

General Service in Malang, January 31, 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. 3. **Fighting.**

Revelation 12:7-12

12:7. And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,

12:8. but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

12:9. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

12:10. Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

12:11. "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

12:12. "Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

The red dragon or Satan makes war or rebellion in heaven.

Outside the shepherding, there will be the war or rebellion.

1 Corinthians 11:19

11:19 For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you.

There is war in heaven and there are rebellion, factions, and shakings too in the world, that those who are approved may be recognized.

1 John 2:18-19

2:18 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

The last time means the end of the age when there is no more chance for returning to God for fixing our life. There will be the Antichrist out of the congregation or church that is unfaithful or not serious in the service and ministry to God as well as the marriage.

Not being serious means not experiencing the renewal of life, so one keeps the flesh and blood man with all of the desires, lusts, and fleshly characteristics until he appears like the beast or the Antichrist that will be destroyed forever.

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 Lord Jesus as the Heavenly Bridegroom does not will if His bride becomes the beast or the Antichrist that will be destroyed forever.

Therefore, He willingly dies on the cross for washing or sanctifying and changing us through the following things:

1. [Ephesians 5:26] Water refers to the true water baptism, namely one who has believed Jesus and repented or died to sin must be buried in water with Jesus and raised from water with Him to get the new life, namely the heavenly one.

The heavenly life means having the good conscience which is obedient to the will of God. It brings us to be the same as the

Lord. We do not follow the fleshly will, lust, and characteristics which make men become the same as the beast or the Antichrist that will be destroyed anymore.

1 Peter 3:20-21

3:20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

2. [Ephesians 5:25] The true teaching Word which is sharper than any two-edged sword or the Bride Tidings.

3. The sprinkling of blood.

Jesus must die on the cross so that the congregation has no blemish, but the perfection and glory like Jesus to be His bride or possession forever.

Therefore, we must also use the short time now for seriously experiencing the renewal of life through the true water baptism, true teaching Word, and the sacrifice of Christ, the sprinkling of blood, or the suffering in the flesh because of Jesus until we can be as perfect and glorious as Jesus to be the heavenly bride who is ready for welcoming Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds. We are with Him forever.

For example, the family in Bethany consists of the following people:

- Martha refers to the physical body that is busy and without the right understanding.
- Mary refers to the soul that understands the will of God.
- Lazarus refers to the spirit that is dead, rotten, and smelly.

Luke 10:38-42

10:38 Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house.

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

10:40 But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

10:41 And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things.

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

1. Martha.

Martha was busy to serve, but without the right understanding.

Consequently, her ministry could not be maximum because the flesh still insisted or grumbled, murmured, felt dissatisfied, blamed at others, belittled others, and judged God and the true teaching Word.

Martha wanted to be the head over man or replace the position of Jesus as the Head. Martha asked Jesus that Mary could be her helper [Luke 10:40] while the Word had arranged that woman had to be the helper of man. .

Genesis 2:18

2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

Man or Jesus should have received the helper. Nevertheless, Martha wanted to be the head over man. Now, many women want to teach and have authority over men, so the structure of the head and the body becomes wrong.

The right structure is that Jesus becomes the Head over man; man becomes the head over woman or the body and the children or the limbs.

Nevertheless, Martha wanted to be the head over man, so Jesus or the true teaching Word could not be the Head. The proof is the anxiety, especially about the physical life, until one cannot prioritize God.

The consequence is being worried and troubled about many things, curse, weariness, heavy burdens, tears, and sorrows.

1 Timothy 2:11-14

2:11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.

2:12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

2:13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

It is the same as the story in Garden Eden that Eve heard the voice of the serpent, took the forbidden fruit, ate, and gave it to Adam.

Now, woman wants to be the head by giving the spiritual food to man or teaching and having authority over man.

2. **Mary**[Luke 10:39,42]

Mary sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word or the revealed Word by Holy Spirit through a verse that explains other verses in the Bible or the true teaching Word. It means the best thing. Mary got the heavenly understanding or wisdom. Such thing must be with the activity in the ministry which is in line with the true teaching Word or God's will.

