

General Service in Malang, February 16, 2014 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 1:9

1:9 I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

John the apostle was on Patmos island and experienced flesh suffering for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. John the apostle experienced it not because of doing sins. It was flesh suffering without any sins. Thus, it encouraged him to enter true fellowship with God and the others. Fellowship with the others is fellowship of the body of Christ. Fellowship with God is fellowship of the body with the Head.

There are three important things in the true fellowship as follows.

1. Fellowship in the tribulation = the way of death.
2. Fellowship in the kingdom = the way of resurrection.
3. Fellowship in perseverance in waiting Jesus = the way of glory.

ad. 2. Fellowship in the kingdom = the way of resurrection.

If we pass the fellowship in the tribulation or the way of death, we will enter the fellowship in the kingdom or the way of resurrection. Fellowship in the kingdom is fellowship of priests and kings.

Ephesians 4:8-12

4:8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

4:9 (Now this, "He ascended" "what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

4:10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

Jesus must die and resurrect to give us ministry. It equals to calling and choosing us, or appointing us as priests and kings.

Priest is the one who is holy, holds the ministry from God, and serves Him.

Exodus 19:6

19:6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.

Actually, only the Israelites and their descendants who are worthy to become priests and kings.

1 Peter 2:9-10

2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

2:10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Through the descendant line, the Gentiles are not worthy and not allowed to become priests and kings. But, God opens the way for the Gentiles through the line of His mercy that is in the price of Christ's sacrifice. Thus, the price of the ministry of the Gentiles is the same as the blood of Jesus. Do not make our ministry in vain. If the Gentiles do not want to serve but leave the ministry, they lose the blood sign as the house of the Egyptians, and it means perdition forever.

2 Peter 1:10-11

1:10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

1:11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Therefore, we must always keep God's mercy and trust to us, so we keep being faithful and fervent in spirit in ministering God up to the end line, until we receive the full right to enter the kingdom of Heaven. If we are unfaithful and leave the ministry, we will lose the full right to enter kingdom of Heaven.

Revelation 22:3

22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

Thus, fellowship in the kingdom is fellowship of priests and kings who have full right to enter kingdom of Heaven.

After becoming priests and kings, we will learn the appearance of priests and kings.

Mark 1:6

1:6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

Matthew 11:11

11:11 Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

John the Baptist is a great servant of God, but he has simple appearance.

Thus, the general appearance of the servant of God is simple, not glamorous, not magnifying physical matters. Simple appearance comes from simple heart.

Specifically, his appearance is being clothed with camel's hair.

The cloth of camel's hair is used to resist the very hot temperature in the afternoon in this world as the wilderness. It is also used to resist the very cold temperature in the night. Thus, the cloth of camel's hair prevents destruction ongoing in this world. It is the work of the anointing of Holy Spirit.

The cloth of camel's hair means the anointing of Holy Spirit. A priest must appear in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

The anointing of Holy Spirit prevents and protects us from physical and spiritual destruction in financial matters, moral, marriage, *et cetera*.

Thus, a priest absolutely needs the anointing of Holy Spirit. Without it, he will be destroyed together with this world. The more we serve God without the anointing of Holy Spirit, the more God grieves.

The practices of being without the anointing of Holy Spirit are as follows.

1. Being controlled by the strong mind and will of flesh.

Romans 8:6-7

8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

The consequences are as follows.

- Being disobedient to the will of God or the Word.

Matthew 7:21-23

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.

7:22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

7:23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Although one looks great, but if he disobeys the Word, he is useless and only practices lawlessness.

- Doing the works of the flesh that is destroying.

Galatians 5:19-21

5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

5:20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

5:21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

2. Being controlled by the desire of flesh, so one is always thirsty and not satisfied.

John 4:15-18

4:15 The woman said to Him, 'Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.'

4:16 Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come here.'

4:17 The woman answered and said, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You have well said, I have no husband.'

4:18 for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.'

The major sign is always grumbling. If one is not satisfied, he will look for other satisfactions in this world, until he falls in

sins up to peak of sins, that is sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

3. Being controlled by the weakness of the flesh, so one cannot worship God, being unfaithful even leaving the ministry.

Romans 8:26

8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Matthew 25:26,30

25:26 But his lord answered and said to him, You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.

25:30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

John 16:7

16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

Jesus is willing to go, meaning to die, rise, and go to the Heaven to pour the Holy Spirit that is absolutely needed by a priest and king. It equals to giving us the cloth of camel's hair to face the hot and cold temperature in this world as the wilderness.

How can we get the Holy Spirit?

1. Keeping our heart, meaning as follows.

- o Peaceful heart (staying in Jerusalem). We have no envy, grudge, bitterness, fear, worry.

Acts 1:4-5

1:4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, which, He said, you have heard from Me;

1:5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

- o Heart as the surface of the waters, meaning being humble, confessing that we are the wrong one, unworthy, and powerless. We only hope to God.

Genesis 1:2

1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

2. Keeping our lips.

Acts 1:12,14

1:12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.

1:14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

Our lip is only used to worship God, so we experience the tearing and pressing of the flesh with all its mind and desire.

3. Keeping the mercy and trust from God, meaning keeping ministering Him. Thus, Pentecost will happen (Judas is replaced with Matthias, and Pentecost happens).

How can a priest preserve the anointing of Holy Spirit?

Leviticus 21:12

21:12 nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the Lord.

By staying in the shepherding pen, meaning persevering in three main services as follows.

- Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts.
- Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in His Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
- Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love.

In the shepherding pen, our body, soul, and spirit attach to God the Trinity so Satan has no place to touch us. We experience

sanctification of our body, soul, and spirit until we are perfect. If one leaves the Holy Place, he profanes the holiness.

If we are holy, there will be anointing of Holy Spirit. We will become a consecrated priest or the apple of His eyes. The more we are sanctified, the more anointing of Holy Spirit we receive. The usage and blessing from God will also increase.

The usefulness of the anointing of Holy Spirit is as follows.

1. Making us faithful and fervent in spirit in ministering God wherever, whenever, and under any situation.

Romans 12:11

12:11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

2. Making us experiencing heavenly satisfaction and joy, so we will not be tempted to look for other satisfactions in this world.

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.

Water also flows [John 7:37-38] and springs. Flowing means bearing witness to the others who are in needs. Springing means worshipping God up to eternal life forever.

3. Holy Spirit conducts life renewal miracle from flesh man to become spiritual one as Jesus is. We can cry out "Abba, Father".

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,

If spiritual miracle happens, the physical one will also happen. Peter experiences miracle when he obeys the command to cast the net in the afternoon. There is miracle to create the thing that does not exist before. Martha experiences miracle when she obeys the command to take away the stone of Lazarus' tomb. There is miracle to make possible the impossible one. The last miracle is we will be renewed as glorious as Jesus is when He comes for a second time.

God blesses us.