

General Service in Malang, October 23, 2011 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 26:30-35 is about **WARNING TO PETER**.

Matthew 26:30-31

26:30 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

26:31 Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'"

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives, where there are many olive fruits.

Olive fruits are dried and squeezed to produce olive oil. It equals to Jesus who suffered until died on the cross to pour the anointing oil of Holy Spirit to all of us.

Jesus died on the cross for two things as follows:

1. To pour the anointing oil of Holy Spirit, as the salvation sign.
2. To become the Good Shepherd.

Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

Pastors in this world must also follow Jesus' pattern; there must be sacrifice, starting from willingness to sacrifice time.

Thus, **the anointing of Holy Spirit leads us (pastor and sheep) to enter shepherding pen**. It equals to becoming well shepherded sheep.

Why must we be shepherded?

Luke 10:3

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

Because our position is as lambs among wolves;

1. We have no power.
2. We cannot rely on something in this world (wealth, smartness, etc.).
The fatter the sheep (richer, smarter, etc.), the more difficult it runs from wolves and will be pounced.

We have to be shepherded ABSOLUTELY.

Because of the importance of shepherding, Jesus warned Peter about shepherding.

The fact in the last days, Satan tries to destroy shepherding system, such that the condition of God's children and God's servants are as sheep who are not shepherded (scattered sheep).

The consequences of Christians' life who is as sheep having no shepherd are as follows:

1. **Being weary and neglected.**

Matthew 9:36

9:36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Being weary = laboring and bearing heavy burden = living in curse of sins situation, there is no rest and peace.

Being neglected = having no one responsible for his life, especially for his soul salvation.

Pastor who is not shepherded will easily ask another people to replace his task in marriage service, child submission service, death service, etc.

Being neglected also means having no one to lead/guide his life, such that he will be lost, even will perish forever and be pounced by wolves.

Shepherding pen removes us from curse situation and perdition to peaceful situation and eternal life guarantee (Heaven ambience).

Heaven ambience is peacefulness and righteousness.

Eternal life is started from righteous life. If there are peacefulness and righteousness, there is Heaven ambience, whatever our situation in this world.

2. **Being scattered**= in chaotic, there is no tidiness in life. This life will not be able to enter the unity of the body of Christ, such that he will enter the body of Babel.

In shepherding, actually the hands of the Shepherd work to tidy up our life.

Genesis 11:9

11:9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

If we are not in one shepherding, it will be difficult to unite, and there will be chaotic as people who talk in different language, until entering Babel.

We must be watchful with Babel sins (the peak of sins), that is eating-drinking sins and sexuality sins.

Shepherding system is as Jacob who was quiet inside the tent, and it was God who worked such that Jacob could get everything.

On the contrary, Esau used hunt system. Although he got something, but at the end he was weary and lost everything.

3. **Denying God.**

Matthew 26:31, 34

26:31. Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

26:34 Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

Peter was great and was walking on the water, but he was not shepherded, and he denied Jesus three times.

Who are we compared to Peter? We must be shepherded!

The indication of being not shepherded is shaken faith.

- The faith will be shaken when listening to strange voice (false teaching, gossips).
The signs are giving opportunity, listening and responding false teaching and gossips whose right cannot be accounted.
The consequence is sometime that life will not be able to listen the true teaching.

II Timothy 4:3-4

4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

4:4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

They will reject the true teaching which contradicts with the flesh desire and which points the sins, since they preserve the flesh desire and hide the sins.

Those lives choose false teaching which does not touch the sins or flesh desire. It equals to only chasing the ears' satisfaction, but their hearts are not satisfied since they cannot be set free from sins.

We must not force the Word to agree our flesh desire!

As Jesus' prayer at Gethsemane, we must throw away our will and we must live according to the Word.

- The faith will be shaken in facing problems.
The signs are putting hope on the others, looking for their own way out which is not according to the true teaching Word.

A way out outside the Word is a deadlock and perdition. They only wait for the perdition.

