelligence or riches cannot resist the rain of fire and brimstone.

- The love like the sun is able to **preserve our life in the middle of impossibilities**.
Sodom and Gomorrah = the Dead Sea, a place where it is impossible to live.
- The love like the sun **protects us from the shakings of the world** so we can be peaceful and still together with God.
- The love like the sun **protects us from the peak of sins** so we can live in righteousness and holiness while the world is returning to the condition of Sodom and Gomorrah in the peak of sin.
- The love like the sun **gives us victory over all our struggling**.
The Lord struggles together with us to give us victory.

Genesis 32:28, 30-31

32:28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."

32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

32:31 Just as he crossed over Peniel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.

1. Struggle against fear/anxiety/doubt because of disease, future life, economy, et cetera.

Jacob was afraid of meeting Esau and being killed by Esau because Esau felt that he was deceived and his firstborn right was taken by Jacob.

The proof of defeating our struggle is we can believe and entrust ourselves fully to God. We are in peace and quietness.

2. Struggle for our family. Jacob was afraid of Esau's murdering his wives and children.

We struggle for our whole family (marriage and children) so they can be saved and we can reach the perfect marriage. It is especially for the husband that must struggle for all the family, so there is no separation or victim because of the separation.

3. Struggle to get new name or life renewal.

The life renewal begins with **there is no lie but honesty**.

The name of Jacob means liar. It is replaced with the name of Israel, whose meaning is winner.

The honest must be helped by God, and the prayer is answered by Him.

Our last struggle is to be changed until we become perfect as Jesus is in the time of His second coming.

God blesses you.