

General Service in Malang, October 13, 2013 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 21:5

21:5 Then He who sat on the throne said, âBehold, I make all things new.â And He said to me, âWrite, for these words are true and faithful.â

There is a creation in the book of Genesis. But in the book of Revelation, it is mentioned again. Why is that?

In the book of Genesis, God creates heaven and earth and all its contents, and everything is good. God also creates men in the same glory as Him to be put in Garden Eden. They receive care and happiness from God. But suddenly they are deceived by the serpent through strange voice, so they do sins. They are naked and cast out to the world that is full of curse and tears.

Romans 3:23

3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

But men in this world keep doing sins up to the peak of sins, that is sins concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage. Men appear as dog and swine. They are naked but not ashamed.

Matthew 16:23

16:23 But He turned and said to Peter, âGet behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.â

Even, men appear as Satan that will peris forever. The example is Peter. He is a great servant of God but he can appear as Satan. In the past, men were cast out from Garden Eden to the world. If one is cast out from this world, he will go to the hell.

God is not willing if man He created becomes like dog and swine or as Satan that must perish. Therefore, He creates new man as glorious as Him. He also creates new heaven and earth, the New Jerusalem, as the place for new man forever.

The process is called life renewal.

In Revelation 21:1-27, there are four types of life renewal as follows.

1. Verse 1, new heaven and earth.
2. Verse 2-3, new man.
3. Verse 4-8, new ambience.
4. Verse 9-27, New Jerusalem.

This morning, we discuss the new ambience.

Revelation 21:4

21:4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.â

New ambience is the ambience where there is no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain.

There are three types of death as follows.

- Physical death.
- Spiritual death, meaning being separated from God until being dry spiritually.

The causes are as follows.

- Sins, especially lies and hatred without any reasons.

Ephesians 2:1

2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

- False teaching that will bring to perdition.

2 Peter 2:1

2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

The consequence is there is sorrow, crying, pain, weariness, heavy burden, et cetera.

- Second death in the hell.

Revelation 20:14

20:14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

1 Samuel 20:3

20:3 Then David took an oath again, and said, âYour father certainly knows that I have found favor in your eyes, and he has said, âDo not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.â But truly, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death.â

No matter how great a man in this world is, the fact is there is but a step between him and death.
A step equals to a heartbeat.

Where is the place that is free from death?

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

15:25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

15:26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

It is under Jesus' feet.

Let us use many chances to be under His feet, so we are free from death.

John 12:1-8

12:1 Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead.

12:2 There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

12:3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

12:4 But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,

12:5 âWhy was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?â

12:6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

12:7 But Jesus said, âLet her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.

12:8 For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always.â

The practice of sitting under Jesus' feet to experience new ambience is being as Mary who sits under His feet and anoints His feet for the preparation of His burial.

Anointing = ministry.

Feet = the body of Christ.

Burial = the last time in the world.

Thus, Mary anoints the feet of Jesus for His burial means being active in the last building of the body of Christ, or entering the revival of Holy Spirit in the last days.

Thus, new ambience where there is no death is the ambience of the revival of Holy Spirit in the last days, or the ambience in the ministry of building the body of Christ.

The unity of the body of Christ is started from unity in marriage. Husband loves his wife as loving himself. Wife obeys her husband. Children must be obedient to the parents. Husband and wife must be one faith, one baptism, one teaching, and so forth. Husband and wife must confess their sin and forgive each other. If the foundation of marriage is love from Golgotha, husband and wife will be able to confess and forgive each other.

It is continued with unity in shepherding, between shepherding, up to the unity of the perfect body of Christ between the Israelites and Gentiles.

The requirements to enter the unity of the body of Christ are as follows.

1. Being reconciled by the precious blood of Christ.

John 12:3

12:3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

1 Peter 1:18-19

1:18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by

tradition from your fathers,

1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

No matter how great a sinful man in this world is, he is worthless and cheap before God. He is only as dog and swine that are separated from God. Therefore, we must be redeemed with the precious blood of Christ from our own sin and hereditary sin, so we can live in righteousness. Thus, our life will be very precious and expensive before God.

2 Corinthians 5:18

5:18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

Life who has been reconciled and redeemed will be trusted the ministry of reconciliation of the perfect body of Christ. It is started from within the marriage must be righteous and peaceful. If one hurts another within marriage, it means there is death. Let us invite God in our marriage, so there is righteous and peaceful ambience.

2. Experiencing sanctification of the heart.

- Sanctification of the heart from the desire of money that makes us as a thief like Judas. Do not steal the belongings of God (tithe and special offering) and do not steal the belongings of the others (not paying the debt, doing corruption, et cetera). Also, do not steal the belongings of the others who are in need.

If our heart is sanctified from the desire of money, we will feel more blessed to give than to receive. We can give with willingness and joy, with the blood sign. We can give our time, energy, money, until our whole life to Him.

- Sanctification of the heart from pride (the hair is used to wipe Jesus' feet).
It is as Paul the apostle who throws away all his prides in this world so we can serve God by fully relying on the gifts of Holy Spirit.
Sanctification from pride also means not feeling deserving something and not asserting our rights. If one serves God with asserting for his rights, there will be no satisfaction and everything will be useless. If one does not assert his rights, he will become as a doulos who only does his responsibility. Thus, we will always give thanks to God, and our rights and salary are in His hands.

The hair also means trickery, deceit, and hypocrisy. Our heart must be sanctified from all these things, so we can serve God honestly and frankly.

If we are willing to be sanctified, God will equip us with ministry and the gifts of Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:11-12

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,

3. Experiencing the anointing oil.

Leviticus 21:12

21:12 nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the Lord.

We can feel and experience the anointing oil through some ways as follows.

- Through perseverance in three main services within the sheepfold (Holy Place).
 - a. Golden Candlestick, that is perseverance in General Service.
 - b. Table of Showbread, that is perseverance in Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.
 - c. Golden Altar of Incense, that is perseverance in Prayer Service.

- Through the sprinkling of blood/ test/ suffering without any sins.

1 Peter 4:12-14

4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

The sprinkling of blood is in the form of fasting prayer, being blamed by the others, et cetera. The greater the fiery trial is, the greater the Spirit of glory we receive.

The results of receiving the Spirit of glory are as follows.

- The Spirit of glory makes us be used to bring the fragrance of Jesus' name through Good News (to bring sinful life to believe Jesus and be saved) and Bride Tidings (to bring saved life to be sanctified and perfected). The Spirit of glory is able to make everything beautiful and successful in His time.
- The Spirit of glory is able to care our physical and spiritual life marvelously.

Romans 8:11

8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Physically, the Spirit of glory is able to care us in the middle of difficulties and impossibilities.

Spiritually, the Spirit of glory is able to care our life in the middle of sins and false teaching, so we keep living in righteousness.

- The Spirit of glory is able to renew us from flesh man to become spiritual man as Jesus.

Titus 3:5

3:5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

1 Peter 4:14

4:14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

We become strong and of good courage. We do not easily get disappointed nor proud. When we are blamed from inside or outside, we keep being strong and of good courage.

John 11:31-32

11:31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

11:32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Focusing on the problem will make us be disappointed and desperate. Do not come to problems or the others, but let us come and fall down at Jesus' feet. We believe and fully surrender ourselves to God. Thus, Lazarus is raised and all problems are solved by Him.

The Spirit of glory keeps renewing our life until we are as glorious as Him on His second coming.

God blesses us.