

General Service in Malang, October 20, 2024 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 19:9

19:9 *Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."*

The marriage supper of the Lamb refers to the meeting between Jesus, who comes a second time as the Head or the Heavenly Bridegroom, and the perfect congregation or the heavenly bride on the glorious clouds. Afterward, we enter the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace [Revelation 20] and the New Jerusalem [Revelation 21-22]. It is true and will happen for sure or none can hinder or cancel it.

The meeting on the glorious clouds is in the love of the bride and groom or the perfect love of God. It is the same as the two tablets of stone. Therefore, we must receive and have the two tablets of stone or the service and ministry to God which are in love until going toward the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Matthew 23:8-12

23:8 *"But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren.*

23:9 *"Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.*

23:10 *"And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.*

23:11 *"But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.*

23:12 *"And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.*

The signs of the service and ministry to God which are in love are as follows:

- Verse 8-10 not insisting right, but only doing the duty.
- Verse 11 being the servant of God.
- Verse 12 humbling our life.

ad.1 **Not insisting right, but only doing the duty.** The proofs are as follows:

1. [verse 8] Putting Jesus as the Teacher and we are the students. The student does not insist the right, but only doing the duty, namely studying, and so on.
2. [verse 9] Putting our life as the son of the Father. The son does not insist right, but only doing the duty, namely being obedient or saying "Abba, Father".
3. [verse 10] Putting Jesus as the Leader or Messiah.

Messiah means the anointed by Holy Spirit, namely the king, prophet, and high priest.

In the true service and ministry to God, we can put Jesus as the Leader or Messiah. It means putting Jesus as the High Priest and Great Shepherd.

Formerly, Moses and Aaron became the leader of the house of Israel to enter Canaan. Aaron was the high priest and Moses was the shepherd.

In the New Testament, Jesus is the High Priest and Great Shepherd.

Putting Him as the High Priest and Great Shepherd, we are putting ourselves as the priests and sheep.

The duty of a priest is serving and ministering to God. The duty of a sheep is being shepherded.

Thus, **our duty is serving and ministering to God in the shepherding system.** The signs are as follows:

1. There is the sheepfold, namely the Holy Place or the perseverance in committing the three main services to God. We get the spiritual growth toward the perfection.
2. There must be the food, namely the shepherding Word or the true teaching Word that is entrusted by God to a pastor that he may preach to the congregation faithfully, continually, and repetitively to be the food for the congregation.

John 10:4-5

10:4 *"And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.*

10:5 *"Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."*

The sheep that is shepherded well and correctly only knows the voice of the shepherd or hears and obeys it and eats the shepherding Word. The sheep will run away from the strange voice which can deceive.

Be careful! The devil disguised himself as the angel of light or shepherd for preaching the strange voice, namely gossips, false teachings, and so on. The pastor can be unfaithful or he does not feed the congregation.

A sheep has not been shepherded yet when it hears or believes the strange voice more than the voice of the shepherd. Consequently, the wild beast will be able to pounce on it.

Why do we have to be shepherded?

1. Because we are sent by God like a lamb among wolves.

Luke 10:3

10:3 *"Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves."*

We need the Great Shepherd and human shepherd also.

2. Because our characteristics are being formed to be wise like serpent and harmless like dove. It means having wisdom.

Matthew 10:16

10:16 *"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."*

It is useful for facing the wild and cruel wolves.

Being wise only, one can deceive others. Being harmless only, one will be fooled by others.

We use the wisdom from God or the Word which we obey.

The facts found in being wise in the daily life are as follows:

- Hearing and obeying the words of Jesus or the true teaching Word.

Matthew 7:24-25

7:24 *"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:*

7:25 *"and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock."*

1 Peter 1:22

1:22 *Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,*

We get the sanctification to the heart, thought, deeds, and saying, so we live in holiness and love one another.

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,*

We are equipped with the ministry and gifts for being used in the edification of Christ's body on the rock that is strong and tested.

[Matthew 7:25] As a result, we will not fall because of the following things:

- Rain = Satan with the evil and unclean spirits.
- Strong wind = false prophets with the false teachings and gossips. It attacks the wall or fellowship in the

marriage, shepherding, and so on. Not being obedient to the Word, one will be doubtful because of gossip for sure until leaving the true teaching Word.

- Flood = the Antichrist with the power of mammon or the love or bond of money until not loving God and others. One cannot endure the temptations, especially in economy. Stinginess means not being able to give. Greediness means stealing the possession of God and others. We are sanctified until we can feel more blessed to give than to receive. We feel more blessed to worship God.

○ Having the oil for supply.

Matthew 25:1,3-4

25:1 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

25:3 "Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them,

25:4 "but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

There are two kinds of oil as follows:

- The oil in the lamp or Holy Spirit that anoints, fills us up, and gives us the gifts of Holy Spirit so that we can minister to God according to the ministry which He has entrusted. Our lamp is burning.
- The oil for supply or we are overflowing with Holy Spirit. Our activity in Holy Spirit is for ministering, worshiping, and waiting for the Lord's second coming.

Getting bored in the service, ministry, and worship to God, they are done just as a habit or one feels forced doing them. It means having no oil for supply, the oil in the lamp is almost gone or there is no oil anymore. Unluckily, it can be known only when Jesus comes a second time until being left behind and the door of the marriage supper of the Lamb is shut. The doors in the world are also shut.

Therefore, we must increase the holiness to get the oil for supply, so the lamp keeps on burning until Jesus comes a second time.

The functions of the oil for supply or the burning lamp are as follows:

- Being victorious over the darkness of sin, so we keep on living in holiness and ministering to God. We get the peace. All things become easy and light.
- Keeping faithful and fervent in spirit in the service and ministry to God until the end line.
- Keeping on worshiping God.

Exodus 19:9

19:9 And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever." So Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.

In the worship prayer with the thick cloud or the strong anointing of Holy Spirit, God comes in the midst of us to speak the Word and answer our prayers (oracles) until miracles happen.

1 Kings 8:15

8:15 And he said: "Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who spoke with His mouth to my father David, and with His hand has fulfilled it, saying,

God fulfills with His own hands all that He has promised or spoken. We can be the witness of God so that the people believe that there is God and He is with us.

- Holy Spirit makes us strong and of good courage.

Psalms 27:14

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

As a result, Holy Spirit will solve all impossible problems. We can wait for Jesus' second coming.

God blesses you.