Thus, we must move after sitting and having the understanding.

3. **Lazarus.**

Lazarus was not there when Jesus came. It means that the spirit often hovers although the body is in the church. The body, soul, and spirit may also wander. It means that one is not shepherded. He does not want to eat or hear the true teaching Word.

John 11:1

11:1 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

Consequently, the spirit is sick. It means committing sins up to the peak. Continuing in it, one will sleep or die.

John 11:11-13

11:11 These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up."

11:12 Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well."

11:13 However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.

Being dead means being inactive or not serving and ministering to God anymore. The spirituality also dies, namely enjoying in sins up to the peak.

John 11:39

11:39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

Being dead four days means being rotten, including divorce-remarrying and the wrong marriage.

Thus, Martha, Mary, and Lazarus refer to the church or servants of God who have not been serious. It is so dangerous because they will choose the Antichrist or the false things when there is faction or shakings.

John 11:3

11:3 Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."

Lazarus (the spirit) was loved. It means that the soul and body (Mary and Martha) are loved too.

Thus, God loved men, especially the church or His servants from the body, soul, and spirit for being saved and perfected.

John 11:4,6

11:4 When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

11:6 So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.

The way of God to help is through permitting His servants to get the death experience; even like Job and Lazarus who must get the total failure. As a result, we will get the experience of resurrection and glory or the life renewal for glorifying the name of God and being as glorious as Him and glorified with Him forever.

John 12:1-8

12:1 Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead.

12:2 There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

12:3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

12:4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,

12:5 "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"

12:6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

12:7 But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.

12:8 "For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

Martha kept busy to serve, but in the right understanding, so there was no insisting of the voice of the flesh. She did not murmur, but gave thanks to God. She did not want to be the head anymore, but placed Jesus as the Head and there was no worry anymore, but she could prioritize God more than anything. It means dragging the mercy of God.

Lazarus could sit to eat. It means not wandering anymore or the spirit's not hovering over Babylon anymore, but being shepherded well and correctly as well as enjoying the true shepherding Word.

Mary who had only sat at Jesus' feet for hearing the Word could be moved by the true teaching Word which she practiced for serving God in the right understanding and with the offerings for making God pleasant, not with asking anything. The ministry of Mary is anointing the feet of Jesus with oil or the ministry in the last edification of the body of Christ or the perfect one, namely the heavenly bride.

The requirements of the edification of the body of Christ are as follows:

1. The fragrant spikenard oil refers to the fruit of lips that glorify God.

Hebrews 13:15-16

13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

13:16 But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

We can speak honestly, testify, do good deeds, love other people like we love ourselves until we can love our enemy or repay good for evil.

2. The three hundred denarii refer the salary for one year. It means that we can prioritize God more than anything. It begins from giving the tithes and offering.
3. Wiping with hair refers to being humble and obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore or there is no pride at all. Being humble and obedient refers to stretching out the hands to God or believing and entrusting our life fully to God. As a result, God will stretch out the hands of Holy Spirit to us.

The results are as follows:

- Holy Spirit is able to preserve our life physically in the midst of the difficulties in the world until the time when the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years and until we get the eternal life. Spiritually, we can live in righteousness and holiness in the midst of the destruction and rottenness in the world.

Romans 8:11

8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

- Holy Spirit changes us from the fleshly man to the spiritual one like Jesus, namely being strong and of good courage.

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,

Mary did not get hopeless and disappointed nor plead herself when she faced the reproach, slander, and insult from her own family. When the people outside like Judas Iscariot or the other servants of God also reproach, do not plead your life, but keep on giving thanks! Mary did not mourn when she faced the dark clouds, heavy rain, or the impossible problem.

John 11:31-32

11:31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

11:32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

We do not get disappointed and hopeless in facing all things. Do not focus on the problem! Do not come to other people, but bow down at Jesus' feet!

The spirit of God's glory is able to resurrect the dead, make impossible problems possible, make the rotten things fragrant, and make the failed things successful. It continues until the time when Jesus comes a second time that we are changed to be as perfect and glorious as He is and we are worthy to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds. We are with Him forever.

God blesses you.