

General Service in Malang, May 22, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:14-16

26:14. Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests

26:15 and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.

26:16 So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

Betrayal to the Lamb of Passover.

Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus as the Lamb of Passover (Lamb of God).

Why did Judas Iscariot betray Jesus as the Lamb of Passover?

1. Because Judas Iscariot entered false fellowship (without true teaching Word).

Be watchful! Fellowship is started from marriage, shepherding, between shepherding, until the perfect body of Christ.

True fellowship is based on the true teaching Word.

On the contrary, if fellowship is not based on the true teaching Word, it will only lead to the building body of Babel who will be perished forever.

2. Because Judas Iscariot did not want to surrender to God, he kept the evil and unclean desire inside the clay pot of his life.

Matthew 26:15

26:15 and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.

Judas did not want to surrender, and the consequence was Judas delivered Jesus in thirty pieces of silver price.

Ad 2.

In the past, Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus.

Now, many lives leave Jesus (leave ministry, leave the true teaching Word) just to get something in this world.

Acts 1:16-20

1:16 "Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus;

1:17 for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry."

1:18 (Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out.

1:19 And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is, Field of Blood.)

1:20 "For it is written in the Book of Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place be desolate, And let no one live in it'; and, 'Let another take his office.'

Although Judas got the money, it was only to buy a field of burial.

It means as follows:

- There is no value, useless.
- Cannot enjoy the result of his betrayal.

Everything means nothing without Jesus (without the true teaching Word).

The next consequence is his ministry was taken by the other people. It equals to the tunic of many colors is taken by the other people.

- His life is not beautiful.
- Wallowing in sins, piling up the sins inside his heart, until one time he burst open in the middle and perished forever (as the clay pot which falls to pieces).

Therefore, such that we do not betray/ sell/ leave God, we must try to submit our life to the hand of God.

THE PROCESS OF SUBMITTING OUR LIFE TO THE HAND OF GOD:

1. Psalm 40:12

40:12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They

are more than the hairs of my head; Therefore my heart fails me.

Evils/ troubles are related to our iniquities/ sins. We should not blame God.
God chases us to help us.

First submission: Submitting our sins to God.

The first submission is started from submitting negative things (sins).
If the negative and harm things (sins) are kept, how can we submit positive things.

The meaning of submitting sins:

a. Confessing the sins clearly, honestly to God (vertical) and the others (horizontal).

I John 1:7, 9

1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

When we confess our sins, the blood of Jesus is active to:

- Forgive/ close our sin until it becomes invisible and has no remains.
- Purify/ pull out the root of sins, such that we can die from sins (repent, stop sinning and back to God).

b. Water baptism.

Romans 6:2, 4

6:2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

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.

After dying from sins, we must be buried in water baptism with Jesus.

As the continuation, we raise in new life, that is Heavenly life, life in righteousness. It equals to salvation.

Birth from physical parent only results carnal life.

Through water baptism, we receive Heavenly life.

Living in righteousness= salvation.

Not living in righteousness= not being salvaged.

c. Submitting worry.

I Peter 5:7

5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

One of unrealized sins is worry.

Do not be worry or afraid to become obedient to the Word. Let God help us.

Submitting worry= being shepherded, being inside the shepherding pen (Holy Place in Tabernacle), that is perseverance in three main services as follows:

- Golden Candlestick: perseverance in General Service.
- Table of Showbread: perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion.
- The Golden Altar of Incense: perseverance in Worship Service.

Shepherding pen is not only the place for physical care, but especially spiritual care (our soul care), to make us steady in righteousness and salvation.

Great Shepherd gives definite guarantee for our physical and spiritual care.

In the next verse (**I Peter 5:8**), if we walk about (not being shepherded), we will meet Satan and lose our salvation.

2. Romans 6:12-14

6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

6:13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Second submission: Submitting ourselves to become faithful and righteous God's servant (instruments of

righteousness).

If we live in sins (not living in righteousness) and keep serving God, it equals to being instruments, but resulting sins bullet.
Do not become the instruments of sin!
We are responsible in front of God!

Do not serve carelessly! We have bloodshed to the others.

Throw away the sins and serve God!
If we live in the righteousness, nothing can prevent us to serve God.

If our service being an instruments of righteousness, our service will become blessings to the others, bring the others to the righteousness and salvation.

