General Service in Malang, May 13, 2018 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 7 consists of two big things as follows:

1. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel are sealed with the seal of God on their foreheads. They are sealed because of the promise of God to Abraham. They are the core of the perfect church, the perfect body of Christ, or the heavenly bride.

Revelation 7:1-8

- 7:1. After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.
- 7:2. Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea,
- 7:3. saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."
- 7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. <u>One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the</u> children of Israel were sealed:
- 7:5 of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed;
- 7:6 of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed;
- 7:7 of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed;
- 7:8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.
- 2. A great multitude which no one could number or the Gentiles who are sealed with the seal of God on their foreheads through the mercy that costs the sacrifice of Christ. They are sealed because of the promise of God to Abraham. They complete the perfect church, the perfect body of Christ, or the heavenly bride.

Revelation 7:9-17

- 7:9. After these things I looked, and behold, <u>a great multitude which no one could number</u>, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
- 7:10. and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- 7:11. All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
- 7:12. saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."
- 7:13. Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"
- 7:14. And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- 7:15. "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.
- 7:16. "They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat;
- 7:17. "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Both of them become one perfect body of Christ who is ready to greet Jesus when He comes a second time on the glorious clouds, entering a Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace or the upcoming Paradise up to the throne of heaven or the New Jerusalem.

The Gentiles must live in the mercy of God. They must pass the path of His mercy or the spiritual Tabernacle to become the heavenly bride to enter the throne of heaven.

The usefulnesses of the mercy are as follows:

1. The grace of God saves or justifies all sinners, including the Gentiles. It spiritually refers to the Court of Tabernacle.

Titus 2:11

2:11. For the grace of God that brings salvationhas appeared to all men,

Why is it so? Because only Jesus is the Savior or the only innocent man who must die on the cross to save the sinners. It is the grace of God.

The wage of sin is death, but we, the sinners can be saved by the grace of God. We are not destroyed.

Exodus 13:13

13:13. "But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

The Gentiles are like a donkey that is born only to die because the neck is broken. It is the same as having no relationship with God, but being destroyed forever.

The donkey may live if it is redeemed with a lamb.

The animal offering is by the Law in the Old Testament. All of animals offering have been fulfilled by Christ's sacrifice when He died on the cross.

The donkey or the Gentiles may live up to the eternal life because of the redemption by the blood of the Lamb or Jesus.

Acts 2:36-40

- 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.
- 2:39. "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."
- 2:40. And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be savedfrom this perverse generation."

The process of receiving salvation through the mercy is as follows:

- 'know assuredly' means believing Jesus as the only Savior. It refers to the Gate.
 We believe in Jesus by hearing the word that is anointed by Holy Spirit.
- o Repenting or stopping sinning and returning to God or being dead to sin. It refers to the Altar of Burnt Offerings.
- Water baptism. It refers to the Brazen Laver.
 The true water baptism means that one who has died to sin or repented must be buried in the water with Jesus and come out or rise from water with Him, so the door of heaven is opened. We experience Holy Spirit baptism or the door of Tabernacle is opened.

We are born again from water and Holy Spirit baptism, so we have the new life that is the same as the heavenly one.

Titus 2:12

2:12. teaching us that, <u>denying ungodliness and worldly lusts</u>, we should <u>live soberly</u>, <u>righteously</u>, <u>and godly in the present</u> age,

The facts found in the new life or the heavenly one are as follows:

- Denying paganism or denying ungodliness, sins, and worldly lusts, so we live in righteousness.
- Living soberly or obeying the true teaching word. A wise man can endure all things and he will succeed.
 Living soberly also means that one knows the border in word about what and to whom he speaks and in friendship.
 If we break the border, we will fall and be punished.
- o Living righteously means that we are not on the side of any man but God.
- Living godly in the present age. We minister to God faithfully and fervently from now on up to being on the throne of heaven.

Revelation 22:3

22:3. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve

1 Timothy 4:8

4:8. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

There is double promise or blessing of God in the ministr,y namely of the life that now is and of that which is to come. So, the door of heaven is opened for us in the ministry.

2. The mercy of God purifies the Gentiles up to being as holy as Jesus is.

1 Peter 1:13-16

- 1:13. Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully <u>upon the grace</u>that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
- 1:14. as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;
- 1:15. but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
- 1:16. because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

Genesis 49:11

49:11. <u>Binding his donkey to the vine</u>, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine, He <u>washed</u>his garments in wine, And his clothes in the blood of grapes.

