

General Service in Malang, June 16, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

Peace and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28:20b

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

It is about the accompaniment of God. In Exodus 33, Moses asks for the accompaniment of God during the journey in the wilderness to Canaan. Now, we also ask for the accompaniment of God during our journey in this world that is as the wilderness until we reach the throne of Heaven or the New Jerusalem forever.

The Israelites harden their heart and get bad news that God does not go with them. He sends an angel to make war and bring them to Canaan, but Moses does not want to go and asks for the accompaniment of God.

The accompaniment of God is our main need. Without the accompaniment of God, everything is useless. Even the kingdom of Heaven is useless without the accompaniment of God.

There are two kinds of the accompaniment of God.

1. For a short term.

Isaiah 59:1-3

59:1 Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

59:3 For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity.

Sins in the form of deeds, words, or thoughts are the things that separate us from God, so He is not with us. God cannot hear our prayer and He cannot stretch out His hands to help us.

The way out to get the accompaniment of God is through reconciliation. If we are wrong, we must confess our sins to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we must not do sins anymore. If we are right, we must be able to forgive the other's sin and forget it. Thus, the blood of Jesus reconciles and covers our sins. God will be with us and stretch out His hands to us to solve all our problems.

When Jesus is on the high mountain for worship, there is epilepsy down the mountain. It is the condition when one is separated from God, that is there are problems. The spiritual meaning of the epilepsy is as follows.

- a. Moral degradation that is falling and rising in sins up to the peak of sins. The epilepsy comes upon children, youth, adult, and old people who are separated from God.
- b. Never ending suffering.
- c. Impossibility.

Mark 9:21,23-24

9:21 So He asked his father, How long has this been happening to him? And he said, From childhood.

9:23 Jesus said to him, If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.

9:24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!

This epilepsy cannot be helped because there are sins of doubt and disbelief to the true teaching Word, so one looks for his own way out that is not according to the Word and it will lead to perdition.

The way out is reconciliation that is confessing our doubt and disbelief to God. We must believe and acknowledge the power of the true teaching Word. Thus, He will be with us and stretch out His hands to us. Miracles will happen and the epilepsy is healed.

2. For a long term.

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.

The Holy Bible is started with physical marriage between Adam and Eve that is destroyed by Satan through the epilepsy. God wants to restore human's marriage so the end of the Holy Bible is closed with perfect spiritual marriage in the

marriage supper of the Lamb of God.

The marriage supper of the Lamb of God is the meeting on the glorious clouds between Jesus who comes a second time in glory as King of kings and Heavenly Bridegroom with the perfect congregation as His bride. Thereafter, we enter the kingdom of peace a thousand years or the future Paradise [Revelation 20]. Then, we will enter the New Jerusalem or the eternal kingdom of Heaven [Revelation 21-22]. We will sit together with Jesus on His throne forever. It is *Immanuel* or the eternal accompaniment of God.

The requirements to wait for Jesus's second coming are as follows.

a. Perseverance.

Romans 8:25

8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Acts 2:41-42

2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

It refers to perseverance in three main services in the Holy Place as follows.

1. Golden Candlestick (the days of Moses) perseverance in fellowship (the church at the early rain) perseverance in General Service (the church at the latter rain).
We have fellowship with God the Holy Spirit and His gifts. We drink spiritually.
2. Table of Showbread perseverance in the apostles' doctrine and breaking of bread perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.
We have fellowship with the Son of God in His Word and sacrifice. We eat spiritually.
3. Golden Altar of Incense perseverance in prayer perseverance in Prayer Service.
We have fellowship with God the Father in His love. We breathe spiritually.

In the sheepfold, we grow spiritually to perfection, to be able to welcome His second coming.

Acts 2:46

2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

Perseverance in three main services will increase until we are in the temple of God every day. It is to face the peak of problems and temptations in this world up to the days of antichrist. It is also to face sins up to the peak of sins.

Revelation 4:8

4:8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

Until we minister God day and night at the throne of Heaven.

Hebrews 10:35-37

10:35 Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

10:37 "For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry."

In the last days, surely we will face the increase of our needs, but all of them are covered by perseverance. We must persevere in the shepherding until we can confess, *I shall not want*. The Great Shepherd will care our physical life and perfect our spiritual life until we are blameless.

b. Purification.

1 John 3:2-3

3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

3:3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

John 15:3

15:3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

Within the shepherding, we experience intensive purification by the true teaching Word, where a verse explains the other verses in the Holy Bible.

John 13:10-11

13:10 Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."

13:11 For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."

We must experience the purification from dirty feet as Judas as follows.

1. The sin of a thief, either stealing the possession of God (the tithe and special offering) or of the others.
2. The sin of a betrayer that is being unfaithful and unjust either in marriage or ministry.
3. The sin of a liar that is saying wrong things and being unwilling to confess his sin even blaming the others.

The consequence is Judas loses everything. He loses his ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit, even loses the kingdom of Heaven.

Romans 10:15

10:15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

If we experience the intensive purification by the sword of the Word, the dirty feet will become beautiful feet. It means God uses us to preach the Good News (salvation) and Bride Tidings (perfection). The beautiful feet also means we are perfected until we become the bride of God.

Song of Solomon 7:1a

7:1 How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O prince's daughter! "

- c. We must experience the sprinkling of blood or flesh suffering with Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

4:18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

The example is ministering God, fasting, being slandered because of Jesus, et cetera. We must remember that the suffering we experience with Jesus is light suffering and only for a moment. God let us experience it so we are renewed from flesh man to become spiritual one as Jesus.

The practices of a new man are as follows.

1. Paying attention to Heavenly matters more than the physical ones.

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 he may please the Lord.

It means that we must not be attached to earthly matters and worry. Thus, we can prioritize God more than everything.

2. Being strong and of good courage and loving God more than everything, so we do not love the world.
The practices are as follows.

- Holding on one true teaching Word and being obedient. We live in righteousness whatever the risk is. We do not want to do sin although there is threat.
- Not being desperate in facing anything. Keeping being faithful and fervent in spirit in ministry.
- Keeping worshiping God, believing and fully surrendering our life to God.

The results are as follows.

- Having peace in God and not being influenced by the world.

John 16:33

16:33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.â[?][?]

If we have peace, God will crush Satan. Everything will be easy and light, and we feel happiness.

Romans 16:20

16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

- God purifies us until we become blameless on His second coming.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God blesses us.