General Service in Malang, June 03, 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.

There are also **seven sprinklings in front of the Ark of Covenant**.
It means the suffering with Jesus that must be experienced by the congregation in order to be saved, purified, and perfected.

The first sprinkling of blood is Jesus handed over to Pontius Pilate and Judasâ death [Matthew 27:1-10].
Jesus experiences suffering since His disciple betrays him and sells Him for thirty pieces of silver.
The consequence is Judas hangs himself. He is falling headlong, he bursts open in the middle and all his entrails gush out. He perishes forever.

Matthew 27:6-10
27:6 But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, âIt is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood.â
27:7 And they consulted together and bought with them the potterâs field, to bury strangers in.
27:8 Therefore that field has been called the Field of Bloodto this day.
27:9 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, âAnd they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced,
27:10 and gave them for the potterâs field, as the Lord directed me.â

Judas Iscariot sells Jesus for thirty pieces of silver to buy the Field of Blood, the burial ground of strangers, and the potterâs field.

This morning, we are discussing the burial ground of strangers.
With thirty pieces of silver, Gentiles (strangers) can get burial ground in Canaan so they can unite with Israelites.

Ephesians 2:11-16
2:11 Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the fleshâ"who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by handsâ"
2:12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,
2:15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is,the law of commandments containedin ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man fromthe two, thusmaking peace,
2:16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

Spiritually, it means that Gentiles get the opportunity to have death and resurrection experience (the cross of Christ) together with Jesus, so there is chance to be united with Israelites and enter the unity of perfect body of Christ and the heavenly Canaan, the New Jerusalem.

Ecclesiastes 6:3
6:3 If a man begets a hundred childrenand lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with goodness, or indeed he has no burial, I say thata stillborn child isbetter than heâ"

Everything in this world has no meaning if Gentiles do not have death and resurrection experience together with Jesus. If there is no death and resurrection experience together with Jesus, we will not be glorified on His second coming on the glorious clouds. It means being left on Jesusâ second coming, cannot enter the heavenly Canaan, the New Jerusalem, but being left and perished together with the world.

The daily practices of death and resurrection experience are as follows:

1. Death experience is dying from sins.
   1 Peter 2:21-24
   2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:
   2:22 âWho committed no sin,Nor was deceit found in His mouthâ; 2:23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in

return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himselfto Him who judges righteously;
2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousnessâ"by whose stripes you were healed.

Dying from sins means not doing sins, that is:
- There is no deceit.
- Not repaying evil for evil, but repaying good for evil.

Resurrection experience is living for righteousness.

Being not right or preserving the wrong things means we sell Jesus for thirty pieces of silver as Judas.

The results of having death and resurrection experience are as follows:
- The power of Godâs stripes heal all physical illness (including illness in financial problems and study) and spiritual illness (resentment, hatred, bitterness, stress, dread, worry), also illness within marriage.
  If we repent and live in righteousness, Satan is not able to touch us.

- Our direction is clearly to the new heaven and new earth, in the New Jerusalem.
  2 Peter 3:13
  3:13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

2. Setting our mind on things above and seeking those things more than things on the earth.
   Colossians 3:1-3
   3:1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
   3:2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.
   3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

   It means prioritizing ministry more than any other matters in this world. It is the same as being faithful and obedient in ministry.

   Jonah is being unfaithful and disobedient so the ship is shaken. If one is being disobedient, the whole ship of marriage and shepherding will be shaken. Sometime, that kind of life will be drowned. If one is still able to be meek as Jonah, there is still Godâs grace to lift him up.

   It is different with Paul the apostle. When one ship is shaken but there is one faithful and right life, the whole ship is saved.

   Being unfaithful and disobedient means selling Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.

   Acts 20:24
   20:24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

   Paul the apostle does not count his life to be able to become faithful and obedient in ministry until finishing the race (until death or Jesusâ second coming). It means really prioritizing the ministry more than any other matters in this world.

   Exodus 23:25-26
   23:25 âSo you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.
   23:26 No one shall suffer miscarriage or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.

   The results of ministering faithfully and obediently are as follows:
   - Godâs guarantees for our daily life physically.
   - Godâs guarantees for our life spiritually, those are spiritual satisfaction, health (not doing any sins), and growth up to spiritual maturity or perfection.

   - Guarantee for eternal life and to enter the New Jerusalem.

   Revelation 22:3-4
   22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve

Him.
22:4 They shall see His face, and His name shall beon their foreheads.

3. Experiencing renewal of life from flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus, starting from water baptism.
   Romans 6:3-4
   6:3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?
   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 we die and are buried together with Jesus, so that we will rise together with Him in newness of life. We experience renewal.
   Believing, repenting, and being baptized of water are the first steps in following the steps of Christ. Therefore, we must pay attention on these matters.

   Matthew 3:15-16
   3:15 But Jesus answered and said to him, â??Permit it to be sonow, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.â?? Then he allowed Him.
   3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were openedto Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

   The true water baptism is related to the opening of the heaven, and it leads to the New Jerusalem. If the water baptism is wrong, the heaven will not be opened.

   Acts 8:36,39
   8:36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, â??See, here iswater. What hinders me from being baptized?â??
   8:39 Now when they came up out of the water,the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

   The true water baptism is being buried (coming up out of the water).

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

   The result of water baptism is new life, as newborn babes.

   The baby of Moses is let to be thrown away in the river. It arrives to the hand of the daughter of Pharaoh, as problem that increases to the peak and there is no more way out. The daughter of Pharaoh is the description of sinful life. We will be used to help life who wallows in sins.

   When we face death experience, our attitude is enjoying the pure and spiritual milk, that is the shepherding Word. When we are being obedient in three main services in shepherding, the attitudes of baby are as follows:
   - being silent,
   - being honest,
   - weeping.

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

   Weeping means worshiping God only and putting hope on Godâ??s mercy and grace only.
   The results are as follows:
   - The merciful and graceful hands of God take Moses from the river. It means that the merciful and graceful hands of God care and protect us physically and spiritually, also help us right in His time.

   - The merciful and graceful hands of God make Moses the son of king, meaning lifting us up from failures and making our life successful.

   - The merciful and graceful hands of God are able to make possible all the impossible things.
     1 Corinthians 2:7-9
     2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdomwhich God ordained before the ages for our

glory,
2:8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
2:9 But as it is written:â??Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,Nor have entered into the heart of manThe things which God has prepared for those who love Him.â??

Spiritually, we will be renewed continually until we become as perfect as Jesus. We will become Godâ??s bride who will be lifted up on the glorious clouds at Jesusâ?? second coming.

God blesses us.