

General Service in Malang, October 18, 2020 (Sunday Morning)

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

In the Tabernacle, the book of Revelation chapter twelve refers to the shekinah glory.

In the book of Revelation chapter twelve, there are two signs that appear in heaven which are linked with Jesus' second coming as follows:

1. Revelation 12:1

12:1. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

The first sign is '*a great sign appeared in heaven*'. It is the fulfillment of all signs about the coming of Jesus, namely the appearance of the perfect church of God who becomes the light of the world in the shekinah glory like Jesus. It is the same as the heavenly bride who is ready to be evacuated to the wilderness, far from the eyes of Antichrist who reigns over the world for three and a half years. Further, the heavenly bride is ready to be lifted up on the glorious clouds to meet Jesus who comes a second time in the glory of the King of kings and Heavenly Bridegroom. We enter into the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace (the upcoming Paradise), and the New Jerusalem forever.

2. Revelation 12:3

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.

The second sign is '*another sign appeared in heaven*'. It is the fulfillment of all Satan's working to hinder the one of God, so the church of God is left when Jesus comes a second time up to perdition in the hell forever.

In the book of Mark chapter thirteen (the preaching of the end of times) Jesus teaches the signs of His second coming from now on until it is fulfilled in the book of Revelation chapter twelve as follows:

1. Jesus predicts the destruction of the temple.

Mark 13:1-2

13:1. Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!"

13:2. And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

The ministry which leads to the physical thing will be destructed and so will the faith.

2. The deception by false teaching. It happens in the age of the pre-persecution of the Antichrist. The nations in the world will face war, earthquake, famine, and persecution for the church of God (the passage of Mark 13:3-12 is the signs of the times and the end of the age).

3. The appearance of the Antichrist who reigns over the world for three and a half years (Mark 13:14-25).

4. Jesus comes a second time (Mark 13:26-31).

What must we pay attention to in dealing with the signs of Jesus' second coming which have started happening these days? We must learn from the fig tree whose branch has already become tender, so it can bear many sweet fruits.

Mark 13:26-32

13:26. "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

13:27. "And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.

13:28. "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.

13:29. "So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near--at the doors!"

13:30. "Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.

13:31. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

13:32. "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

We must experience the renewal of life from fleshly men to spiritual ones like Jesus, so we are worthy to greet Him when He comes

a second time.

How can we be changed? By the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

4:3. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4:4. whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

There are two kinds of the preaching of the word as follows:

1. The gospel of salvation or Good News, the Gospel word, or the milk that preaches Jesus' first coming to the world to die on the cross and save the sinners.
It is needed by the people who are the newcomers in the church.
2. The light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, the teaching word, or the Bride Tidings that preaches Jesus' second coming in the glory as the King of kings and the heavenly Bridegroom to purify and change the saved people up to being perfect like Him, so we are worthy to greet His coming.
The teaching word is needed to grow our spirituality to maturity.

The church of God must prioritize the teaching word to prepare saved church of God up to being perfect.

Without the true teaching word, the church of God will become the same as the fig tree which is leafy but it never bears sweet fruits. The marriage is still bitter, never sweet.

Yielding fruit is the same as changing.

There are three kinds of the renewal which is linked with the fig tree as follows:

1. **The renewal of marriage which is linked with the fig tree in garden Eden.** It refers to the era of God the Father, which is counted from Adam to Abraham (about two thousand years).
Actually, God had created the marriage of human in glory and happiness in garden Eden where there was no sin. But Satan destroyed the marriage of Adam and Eve with the sin, especially disobedience, so they became naked. Human started being fearful and ashamed as well as quarreling, *et cetera*.
Consequently, the marriage started being bitter.

Unfortunately, Adam and Eve wanted to cover their nakedness with the fig leaves.

Genesis 3:7

3:7. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

In garden Eden, the fig tree was just leafy. It refers to self-truth.

Isaiah 64:6

64:6. But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

To have self-truth looks right, but it will not stand fast.

The meanings of having self-truth are as follows:

- The truth outside the true teaching word. It is the same as disobedience.
For example, Adam and Eve ate from the tree which God had forbidden to become the same as Him.

Genesis 3:5-6

3:5. "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

3:6. So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Eve wanted to be like God. It is the truth, but unfortunately she reached it by becoming disobedient. Consequently, she was naked, so God sent her out.

