

General Service in Malang, June 21, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 2-3 is about the seven congregations. Jesus appears to conduct the last sanctification to the seven churches of the Gentiles or the church in the last days, until they are perfect and blameless as Him, to welcome His second coming.

Although we have many excellences or blessings, but if there is a blemish, we will not be able to welcome His second coming, but be left and destroyed together with the world.

Revelation 3:1-6 is about the church in Sardis.

Revelation 3:5-6

3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

3:6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

The promises of God to the church in Sardis who overcomes or is willing to be sanctified are as follows.

1. Being clothed in white garments.
2. His name is written in the Book of Life.

ad. 1. Being clothed in white garments.

White garment means the garment of trust from God or the garment of ministry.

Saul was the most sinful man, but he is appointed as Paul the apostle. It means receiving the white garment or the garment of trust from God or the garment of ministry.

1 Timothy 1:11

1:11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

Paul the apostle is also trusted the glorious gospel of the blessed God.

There are two types of the preaching of the gospel as follows.

1. The gospel of salvation/ the gospel Word/ Good News/ milk.

Ephesians 1:13

1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

It is the gospel that preaches Jesus' first coming to the world as a sinless man to die on the cross and save sinful men.

Acts 2:36-38,40

2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.

2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

2:38 Then Peter said to them, Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

2:40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, Be saved from this perverse generation.

The signs of salvation are as follows.

- a. Knowing assuredly, that is believing and being assured that Jesus is the only Savior. In Tabernacle, believing Jesus equals to entering the Gate.
- b. Repenting (Altar of Burnt Offerings), meaning stopping sinning to return to God. We die to sins.
- c. Water baptism (Brazen Laver).

Romans 6:4

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 one who has died to sin must be buried in water together with Jesus, so he is raised with Him to receive new life, that is the Heavenly life. New life means being set free from sins. We do not want to sin although there are threat, advantage, or chance.

d. Holy Spirit baptism (the door of Tabernacle).

Holy Spirit baptism also results in new life, that is living in righteousness.

Through water baptism and Holy Spirit baptism, we become the children of God who do not sin but live in righteousness. It equals to being saved and blessed by God. We are blessed up to our descendants and become blessing to the others.

If we become the children of God, we love to dwell in the house of God. It means as follows.

- Ministering God with faithfulness and righteousness. It means working on salvation that we have received from God, so it does not disappear but becomes clearer.
- Entering the Holy Place, where there are three types of equipment, meaning entering the shepherding pen. We are well and right shepherded. Three types of equipment refer to perseverance in three main services as follows.
 - Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts.
 - Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the true teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
 - Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love.

In the shepherding pen, our body, soul, and spirit attach to God the Trinity so Satan cannot touch. It equals to firming and growing the salvation up to perfection.

Psalm 23:1

23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

"I shall not want " means as follows.

- The Great Shepherd is able to care our physical life abundantly, so we can give thanks to Him.
- The Great Shepherd matures and grows our spirituality until we reach perfection and become blameless.

2. The light of the gospel of the glory of Christ/ the teaching Word/ Bride Tidings/ solid food.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

4:3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

It is the gospel that preaches Jesus's second coming on the glorious clouds in glory as the King of kings and the Heavenly Bridegroom, to sanctify the saved people up to perfection as Him or to grow us to spiritual maturity and perfection as Him. We become the Heavenly bride who is ready to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

Mark 6:17-20

6:17 For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her.

6:18 Because John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

6:19 Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not;

6:20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.

Herod likes to hear the teaching Word, but his heart is always wavered by the other teachings and gossips, so he cannot practice the Word. The consequence is Herod rejects the Word and hates John the Baptist as well as beheads him. Now, it means blaspheming the right people, the true teaching Word, and God. The consequence is being dry spiritually and unable to worship God (the neck is beheaded). At last, the neck will be beheaded on the days of antichrist or even worship him.

1 Timothy 1:3

1:3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia *“remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine,*

The right attitudes are as follows.

- a. Keeping the unity and purity in the true teaching Word.

2 Samuel 22:31

22:31 *As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.*

The pure Word will become a shield to our life, especially in facing the fiery darts of the wicked one.

- b. Being honest in the true teaching Word. Let *“yes”* be *“yes”* and *“no”* be *“no”*. We are honest in every matter.

Titus 2:7-8

2:7 *in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,*

2:8 *sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.*

- c. Glorifying the true teaching Word through good attitude, not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity.

Titus 2:9-10

2:9 *Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back,*

2:10 *not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.*

- d. Testifying the true teaching Word.

Titus 2:1

2:1 *But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:*

- e. Being obedient from the heart to the true teaching Word until the flesh does not sound anymore.

Romans 6:17

6:17 *But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.*

It equals to stretching out our hands to God and surrendering to Him. Thus, He will also stretch out His hands to us and miracle will happen.

God frequently lets something happen in our life so whether we want or not, we are obedient and stretch out our hands to Him. God waits for this.

The examples are as follows.

- The widow in Zarephath faces hunger. But she can be obedient and thus she is cared by God. He is able to care our life in the middle of difficulties in this world until the days of antichrist.

1 Kings 17:12-13

17:12 *So she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”*

17:13 *And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son.”*

- The young man is let die, meaning facing impossible problem. God lets this condition happen so we can stretch out our hands to Him. He is able to make miracle so the impossible becomes possible.

Luke 7:13-15

7:13 *When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.”*

7:14 *Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.”*

7:15 *So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.*

- Peter is let begin to sink so he can lift up his hands to God. He is able to lift up one who has failed to be successful. He is also able to renew our life until we are perfect as Him, and lift us up to the glorious clouds on His second coming.

God blesses us.