

General Service in Malang, September 10, 2023 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 20:1-6 is about the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace.

There are two kinds of process that the Church must undergo to enter the One-Thousand-Year Kingdom of Peace as follows:

1. **Evacuation process.**

Revelation 12:14

12:14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

It happens when the Antichrist starts to reign over the world for three and a half years. The church is evacuated by the power of the two wings of a great eagle to the wilderness, far away from the presence of the Antichrist.

The Christians who die are not evacuated, but dwell in the tomb because the target of the Antichrist is only the flesh.

2. **Lifting up process.**

Revelation 20:4-6

20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

20:5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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.

4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

4:17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

It happens after the Antichrist reigns over the world for three and a half years or when Jesus comes a second time in the glory as the King of kings or the Heavenly Bridegroom on the glorious clouds to enter the marriage supper of the Lamb, Paradise, and New Jerusalem.

The base of the lifting up is as follows:

- [verse 14] The Church who believes that Jesus has died and been risen as well as gets the death and resurrection together with Him will be lifted up or glorified with Him for sure.

The experience of death and resurrection with Jesus starts from the true water baptism, namely ones who believe in Jesus and repent or die to sin must be buried in the water baptism and resurrected together with Him to get the new life, namely the life in righteousness.

Proverbs 10:2-3

10:2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, But righteousness delivers from death.

10:3 The LORD will not allow the righteous soul to famish, But He casts away the desire of the wicked.

As a result, we are saved and not punished [verse 2]. We are preserved until being evacuated to the wilderness [verse 3].

- The Church who gets the life renewal.

Philippians 3:17-21

3:17 Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.

3:18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

3:19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things.

3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

3:21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Philippians 4:1

4:1 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

Luke 8:18

8:18 "Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him."

They are the Church who has the true attitude in hearing and obeying the true teaching Word or the sound of the trumpet until being able to take the example of Jesus and follow His steps or the steps of the heavenly kingdom although they are still living in the world. The steps of Jesus are in the cross or the life renewal.

Philippians 2:5-8

2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

2:6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

2:7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

If we have the mind and feelings of Jesus, namely being obedient until the flesh does not speak anymore, we will also have the steps of Jesus or the cross, so we get the life renewal. **The proofs are as follows:**

- Working out our own salvation with fear and trembling or serving and ministering to God in faithfulness and responsibility.

Philippians 2:12

2:12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

- Serving and ministering to God in willing heart, so we do not murmur and dispute, but always give thanks.

Philippians 2:13-14

2:13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing,

- The life renewal must be real and increasing until we have no flaw when Jesus comes a second time.

Philippians 2:15

2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

We appear as the shining star that radiates the light of life renewal to other people who are in the darkness so that they can live in the light.

Revelation 22:16

22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

We become the witness of God until being the bright and morning star like Jesus.

Philippians 2:16

2:16 holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or

labored in vain.

To keep on being the shining stars, we must hold fast the Word of life or obey the true teaching Word that has been our life experience. This is through the perseverance in committing the Bible Study Service with the Holy Communion, so the Word is ingrained in our life.

Acts 2:41-42

2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

It is also through the perseverance in committing the General Service, fellowship, and the Prayer Service.

Thus, the steps of the heavenly kingdom are in the perseverance in committing the three main services to God in the sheepfold.

Luke 9:28-30

9:28 Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray.

9:29 As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

9:30 And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah,

The teaching Word encourages us to have fellowship seriously, starting from the marriage, shepherding, inter-shepherding, and for worshiping God in the true worship.

The worship prayer refers to the process to crucify the flesh with all of its lusts, desires, and characteristics, so there is a renewal from the fleshly men to the spiritual ones like Jesus is.

There are two people who get the life renewal in the worship prayer, namely Moses and Elijah.

Moses is the representative of the part of the bride who dies in the Lord and gets the resurrection in the body of glory.

Elijah is the representative of the part of the bride who lives until Jesus comes a second time who will be changed in the body of glory.

Both will be the one perfect body of Christ or the bride.

2 Peter 1:16-18

1:16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

1:17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

1:18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

Peter, James, and John became the eye witness about Jesus who will come a second time in the glory.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed--

15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Paul the Apostle clearly said that we shall not all sleep (there are some people who die and there others who are alive until Jesus comes a second time). The matter of being dead or alive is not important. The important thing is that we get the renewal of life by the work of the true teaching Word or the sound of the trumpet while we are living in the world.

As a result, we can be assured when Jesus comes a second time about these things:

- When we pass away, we will be resurrected in the body of glory for sure.
- When we are still alive until Jesus comes a second time and be evacuated to the wilderness for three and a half years, we will be changed in the body of glory like Jesus.

Both become the one perfect body of Christ and get the lifting up to the glorious clouds to meet Jesus and our family.

What must be changed?

▪ **Moses.**

Numbers 12:3

12:3 (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

Moses was changed from a killer (the most hard-hearted) to a man who was very humble.

Matthew 11:25

11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.

To be able to understand the secret of God or His calling and sending out, we must enter the process of life renewal from the big to the small first. It means renewal from feeling that we have something (riches, intelligence, position, and so on) to feeling that we are nothing. For example, Moses who was the son of the king in the riches, intelligence, and so on could be the shepherd. Therefore, God called and chose Moses as the deliverer of the Israelites. He got the ability from God to face Pharaoh or Satan and many difficulties and impossibilities (the Red Sea was divided).

Nevertheless, Moses still had the emotion in facing the trouble caused by the congregation until he was disobedient by striking the rock whereas God had commanded him to speak to it. The miracle could happen, namely water came out of the rock, but Moses could not step on the land of Canaan.

Nevertheless, Moses could stand on the mountain in the land of Canaan through the worship prayer. It means that Jesus is paying attention to, caring for, and struggling for us through the worship prayer so that there is power of resurrection to revive Moses until being able to step on the mountain in the land of Canaan. Through the power of resurrection, we can get the promise of God. He removes all impossibilities.

▪ **Elijah.**

1 Kings 19:1-4

19:1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.

19:2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

19:3 And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

19:4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!"

Elijah is the prophet who slaughtered four hundred and fifty false prophets. Nevertheless, he got disappointed in facing Jezebel, namely a woman who taught and had authority over men, or false teachings.

Through the worship prayer, the disappointment is changed into being strong and of good courage or keeping on holding fast and obeying the true teaching Word as well as worshipping God.

2 Kings 2:2,4,8,11

2:2 Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel.

2:4 Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they came to Jericho.

2:8 Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

2:11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

If we are obedient, the miracle will happen until we are lifted up to heaven.

As a result, God pays attention to us, cares for removing all impossibilities, gives beautiful successful future life, and perfects us to be lifted up to the glorious clouds.

Do not resist against God and work alone! Let us be obedient so that God works in our life.

God blesses you.