

General Service in Malang, July 31, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:17-19

26:17. Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

26:18 And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples."'"

26:19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

Now, the Passover means our deliverance from sins by repenting and being newly born. This Passover will peak on the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:9

19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Celebrating the Passover now is being free from sins little by little, up to being free from all sins and from the world to welcome Jesus in the glorious clouds.

The Passover feast is related to "My time is at hand".

In Matthew 26, "My time is at hand" means Jesus' death as the Lamb of Passover is drawing near. Jesus will die on the cross, but He was raised and lifted up to the Heaven.

At the last days, "My time is at hand" is related to the time of Jesus' second coming which is drawing near.

What do we have to prepare to be able to welcome Jesus' second coming in this short time?

1 Corinthians 7:29-32

7:29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none,

7:30 those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess,

7:31 and those who use this world as not misusing it. For the form of this world is passing away.

7:32 But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord—^{how} how he may please the Lord.

The thing we have to prepare is **LIVING WITHOUT CARE**.

There are two types of worry as follows:

1. Spiritual matters.

Matthew 10:16-19

10:16. "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

10:17 But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues.

10:18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

10:19 But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;

In spiritual matters is worry about suffering or persecution because of God.

When we have to suffer because of Jesus, because of ministry, because of the true teaching, it is not the time to worry but the opportunity to testify and preach the true teaching Word, to enter the perfect body of Christ.

The consequence of worry is many will deny God and deny the true teaching. The consequence is they will be denied by God and it means perdition.

2. Carnal matters.

Matthew 6:31-34

6:31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

6:32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

6:34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

It is the worry about daily life, that is about food, drink, clothes, also worry about future.
Many young people worry about their mate, such that they cannot care for the things of the Lord.

Luke21:25-26

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.

Also worry about shocks, problems in the world, which result in spiritual withering. Starting from being discouraged in ministry, being disappointed, up to the death of the body, until the second death.

God's children who worry about carnal matters will always be busy looking for carnal matters by doing any ways, such that they cannot be faithful in ministry and cannot live in righteousness.

If one is not faithful and not right, he is already far from God.

In the last days, antichrist will rule the world, such that men cannot rely on carnal matters. If God's children are busy with world's matters, they will be controlled by antichrist.

If we remember the verse "For many are called, but few are chosen", in the era of antichrist there will be few life who keep worship God and must be beheaded. Many will choose to follow antichrist and will be perished.

In this short time, we must learn to live without worry, such that **we can fully surrender our life to God.**

The steps of fully surrendering to God are as follows:

1. Casting all our care upon God.

1 Peter5:7

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

The practices are as follows:

- Being shepherded, persevering in the shepherding pen.

Shepherding pen is the Holy Place where there are three equipments inside. These denote the perseverance in three main services. The sign of not worrying is only remaining on ONE true vine.

- a. Golden Candlestick -->perseverance in General Service -->Pentecost feast.
- b. Table of Showbread -->perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion -->Passover Feast.
- c. Golden Altar of Incense -->perseverance in Prayer Service -->Feast of booth of leaves.

If we persevere in three main services, we are not being tortured, but we are in feast condition.

- Being faithful and right in ministry.

Thus, the practice of casting all our care is **being faithful and right in ministry within the shepherding system.**

Matthew6:33

6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

The results are all the things will be added to us. It means that the Good Shepherd submits His soul to care our present life, beautiful future, up to the eternal life forever in the last shepherding pen in New Jerusalem.

2. Committing our life to the Lord.

Psalms37:5-7

37:5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

37:6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.

37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.

Isaiah30:15,14

30:15 For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: " In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not,

30:14 And He shall break it like the breaking of the potter's vessel, Which is broken in pieces;He shall not spare. So there shall not be found among its fragments A shard to take fire from the hearth, Or to take water from the cistern."

The practices are as follows:

- Resting in the Lord = correcting ourselves through the true teaching Word.
If any sins are found, we confess them to God and the others, and we repent. If we have reconciled the sins, we will get salvation and peace. There will be no fear. Physically, we also will not be drowned.
- Quietness, which means controlling ourselves such that we do not put our hope to the others but only to God.

1 Peter 4:7

4:7. But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

If we rest in the Lord and become quiet, we will be able to worship God, stretch our hands to God, believe and fully surrender to God.

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Then God will also stretch out His hands to us, and miracles will happen. The results are as follows:

- Good Shepherd's hands are able to calm all winds and waves. It means as follows:
 - a. Giving peace.
 - b. All problems are solved, even the impossible one.
 - c. There is beautiful future.
 - Great Shepherd's hands are able to recover the broken things.
- Isaiah 30:14**
- 30:14 And He shall break it like the breaking of the potter's vessel, Which is broken in pieces; He shall not spare. So there shall not be found among its fragments A shard to take fire from the hearth, Or to take water from the cistern."*
- Great Shepherd's hands bring our life as the light, purify and renew our life, until we are clothed with the sun, moon, and stars. We will receive two wings of a great eagle to fly us on the era of antichrist and to lift us on Jesus' second coming.

Psalms 37:6

37:6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.

God blesses us.