

General Service in Malang, June 17, 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.

In Matthew 27, there are seven passages that refer to seven sprinklings of blood experienced by Jesus up to His death on the cross as follows:

1. Matthew 27:1-10, Jesus handed over to Pontius Pilate and Judas's death.
2. Matthew 27:11-26, Jesus faces Pilate.
3. Matthew 27:27-32, the soldiers mock Jesus.
4. Matthew 27:33-50, Jesus's crucifixion.
5. Matthew 27:51-56, miracles happen at the time of Jesus's death.
6. Matthew 27:57-61, Jesus buried in Joseph's tomb.
7. Matthew 27:62-66, Pilate sets a guard.

ad. 2. Jesus faces Pilate

It consists of two parts as follows:

- a. Verse 11-14, Jesus faces false accusation and questions that corner Him.
Although He has to die when he answers this question, He keeps answering assertively and rightly. When facing false accusation, He keeps silent.
- b. Verse 15-26, Jesus faces injustice (Jesus Barabbas is released, but Jesus Christ is crucified).

Matthew 27:15-17,20-22

27:15 Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished.

27:16 And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas.

27:17 Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?"

27:20 But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

27:21 The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They said, "Barabbas!"

27:22 Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"

The Jews is faced to two kings as follows:

1. Jesus Christ is the King of truth.

John 18:38

18:38 Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all."

The first proof is the secular judiciary claims that Jesus has no fault.

The second proof is false accusations or slanders never affect Jesus. He keeps silent.

False accusations or slanders are blessing to the righteous, to cover us so we are set free from grudge and bitterness, even we can pray for the people who has slandered us. But if the accusation is right, we have to confess so the blood of Jesus can cover our fault and Satan the accuser.

Actually Jesus must be set free since He has no fault. There is no reason to crucify Him.

2. Jesus Barabbas is the king of fault.

The king of fault must be judged and has no reason to be set free.

But in fact, because of seditions or gossips, the Jews choose to set free Jesus Barabbas and crucify Jesus Christ.

Thus, Jesus faces injustice.

The Jews is the representation of Christian lives in the last days, who frequently choose the wrong thing and throw away the right one. There is life who knows the right thing, or does not want to know, or knows the right thing but persists in choosing the wrong one. It happens since the conscience is not good, so it matches with the wrong one. Bad conscience is fulfilled by envy, grudge, evil

and unclean spirit, and self-truth. This kind of life is as Satan who keeps judging, even judging Jesus.

There are three things that we should not choose wrongly, that is the true teaching Word, shepherding system, and mate. These things decide our life in this world up to the Heaven.

A pastor must be careful not to take wrong decision in this world.

Why is Jesus willing to suffer, experience injustice, and even die on the cross?

1. Jesus appears as the Intercessor.

Sinful man is as a defendant who cannot be set free but must be judged in the judgment seat of Christ. Jesus appears as the Intercessor to defend and replace our place until dying on the cross.

2. Jesus appears as the King of truth.

After we are set free from sin, Jesus gives us righteousness. Jesus is willing to experience injustice until dying on the cross to give righteousness to us.

How can we accept Jesus as the King of truth?

1 John 1:7,9

1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Through confessing our sins to God and the others solemnly, with broken heart and regret.

Thus, the blood of Jesus will be active to:

- Forgive all our sins and cover them so there is no more trace.
- Purify and pull out the root of sins from our heart, so we will not do sins anymore, and we can live in righteousness and holiness.

The proof that we are forgiven is we do not do sins anymore and live in righteousness and holiness.

Our tasks after we live in righteousness and holiness are as follows:

1. Being the true witness, that is testifying about:

- Jesus as the King of truth, to bring sinful life to come to Him and be saved.
- Jesus as King of kings who will come for second time, that is testifying about the true teaching Word, so the saved life can enter the building of perfect body of Christ.

If we do not want to become the true witness, the guilt of bloodshed that cannot be paid shall be imputed to us and we will become accusers as Satan.

2. Being the instruments of righteousness = being priests and kings.

Romans 6:12-13

6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

6:13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Doing sins means ministering Satan. If we are unemployed after we are set free from sins, Satan will call us back. Therefore, we must become priests and kings after we are set free from sins.

Priests and kings (original word: kohen) are holy lives, who hold the ministry and minister God.

As priests and kings, our duty is ministering God as faithful and righteous, faithful and good, faithful and responsible servant. Thus we will experience heavenly joy that cannot be affected by anything.

Matthew 25:21

25:21 His lord said to him, âWell done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.â

Evil and lazy servant and life who leaves the ministry will be in tearful and suffering ambience, up to perdition forever.

3. Being the true worshipper.

John 4:23

4:23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

True worship is driven by the true teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit. The true teaching Word in the anointing of Holy Spirit equals to the sword that pierces up to our heart to purify our life.

Matthew 5:8

5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

True worship happens when we can see God.

Psalms 16:8

16:8 I have set the Lord always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.

The proof of seeing God only is not being moved by anything but strong and of good courage in facing everything.

The example is Peter who is great servant of God, but he can also be moved.

- Peter is moved by wind of temptation in every field and false teaching.

Matthew 14:29-31

14:29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

14:30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Being unsteady = being doubtful. The consequence is Peter begins to sink. But fortunately Peter sees God and he experiences lifting up from being sunk.

This morning, if we become doubtful because of temptations and doubt the true teaching Word, let us see God. Let us keep being strong and of good courage, and the merciful hands of God will lift up our life and care us in the middle of difficulties. The merciful hands of God are also able to give beautiful future.

- Peter is moved in facing cross or suffering.
The consequence is denying God. It means becoming the same as antichrist and falling into deep sin. But fortunately there are rooster crow and the merciful look of God, so Peter can cry.

This morning, whatever of falling is, there is still the shepherding Word. This is the merciful look of God.

Luke 22:60-62

22:60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.

22:61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

22:62 So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

The merciful hands of God are able to lift up Peter from deep falling and he can become God's witness.

John 21:18-19

21:18 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.

21:19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

Through the shepherding Word, we are directed to only see Jesus' face, submit our whole life to Him, believe and fully surrender our life to Him. Peter is lifted up until his name is written down in the New Jerusalem.

God blesses us.