

General Service in Malang, May 17, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 3:2-3

3:2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God.

3:3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

It is the last sanctification to the church in Sardis or all of us, so we are always in the spiritual revival and watch. We must watch especially in two things as follows.

1. Being watchful about the ministry.
2. Being watchful about Jesus's second coming on the glorious clouds.

All things that we do in the world will be useless if we are left on His second coming.

Acts 1:10-11

1:10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,

1:11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Through the remembrance of the ascension of Jesus to the Heaven, let us always be reminded that He will come back for the second time on the glorious clouds.

Revelation 3:3

3:3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

Therefore, we must be watchful about His second coming, especially related with the time of His coming that is as a thief.

Mark 13:33,35

13:33 Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

13:35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming "in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning"

There are four watch time as follows.

1. In the evening (6pm-9pm).
We must keep our faith through perseverance in the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.
2. At midnight (9pm-12 midnight).
It is the darkest time. We must keep our hope through perseverance in the General Service.
3. At the crowing of the rooster (12 midnight-3am).
It is the coldest time. We must keep our love through perseverance in the Prayer Service.

Thus, being watchful about the time of Jesus's second coming is through perseverance in three main services. It is until we have the perfect faith, hope, and love to welcome His second coming.

4. In the morning.
What must be watched?

- a. Watching the heed.

2 Peter 1:19

1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

The dawn refers to Jesus's second coming. We must take heed of the prophecy Word, that is the Word that

reveals the things that have not happened yet but surely they will happen, especially about His second coming on the glorious clouds. The prophecy Word also reveals the hidden sins in the congregation.

The prophecy Word equals to the teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword, or the Bride Tidings.

Thus, our heed in the last days must be directed to the teaching Word that is sharper than any two-edged sword. Our heed is only directed to Jesus. If one looks to the right or left, or looks the others, the consequence is hiding a corpse in the sand as Moses did. It means being full of rottenness. Lot's wife looks at the world and the consequence is she becomes a pillar of salt, meaning losing heart.

The real morning star is Lucifer the archangel. But because of his arrogance, he falls to the world and becomes Satan. However the Heaven cannot be empty, so Jesus becomes the Bright and Morning Star.

Heeding the true teaching Word is hearing the Word solemnly until understanding it, believing and having faith on it, up to practicing it. Thus, the Bright and Morning Star or Jesus will enter our life to bring the light and life renewal little by little. When the dawn comes at His second coming, we will be renewed as perfect and glorious as Him.

The beginning of renewal by the work of the Word is having the characters of Jesus, that is humility, gentleness, and patience.

Humility is the ability to confess our sin to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we must not repeat it again. Humility is also the ability to confess the excellences of the others in order to be followed.

Gentleness is the ability to forgive the sin of the others and forget it. Gentleness is also the ability to receive the true teaching Word and hold it fast as well as obey it.

Patience is the ability to experience flesh suffering because of God. Patience means neither grumbling nor complaining. Patience is also the ability to suffer because of helping the others.

Ephesians 4:1-2,4

4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

4:2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

4:4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

With humility, gentleness, and patience, we will be able to help one another and unite with them. We will be used in the ministry of building the perfect body of Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:14-15

2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

2:15 For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

We bring the fragrance of Christ everywhere. If we minister with bringing the fragrance of Christ, we will be in His way of victory. We always win over the sin up to its peak, so we can live in righteousness and holiness. We also always win over problems even the impossible ones. The last victory is we will be lifted up to the glorious clouds on His second coming.

b. Watching the character.

Luke 24:1

24:1 Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

Watching the character is we must not be stingy and greedy. We must not be bound by the richness of the world. Being stingy means being unable to give. Being greedy means seizing the right of the others.

The proof of being set free from the bond of the richness of the world is enjoying giving, even feeling more blessed to give than to receive. It is as the women who bring the spices to the tomb of Jesus.

The spiritual meanings of the spices are as follows.

■ Richness.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

9:6 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

9:7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful

giver.

9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

The church of God in the last days must be able to give for the work of God and the others who are in need. It is for the last ministry of building the body of Christ. Everything must be sacrificed for the ministry of building the body of Christ (time, energy, money, feeling, *et cetera*), except the true teaching Word must not be sacrificed.

The requirements of giving are as follows.

- Giving as the purpose in the heart, meaning without force or being forced.
- Giving with joy, meaning without being sad.

Philippians 4:18

4:18 Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

If we can give as the purpose in our heart and with joy, it will become a sweet-smelling aroma that pleases God.

2 Corinthians 9:8

9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

If there is a sweet-smelling aroma, He will give His grace to us with the aims as follows.

- To fulfill our needs, to care our life abundantly, so we always give thanks to Him.
- To make us have abundance for every good work.

Revelation 19:8

19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

The good work will become the clean and bright fine linen, that is the garment of the bride.

■ **Worship prayer.**

Worship prayer is the tearing of the flesh with all its desire, emotion, and ambition, so there is life renewal from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus.

Philippians 2:8

2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Ephesians 5:1-2

5:1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Jesus is obedient until He dies on the cross. We must be obedient until the flesh does not sound anymore. It equals to stretching out both our hands to God and offering our whole life to Him. Thus, He will also stretch out His hands and pour Holy Spirit upon us.

Acts 5:29-32

5:29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: [\[?\]](#)[\[?\]](#) We ought to obey God rather than men.

5:30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.

5:31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

5:32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him. [\[?\]](#)[\[?\]](#)

John 14:15-18

14:15 *â€œIf you love Me, keep My commandments.*

14:16 *And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you foreverâ€œ*

14:17 *the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.*

14:18 *I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*

God will not leave us as orphans. No matter how great a man in this world is, without Holy Spirit he is as an orphan who is powerless.

Romans 5:5

5:5 *Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

Holy Spirit gives us extra power so we are strong and of good courage. We do not become desperate or disappointed in facing anything. We keep believing and putting our hope in God until He helps us.

Titus 3:5

3:5 *not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,*

Holy Spirit renews our life from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Jesus.

Holy Spirit is the fragrant anointing oil. Holy Spirit is able to change the rotten thing to the fragrant one. Water is changed to sweet wine. It refers to the renewal of the tongue. The tongue decides the sweetness of our life. If the tongue likes to say useless words, lies, and gossips, our life will be bitter. But if the tongue likes to say good and right words, testify and worship God, our life will be sweet sooner or later.

Zechariah 4:6-7

4:6 *So he answered and said to me:â€œThis is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel:â€œNot by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,â€œ Says the Lord of hosts.*

4:7 *â€œWho are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of â€œGrace, grace to it!â€œâ€œâ€œâ€œ*

Physical miracle will also happen. The great mountain becomes a plain, meaning huge problems will be solved. There is also beautiful and successful future. On the dawn when Jesus comes a second time, we will be renewed as glorious as Him.

God blesses us.