

General Service in Malang, March 20, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:6-7, 12

26:6. And when Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper,

26:7 a woman came to Him having an alabaster flask of very costly fragrant oil, and she poured it on His head as He sat at the table.

26:12 For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial.

Matthew 26 in general denotes **the golden pot that had the manna**, that is renewal of life from flesh man (clay pot) to become spiritual man as perfect as Jesus (the golden pot).

Matthew 26:1-5 is the tidings about the Passover.

Matthew 26:6-13 is the preparation for the Passover (the preparation for Jesus' death/ crucifixion/ slaughter as the Lamb of Passover).

Exodus 12:3, 6

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 Old Testament, the Lamb of Passover were taken and kept on the tenth of the month, and then were slaughtered on the fourteenth day of the same month.

Thus, there was preparation for four days.

II Peter 3:8

3:8. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

In New Testament, one day is as a thousand years.

So, there are four thousand years for the preparation of the sacrifice of Christ.

- From the era of Adam until the era of Abraham: 2.000 years.
- From the era of Abraham until Jesus' first coming: 2.000 years.

If it is seen from the sacrifice of the Passover, for 4.000 years the sacrifice of Christ was only a visualization, that is in the form of animal for sacrifice.

- From the era of Adam until the era of Abraham: animal for sacrifice (it was not clear yet what animal is sacrificed).
- From the era of Abraham until Jesus' first coming: animal for sacrifice in the form of oxen, sheep, and turtledove.

If it is seen from human's situation;

- From the era of Adam until the era of Abraham: men passed away without God's law. God gave command and prohibition, but men transgressed.
- From the era of Abraham until Jesus' first coming: men were decayed because they transgressed God's law. God gave the Law to Israelites, but men still transgressed it.

For 4.000 years, men were dead and decayed in sins.

The condition of human which was dead and decayed in sins = the condition of Lazarus which was dead and decayed for four days.

John 11:39

11:39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

There are three types of decay which hit human (including God's children and God's servant):

1. Moral decay.

- Decayed mind: bad prejudgment, unclean mind.
- Decayed words: lies, defamation (saying right the wrong things, saying wrong the right things).
- Decayed deeds: sin deeds (stealing, harming the others, etc.) up to the peak of sins, that is eating-drinking sins (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-giving sins (sexuality sin with all its variety, wrong

marriage).

2. Decay in marriage.

- There is quarreling, disagreement.
- There is violence within marriage (through deeds or words).
- There is infidelity, marrying-divorcing, until marrying-giving in marriage.

3. Physical decay.

- Broken and decayed work and financial condition.
- Decay in study.
- Decay in association.
- Decayed future.

For 4.000 years, men were dead and decayed in sins, as Lazarus was dead and decayed for four days.Â
If they are left away and not helped (or if it is late), men will be wormy or perish forever in the hell, as broken clay pot.

Isaiah66:24

66:24 " And they shall go forth and look Upon the corpses of the men Who have transgressed against Me. For their worm does not die, And their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh."

Therefore, **right 4.000 years after the days of creation (the era of Adam), Jesus came to the world as the Lamb of Passover which was slaughtered/ dead on the cross** to do two things as follows:

1. **Redeeming the sins of human who have been decayed, such that human are saved and not perished.**
= recovering the broken clay pot.

No matter how broken is our vessel of life, we can still be restored by the sacrifice of Christ!

Go back to the sacrifice of Christ!

Do not defend the sins which only make our life get broken, decayed, and wormy in a while!

On the contrary, do not be proud although we are successful!

We must keep holding on the sacrifice of Christ (the mercy of God)!

Remember! The higher the clay pot is placed, the easier it falls down and becomes more broken.

2. John16:7

16:7. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

Pouring the Holy Spirit, as the strengthÂ such that the flesh man (clay pot) is not broken in sins, but is changed as glorious and as perfect as Jesus (golden pot).

