

General Service in Malang, January 24, 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 and destroyed forever.

Revelation 3:18-19

3:18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

God does not want us to become as vomit. He rebukes, counsels, and chastens the church of the Laodiceans or all of us to buy the richness of the Heaven so we are rich spiritually and not lukewarm. Thus, we will not be vomited by God. We can satisfy and please God, and He will please us until we enter the eternal Heavenly joy.

There are three types of the richness of the Heaven that must be bought as follows.

1. Gold refined in the fire = the perfect faith.
2. White garment to cover the nakedness = the garment of ministry.
3. Oil to grease the eyes, so we can see = the anointing of Holy Spirit.

Matthew 6:19-20

6:19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;

6:20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

While we are active to buy three types of the richness of the Heaven, there are three enemies that endanger as follows.

1. Moth destroys the white garment.
2. Rust destroys the metal.
3. Thieves steal the oil.

ad. 2. Rust destroys the metal.

Exodus 25:3

25:3 And this is the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze;

The metals used to build the Tabernacle or the house of God are gold, silver, and bronze.

We will learn about the metals spiritually. They are used to build the spiritual house of God or the perfect body of Christ.

Deuteronomy 28:23

28:23 And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron.

The spiritual meaning of bronze is judgment.

The usefulness of bronze in the building of Tabernacle is as follows.

1. Making the Altar of Burnt Offerings.

Exodus 27:1-2

27:1 "You shall make an altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits wide--the altar shall be square--and its height shall be three cubits.

27:2 You shall make its horns on its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it. And you shall overlay it with bronze.

The Altar of Burnt Offerings is made of black acacia wood that is overlaid with bronze outside and inside. The Altar of Burnt Offerings is used to burn the animal offering for the forgiveness of sins. Now, we do not need to offer animal because it has been fulfilled by the sacrifice of Christ as the Lamb of God that is slaughtered on the cross.

The acacia wood refers to flesh man that is fragile and easily broken.

The black color refers to sins.

Thus, black acacia wood refers to sinful flesh man. Therefore, we need to be overlaid with bronze or judgment.

Hence, the Altar of Burnt Offerings means sinful flesh man must be judged to repent, to stop sinning to return to God.

Revelation 21:8

21:8 But the (1)cowardly, (2)unbelieving, (3)abominable, (4)murderers, (5)sexually immoral, (6)sorcerers, (7)idolaters, and all (8)liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

We must repent especially started from these eight sins so we will not be burnt in the lake of fire and brimstone in the hell. Coward means being afraid of something until opposing God. If one is afraid of something, there will be lie that is the close of sins.

2. Making the Brazen Laver.

Exodus 38:8

38:8 He made the laver of bronze and its base of bronze, from the bronze mirrors of the serving women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

Women in negative meaning refer to the flesh with all its desires.

Mirror is a stuff used to fertilize the flesh desire that drives us to do sin up to its peak, that is sin concerning eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-being given in marriage (sexuality sin with all its variety, wrong marriage, mix marriage, marrying-divorcing).

In spiritual meaning, the Brazen Laver refers to water baptism, in which the flesh with all its desire must be crushed so we receive new life, that is the Heavenly life.

Romans 6:4

6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The true water baptism is one who has repented must be buried in water together with Jesus, to be raised with Him in new life.

1 John 3:7,9

3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

New life means as follows.

- a. Not doing sin or repeating it, meaning living in righteousness.
- b. Holding fast the true teaching Word, so we are not deceived by false teaching.
- c. Being unable to do sins anymore. We are righteous as Jesus is righteous. It means we become as the Heavenly bronze that cannot rust anymore.

Be watchful! If we repeat sins and do not repent, the sins will increase up to the peak of sins. One will also be doubtful and double-minded in the teaching Word. The bronze rusts and it cannot be recovered.

Ezekiel 24:11-12

24:11 "Then set the pot empty on the coals, 'That it may become hot and its bronze may burn, 'That its filthiness may be melted in it, 'That its scum may be consumed.

24:12 She has grown weary with lies, 'And her great scum has not gone from her. 'Lether scum bein the fire!

3. Making the pillars of the Court of Tabernacle.

Exodus 38:9-10

38:9 Then he made the court on the south side; the hangings of the court were of fine woven linen, one hundred cubits long.

38:10 There were twenty pillars for them, with twenty bronze sockets. The hooks of the pillars and their bands were silver.

There are 60 pillars called as the pillar of faith or the hero of faith.

Luke 3:23-34

3:23 Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli,

3:24 the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Janna, the son of Joseph,

3:25 the son of Mattathiah, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai,

3:26 the son of Maath, the son of Mattathiah, the son of Semei, the son of Joseph, the son of Judah,

3:27 the son of Joannas, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri,

3:28 the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmodam, the son of Er,

3:29 the son of Jose, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi,

3:30 the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonan, the son of Eliakim,

3:31 the son of Melea, the son of Menan, the son of Mattathah, the son of Nathan, the son of David,

3:32 the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon,

3:33 the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah,

3:34 the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor,

From Abraham to Joseph, there are 56 people.

Four pillars of the Gate are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Luke is a Gentile. It is the mercy of God so both the Israelites and Gentiles may become the pillars of faith.

The practices of becoming the pillars of faith are as follows.

- a. Not being doubtful to the promise of God or the true teaching Word.

Romans 4:19-21

4:19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

4:20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,

4:21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

It means as follows.

- Keeping holding fast and obeying the true teaching Word, whatever the risk is.
- Keeping believing that God is able to fulfill His promise.

Romans 4:17

4:17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed--God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

The result is the true teaching Word is able to create the things that have not existed yet, to care our life and give the joy of marriage. The impossible things will be made possible. All things are solved right in His time.

- b. Leaning on Jesus' bosom, uniting with Him.

John 13:23

13:23 Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.

John 21:20-22

21:20 Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

21:21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?"

21:22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

Through the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion, we experience sanctification of our physical and spiritual life until we can lean on Jesus' bosom. It means we believe and fully surrender our life to Him. Thus, our death and life are His matter. God decides all aspects in our life. It is until we become the Heavenly bride who sits together with Him on the throne of Heaven. God always gives us the best things even the perfect ones.

God blesses us.