

General Service in Malang, November 12, 2023 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 21:1-8 is divided into three parts as follows:

1. Verse 1 = the new heaven and earth.
2. Verse 2-3 = the new man.
3. Verse 4-8 = the new atmosphere.

Revelation 21:1

21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

John the apostle saw the new heaven and earth because the old ones had passed away by the doomsday. It refers to a renewal as follows:

1. **The renewal of attention**, namely focusing in the godly or spiritual matters which are eternal as follows:
 - The Word of God or the true teaching Word.
 - The mercy of God.
 - The heavenly kingdom.

2. **There was no more sea.**

James 1:6

1:6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

The sea refers to the doubtful heart.

There was no more sea. It means the renewal of heart, especially the doubtful heart towards God Himself or the true teaching Word and His power.

The heart is doubtful because of being influenced by the strange voice from outside and inside.

From outside, the strange voice refers to the false teachings and gossips.

From inside, the strange voice refers to the voice of the flesh with all of its desires which are always contradictory to the will of God. If there is lust in the heart, all things look good until one becomes negligent and doubtful.

Numbers 13:27-28,32

13:27 Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.

13:28 "Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there.

13:32 And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature.

For example, the ten spies that were the chosen people became doubtful towards God Himself until adding the true teaching Word with the voice of the flesh ('*Nevertheless*'), so the Bride Tidings became a bad report. They were doubtful towards the power of God, so they only hoped to others such as men, riches, and so on until getting disappointed and hopeless as well as leaving God.

Numbers 14:1-2

14:1 So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night.

14:2 And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness!"

Consequently, all Israelites or congregation were dragged to be doubtful too until murmuring and resisting against God.

Numbers 14:29

14:29 'The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above.

The life became suffered severely until being the wild beast like the Antichrist and not entering Canaan, but perishing forever.

Therefore, we must experience the renewal from the doubtful heart. Shekinah glory or the light of glory of God through the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ or the Bride Tidings is able to renew us from the doubtful heart to the heart that fully believes in God.

There are three levels of faith as follows:

1. The faith or believing in Jesus who has died on the cross and risen on the third day.

Romans 4:25

4:25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

The facts found in it are as follows:

- Being dead to sin or repenting. It means stopping sinning or not adding sin and not agreeing or supporting others in their sin.
- Living in righteousness or being the righteous.

Psalm 5:12

5:12 For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

As a result, our life is surrounded by the blessings and grace of God.

Proverbs 12:26

12:26 The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

We can be shepherded well and correctly to the true teaching Word like a branch that abides in the true Vine, so we can grow towards the salvation. We are firm in the righteousness and salvation as well as the blessings and grace of God. As a result, our life can produce the sweet fruits. Our life becomes sweeter and more joyful. We do not fall in sins. We are not deceived by the false teachings. We are firm in faith until saying "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want." We get the physical preservation abundantly in the midst of the difficulties in the world until always giving thanks and becoming blessings for others. We also get the spiritual preservation to grow towards the holiness up to the perfection.

2. Having faith or believing Jesus, who has ascended to heaven and sat at the right side of Father God as the High Priest or King of kings.

Ephesians 4:8-12

4:8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

4:9 (Now this, "He ascended" --what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

4:10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

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,

Colossians 3:1

3:1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Jesus equips the holy men with the ministry and gifts of Holy Spirit for appointing us as the priests and kings.

The fact found in it is that we must be the priests and kings.

A priest refers to someone who is holy and has the ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit to stand between God and men to take part in the ministry of reconciliation. He also serves and ministers to God in faithfulness and fervency in spirit until the end line.

The duties of a priest are as follows:

- Being active or faithful and fervent in spirit in the ministry for the edification of Christ's body according to the ministry which God has entrusted. It starts from the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding fellowship, and so on.

1 Peter 2:5

2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

The ministries and gifts may be different, but must be able to work together. The requirement is being commanded

by one Head.

Ministering in the edification of Christ's body is the same as placing Jesus as the Head who is responsible for our life until being dead willingly on the Hill of the Skull.

As a result, we become the living stones. It means that we live by the grace of God. We get the heavenly satisfaction that gives the great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6

6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

Revelation 12:14

12:14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

It continues until we get the two wings of a great eagle for evacuating us to the wilderness, far away from the presence of the Antichrist.

- Testifying and inviting.

1 Peter 2:9

2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

We testify about the renewal from the old or dark life to the new or light one.

As a result, we defeat the darkness of sin and problems. We live in the light. It starts from the household, the light before all men, up to the light of the world or we live in the city of light, namely the New Jerusalem.

3. The faith or believing in Jesus, who will come a second time soon as the King of all kings or the Heavenly Bridegroom.

Psalm 27:14

27:14 Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

The fact found in it is being the servant of God who is strong and of good courage.

Colossians 1:23

1:23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

We hold fast to the true teaching Word. Do not sacrifice the true teaching Word for the physical things. We must sacrifice the physical things for the true teaching Word.

Acts 20:24

20:24 "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

We keep faithful and fervent in spirit in the service and ministry to God until the end line regardless of any hindrances we have to face.

Luke 18:1,7-8

18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

18:7 "And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?"

18:8 "I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

We keep on persevering in the worship prayer although He has not answered our prayer until Jesus comes a second time. We do not get disappointed or hopeless, but submit all of our weaknesses to God. We only hope His mercy. His mercy is able to do all things in our life.

Romans 4:17-19

4:17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed--God, who

gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

4:18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."

4:19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

For example, Abraham could submit all of his weaknesses to God when he faced the impossibilities as well as believe to God and His power only. As a result, the mercy and power of God are able to create something that does not exist yet for preserving our life in the midst of the difficulties in the world. God is able to renew us from the fleshly men who do not believe and obey Him to the spiritual ones who patiently wait for the time of God and obey Him. The power of God is able to delete all flaws.

The other example is the widow of Zarephath.

1 Kings 17:17,24

17:17 Now it happened after these things that the son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him.

17:24 Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is the truth."

The dead can be made alive. The impossible can be made possible until we are changed to be perfect.

God blesses you.