General Service in Malang, February 07, 2021 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 12: 3-18 is about the clear and complete appearance of Satan or dragon with his activities on the last days as follows:

- 1. [Revelation 12:4a] His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven.
- 2. [Revelation 12:4b] Devouring.
- 3. [Revelation 12:7] Fighting.
- 4. [Revelation 12:13] Persecuting or catching up fast.
- 5. [Revelation 12:15] Causing the woman or the church of God to be carried away by the flood.
- 6. [Revelation 12:17] Making war or persecuting.

ad. 4. Persecuting.

Revelation 12:13-14

12:13. Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. 12:14. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

The dragon which has been cast to the earth persecutes the woman who gives birth to the male Child. It has been prophesied by Daniel and fulfilled in the book of Revelation.

Daniel 9:27

9:27. Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."

The fullness of the book of Daniel is that the dragon which has been cast to the earth persecutes the church of God. Persecuting means catching up the church of God fast with the wing of abominations to destroy it.

There are two possibilities as follows:

1. <u>The negative possibility</u> for the false church or the one whose ministry is false, namely in the hunting system to satisfy the flesh need, will, and lust through prosperity and entertainment but without the sword of the word, purification, or tearing of flesh (the cross).

Consequently he will surely be destroyed by Satan or the dragon.

The ministry of hunting system attacks the sons of God from era to era as follows:

• The era of God the Father, which is counted from Adam to Abraham, is represented by Nimrod. **Genesis 10:6,8-10**

10:6. The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan.

10:8. Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.

10:9. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD."

10:10. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

Nimrod was the descendant of Ham, who saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers. It refers to the sin of uncleanness as well as hunting the lust of the flesh, so one falls into the sin of uncleanness. He builds the Babylon or the bride of Satan who will be destroyed.

• The middle age that is counted from Abraham to Jesus' first coming is represented by Esau. **Genesis 25:27,30-31,34**

25:27. So the boys grew. And Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field; but Jacob was a mild man, dwelling in tents.

25:30. And Esau said to Jacob, "Please feed me with that same red stew, for I am weary." Therefore his name was called Edom.

25:31. But Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright as of this day."

25:34. And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils; then he ate and drank, arose, and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Esau hunted the lust and need of the flesh, so he fell into the sin of eating-drinking. Consequently, he lost his birthright, namely the right to become the bride or inherit the heavenly kingdom, so he was torn by the dragon. He was hunted and defeated by the dragon up to perdition.

- The last days that is counted from Jesus' first coming to the second one.
- 1 Timothy 6:9-10

6:9. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

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.

On the last days, there is the church of God who hunts the money. It is the same as the love of money or the idolatry, so he does not love God.

The fact found in it is looking for money in illegal way, ministering to God only to seek for money, or leaving the ministry to seek for money.

Consequently, he becomes stingy and greedy. Stinginess means that one cannot give. Greediness means that one steals the possession of God.

Consequently, he strays from the faith or the true teaching word. He falls from faith. It is the same as selling Jesus like Judas Iscariot. He burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. His life decayed. He was torn by the dragon up to perdition.

2. <u>The positive possibility</u> for the true church whose ministry is true, namely in the system of the tent of shepherding or heaven.

Luke 17:7-8

17:7. "And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'?

17:8. "But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'?

The ministry of the shepherding system is signified with girding ourselves.

Isaiah 11:5

11:5. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

Girding ourselves means that the flesh is pressed, so our life becomes regular and well-organized. The belt means righteousness and faithfulness.

The righteousness means that we hear and obey the voice of shepherd of the repeated true teaching word.

The faithfulness means the perseverance in the sheepfold or the one in committing the three kinds of main service to God.

The faithfulness and righteousness must be done whatever thing we have to sacrifice. It the flesh demands, we will not be shepherded, so our life will never be well-organized but messy.

The ministry of shepherding system with the belt of faithfulness and righteousness is the same as giving meal and drink to Jesus. We satisfy His heart, so He also satisfies us with the heavenly satisfaction or bliss. We do not look for the worldly satisfaction, so we will not fall, but we always give thanks and testify.

The godliness with contentment is great gain, namely the two wings of a great eagle.

1 Timothy 6:6

6:6. Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

Revelation 12:14

12:14. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Why is it called the two wings of a great eagle? Because it is bigger than all things in the world. If we satisfy God, the two wings of a great eagle will get bigger until it evacuates us to the wilderness.

So, the true ministry in the shepherding system does not only give the heavenly satisfaction but also the great gain, namely

the two wings of a great eagle which win over the wing of abominations, so we may fly into the wilderness, far from the eyes of the serpent.

The wing refers to the speed.

The shepherding is about the speed.

There are two kinds of speed that we must pay attention to in the shepherding as follows:

• Being swift to hear the word until we become the doers of the word.

