

General Service in Malang, October 22, 2017 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 6:7-8

6:7 When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see.

6:8 So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth"

The opening of the fourth seal refers to the fourth condemnation of Holy Spirit God to the world or the revival of a pale horse, so the Death and Hades have power over a fourth of the earth to kill man with sword, hunger, pestilence, the beast, et cetera.

There are three kinds of death that threaten every path in our life as follows:

1. The physical death, namely passing away.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

4:13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

Whoever, whenever, and however the death happens is not important because it becomes the business of God. The more important thing is that if we are permitted to die, we must die in Jesus. Living in Jesus means that we believe in Him, repent and get the renewal in water and Spirit. So, we can live in righteousness and we become the instruments of righteousness who serve and minister to God faithfully and righteously.

2. The Spiritual death refers to being separated from God or living and enjoying sin up to the peak.
3. The second death or the hell forever.

Ezekiel 14:13-21

14:13 "Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it.

14:14 "Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD.

14:15 "If I cause wild beasts to pass through the land, and they empty it, and make it so desolate that no man may pass through because of the beasts,

14:16 "even though these three men were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters; only they would be delivered, and the land would be desolate.

14:17 "Or if I bring a sword on that land, and say, 'Sword, go through the land,' and I cut off man and beast from it,

14:18 "even though these three men were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters, but only they themselves would be delivered.

14:19 "Or if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast,

14:20 "even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness."

14:21 For thus says the Lord GOD: "How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem--the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence--to cut off man and beast from it?"

The prophecy about the condemnation of God to the world or Jerusalem will be fulfilled on the last day. Even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they only deliver themselves by their righteousness.

If we want to be set free from the future death, we must have the same life as Noah, Daniel and Job from now on.

1. Noah

Genesis 6:5-6,11-12

6:5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6:6 And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

6:11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

6:12 So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

In the days of Noah, every intent of the thoughts of the heart of man was only evil continually. They lived in corrupt life and

grieved the heart of God.

There are three kinds of corrupt deed as follows:

- Corrupt deeds in marriages such as mix marriage, divorce-remarrying, added with the sins of eating drinking such as smoking, being drunk, and drugs abused.

Genesis 6:1-2

*6:1 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them,
6:2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.*

- Corrupt deeds in service and ministry means that there is idol of golden calf.

Exodus 32:5-7

*32:5 So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD."
32:6 Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.
32:7 And the LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.*

The golden calf means hard heart or keeping sins.

The golden calf also refers to Mammon, namely the riches of the world. In service and ministry to God only prioritize the physical blessings without sanctification. It makes people become stingy and greedy. Being stingy means that one cannot give to the work of God. Being greedy means stealing the possessions that belong to God such as the tithe and the offering, and the possessions that belong to other people who are in need.

Proverbs 18:9

18:9 He who is slothful in his work is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.

The corrupted deeds in service and ministry also refer to being unfaithful in the service and ministry.

- Corrupting oneself by doing adultery.

Proverbs 6:32

6:32 Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; He who does so destroys his own soul.

Proverbs 21:23

21:23 Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles.

Corrupting happens through lying, gossiping, slandering, *et cetera*, and also by the things that come in to mouth such as smoking, being drunk, and drug abused.

Genesis 6:7

6:7 So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

If men grieve the heart of God, He will condemn them with the great flood until perdition.

Genesis 6:8

6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord, so He and his family could enter the ark.

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 saves 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 ark of Noah refers to the water true water baptism, namely the death and the resurrection together with Jesus to get the renewal.

One who has repented must be buried in water with Jesus, so he can rise up from water with Him to get the renewal and get

the new life or the heavenly one. The bad conscience is renewed into the good one. So, we can live in righteousness and be separated from sin, false teaching, and bad society which cannot save us. We become the instruments of righteousness or serve and minister to God in faithfulness and righteousness, so we do not grieve the heart of God anymore, but glorify Him. The result are as follows:

- The merciful hand of God is able to give the salvation of Bride or family. We are set free from death and God's condemnation.
- The merciful hand of God gives us peace and joy. Our life becomes easy and light.

2. Daniel.

Daniel 6:10

6: 10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

Daniel was strong and of a good courage in facing the den of lions with starving lions. He was strong and of a good courage through the perseverance in doing three main services in the shepherding as follows:

- The Golden Candlestick refers to the perseverance in doing General Service or the fellowship with Holy Spirit God in the gifts of Holy Spirit.
- The Table of Showbread refers to the perseverance in doing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion or the fellowship with Son of God in the teaching word and sacrifice of Christ.
- The Altar of Incense refers to the perseverance in doing Prayer Service or the fellowship with Father God in His love.

In shepherding pen, our body, soul and spirit attach to the trinity of God as the branches that attached to the true Vine. We are sanctified little by little until we reach its peak, namely we can persevere in doing Prayer Service. Prayer Service is the process to tear the flesh, so we experience the renewal. Our weak heart is renewed into the strong and courageous one like Daniel.

The process of being strong and courageous is holding fast the true teaching word or we do not want to be shaken by other teaching regardless of any risks we have to take. We are not disappointed and hopeless when facing all things. We keep believing and hoping in God.

As the result, the great merciful hand of God is able to shut the mouths of lions. It means that the hand of God is able to preserve us from now to the day when Antichrist rules over the world. The hand of God is able to protect us from disasters, sins, false teaching, and death. The hand of God is able to solve our problem; even the impossible one, and give the beautiful and successful future life.

3. Job.

Job 1:1-2

1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.

1:2 And seven sons and three daughters were born to him.

Job 32:1-2

32:1 So these three men ceased answering Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes.

32:2 Then the wrath of Elihu, the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, was aroused against Job; his wrath was aroused because he justified himself rather than God

Job was a great man, but he was hard-hearted and arrogant, so he felt that he was more righteous than God and other people. Job was against the cross or the lowliness of heart.

Therefore, he experienced the test or the sprinkling of blood. The sprinkling blood is the process to tear flesh with all its characteristics. It is the same as the death and resurrection experience with Jesus, so we experience the renewal to our heart. We have a gentle heart. We confess that we are only clay which is not worthy, but powerless. We only hope to the great merciful hand of God.

Job 42:5-6

42:5 "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

42:6 Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

Job could be gentle in his heart and revoked his wrong words and deeds. We can confess and forgive each other. As a

result, God stretched His great merciful hand, so Job experienced the double restoration in physical and spiritual life. We are used to become the vessel of glory to serve and minister to God. When Jesus comes for the second time, we are changed to become perfect. We do not stumble in words, we only cry out "Alleluia" to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

God blesses you.