

General Service in Malang, June 19, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

CHILD SUBMISSION SERVICE

Mark 10:13-16

10:13. Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

10:14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God."

10:15 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

10:16 And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

Child submission is not only church regulations, but it is an absolute necessity.

The aim of child submission is such that **our child is touched and embraced by God**, such that there is no more opportunity for Satan to touch him.

Life who is touched or embraced by God is life who closes or clings to God, and has secret counsel with God.

The requirement is having the attitude of children, that is honesty or plainness as baby.

Honesty or plainness = there is no hypocrisy.

Proverbs 3:32

3:32 For the perverse person is an abomination to the LORD, But His secret counsel is with the upright.

When the apostles were preventing, Jesus even defended the children such that they could come to Him.

The results are as follows:

- God blesses us in our life up to our future.
- God helps us in all our difficulties.
- God uses us in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain.

The name "Gamaliel" points to the scribe who could open his heart to the true teaching Word [**Acts 5:26**].

God is able to use us to defend the true teaching Word, also to serve according to the ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit in the building perfect body of Christ, and we cling to God forever.

GENERAL SERVICE

Matthew 26:17-25 is about eating the Passover.

- Verse 17-19: the preparation for the Passover.
- Verse 20-25: eating the Passover.

Exodus 12:14-15, 1, 3, 6

12:14 'So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance.

12:15 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses. For whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.

12:1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,

12:3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household.

12:6 Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight.

In the Old Testament, the Passover is marked with two things as follows:

- Eating the unleavened bread.
- Slaughtering of the lamb of Passover.

In the New Testament, the Passover is marked with two things as follows:

- Eating the true teaching Word.
- Holy Communion, that is the sacrifice of Christ as the Lamb of God.

Passover means a release.Â

The true teaching Word and Holy Communion are able to set us free from any bonds that perish or bring us to the hell.

There are three bonds that perish us as follows:

1. THE BOND OF SINS.

The wage of sin is death or perdition. Do not play with sins!

Revelation 21:8

21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

There are eight sins which bind and draw people and God's children to be perished in the hell.

Flesh is frequently or always afraid to sacrifice for God (sacrificing time, energy, etc).

Unbelieving = wavering.

Murdering = hatred.

In the other side, eight people entered the ark of Noah and they were saved.

The ark of Noah points to the right baptism.

There were many arks at that moment, but only Noah's ark which was saved = there are many baptisms which are not according to the Word, but only one true baptism which is able to save us.

The true water baptism is as follows:

- o The requirement is dying from sins (repentance).
- o The implementation is being buried with Jesus in water, and rising in new life.
- o Â The result is new life.

2. THE BOND OF FLESH.

Romans 8:6-7

8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

Flesh with all evil and unclean desire binds God's children and God's servant until they oppose God, which means perdition.

The practice of evil desire is loving money, which makes God's children being stingy and greedy.

- o Being stingy means cannot give for the work of God (vertical) and for the others who need (horizontal), because he forgets that he has been redeemed by God's cross.
- o Being greedy means looking for money in illegal way, grabbing the others' rights, grabbing God's rights (the tenth and special offering).

Life who is controlled by carnal mind becomes disobedient and does not live according to the true teaching Word.

Matthew 7:21-22

7:21. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

7:22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

Many people will be fooled!

The measure of entering the Heaven is not the greatness of our service or the amount of our sacrifice, but the obedience to the true teaching Word.

No matter how great the service is, if people are disobedient to the true teaching Word because of being bound by carnal mind, they are the same as the practitioner of lawlessness (the more they serve, the more they do lawlessness). They become God's enemy and will be out casted by God, will be perished forever.

3. THE BOND OF THE WORLD.

James 4:4

4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

The world with all its rushes, troubles, delights make us faithless to God.

Be watchful and do not be fooled, because Satan can transform himself into an angel of light. There are many fictive pastors!

Being faithless equals to a disguise.

Starting from a pastor himself, he must be faithful in the shepherding.

If a pastor is not faithful in the shepherding, how is the fate of the congregation?

Matthew 25:26, 30

25:26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.

25:30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Being faithless equals to being useless. Those kinds of people live in darkness up to the outer darkness or perdition.

If we are faithless, SURELY we are on the way to the darkness (becoming God's enemy).

A faithful deacon is more useful than a faithless pastor!