James 1:19-22

1:19. So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 1:20. for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1:21. Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

1:22. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

The facts found in it are as follows:

- a. <u>Being swift to hear the word</u>. It means as follows:
 - i. We do not hear only the Gospel word, but we must be swift to hear the true teaching word. **Hebrews 5:11-12**

5:11. of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. 5:12. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

ii. We must be able to hear the true teaching word earnestly and happily, so we can understand it. Otherwise, we will get the wing of abominations. It is the abomination deed before God.

The fact of understanding the word is being slow to speak.

We can keep silent and do introspection in our life through the sharpness of the word. We do not grumble, gossip, and judge, but we are slow to wrath. We do not produce the outbursts of emotion but patience and kindness.

b. <u>Being swift to believe in the true teaching word, so it becomes faith in our heart</u>. It is the same as being planted in a meek heart.

As a result, all sins are pulled out from our heart, so we are justified and saved.

James 1:19-21

1:19. So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;

1:20. for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1:21. Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

c. Being swift to practice the word in our daily life, so we experience the purification up to the depth of the heart and mind, deed, word, and our whole life.

James 1:22

1:22. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

The facts of being purified are as follows:

- i. We feel more blessed to give than to receive.
 - Acts 20:33-35

20:33. "I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.

20:34. "Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me.

20:35. "I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

It starts from returning the tithe and special offerings, giving for doing the work of God and to others

who are in need, until we give our whole life to God.

ii. Prioritizing the ministry more than anything.

Psalm 84:10

84:10. For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

It is the fact that we have the wing of the true teaching word or sword of the word.

• Being swift to make peace with God and others.

Matthew 5:23-26

5:23. "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

5:24. "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

5:25. "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

5:26. "Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

The process is having the cross or the tearing of the flesh. By the encouragement of the Word, we do the things as follows:

- a. We can be swift to confess our sin to God and others. Do not sin anymore after being forgiven!
- b. Forgiving others' sin and forgetting it.

As a result, the blood of Jesus takes away our sins, so we live in righteousness. We experience peace in Holy Spirit. We do not feel anything that flesh feels but just God's love.

It is the fact that we have the wing of Holy Spirit.

If we do not want to make peace, but blame at others, we will become an abomination to Christ's sacrifice. It is the same as insulting Christ's sacrifice.

Consequently, we experience the atmosphere of jail. It means the dead end. All doors are closed. We suffer. It refers to the debts of sin that cannot be paid anymore, so we are destroyed forever.

So, in the ministry of shepherding system, we receive the wing of the true teaching word and the one of Holy Spirit. It refers to the two wings of a great eagle.

Luke 17:34-37

17:34. "I tell you, in that night there will be two men in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left.

17:35. "Two women will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left.

17:36. "Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left."

17:37. And they answered and said to Him, "Where, Lord?" So He said to them, "Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together."

The power of the two wings of a great eagle is the body or Christ's sacrifice.

The results are as follows:

• The power of two wings of a great eagle to face against the winds and waves in the sea of the world until the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years.

Revelation 12:14

12:14. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

It means that we may not grumble, get disappointed and desperate as well as leave God, but we keep being strong and of good courage. We keep on believing that God's hands are able to protect and take care of us although we are powerless until the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years.

We are taken care by the sword and cross (the true teaching word and Christ's sacrifice).

We believe that God's merciful hands are able to calm all wind and waves in the sea of the world.

It is the atmosphere of the throne of heaven, namely being silent and calm. All impossible problems are finished. We have beautiful and successful future. All things become easy and light.

[Luke 17:34-36] The power of the two wings of a great eagle unifies us, namely one true teaching word, one true baptism, one true worship, and one true marriage.
 It means that we may not get disappointed and desperate, but be strong and of good courage.
 We believe that the wing of God is able to unify our marriage in one teaching, one baptism, and one worship up to the perfect body of Christ or God's bride.
 One hair shall not fall. It means the great attention from God for the powerless family.

• The power to wait Jesus who comes a second time on the glorious clouds.

Isaiah 40:29-31

40:29. He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.
the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,
40:31. But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 27:14

27:14. Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

It means that we may not get disappointed and desperate as well as leave God, but be strong and of good courage regardless of anything that happens.

We keep ministering God faithfully and fervently. We keep living in righteousness and holiness, and worshipping God.

As a result, we experience the renewal of eagle. The old feathers are changed into the new ones. We become honest and fair.

Isaiah 11:4

11:4. But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

The honest and fair men will be defended by God until the Antichrist is consumed.

2 Thessalonians 2:8

2:8. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

We are lifted up to the glorious clouds. Being honest and fair is the same as becoming the house of prayer or the place of the presence of God or the throne of God.

The miracle happens, namely we are defended by God. We are changed up to perfection like He is, so we are worthy to greet the coming of Jesus on the glorious clouds.

God blesses us.