

General Service in Malang, July 28, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28:20b

28:20 I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

The accompaniment of God is our main need. If God accompanies us, it means He is with us and we are with Him until we receive eternal life forever. If we are not accompanied by God, we will be separated from Him. We will go farther and farther from God, until we are destroyed forever.

God is with us until the end of the age. It means He is with us from now on in the midst of many difficulties in the world until the time when the antichrist reigns over the world for three years and six months, even until Jesus comes a second time on glorious clouds, and we sit together with Him on the throne of New Jerusalem.

Revelation 3:21

3:21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

The one who may sit together with God on the throne of Heaven is the one who overcomes together with Jesus.

Proverbs 21:31

21:31 The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the Lord.

The requirement to overcome together with Jesus is to live inside the hand of God.

Living in this difficult world is a struggle or war physically and spiritually. The horse refers to strength, smartness, wealth, et cetera. They are only the mediums to make a war, but the deliverance is of the Lord. Therefore, we must live in the hand of God.

How can we live in the hand of God?

1. Being the star in the right hand of God (General Service, July 21, 2013).
2. Being a shepherded sheep (Bible Study Service, July 25, 2013).
3. Being a spiritual baby.

Mark 10:16

10:16 And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

ad. 3. Being a spiritual baby.

Mark 10:14

10:14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

Spiritual baby is the highest status who owns the kingdom of God, and who is allowed to sit together with Jesus on the throne of Heaven.

John 3:3-5

3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

3:4 Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?

3:5 Jesus answered, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

A spiritual baby is the one who experiences new birth from God. In the past, we are born physically by our mother to receive physical life that does not inherit the kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, we must experience new birth from God to become spiritual baby, so we may receive spiritual life to enter the kingdom of Heaven.

New birth can only be accepted by faith, not by mind or logic. Since faith is higher than logic, thus logic will accept about the new birth if faith accepts it first.

The process to become spiritual baby is through water baptism and Holy Spirit baptism [John 3:5].

1. Water baptism.

Water baptism is only one. One Head means one body, and therefore there is only one baptism. If the baptism is different, it means that the body is different and therefore the Head is different so one will be separated forever. Starting from husband and wife must have one baptism. If they have a different one, surely they will be separated.

The requirement of entering water baptism is believing Jesus and repenting or dying from sins.
The true water baptism is according to Holy Bible, and it is as the baptism of Jesus.

Matthew 3:13-17

3:13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

3:14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

3:15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

3:17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Actually Jesus does not need to be baptized, but He is willing to be baptized to do the will of God and give the example of true baptism. To do the will of God, we must sacrifice everything in our life (prestige, et cetera). If we do not want to sacrifice them, we will sacrifice God.

Water baptism must not be prevented or hindered. One also must not be commanded to be baptized. Entering water baptism is only by the encouragement of the Word of God. It is only because of doing the will of God.

Romans 6:2,4

6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

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 believed Jesus and repented or died to sin must be buried in water together with Jesus and come out of water to raise in new life, and become a spiritual baby.

2. Holy Spirit baptism.

Acts 2:4-5

2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2:5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.

One of the signs of the true Holy Spirit baptism is speaking with other tongues, as the Spirit gave us utterance.

The result of Holy Spirit baptism is new life, being a spiritual baby who owns the Kingdom of Heaven.

The signs of a spiritual baby are as follows.

1 Peter 2:1-5

2:1 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,

2:2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

2:3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

2:4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1. [1 Peter 2:1] Laying aside five main sins.

If we can lay aside these sins, we will be able to lay aside the other sins.

- Malice.

1 Timothy 6:10

6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

The root of all kinds of evil is the love of money. It makes one stingy and greedy, and materialistic also. If there is the root of evil, there will be the root of uncleanness that leads to sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being

given in marriage.

- Deceit.
- Hypocrisy.
- Envy.

These three sins above are the sprout of sins. If the root is not pulled out, it will sprout.

- Evil speaking, that is useless word that brings one to the everlasting judgment. It is the fruit of sins.

If by the power of the sword of the Word we can pull out these five main sins, there is hope that we can be set free from all sins up to the peak of sins.

1 John 3:9-10

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.

3:10 In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.

Spiritual baby puts aside these five main sins so he does not sin anymore but lives in righteousness. It equals to not doing sins anymore, and being right as Jesus is.

2. [1 Peter 2:2] Always desiring the pure and spiritual milk.

Physical baby needs milk from his physical mother. One baby has one mother. Spiritual baby needs pure and spiritual milk from spiritual mother, that is a pastor. Pure and spiritual milk means the true teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit.

Spiritual baby is life who always desires and enjoys the true shepherding Word. The results are as follows.

- Being satisfied and calm. If there is calmness, everything will be easy and light.
- Experiencing spiritual growth, meaning as follows.
 - a. Experiencing intensive sanctification by the shepherding Word, until we are set free from evil and unclean desire and we feel that it is more blessed to give than to receive. It is until we can submit our whole life to God.

Acts 20:28,32,35

20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

20:32 So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

20:35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

- b. Ministering God in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ according to the ministry entrusted by God to us.

1 Peter 2:3-5

2:3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

2:4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

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,

If we are sanctified continuously in the shepherding, God will give us the ministry so we are used in the building of the perfect body of Christ.

Being used means our life is arranged and tidied up.

The ministry of the building of the body of Christ is as the mother of Moses who breast-feeds Moses. It means as follows.

- We serve God without any fear and worry.
- We serve God without asking for rights or salary, but we only do our responsibility.
- We serve with joy.
- We serve with full of love and mercy.

3. Crying out a lot.

Matthew 21:15-16

21:15 But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, Hosanna to the Son of David! they were indignant

21:16 and said to Him, Do You hear what these are saying? And Jesus said to them, Yes. Have you never read, Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise?

It means we worship God with contrite heart. We confess that we do many sins and faults and are powerless. The life of spiritual baby only depends on the mercy of God.

The example is the baby of Moses who is in powerless condition. He is put in the River Nile and none cares him. When he is taken by the daughter of Pharaoh, actually he faces death.

Exodus 2:6,10

2:6 And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

2:10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, Because I drew him out of the water.

But there is the merciful hand of God.

- The merciful hand of God draws us from the water. It means God cares and protects us in the middle of difficulties in this world, up to the days of antichrist, even until we reach eternal life.
- The merciful hand of God lifts us up as the king's children. It means He gives us beautiful future and also spiritual miracle.
- The merciful hand of God lifts up Moses to Heaven, to be able to sit on the throne of Heaven.

Deuteronomy 34:5-6

34:5 So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord.

34:6 And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day.

It means the hands of God lifts us up from all failures. God renews us until we are as perfect as He is.

In failure situation, God only wants us to return as crying baby.

God blesses us.