

General Service in Malang, July 08 2012 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 27 refers to **seven sprinklings of blood upon the Ark of Covenant**.

Now it means the suffering experienced by Jesus up to His death on the cross to save, purify, and perfect us.

In Matthew 27, there are seven passages that refer to seven sprinklings of blood experienced by Jesus up to His death on the cross as follows:

1. Matthew 27:1-10, Jesus handed over to Pontius Pilate and Judas's death.
2. Matthew 27:11-26, Jesus faces Pilate.
3. Matthew 27:27-32, the soldiers mock Jesus.
4. Matthew 27:33-50, Jesus's crucifixion.
5. Matthew 27:51-56, miracles happen at the time of Jesus's death.
6. Matthew 27:57-61, Jesus buried in Joseph's tomb.
7. Matthew 27:62-66, Pilate sets a guard.

ad. 3. The soldiers mock Jesus

Matthew 27:27-31

27:27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him.

27:28 And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him.

27:29 When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

27:30 Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head.

27:31 And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.

The mockeries received by Jesus are as follows:

1. The soldiers put a scarlet robe on Him, it means mocking the authority of Jesus as King.
The authority of king is victory over enemies. One of our enemies is sin. If we preserve sin, it means we put a scarlet robe on Jesus and mock Him.
2. Twisting a crown of thorns and putting it on His head.

Revelation 10:1

10:1 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.

The crown of Jesus as King of kings is a rainbow.

Ezekiel 1:27-28

1:27 Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around.

1:28 Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.

Putting a crown of thorns on Jesus's head means mocking the authority of Jesus as King.

Life who mocks the authority of Jesus is God's servants or children who have heart and mind as thorns.

Mark 7:21-23

7:21 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

7:22 thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness.

7:23 All these evil things come from within and defile a man.

Heart and mind as thorns are filled by twelve evil and unclean desires.

Genesis 6:5-6

6:5 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6:6 And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

If heart and mind are as thorns, words and deeds will also be as thorns, that is grieving God's heart.

The peak is wrong marriage, that is getting married just to satisfy flesh desire. This is the thorn that pierces God's heart.

Genesis 6:2

6:2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

Genesis 26:34-35

26:34 When Esau was forty years old, he took as wives Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite.

26:35 And they were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah.

Words and deeds as thorns pierce parents' heart, and its peak is also in marriage matter.

Hebrews 13:17

13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Words and deeds as thorns also make a grief of mind to the pastor. The consequence is obstructing the intercession prayer so the condition of the congregation is without the cover, and enemies will attack easily.

If one pierces God, parents, and pastor, the last consequence is piercing himself. It means living in curse ambience, sadness, bitterness, failures, and sins up to the peak of sins. This kind of life only waits to be burned by God.

Hebrews 6:8

6:8 but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.

The right attitudes are as follows:

- We must glorify and exalt God.
- We must make happy our parents.
- We must make happy our pastor, so the intercession prayer becomes strong cover for our salvation.

How can we glorify God and make happy our parents and pastor? It comes back to our conscience. We must have **good conscience**.

We can get good conscience from water baptism.

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,

In true water baptism, we are born from God, so we have good conscience. Good conscience will not be filled by twelve thorns, but by twelve loaves of breads (two rows of showbread, six in a row). The number sixty six denotes sixty six books in the Holy Bible. It means that good conscience will be filled by true teaching Word.

The signs of good conscience being filled by true teaching Word are as follows:

- Living in righteousness.
- Being obedient.
- Being well shepherded.

Well shepherded life is as entering the ark of Noah, so we have peaceful life. Being shepherded means entering the Holy Place in Tabernacle. There are three types of equipment inside, which denotes perseverance in three main services. Living in this world is difficult, but it will not be difficult if we enter the ark of Noah.

If we live in righteousness, are obedient and well shepherded, we will be able to glorify and exalt God.

The practices are as follows:

1. Glorifying God with our possessions, that is tithes and special offering.

Proverbs 3:9-10

*3:9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
3:10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.*

2. Glorifying God with our body, that is becoming God's servant who is acceptable to Him.

1 Corinthians 6:20

6:20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 7:23

7:23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

An acceptable God's servant is being faithful and fervent in spirit, and being faithful and obedient in ministry.

3. Having the fear of God, that is fear to do sins, so we can go up on the mountain of worship and see the shining face of God.

Revelation 14:7

14:7 saying with a loud voice, â€œFear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.â€œ

If we can see the shining face of God, our life renewal will also shine as rainbow in the middle of darkness. Renewal of life is started from not lying anymore.

If we become the rainbow of God, we will also experience the light of God's glory (shekinah glory) brightening our life.

The example is the family of Bethany who loves God but they are let to experience dark cloud through the death of Lazarus. But there is rainbow of God's glory.

John 11:39-40

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

11:40 Jesus said to her, â€œDid I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?â€œ

The results are as follows:

- o The rainbow of God's glory is able to erase all impossibilities and solve all our problems.
The rainbow of God's glory will also make everything good.
- o Jesus goes up on the mountain until His countenance shines to face epileptic child (it denotes unclean sin). It means the rainbow of God's glory is able to reconcile our sins and restore broken marriage.
- o Until we receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

1 Peter 5:3-4

*5:3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;
5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.*

God blesses us.