

General Service in Malang, November 15, 2020 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 12:2-3

12:2. *Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.*

12:3. *And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.*

'she' refers to a woman or the church of God.

There are two conditions of the church of God on the last days as follows:

1. Being in pain to give birth. It means the condition of powerlessness, disability to do anything up to disability to think.
2. Facing a dragon. It means the crisis, darkness, ruin, *et cetera*.

What must the church of God do in that condition? Groaning and crying to God like a pregnant woman who will give birth.

Lamentations 2:18-19

2:18. *Their heart cried out to the Lord, "O wall of the daughter of Zion, Let tears run down like a river day and night; Give yourself no relief; Give your eyes no rest.*

2:19. *"Arise, cry out in the night, At the beginning of the watches; Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift your hands toward Him For the life of your young children, Who faint from hunger at the head of every street."*

On the last days, the church of God must groan and cry to God, so we do not experience the double famines.

The physical famine is the crisis of economy, *et cetera*.

The spiritual famine means that one does not experience satisfaction until he commits sins. He experiences the spiritual death up to perdition.

Groaning and crying is the same as weeping. We suffer in flesh and worship God, so we do not enter into the double famines, namely the physical and spiritual ones.

The famine has ever happened to Isaac.

Genesis 26:1-2

26:1. *There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar.*

26:2. *Then the LORD appeared to him and said: "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you.*

Isaac has ever experienced the famine in Canaan. It prophesied the crisis or double famine that we must face or we are facing on the last days.

The word of God to Isaac was *"Do not go down to Egypt"*. It means that the crisis or double famine cannot be finished with the worldly way that just relies on intelligence, riches, position, and so on, moreover legalizing all ways.

It must be finished by God's way, namely His word or the true teaching word.

There are **three ways that God gives to us to face the crisis and ruin on the last days** as follows--in the past time He gave the way to Isaac--:

1. Isaac sowed and reaped a hundredfold.

Genesis 26:12-13

26:12. *Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the LORD blessed him.*

26:13. *The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous;*

It means that we must receive the sowing of the word of God, namely the Gospel word and the true teaching one on the last days.

We must pay attention to the things as follows, so the sowing results in a hundredfold:

- The seed must be correct, namely we just receive one true teaching word. Do not hear the false one!
The true teaching word is the Word whose secret is revealed through one verse that explains the other verses in the Holy Bible.

- The ground must be good. It refers to good conscience.
How can we receive the good conscience? By the true water baptism.

1 Peter 3:20-21

3:20. who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

3:21 There is also an antitype which now savess us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

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 to receive new life. He experiences the renewal from the heart that tends to do evil continually to the good conscience, namely obedience.

The processes of the sowing of the correct and good seeds are as follows:

- Starting from the shepherd.
The shepherd must sow the seed of the true teaching word in the anointing of Holy Spirit. It is signified with tears, namely righteousness, seriousness, sacrifice, and patience.
- The congregation must receive the seed of the true teaching word in the anointing of Holy Spirit, namely groaning and crying. It is signified with tears, seriousness, sacrifice, and patience.

Psalm 126:5-6

126:5. Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy.

126:6. He who continually goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him.

If we hear the true teaching word with tears, groaning, and seriousness, we will confess that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. It is the word whose secret is revealed or the true teaching word.

We can understand, believe, and practice the true teaching word, so it bears fruit a hundredfold.

Luke 8:15

8:15. "But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

Bearing fruit a hundredfold means the fruit of patience. It refers to the perseverance in the sheepfold or the Holy Place, namely the perseverance in committing the three kinds of main service to God as follows:

- The Golden Candlestick refers to the perseverance in committing the General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in the anointing and gifts.
The sheep drinks.
- The Table of Showbread refers to the perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with Holy Communion. We have fellowship with the Son of God in the teaching Word and the sacrifice of Christ.
The sheep eats.
- The Golden Altar of Incense refers to the perseverance in committing the Prayer Service. We have fellowship with Father God in His love.
The sheep breathes with the fear of God up to the eternal life.

Genesis 26:3

26:3. "Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father.

If we are in the sheepfold or the perseverance in committing the three kinds of main service to God, we will be like a stranger in this world. We are very limited in our company in the world. We cannot be free anymore.

We are limited by sincerity and truth, but God is with us. He blesses us until we say: "*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want*".

Psalm 23:1

23:1. <<A Psalm of David.>> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

If we eat the bread from the world, we will be full, but one day we will be hungry. We experience lack in crisis, how much more when the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years.

If we hear and obey the true teaching word, we will have a relationship with God's heart, so we feel His hug like the wings of eagle that cover the powerless young eagles and we keep saying: "*I shall not want*".

It means that we are taken care of until the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years, so we give thank to God and become the blessing for others.

The blessing of Abraham means being blessed up to becoming blessing to the others.

That is why the time of crisis is the time to give good heart or good conscience to be sowed by the true teaching word, so we can be shepherded well and correctly. We can say: "*I shall not want*" up to perfection or the eternal life.

2. Isaac dug the wells to find water.

Genesis 26:18-22,32-33

26:18. And Isaac dug again the wells of water which they had dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham. He called them by the names which his father had called them.

26:19. Also Isaac's servants dug in the valley, and found a well of running water there.

26:20. But the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the name of the well Esek, because they quarreled with him.