The donkey or the Gentiles must be bound to the true vine, so they can be purified. It means as follows:

- Being shepherded to the true teaching word orJesus' life.
 There are two mistakes that may happen as follows:
 - The Gentiles have been saved by the blood of Jesus, but they do not want to be shepherded in the true teaching word. Consequently, they become wild donkey and the onager.

Wild donkey means that one cannot be advised and reproved by the word, parents, and the true shepherd who gives advise based on the bible.

The onager means that one falls into sins up to the peak, namely sin of eating-drinking and marrying-giving in marriage.

It is the same as losing salvation. He makes the mercy of God or Christ's sacrifice useless.

Choosing false shepherding. He just follows the lust of flesh, ear, and eyes, so he is shepherded by false teaching.

It is the same as being ridden by Balaam, so he lives in curse, namely weariness, heavy burden, and toil up to perdition forever.

If we hear and receive the false teaching, we will surely leave the true one; even deny it, so we keep sinning up to perdition forever.

2 Peter 2:1

2:1. But there were also <u>false prophets among the people</u>, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will <u>secretly bring</u>in destructive heresies, even <u>denying the Lord who bought them</u>, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

- We are always in the sheepfold or the Holy Place, namely perseverance in committing three kinds of main service as follows:
 - Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and gifts.
 - Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
 - Golden Alter of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His

love.

In the sheepfold, our body, soul, and spirit are bound to God the Trinity, so the donkey cannot be wild but experiences purification continuously until we yield the fruit of bride. We become as holy as Jesus is.

John 15:3

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

We are purified by the word which Jesus has spoken, namely a verse explains another verse in the bible. It is the same as the true teaching word that is sharper than any two-edged sword.

Hebrews 4:12

4:12. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

What should be purified?

- The purification of heart and mind from evil desire or the love of money that makes one greedy and stingy, unclean desire, and bitterness.
- The purification of word from idle words, gossip, and evil speaking.
- The purification of deed from sins up to the peak.

Ephesians 4:11-12

4:11. And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

4:12. for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

If we have been purified continuously, we will be equipped with the ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit or the tunic of many colors.

It means that we are used in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain or the building of the perfect body of Christ. It is the same as a donkey that was ridden by Jesus to enter the New Jerusalem.

Matthew 21:7

21:7. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them.

It begins from marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding up to the Israelites and the Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ.

Revelation 7:17

7:17. "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and <u>lead them to living fountains of waters</u>. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

We are led in the steps of purification which are the same as the beautiful ones.

The more we are holy, the more beautiful our life is until we become as holy as Jesus is.

3. The mercy of God perfects us through the sprinkle of blood. It is the same as suffering in the flesh because of Jesus or suffering a while. There is the eternal glory behind the cross.

1 Peter 5:10

5:10. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.

Suffering a while is like a pregnant woman who will give birth.

John 16:21

16:21. "A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world.

The birth pangs are the peak of suffering.

We will receive shekinah glory or the Spirit of glory that is able to renew us from fleshly men to spiritual ones like Jesus. We experience the renewal of life, namely becoming newborn babes.

Matthew 21:16

21:16. and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?"

1 Peter 2:2

2:2. as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

The mouth of spiritual baby always desires the pure milk of the word, namely the repeated pure shepherding word. The mouth of baby just praises God, testifies, and worships Him. It is the same as only crying to God.

Isaiah 49:14-16

49:14. But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, And my Lord has forgotten me."

49:15. "Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you.

49:16. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.

The baby is in the hug of the hands of God or the ones of God's mercy or Holy Spirit.

The results are as follows:

- The hands of Holy Spirit are able to protect and take care of us in the midst of difficulties in the world until antichrist reigns over the world, and we get eternal life.
- The hands of Holy Spirit bear our labor and heavy burden, so we experience peace, and all things become easy and light.
- The hands of Holy Spirit are able to do all things that a baby cannot do or think. All things are finished by God up to the impossible ones.
- The hands of Holy Spirit lead us to the beautiful and successful future. He purifies us up to perfection and we enter the New Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:12, 21

21:12. Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

21:21. The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

God blesses us.