At the ends of the ages, many God's servant stick to sins (doing sins), flesh (being bound by the desire of money and unclean desire until being disobedient), and the world (being disobedient) which will perish them.

The examples are Judas and Levi.

Mark 2:13-14

2:13. Then He went out again by the sea; and all the multitude came to Him, and He taught them.

2:14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him.

Levi the son of Alphaeus was sitting at the tax office.

The true teaching Word is really important. Praise the Lord that Levi could be helped

Who is Levi actually?

Genesis 29:34

29:34 She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." Therefore his name was called Levi.

Levi means clinging to God or having a secret counsel with God.

From the twelve tribes of Israel, only Levi who was allowed to come close to or has a secret counsel with God, and to serve God.

But Levi did not sit in the house of God, but sat at the tax office because he was bound by sins, flesh, and the world.

For us now, God's servants who stick to sins, flesh, and the world equal to Levi who made the house of God as the tax office. It means as follows:

- Being faithless until leaving the ministry because of the bond of sins, flesh, and the world.
There is still God's forgiveness. We must throw away the sins and keep serving God!
- Serving God, but still being bound by sins, flesh (being disobedient), and the world.
He is active in ministry, but only aiming for carnal matters.

Serving God but still being bound by sins equals to being the instrument of sins.

The congregation who comes in righteousness will fall in sins if they are shot with sins. Be careful since there shall be guilt for the bloodshed!

Facing Levi who sat at the tax office, Jesus came with the true teaching Word.

Levi who was sitting at the tax office stood up directly and followed Jesus.

If there are the true teaching Word and Holy Communion, there is no more reason for "we cannot be set free", the rest is "Do we want or not?".

In the Passover - **the power of the true teaching Word and Holy Communion are able to set us free from any bond of**

sins, flesh, and the world, such that we can cling to God.

Thus, the simple proof that we cling to God or not is whether we can persevere or struggle in the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion or not?

Moreover, we see into ourselves whether there is release from any bonds or not.

THE PRACTICE OF CLINGING TO GOD OR HAVING SECRET COUNSEL WITH GOD.

As John who was leaning on Jesus' bosom.

In the other side, Judas who was bound by sins, flesh, and the world, was going out during the Passover.

John13:23

13:23 Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.

1. As branches abide on the true vine = being shepherded by one true teaching Word.

The practice is persevering in three main services, i.e.:

- Perseverance in General Service (Golden Candlestick); we have secret counsel with God the Holy Spirit.
- Perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion (Table of Showbread); we have secret counsel with God the Son.
- Perseverance in Prayer Service (The Golden Altar of Incense); we have secret counsel with God the Father.

2. Serving God solemnly, always being faithful and fervent in Spirit.

There are many kinds of service. Whoever we are, there is no reason for not serving God.

The rest is just "Do we want or not?"

3. Worshipping God = believing and fully surrendering ourselves to God.

When our position is leaning on Jesus' bosom, we only hear and feel God's heartbeat. It equals to **experiencing GOD'S LOVINGKINDNESS which NEVER CHANGES and NEVER STOPS.**

If we lean on God, pay attention to every heartbeat or lovingkindness of God which never changes and never stops, **God will also pay attention to each our heartbeat or our step.**

We may get high education, much capital, but our lives only fully hold on God's lovingkindness.

God struggles with us. We are never let struggling alone.

The results are as follows:

1. John21:20-22

21:20. Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

21:21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?"

21:22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

Our lives are within God's loving hands which never change and never stop.

- God's loving hands are able to care our lives which have no power in facing many difficulties.
As long as we are well-shepherded, we serve God solemnly, we worship and fully put our hope in God.
- God's loving hands are able to protect us.
- God's loving hands are able to help us solving all our problems.
- Â God's loving hands are able to give beautiful future until eternal life.

2. Psalm62:1

62:1 Truly my soul silently waits for God; Â From Him comes my salvation.

God's loving hands give peace or rest to us.

We are set free from every labor and heavy laden, from tears, such that everything becomes easy and light.

Everything becomes heavy if we want to bear it by ourselves.

3. Genesis5:24

5:24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

The most important is **we have a secret counsel with God until we will be lifted on God's second coming.**

- God's loving hands are able to lift us up from any falls in sins up to the peak of sins, such that we can live in righteousness and purity.
- God's loving hands are able to lift us up from any failures or total failures, and make us successful.
- Å God's loving hands are able to lift us up to the glorious clouds, to welcome His second coming.

God blesses us.