

General Service in Malang, June 15, 2014 (Sunday Morning)

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

There are four appearances of Jesus in the glory in Revelation 1:13-16 as follows.

1. [verse 13] the appearance of Jesus in the glory as the High Priest.
2. [verse 14] the appearance of Jesus in the glory as the King of all kings.
3. [verse 15] the appearance of Jesus in the glory as the Just Judge.
4. [verse 16] the appearance of Jesus in the glory as the Heavenly Bridegroom.

ad. 4. The appearance of Jesus in the glory as the Heavenly Bridegroom.

It is so that we appear as His perfect bride and we are together with Him forever.

Revelation 1:16

1:16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

Jesus appears in the glory as the Heavenly Bridegroom with the signs as follows.

- a. He had in His right hand seven stars.
- b. Out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword.
- c. His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

We still learn the first sign, that is He had in His right hand seven stars.

Holding the stars means He does not want to lose us until we belong to Him.

The special meaning of the star is the pastor of a congregation.

The general meaning of the star is one who serves and ministers God, or one who is used by God to serve Him.

Genesis 22:15,17

22:15 Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,

22:17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

The stars are the descendants of Abraham. Physically, they are the Israelites.

Matthew 3:7-9

3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

3:8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,

3:9 and do not think to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

If the Israelites do not want to repent, they will become the brood of vipers although they are physically the descendants of Abraham.

On the contrary, the Gentiles who are hard as stones can become the descendants of Abraham.

The process is as follows.

- Believing, having faith to Jesus.
- Repenting, stopping sinning, stopping listening false teaching, to return to God.
- Entering water baptism.

The true water baptism is one who has repented (died to sins) is buried in water together with Jesus, to be raised together with Him and receive new life, that is living in righteousness or living by faith. This kind of life is called as the descendant of Abraham.

Galatians 3:7

3:7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

After being the descendants of Abraham, they still can be separated. There are three types of the descendants of Abraham as

follows.

1. As the dust of the earth.

Genesis 13:14-16

13:14 And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: âLift your eyes now and look from the place where you areânorthward, southward, eastward, and westward;

13:15 for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.

13:16 And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.

It means as follows.

- o The servants of God who reject the cross. They minister God with the aim to look for physical things that please the flesh.
- o Ministering God without experiencing life renewal.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

3:1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

3:2 For men will be (1)lovers of themselves, (2)lovers of money, (3)boasters, (4)proud, (5)blasphemers, (6)disobedient to parents, (7)unthankful, (8)unholy,

3:3 (9)unloving, (10)unforgiving, (11)slanderers, (12)without self-control, (13)brutal, (14)despisers of good,

3:4 (15)traitors, (16)headstrong, (17)haughty, (18)lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

If it is concluded, the dusts of the earth are the servants of God who reject the cross, so they do not experience life renewal although ministering God. They keep preserving flesh man with 18 characters of the flesh.

Genesis 3:14

3:14 So the Lord God said to the serpent:âBecause you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

The consequence is becoming the food of serpent, being marked with 666 or becoming the same as antichrist, and being destroyed forever.

2. As the sand on the seashore.

Genesis 22:17

22:17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

Matthew 7:26-27

7:26 âBut everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

7:27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.â

It refers to the servants of God who have served Him but keep being disobedient to the true teaching Word.

The consequence is not being able to endure the temptations and problems. They will grumble, judge the others and God. They will also be disappointed and desperate in facing temptations. They will be unfaithful and leave the ministry to God, fall in sins up to the peak of sins, that is sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

At the end, this kind of life will fall and his faith will fail. Falling means doubting the true teaching Word, and later he will leave the true one to move to the false one, until not believe Jesus anymore. The fall is great means it cannot be repaired and will be destroyed forever.

If we are obedient to the true teaching Word, God who commands us will be responsible for everything.

3. As the stars of the heaven.

Genesis 22:17

22:17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

Daniel 12:3

12:3 Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like

the stars forever and ever.

It means as follows.

- A wise man, meaning being obedient to the true teaching Word that is written in the Bible (do not add or take away any words).
- Shining, meaning being faithful and fervent in spirit in the ministry up to the end line, until Jesus's second coming, until forever.
- Leading many people, that is bringing sinful lives to believe Jesus and be saved. We also testify to lead the saved one to receive the true teaching Word, so they are sanctified and perfected, to enter the building of the perfect body of Christ.
- Persevering in worship prayer, whatever we face.

Daniel 6:10

6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

Three time a day means surrendering the body, soul, and spirit to God whatever we face. It is the same as crying out "Abba, Father". We need Holy Spirit to be able to do this.

Romans 8:15

8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

Only the servants of God who are anointed and fulfilled by Holy Spirit will be able to cry out "Abba, Father" whatever the situation is. It equals to stretching out both our hands to God, and He will stretch out His right hands to hold the stars. As long as we stretch out our hands, He will never lose us.

The results are as follows.

- God's hands revive our life so we will not fall, but keep being strong and of good courage in facing anything.
Psalms 138:7-8
*138:7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me.
138:8 The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.*

It means we do not grumble. We are not disappointed and desperate. We do not leave God in facing the wind and waves, but keep holding fast to the true teaching Word.

- God's hands save us, or shut the lions' mouths.
It means the right hand of God or the Holy Spirit is able to care our life in the difficult time, up to the days of antichrist and up to the eternal life forever. Saving us also means giving us peace and calmness in the middle of storm and wave. We are joyful, and everything becomes easy and light.

When we face difficulties and impossibilities, let us close our mouth from saying useless words, gossips, *et cetera*. Let us open our heart and mouth to pray and worship God.

- God's hands are able to solve all problems even the impossible one, right on His time. The right hand of God will lift us up and give us beautiful and successful future.

Daniel 6:23,26-27

*6:23 Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.
6:26 I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, And steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, And His dominion shall endure to the end.
6:27 He delivers and rescues, And He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.*

God will also use our life to bear witness, until He will lift us up to the glorious clouds to be with Him forever.

God blesses us.