

General Service in Malang, July 27, 2014 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 1:9-20 is about John the Apostle who was exiled to Patmos Island.

John the Apostle was exiled to Patmos Island to suffer in the flesh, not because of sinning but the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. As a result, he experienced three things as follows.

1. He could enter a true fellowship with God and the others.

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.

2. He could hear and see the loud voice of the trumpet, that is the true shepherding Word, or the Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword.

Revelation 1:10,12

1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,

1:12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands,

It means being well and right shepherded, so we can see seven golden lampstands (the perfect church of God) and Jesus Himself in glory as the High Priest, King of kings, Just Judge, and Heavenly Bridegroom [Revelation 1:13-16].

3. He could fall down at Jesus's feet as dead.

Revelation 1:17-20

1:17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

1:18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

1:19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.

ad. 3. He could fall down at Jesus's feet.

It means as follows.

- Worshipping with a contrite heart.

John the Apostle has the Word of God (Table of Showbread) and the testimony of Jesus (Golden Candlestick), but no worship (Golden Altar of Incense). Therefore, he was exiled to Patmos Island to be able to fall down at Jesus's feet.

- Worshipping until the flesh does not sound anymore, until there is no more fear.

Luke 21:25-27

21:25 "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;

21:26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

21:27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

In the last days, welcoming Jesus's second coming, all things (the earth, the sea, and the heaven) will be shaken so men's hearts failing them from fear and heavy depression. These will become the major killer in the world.

Revelation 21:8

21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Fear will kill not only the body, but also the spiritual life. One will not be able to worship God and not be passionate anymore in doing the ministry. Until one will enter the second death or everlasting perdition in the hell.

There are three types of fear as follows.

1. The beginning or the days of Father God (from Adam to Abraham): it is the fear because of being naked as the consequence of doing sins and being disobedient to the Word of God.

Genesis 3:9-10

3:9 Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, *“Where are you?”*

3:10 So he said, *“I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”*

Fear because of being naked happened in Garden Eden, where everything was fine and provided abundantly. The lesson for us is that richness, having good position, having husband/ wife, *et cetera*, cannot guarantee our happiness in the world.

The happiness in this world is decided by being obedient to the true teaching Word, so we do not sin but live in righteousness. We always live in peace and everything becomes easy and light as in Garden Eden.

2. The middle or the days of the Son of God (from Abraham to Jesus’ first coming): it is the fear in facing wind and wave in the middle of this world as the sea.

Matthew 14:29-31

14:29 So He said, *“Come.”* And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

14:30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, *“Lord, save me!”*

14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, *“O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”*

It means the fear in facing:

- difficulties in daily and future life, also impossible problems,
- gossips and false teaching.

The consequence is being doubtful to the true teaching Word and Jesus Himself. After being doubtful, many questions will arise. If it is continued, tears will appear and one will begin to sink and go down spiritually. He will become dry spiritually, unfaithful in ministering God, and dead spiritually. If it is still continued, he will sink in the lake of fire and brimstone forever.

3. The last days or the days of Holy Spirit God (from Jesus’ first coming to His second coming): it is the fear to see Jesus in glory as the King of kings on His second coming.

Revelation 6:15-17

6:15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,

6:16 and said to the mountains and rocks, *“Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!”*

6:17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?

It means being left on His second coming and destroyed together with this world. We must be watchful because everything that we have reached in this world will be in vain and useless if we are left on His second coming.

To be able to see Jesus in glory and welcome His second coming, we must fall down and worship Him more. We worship Him to see His countenance that shines as the sun shining in its strength. We thus will be renewed from having the fear of the flesh to the fear of God.

The practices of having the fear of God are as follows.

- Hating sins up to hating lies.

Proverbs 8:13

8:13 The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

Lying equals to opposing God. Lying does not solve problem but adding it with another problem up to perdition forever in the hell.

- Ministering God in faithfulness and sincerity, in faithfulness and righteousness.

Joshua 24:14

24:14 *“Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord!”*

Being intentionally unfaithful in ministering God means opposing God. It is very dangerous.

- Being obedient to the true teaching Word whatever the risk are, and whatever we must sacrifice.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.

The position of one who fears God is within the strong hands of God.

The results are as follows.

- Abraham represents father who must fear of God.

Genesis 22:11-14

22:11 But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' So he said, 'Here I am.'

22:12 And He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.'

22:13 Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

22:14 And Abraham called the name of the place, 'The-Lord-Will-Provide'; as it is said to this day, 'In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided.'

Abraham feared God and obeyed Him until he was willing to sacrifice Isaac.

The result is Jehovah Jireh, meaning God is able to provide the thing that has not existed yet, to care us and make us happy.

We will also be used in the ministry of building the perfect body of Christ (Solomon built the house of the Lord on the place where Isaac was sacrificed).

- The midwives (Puah and Shiphrah) represents mother.

Exodus 1:16-17,20-21

1:16 and he said, 'When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.'

1:17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.

1:20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty.

1:21 And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them.

These midwives did not want to execute the command of Pharaoh, although they had to be killed. These midwives feared God.

The result is everything was beautiful. The right hand of God is able to make everything beautiful.

When a wife is submissive, there is the hand of God that will save the marriage.

- The youth.

1 Peter 5:5-6

5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.'

5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

Young people must obey their physical parents, spiritual parents (pastor), and Heavenly one (God). Thus, the right hand of God will do the things as follows.

- a. Dashing the enemies, meaning solving all our problems right in His time.

Exodus 15:6

15:6 'Your right hand, O Lord, has become glorious in power; Your right hand, O Lord, has dashed the enemy in pieces.'

- b. The right hand of God saves us although we are powerless.
- c. The right hand of God exalts us in His time. God uses us in the revival of building the body of Christ in the last days.
Being exalted also means being renewed from flesh man to spiritual one as Him.

Being exalted also means God gives us beautiful and successful future.

Revelation 19:6-7

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, âAlleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.â

Until we are lifted up to the Heaven on His second coming and there is no more fear. We will shout âAlleluiaâ.

God blesses us.