Revelation1:5-6

*1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
1:6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Corresponding to the Bible, the blood of God sets us free from sins first, and then lifts up us to become priests and kings forever.

Although being smart or fool, rich or poor, if we are set free from sins, we will be lifted up to serve God.

If it is God himself who lifts us up as priests and kings, God will give us ability.

Jesus' blood is able to redeem us from all our sins (I John 1:7).
Do not say "I cannot be set free from this sin". It equals to insulting Jesus' blood.

There are three possibilities after being redeemed by Jesus' blood as follows:

- a. Being unemployed= do not want to serve God.
If we are already set free from sins and baptized in water but do not want to serve God, the consequence is Satan (the old master) will come back to attract us to serve sins again, and become worse than before being baptized.

In parable about the vineyard, God himself went out early in the morning to look for servants for His vineyard.
God has attempted until sacrificing His own life to make us priests and kings.

- b. Being unfaithful in the ministry.
Being unfaithful in the ministry equals to opening opportunity to fall in sins, until the peak of sins.

We must use every small opportunity even it is only as big as a needle's eye to serve and minister God, such that there is large opportunity for us to live in righteousness and being blessed by God.

God never fools us.

- c. Serving faithfully and in righteousness.

Romans6:14

6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

If we serve faithfully and in righteousness, we will not be controlled by sins anymore, but we will receive God's grace which is more than everything.

Genesis6:8

6:8. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

The usefulness of God's grace are as follows:

- Protecting us from sins.
- Protecting us from the fire of condemnation which will hit the world, until the hell's fire.
- Caring us.
- Making us survive in ministering God until His second coming.

Revelation22:20-21

22:20. He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!
22:21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Why do many servants not survive until God's second coming? Because they keep the sins, as Judas.

There are also faithful servants, but they are not right(keep the sins). Their destiny will be the same as Judas.

They are inside the shepherding, but they hear many 'strange voices'.
The consequence is betraying God and becoming antichrist.

3. Psalm31:5

31:5 Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

Third submission: Submitting our spirit to God. It equals fully submitting ourselves to God.

Who are we, such that we make count with God?

King David in his richness and blessings was able to confess his sins (submit his sins), until yield up his spirit.
The perfect pattern for us is Jesus who was willing to leave Heaven to yield up His spirit to us.

Matthew27:50

27:50. And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

Jesus yielded up His spirit means being obedient until His death on the cross.

For us, yielding up our spirit to God means **WORSHIPPING GOD frequently such that the flesh is torn and we can be OBEDIENT until the flesh does not sound anymore.**

The example is a widow in Zarephath with a handful of flour and a little oil for herself and her son. Thereafter, they will die.
But, she was being obedient and willing to give it to Elijah (to God) first.

Full submission equals to stretching out our hands to God, and God will also stretch out His hands to us. We live in the hands of God, we will never be left. We are as babies in the embrace of the mother.

Baby obeys and fully submits to his mother, he has no resistance at all.
God never lies. He never harms us. He always holds us.

Mother in the world can understand her baby, moreover God can understand us.
It is God who understands all our condition and He struggles with us.

Isaiah46:3-4

46:3 " Listen to Me, O house of Jacob, And all the remnant of the house of Israel, Who have been upheld by Me from birth, Who have been carried from the womb:

46:4 Even to your old age, I am He, And even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; Even I will carry, and will deliver you.

- a. God bears/ holds us= **the hands of God are responsible to care and protect** us from this world until the era of antichrist.

Although this world is difficult, there is a care guarantee from God, as baby in the embrace of his mother.

If our life is as a baby, so we can worship God and be obedient, God will care us although the others do not care us.
In this world, people really care about babies, moreover God cares us.
Do not be suspicious with God!

- b. God carries us= **the hands of God carry all our temptations and heavy burden, such that we can feel easy and light.**Â

When we feel heavier, it can be a test, or maybe we are already outside the loving hands of God because we keep the sins.

The loving hands of God are also able to solve all our problems and troubles.

- c. God upholds us= **the loving hands of God protect us such that we do not fall into sins.**
- d. God delivers us= **the loving hands of God wash all our sins and weakness, until perfect us to become His bride.Â**
As the hands of mother clean her baby when he defecates.

God blesses us.