26:21. Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that one also. So he called its name Sitnah.

26:22. And he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, because he said, "For now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land."

26:32. It came to pass the same day that Isaac's servants came and told him about the well which they had dug, and said to him, "We have found water."

26:33. So he called it Shebah. Therefore the name of the city is Beersheba to this day.

It means that we must groan and cry or weep to live in the anointing of Holy Spirit, so we experience the atmosphere of heavenly satisfaction. We do not look for fleshly or worldly satisfaction which causes one to fall into sins up to the peak.

There are four wells dug by Isaac and the herdsmen as follows:

- The negative well, namely Esek. It means quarrel.
- The negative well, namely Sitnah. It means hatred.
There are many people look for apparent flesh satisfaction and death rest. They seek for satisfaction by blaming at others like the scribes and Pharisees. They are never satisfied up to perdition.
- The positive well, namely Rehoboth. It means relief
- The positive well, namely Beersheba. It means peace.

Matthew 5:23-25

5:23. "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

5:24. "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

5:25. "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

On the last days we must use the lengthening of our life or every step of our life to make peace with God and others. We make peace with tears and groaning.

The process of making peace with God is confessing sin by the encouragement of the Word. Do not sin anymore after being forgiven!

Making peace with others is started from marriage, namely husband and wife, parents and children, brother and sister. Further, there must be peace with boyfriend or girlfriend, fiancé, fellow priests, inter-shepherding up to others who have not known God.

We confess and forgive one another. Do not do more sin but finish it!

When we are true, we must forgive others' sin and forget it.

As a result, the blood of Jesus washes or finishes our sins, so we experience relief or rest in Holy Spirit (Rehoboth). All things become easy and light. We experience satisfaction and happiness.

When Adam and Eve sinned, they were afraid although they were in Paradise. They did not experience relief and serenity. But there was the glory of God in Bethlehem because there was no sin. All were happy.

This is the secret of marriage and shepherding. If we do not sin, we will be happy as well as experience peace. It is the strong base to receive the power of God to face the crisis, so we may not be shaken in crisis, marriage, and ministry but we keep faithful and fervent until the finish line, namely our death or Jesus' second coming.

3. Isaac built an altar.

Genesis 26:23-25

26:23. Then he went up from there to Beersheba.

26:24. And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham; do not fear, for I am with you. I will bless you and multiply your descendants for My servant Abraham's sake."

26:25. So he built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD, and he pitched his tent there; and there Isaac's servants dug a well.

It means that we groan and cry or weep a lot in the prayer, fasting prayer, and all night-long prayer, so we experience the crucifixion or tearing of flesh with all of its lusts. We can totally follow the will of God.

What must be crucified or torn?

○ **Genesis 26:7**

26:7. And the men of the place asked about his wife. And he said, "She is my sister"; for he was afraid to say, "She is my wife," because he thought, "lest the men of the place kill me for Rebekah, because she is beautiful to behold."

Isaac confessed her wife as sister because he was afraid of something.

It means that we often lie in marriage because we are afraid of something up to resisting against God. We sacrifice the true teaching word and others, namely mate, husband, wife, child, parents-in-law, and son or daughter-in-law. It must be torn, so we fear God. We will not lie anymore. We will be honest in marriage even though we must sacrifice ourselves for God, the true teaching, and others.

○ **Genesis 26:34-35**

26:34. When Esau was forty years old, he took as wives Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite.

26:35. And they were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah.

The false marriage is the one which is not in line with the will of God or does not obey the true teaching word. It starts from the beginning of marriage which is not in one faith but just in the lust of eye. The relationship or engagement of fellow priests deals treacherously or not being faithful.

Further, during the marriage one fights, deals treacherously, does violence in marriage, and has affair, mixed-marriage, and divorce-remarrying. It is the lust of flesh which is not in line with the will of God.

It must be crucified until we can say: "*Abba, Father*" like Jesus in Gethsemane. It means being honest and obedient.

The LORD appears to us and we see Him. We cry His name. We lift up our hands to Him. We surrender ourselves to Him, and He will stretch out His merciful hands to us.

Genesis 26:24

26:24. And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham; do not fear, for I am with you. I will bless you and multiply your descendants for My servant Abraham's sake."

The results are as follows:

- God's merciful hands are able to bless and take care of us in the midst of the difficulties in the world and crisis until the Antichrist reigns over the world up to the eternal life.
- God's merciful hands are with us. He gives victory over the enemies and sins up to the peak, so we can live in righteousness and holiness.
The mercy of God finishes all impossible problems.
- Multiplying our descendants. The marriage is true, holy, and one. We have beautiful and successful future.

Genesis 26:26-30

26:26. Then Abimelech came to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath, one of his friends, and Phicol the commander of his army.

26:27. And Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, since you hate me and have sent me away from you?"
26:28. But they said, "We have certainly seen that the LORD is with you. So we said, 'Let there now be an oath between us, between you and us; and let us make a covenant with you,
26:29. 'that you will do us no harm, since we have not touched you, and since we have done nothing to you but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD.' "
26:30. So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank.

- We are used in the ministry of the building of the perfect body of Christ. It starts from marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, until the Israelites and Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ.
It continues until Jesus comes a second time that we are lifted up on the glorious clouds up to the Promised Land or the eternal New Jerusalem.

God blesses us.