Furthermore, they will deny Jesus in words and deeds.

- Denying Jesus by words is not professing Jesus. It equals to the faith is failed (no longer believing Jesus, changing religion), or still being Christians but no longer professing the true teaching Word.
- Denying Jesus by deeds.

Titus 1:15-16

1:15 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

1:16 They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

- a. Being abominable = there is hatred, revenge, etc.

- b. Being disobedient = not obeying God (Heavenly parents), pastor (spiritual parents), and physical parents.

Being disobedient = being unfaithful.

Hebrews 10:25-27

10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

10:26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

10:27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

There is no higher advice than advice to be keen on ministering God.

It is better not to ... (study, work, etc.) than not to minister God. Everything will be in vain without ministering God.

Disobedient life will be faced to burning fire, and it equals to everlasting perdition.

- c. Being disqualified for every good works. It means doing evil deeds, or pretending to do good deeds, until repaying good with evil (becoming the same as Satan).

If we start being lax in shepherding, our lives cannot be controlled anymore, and we will be defiled by sins.

The consequence of denying Jesus is we will also be denied before His Father in Heaven, and it means perdition forever.

Matthew 10:32-33

10:32 "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

10:33 But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

If we are well shepherded, we will still confess Jesus before men, whatever must be sacrificed, even when we must sacrifice our spirit (since Jesus has sacrificed His spirit for us).

The daily practices of confessing Jesus are as follows:

1. Confessing Jesus as the Savior.

The practice is confessing our sins to God and the others. If we are forgiven, we should not do the sins anymore.

Not doing the sins anymore means we obey the Word and live in righteousness.

The result is living in the hands of the Savior. He has the power to bless and care us to our descendants, in the middle of difficulties in this world.

Psalms 37:25-26

37:25 I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.

37:26 He is ever merciful, and lends; And his descendants are blessed.

As long as we live in obedience and righteousness (in the court of Tabernacle), Jesus struggles everything for us.

2. Confessing Jesus as the Good Shepherd.

The practices are as follows:

- Being faithful and persevering in shepherding pen (the holy place in Tabernacle, three main services).
 - a. Golden Candlestick = perseverance in General Service = fellowship with God the Holy Spirit in His gifts (drinking).
 - b. Table of Showbread = perseverance in Bible Study Service with Holy Communion = fellowship with the Son of God in the Word and Holy Communion (eating).
 - c. The Golden Altar of Incense = perseverance in Prayer Service = fellowship with God the Father in His love (breathing).
- Being obedient to the voice of the Shepherd.

The result of being obedient and persevering is we live in the hands of Good Shepherd.

Isaiah40:11

40:11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young.

"Carry them in His bosom" = the hands of Good Shepherd have the power to make life who labors and is heavy laden become easy and light.

"Lead" = the hands of Good Shepherd have the power to lead us to beautiful and happy future, up to the last shepherding pen in the New Jerusalem, where there is no more tears.

3. **Confessing Jesus as the Heavenly bridegroom, as the King of kings.**

Psalm96:9

96:9 Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

The practice is we worship Jesus as King of kings and Heavenly bridegroom.
If we delight to worship God, God will also delight to our life.

The result is the hands of God the King create us as new men.

Isaiah43:15

43:15 I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King."

The signs of new men are as follows:

- Believing and fully surrendering our life to God, whatever the risk.
- Submitting and being obedient to God, whatever the risk.

God commanded the Israelites to go forward, although there was no way in front of or behind them, or in the left and right sides.

Exodus14:15

14:15. And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.

Thus God did the creation power, made possible the impossible.

He has the power to make a way in the middle of the sea. It means He solves all problems right in His time.

We receive His creation power until we will be renewed as new men as perfect as Him and we will be able to welcome Jesus' second coming on the glorious clouds.

Revelation19:6-7

19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

From different languages, sometime we will become one perfect body of Christ with one language or worship voice "Alleluia". We worship Him, King of kings and Heavenly bridegroom.

God blesses us.