

General Service in Malang, October 04, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 3:7-13 is about the church in Philadelphia.

The church in Philadelphia or all of us face difficult situation in the last days, that is closed door (impossibility), the synagogue of Satan, and trial and crisis that increase until the reign of antichrist for three years and a half.

Jesus appears to console and warn about two things as follows [Revelation 3:11].

1. "I am coming quickly " means Jesus will shortly come for a second time.
If we suffer, we must not be disappointed and leave God. He will shortly come and all sufferings will be replaced with joy.
There will be no more tears.
If we are happy and blessed, we must not be proud and bound. When Jesus comes a second time, all things will be left.
If we always remember that Jesus will come shortly, we will always experience consolation and new strength from God.
2. "Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown ".
It means that we must prepare a crown to be able to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

Revelation 3:12-13

3:12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

3:13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

God also gives promise to the church in Philadelphia or all of us who overcome, that He will make us a pillar in the New Jerusalem, the eternal kingdom of Heaven.

Galatians 2:9

2:9 and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

If we want to become a pillar in the Heaven, now we must become a pillar in the congregation, as well as within marriage, as it was experienced by Peter, James, and John.

Why are Peter, James, and John considered as the pillars of the congregation?

1. Because Peter, James, and John are willing to shake hands with Paul and Barnabas who are the other servants of God.

Galatians 2:9

2:9 and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

It means liking to be in the true fellowship. Thus, we will be used by God in the ministry of building the body of Christ until the Israelites and the Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ, the Heavenly bride who is ready to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds.

The requirements of shaking hands or having fellowship are as follows.

- a. Ministering in one true teaching Word or one Head. It means having one command.

Galatians 2:7-8

2:7 But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter

2:8 (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles),

If there is more than one command, there will be only obstructing and confronting one another.

- b. Ministering with the gifts of Holy Spirit, that is the miraculous ability from Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:11,7

12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

We minister not with the strength of the flesh or smartness, but with the gift of Holy Spirit. It is more than diploma, money, experience, *et cetera*.

Each one of us is given different gifts of Holy Spirit. There is hand, foot, *et cetera*(but only one head), but we must be able to work together. If we minister with smartness and strength, we will be split.

c. Ministering with the grace and mercy of God.

Especially the Gentiles, who were as dog and swine, the unlawful animal, could not minister God. If now we can minister Him, it is only by His grace. Let us minister God with the feeling of being unworthy and powerless. Thus, we will not grumble but always give thanks to God. There is no more envy but we support one another.

1 Corinthians 15:10

15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

If we minister with the grace of God, we will labor more abundantly day by day.

When one starts to become unfaithful in the ministry, it means the pillar starts to skew and will collapse.

When we are weak, let us remember that we can minister only by one drop of Jesus' blood, so we can be fervent in spirit in doing the ministry.

2. Because Peter, James, and John like to worship God.

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.

Worshiping God equals to experiencing the crucifixion of the flesh, so we experience two things as follows.

a. The love of God, so we can love one another.

Be careful, if there is dislike feeling, it must be reconciled. When one hates the other, the pillar starts to skew. When one hates the other without any reason, the pillar already collapses.

Let us love one another until we can love our enemy and pray for them. It is the most upright pillar and will not collapse.

b. Renewal of life from the flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus.

It is started with the renewal of the countenance or five senses. We only discuss two senses as follows.

- Ears must be renewed to become good ears that only hear the true teaching Word and obey (practice) it. The other teaching and gossips will only cause doubt and sad countenance.
- Mouth must be renewed to become a good mouth that only says good and right words, and words that bless the others. Mouth is only used for testifying, not for gossiping. Mouth likes to worship God.

Mark 7:37

7:37 And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

If the ears and mouth are good, the results are as follows.

- God makes everything good.
- Heavenly joy that cannot be affected by anything else.

Matthew 17:4

17:4 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

3. Because Peter, James, and John are strong and of good courage in facing everything.

Mark 5:35-43

5:35 While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"

5:36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe."

5:37 And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James.

5:38 Then He came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and saw a tumult and those who wept and wailed loudly.

5:39 When He came in, He said to them, "Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping."

5:40 And they ridiculed Him. But when He had put them all outside, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those who were with Him, and entered where the child was lying.

5:41 Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, "Talitha, cumi," which is translated, "Little girl, I say to you, arise."

5:42 Immediately the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years of age. And they were overcome with great amazement.

5:43 But He commanded them strictly that no one should know it, and said that something should be given her to eat.

At that time, they face a dead child, physically and spiritually.

Physically, it refers to something impossible, suffering and tears. There is no future.

Spiritually, it means being unable to eat the true teaching Word, or eating the wrong food.

1 Timothy 4:1

4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

The consequence is being dry and dead spiritually, preserving sin up to its peak, that is sin concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage, or approving sin.

Peter, James, and John, together with God face this condition by being strong and of good courage. The practice is holding fast the true teaching Word and being obedient. Do not make fun of the Word, because you will cry forever.

Being strong and of good courage also means believing and fully surrendering our life to God, stretching out our hands to God. Thus, He will also stretch out His hands to us [Mark 5:41-42] and resurrection power will happen. The dead child is raised. It means all impossible problems are solved in His time. Everything becomes successful and beautiful in His time. We are renewed continuously until we become perfect on Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds. Afterwards, we will enter a thousand years Kingdom of peace, and become pillar in the New Jerusalem.

God blesses us.