

General Service in Malang, February 14, 2016 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 3:14-22 is about the church of the Laodiceans.

The spiritual condition of the church of the Laodiceans is being lukewarm. Physically they are rich and have need of nothing. However, spiritually they are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. The consequence is being vomited by God, being useless and separated from Him, until being destroyed forever.

Therefore, God rebukes, counsels, and chastens the church of the Laodiceans or all of us so we buy the richness of the Heaven. Thus, we will not be vomited by God, but please Him.

Revelation 3:20

3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

When He rebukes, counsels, and chastens, He is knocking the door of our heart with the true teaching Word. The repeated teaching Word is the shepherding Word.

The shepherding Word is the love and longsuffering of God to help our life. There are two possibilities as follows.

1. Positive option. If we receive the shepherding Word and open the door of our heart, Jesus will enter to eat with us. He has fellowship and dwell within us, so we become a house of prayer.

Matthew 21:12-13

21:12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

21:13 And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"

The sign of becoming the house of prayer is delighting in testifying, praying, and worshiping God.

2. Negative option. If one hardens his heart and rejects the shepherding Word, or closes the door of his heart, Jesus will leave him. This kind of life will become a den of thieves that will be destroyed forever.

Matthew 21:17

21:17 Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there.

The sign of becoming the den of thieves is taking pleasure in lying and gossiping, as well as having dry worship.

How do we become a house of prayer?

Matthew 21:12

21:12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

Jesus must drive out all unpleasant things. It refers to the sanctification that causes flesh suffering. It is called as the sprinkling of blood or the last sanctification.

Driving out refers to a firm sanctification. We must choose firmly.

What must be sanctified?

1. Selling-buying spirit [Matthew 21:12].
2. Indignant spirit.

Matthew 21:15

21:15 But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant

We are discussing the second one.

Being indignant means being angry or hating without any reasons.

The progress of the indignant spirit is as follows.

1. Cain to Abel.

Genesis 4:3-5

4:3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord.

*4:4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering,
4:5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.*

Indignant spirit ruins and destroys marriages and children. It also destroys the ministry to God.

Why does Cain get angry until killing Abel?

1 John 3:12

3:12 not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

Cain kills Abel because Cain comes from the wicked, meaning his conscience is not good and obedient. If the conscience is wicked, all the deeds, marriage, and ministry will be wicked. If one is wicked, he will wish to destroy the righteous.

Genesis 4:4

4:4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering,

The attitude in facing the wicked is Abel offers the firstborn of his flock and of their fat.

- The firstborn of the flock means the ministry that prioritizes God. It equals to being faithful and fervent in spirit, being unwilling until being unable to be blocked by anything.
- The fat means the best thing that pleases God.

If they are combined, it means that we must offer a firstborn and best ministry.

Luke 10:39,42

10:39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.

10:42 But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

In the New Testament, Mary chooses the best and eternal part.

Thus, in order to face the wicked, we must have the firstborn, best, and eternal ministry. It is started with hearing and obeying the true teaching Word. It equals to having good conscience and wisdom from God.

The results are as follows.

- The door of Heaven is opened, meaning all the doors in the world will also be opened and our life is successful.
Matthew 7:21
7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.
- Although Abel (the servant of God) passes away, all his ministry rises to the presence of God. It smells fragrant and pleases Him.
Hebrews 11:4
11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

2. The days of the church in the first rain.

Acts 6:1,8-10,12

6:1 Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

6:8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

6:9 Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen.

6:10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

6:12 And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council.

When the church of God grows, develops, and is blessed by God especially with spiritual blessings, there will be indignant spirit in the form of envying, grumbling, saying negative comment, gossiping, provoking, and judging. The consequence is facing the angel of death.

Gossiping or provoking means raising the heart of the others to be indignant when hearing the true teaching Word, or to be indignant to the righteous. If the others are indignant too, it will generate a motion to obstruct the revival of building the true body of Christ.

2 Timothy 2:16-18

2:16 But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness.

2:17 And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort,

2:18 who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

The indignant spirit that causes grumbling and gossiping is the profane babblings. It equals to cancer disease that attacks the part of the body of Christ that is weak, so it becomes dry spiritually and cannot pray, until dies spiritually. Dying spiritually means living in sin and enjoying it, agreeing and supporting the deeds of sin.

Acts 7:54-55,60

7:54 When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth.

7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God,

7:60 Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The attitude to face antichrist that envies the blessing of the others, especially the spiritual blessing, is confessing and forgiving one another. It equals to having the love of God. If we are wrong, we must confess our sin. If we are forgiven, we must not repeat it. If we are right, we must forgive the sin of the others and forget it.

Wisdom (being obedient to the Word) plus forgiveness equals to seeing Jesus standing at the right hand of God. It means that it is our time to be helped by Him. Everything will be finished and beautiful right in His time.

3. Antichrist enrages with the perfect church of God and goes to make war with the rest of her offspring, that is ones who are left during the days of antichrist. There will be great tribulation up to the beheading of the head.

Revelation 12:17

12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The left ones are those who have the commandments of God (Table of Showbread) and the testimony of Jesus (Golden Candlestick), but do not have worship prayer (Golden Altar of Incense). It means not worshiping God or the worship does not reach the measure of the flesh does not sound anymore.

The attitude in facing antichrist is we must worship God more, so we experience life renewal from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus.

Matthew 21:15-16

21:15 But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant

21:16 and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants—You have perfected praise'?"

We become as the sincere baby who only cries and worships God. All our matters belong to God. Thus, our life will become a house of prayer.

Titus 3:5

3:5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

Holy Spirit as the two hands of God will be stretched out to us. Spiritual miracle happens, that is life renewal from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Him. It is started with being strong and of good courage, that is not being disappointed or discouraged, but keeping being faithful and fervent in spirit in ministering God, keeping holding fast the true teaching Word, and keeping worshiping God. The hands of God are able to erase any impossibilities. When Jesus comes a second time, we become international house prayer with one voice "Alleluia" on the glorious clouds.

Revelation 19:6

19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"

God blesses us.