

General Service in Malang, November 10, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 1:1-3 is the title or preface of the book of Revelation.

Revelation 1:2

1:2 who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.

In Patmos Island, John the apostle saw the kingdom of Heaven and the glory of God. He also bears witness about all things that he saw.

Actually, there are two people who see the kingdom of Heaven and the glory of God as follows.

1. Moses.

Exodus 33:18,23

33:18 And he said, âPlease, show me Your glory.â

33:23 Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.â

Moses sees the back of God, meaning seeing the glory of God from the back, so he can write five books of the beginning of the Bible, that is Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy. Especially the book of Genesis writes about all things that happen in the past, far before the birth of Moses. It contains the creation of the heaven, earth, and all its content precisely. In this world, there is none who can write the creation of the world precisely.

2. John the apostle.

Revelation 1:16

1:16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

John the apostle sees the countenance of God, meaning seeing the glory of God from the front, so he can write five last books of the Bible, that is the gospel of John, first, second, and third epistle of John, and the book of Revelation. Especially the book of Revelation that reveals all things that happen in the future, far after the life of John. It contains especially about Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds and about the destruction.

Through the revelation of the Word of God, the church of God may see His whole glory, either from the front or from the back. We can see the heart of God that is full of love, so we can experience His great love.

Romans 8:35-36

8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

8:36 As it is written: âFor Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.â

No matter how great the church of God or the servant of God or children of God are, their position is just as sheep for the slaughter who is powerless in facing two things as follows.

- Temptation, tribulation, problem, persecution.

Without God's love, many children of God will be disappointed and leave the ministry and God. But if we have God's love, we will be strong and of good courage. We will not be disappointed and desperate. We will not leave God but keep believing and putting hope on Him. We keep being faithful and fervent in spirit in ministering Him until His second coming.

- Death.

Richness, smartness, position, et cetera cannot beat the death. Only God's love through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross can beat the death, and we will receive eternal life forever.

How can we get God's love? How can we get the glory of God?

1. Through reconciling our sins.

Proverbs 28:13

28:13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

The process is through confessing and forgiving one another. The one who is wrong confesses his sin to God and the other.

If it is forgiven, he must not do it again. The one who is right forgives the othersâ€™ sin and forgets it. Thus, Godâ€™s love will be poured so we can live in righteousness.

If sinful man does not want to confess his sin, he will not be able to see the countenance of God. If sinful man does not want to confess even blames the others, it means seeing the countenance of Satan.

James 5:16-17

5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

5:17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.

If we can confess and forgive one another, we will be able to pray for one another. If we can become a house of prayer, God will answer our prayer. The results are as follows.

- Healing power, so we are healthy physically and spiritually.
- Godâ€™s caring and protection starting from now up to the days of antichrist who will reign in this world for three years and a half. We will be evacuated by the two wings of a great eagle to the wilderness far from the eye of the serpent. We will be cared and protected directly by God through the Word and Holy Communion. Therefore, Bible Study Service with Holy Communion is important, because it is an exercise for evacuation to the wilderness.

2. Through the shepherding.

John 10:11

10:11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

John 15:13

15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down oneâ€™s life for his friends.

The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. It is the greater love. In the past, Egypt (the world) was judged by hail mingled with fire. It refers to love that grows cold. But in Goshen (the shepherding), there was no hail because there was greater love.

The requirements of being shepherded are as follows.

- Persevering in the sheepfold or the Holy Place.
There are three types of equipment within the Holy Place that refer to perseverance in three main services as follows.
 - a. Golden Candlestick refers to perseverance in General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and gifts.
 - b. Table of Showbread refers to perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in His Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
 - c. Golden Altar of Incense refers to perseverance in Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love.

Inside the sheepfold, our body, soul, and spirit attach to God the Trinity so we cannot be separated from Him anymore.

There are four layers of cover over the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. They refer to Godâ€™s protection. Three layers refer to God the Trinity, and the last one, the lowest one, refers to a pastor who can be seen.

If a pastor does not live in righteousness and holiness, there will be no three other layers, and it is dangerous for the congregation. But if everyone lives in righteousness and holiness, there are four layers of cover so we are protected from the ambience of cold spiritually or being without love. We are also protected from the judgment of God.

- Being obedient to the voice of the Shepherd or the true shepherding.
When we listen to strange voice, we will run because this voice causes one to become disobedient and like to oppose.

1 Peter 1:22

1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

If we obey the voice of the Shepherd, we will experience sanctification of our body, spirit, and soul, so we can experience God's love. We can love one another fervently with a pure heart. We can love the others as loving ourselves. We can love God more than everything. It equals to having two tablets of stone to destroy the golden calf, that is the hardness of the heart.

Exodus 32:9,18-20

32:9 And the Lord said to Moses, *"I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!*

32:18 But he said: *"It is not the noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, But the sound of singing I hear."*

32:19 So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. So Moses' anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.

32:20 Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.

The practices of hardening the heart are as follows.

- a. Worshiping the idol, meaning loving something more than God or preserving the wrong thing more than God.
- b. Not having defeat nor victory, meaning being spiritually lukewarm, having no peace, being unfaithful and not fervent in spirit, not being renewed.
- c. Preserving sins up to the peak of sins, that is sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage.

The hard heart (golden calf) must be destroyed by God's love, so we can have meek heart. Thus, the new two tablets of stone will be formed, meaning our life is sanctified until we are as perfect as Jesus is.

3. Through worship prayer.

Matthew 17:1-2

17:1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;

17:2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

Through worship prayer, we can see the countenance of Jesus that shines like the sun and we experience the perfect love.

Genesis 19:23-24

19:23 The sun had risen upon the earth when Lot entered Zoar.

19:24 Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens.

The usefulness of the love of the sun is as follows.

- The love of the sun is to face Sodom and Gomorrah, meaning as follows.
 - a. It sanctifies us from sins up to the peak of sins. The others may do sins, but Lot keeps living in righteousness.
 - b. It protects us from the judgment over this world up to the judgment in the hell.
- The love of the sun gives us peace, so everything becomes easy and light.

Numbers 6:26

6:26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.

If our heart is in peace and our countenance shines, we only wait for God's time.

- The love of the sun conducts miracles in our life.

Matthew 5:43-45,48

5:43 *"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'"*

5:44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

5:45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Spiritual miracle is life renewal from flesh man to become spiritual one, so we can love our enemy and pray for them. It is the greatest miracle. If spiritual miracle happens, the physical one will also happen. The impossible things will

become possible. Until when Jesus comes a second time, we will be renewed as glorious as Him.

God blesses us.