Genesis 3:22-23

3:22. Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" --

3:23. therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.

Be careful! Having self-truth is contagious like Adam followed his wife to eat from the tree which God had forbidden.

- Covering sin by blaming at others who are false especially those who are true as well as blaming God or the true teaching word and Satan.

Genesis 3:11-13

3:11. And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

3:12. Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

3:13. And the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

If one has already blamed at Satan, he will never do introspection in his life or blame at himself. It means that he becomes the same as Satan, namely the father of killers and liars, so the marriage is filled with lie and bitterness.

Consequently, Paradise becomes the curse, namely weariness, and labor until the dust returns to the dust.

Genesis 3:14,17-19

3:14. So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

3:17. Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.

3:18. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field.

3:19. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."

If there is one person in the household that keeps the righteousness, the punishment and curse will be still retained. Unfortunately, Adam did not stand fast, so he was punished and cursed.

The matter of the dust returns to the dust means that one does not experience the renewal of life but keeps becoming the serpent's food.

That is why we must experience the renewal of marriage, namely returning to the Bible or the true teaching word. It means as follows:

- One man (husband), one woman (wife).
- One faith.
- One baptism.
- Being blessed by parents.
- Being blessed by God through the affirmation and blessing of marriage. The terms are the righteousness and holiness of the marriage.
- Fixing the marriage by coming to a shepherd when the infidelity happens. All things can be fixed.

Returning to the cross or Christ's sacrifice. In the garden of Eden, the LORD God made tunics of skin and clothed Adam and his wife. It refers to Christ's sacrifice.

Returning to the cross means confessing and forgiving one another, so the blood of Jesus takes away our sin, and we are justified. We experience peace, so our marriage becomes one flesh.

Genesis 2:24

2:24. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

In the past time, the marriage had been one flesh but it was destroyed by Satan.

Now, the marriage can become one flesh again through the teaching word and Christ's sacrifice.

Ephesians 5:31

5:31. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

One flesh means one heart, one teaching, one ministry, and one worship.

Matthew 18:19

18:19. *"Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.*

'two of you' refer to husband and wife.

We become the house of prayer, so our prayer is always answered by God.

If it continues, we will enter into the perfect marriage on the clouds.

Ephesians 5:32

5:32. *This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church*

2. **The renewal of ministry or ordination.** It refers to the era of the Son of God, which is counted from Abraham to the first Jesus' coming (about two thousand years).

Matthew 21:18-19

21:18. *Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry.*

21:19. *And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away.*

If a fig tree has been leafy, it should bear the fruit. But it is not.

The fig tree by the road refers to the ministry which walks about like Esau.

It means as follows:

- Not being shepherded. It means that one does not persevere in the sheepfold or the three kinds of main service to God (the Holy Place).

The perseverance in committing the three kinds of main service to God are as follows:

- a. The Golden Candlestick refers to the perseverance in committing the General Service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His anointing and gifts.
The sheep drinks to get fresh.
- b. 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 to become strong and grow to the spiritual maturity.
- c. 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 love of God up to the eternal life because the love of God is eternal.

- Not being obedient to the voice of the shepherd. It means that one does not want to eat the shepherding word, so he becomes weak as well as being deceived by false teaching.

If one is not faithful, he will surely become disobedient.

- Ministering to God but only for hunting the fleshly things, namely money, mate, *et cetera* until he legalizes all ways and sacrifices others and God/the true teaching word.

For example, Esau sacrificed his birthright to get the physical thing.

Consequently, one is cursed. It means that he experiences the spiritual dryness. He grumbles until he looks for the satisfaction in the world or the worldly satisfaction is brought into the church, so he falls into sins up to the peak.

If it continues, he will spiritually die. He is not fervent anymore in the ministry. He may be still active in the ministry, but he does not feel anything in it. He never experiences God's touch. He does not regret when he sins.

Consequently, he experiences curse and tears like Esau.

Be careful! If the marriage is cursed, the ministry will be cursed too, and vice versa, because the ministry and marriage are the two great mysteries.

That is why the fig tree must be planted in the vineyard. It means that we must be shepherded to the true teaching word or the Bride Tidings. It is the renewal of the ministry, so there is guarantee of great caring.

We must be watchful although we have been in the sheepfold.

Luke 13:6-9

13:6. He also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.

13:7. "Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?'