With 4.000 years of preparation, Jesus will not miss, and all human can be helped.

Jesus came and died on the cross with 4.000 years preparation, such that no one which are not helped.

If there is man who is not helped (being wormy and perished), that because of his own faults defending sins and stubbornness.

By the work of the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of glory), the clay pot will be changed into the golden pot, a hardy vessel and not easily doing any sins.

The process of receiving the Spirit of glory is as follows:

1. John11:3-5

11:3 Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."

11:4 When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

11:5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

A loving God heart = being obedient.

Heart is equal to bottle, that is the place for wine.

An old heart (filled with sins, envy and hatred, disobedience) cannot receive new wine. If it is forced, the bottle will destroy (that life gets proud) and the wine will be wasted.

The practices of loving God are as follows:

- **Always being obedient in practicing the word of God, whatever the risks.**
The example is Abraham, who obeyed God although he had to sacrifice Isaac.
- **Not looking/ making an own way out when facing problems, but always waiting for the way of God.**
When facing Lazarus who was ill, Mary and Martha sent news to Jesus.

A way out outside the Word is a deadlock and perdition (being wormy).

2. **John 11:21, 32**

11:21 Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.

11:32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

One heart, started with one true teaching Word.

Although we are far away, if we are filled with the true teaching Word, we will unite without any force.

Mary and Martha were in different places, but they could have one heart with the same words.

Husband and wife must have one true teaching Word to be able to unite.

While a marriage which has been in one true teaching Word still has adaptation to be able to unite, moreover a marriage which is not in one true teaching Word, it will never become one.

Further, if there is one heart, it will be followed with **one ministry** (supporting each other), **one worship**, and our prayer will be answered by God, and we will have **a peaceful heart**.

If there is one true teaching Word (= one command), there will be no difficulties in ministry.

Matthew 18:19

18:19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.

3. **John 11:31-32**

11:31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

11:32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

A strong and of good courage heart.

With an obedient and peaceful heart, we will not weep at the tomb, but we will meet Jesus.

The practices are as follows:

- **Not being desperate or disappointed in facing anything.**
 - = not weeping.
 - = not blaming the others.
- **Always felling down at Jesus' feet = always worshiping God.**
 - a. **Having a contrite heart, being cut to the heart, pouring the heart's content only to God.**
Although we are in suffering, we do not blame God or the others.

Do not weep to the others (moreover through social media), in that way there will be no meeting with Jesus, but with tomb.

Be careful!

Especially in marriage matters, it is better to look for a way out through listening to the Word.

Do not weep at arbitrary people, even to the people who do not know God! That marriage will even be destroyed.

John 11:35

11:35 Jesus wept.

If we pour our heart only to God, there will be a positive response from God, that is **Jesus weeps**. It means that **Jesus also bears our burdens, He takes up all our heavy burdens**.

We will find strength and relief.

b. **Confessing that we are only clay pot.**

= Confessing that we are not worthy in God's presence (confessing that we have many sins and faults, not demanding anything).

= Confessing that we can do nothing.

= Believing and fully surrendering to God, whatever the risk.

John 11:39-40

11:39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

11:40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

The thing that must be changed from Martha is her not believing God.

If we believe and fully surrendering our life just to God, **the Spirit of Glory (Shekinah Glory) will be given to us.**

The result if we receive the Spirit of glory:

1. I Peter 4:14

4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

We are glad, although in the middle of suffering.

2. John 11:43-44

11:43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!"

11:44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

God is able to recover anything which has been decayed and impossible.

3. II Corinthians 3:17-18

3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Holy Spirit changes us to become more glorious until the same as Jesus, and we will be lifted up in the glorious clouds to welcome God's second coming.

The sign of renewal:

- All bonds in hands and feet are freed = not longer being bound, we are free in ministering God, no longer being obstructed.
- A cloth covering the face is opened = we can see God and like to worship God.

God blesses us.