13:8. "But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it.

13:9. 'And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.'"

One who has been shepherded well and correctly but does not bear the fruit will be cut down. There are threats of curse and punishment.

But here is the difference. The fig tree by the road will be cursed directly when it does not bear the fruit. But the fig tree in the vineyard is not punished directly because there is the intercession prayer of a shepherd (the keeper of the vineyard) to delay God's punishment and curse, so it still has a chance to bear the fruit.

That is why, we may not be proud and against God when we have not been punished yet, but we must become gentle and bear the fruit.

Why does one not bear the fruit although he has been shepherded? It is because of having bad roots, especially the ones of wickedness.

Luke 13:8

13:8. "But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it.

The root of wickedness means that one is bound by the will of money, so all things including the ministry and marriage are measured with money.

1 Timothy 6:10

6:10. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Consequently, one does not bear the fruit. It means that his life is not changed.

If one has the root of wickedness (dishonesty about money), he will surely have the one of uncleanness and bitterness, so the fig tree does not bear the fruit.

Dishonesty about money means stealing the possession of others and the one of God, namely the tithe and special offering.

Thankfully, there is a shepherd.

The duties of a shepherd are as follows:

- Lifting up the intercession prayer for delaying the punishment.
- Giving the shepherding word in the three kinds of main services to God. It is the same as digging our grounds of heart or purifying us up to the roots, so we are set free from the will of money.
The fact is feeling more blessed to give than to receive. We can return the possession of God, give to others who are in need, and surrender our whole life to God.

We are purified from the root of uncleanness and bitterness, so we live in holiness.

- Fertilizing.
The fertilizer refers to the food that is quickly absorbed, namely the preaching of the teaching word in fasting prayer and all night-long prayer to accelerate the purification.

As a result, we can bear many fruits as follows:

- a. The Table of Showbread. It refers to the fruit of faith or the teaching word, namely living in righteousness and holiness.
- b. The Golden Candlestick. It refers to the fruit of Holy Spirit or hope, namely being faithful and fervent in spirit to minister to God until the finish line, namely our death or Jesus' second coming.
- c. The Golden Altar of Incense. It refers to the fruit of love. We love God more than anything, namely being obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore.

Further, we love others as we love ourselves by doing good things, even we can love our enemy, namely repaying good for evil.

The sweet fruit should not be eaten by ourselves, but we must share it by testifying. There are many marriages and ministries that experience dryness.

3. **The renewal of characteristic or heart.** It refers to the era of God the Holy Spirit, which is counted from the first Jesus' coming to the second one (about two thousand years).

Mark 13:28

13:28. "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near."

God has not come yet because He gives us opportunity to become gentle and bear the fruit.

The example is Stephen.

Acts 7:59-60

7:59. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

7:60. Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The facts found in a gentle heart are as follows:

- Enduring in the sprinkle of blood or suffering in the flesh without sin in any form. One does not grumble as well as blame at others but always gives thanks.
- The ability to forgive others' sin and forget it.
- 'he was calling on God' means the ability to worship God even though in suffering.

The result of becoming gentle is that the heaven is opened and we have connection with Jesus as the High Priest and the King of kings who stands at the right hand of the throne of God.

Acts 7:55-56

7:55. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God,

7:56. and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

Jesus stands. It means that He remembers, cares, and struggles for us. He will not leave us, but He is ready to stretch out His merciful hands.

The matter of Jesus stands means as follows:

- Jesus honors our ministry, so He uses us in the revival of Holy Spirit in the last rain or the building of the perfect body of Christ.

Matthew 21:5

21:5. "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

In the past time, Jesus as a gentle King came into Jerusalem.

Now, if we want to become gentle, we will be honored and used by God.

- The time of Jesus as the High Priest to minister to us whatever condition we have.

Hebrews 4:14-16

4:14. Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

4:15. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

4:16. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Jesus struggles to feel and pull out all of our weakness, weariness, heavy burdens, and tears, so we experience peace. All things become easy and light.

He also helps us in His time. All problems are finished in His time.

The opened heaven means that God pours out the heavenly blessings for us to take care of our life in the midst of the difficulties in the world until the Antichrist reigns over the world.

The opened heaven also means that it is time for God to purify and change us up to perfection. We enter into the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, Paradise, and the kingdom of heaven forever.

God blesses us.