

General Service in Malang, September 12, 2010 (Sunday Morning)

Matthew 25:14-15

We were sinful but now we can minister God only because of His mercy and justice.

Matthew 25:16-30 is about **ATTITUDE TO TALENTS**.

The positive attitude was shown by the servant receiving five talents and the servant receiving two talents. Such attitudes are being faithful and good, being faithful and wise, being faithful and fervent in spirit, being faithful and sincere, being faithful and righteous. As a result, there is wage for present life up to the eternal one.

On the contrary, there are negative attitudes shown by the servant receiving one talent, i.e. **wickedness and laziness**.

Matthew 25:18,24-26,30

25:18 *"But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money."*

25:24 *"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed."*

25:25 *'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'*

25:26 *"But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed."*

25:30 *'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

1 John 3:11-12,15

3:11 *"For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,*

3:12 *not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous."*

3:15 *Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him."*

The wicked servant was as Cain who killed Abel. Both of them ministered God but Cain killed Abel, meaning he ministered with hatred, envy, bitterness, revenge, et cetera that showed that he did not have love to other people.

Proverbs 20:4

20:4 *"The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing."*

The lazy servant did not want to work because of winter. The winter means there is no love. Thus, the lazy servant is unfaithful in committing service and ministry to the Lord because of not loving God.

In short, the wicked and lazy servant is **the servant of God who has no love**.

Receiving the talents, let us minister with love!

Carnal men cannot have the love but we can receive it from God (it has been explained in Bible Study Service, September 9, 2010). Receiving the love from God, we have to keep it in our life.

The process of keeping the love of God is below:

1. Keeping the first love.

The first love is the love of Jesus on the cross to save sinful men, to replace them to heavenly kingdom.

Moses received two tablets of stone and Tabernacle or the pattern of heavenly kingdom on Mount Sinai.

The first love is shown in the Court of Tabernacle (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+court.html).

The signs of having the first love are below:

- a. Gate of Tabernacle (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+gate.html), referring to believing in Jesus through hearing the Word of God.

Acts 2:36-38,40

2:36 *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."*

2:37 *Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"*

2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

2:40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."

- b. Altar of Burnt Offering (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+altar+of+burnt+offerings.html), that is to say repenting or stopping sinning to return to the Lord.
- c. Brazen Laver (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+brazen+laver.html), that is to say water baptism, and Door of Tabernacle (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_door+of+tabernacle.html), referring to Holy Spirit Baptism. Meaning being renewed of water and of spirit.

The result is new life, i.e. **life in righteousness. This is the first love.**

Living without righteousness means there is no first love.

John 3:5-8

3:5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

3:6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

3:7 "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

3:8 "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Psalms 104:4

104:4 Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.

A renewed servant of God will become as **wind and fire.**

Being as the wind means bringing coolness to other people or the fragrance of Christ.

Being as the fire means being faithful and fervent in spirit in committing service and ministry as well as bringing warmth to other people.

Revelation 2:3-5,7

2:3 "and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.

2:4 "Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

2:5 "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place--unless you repent.

2:7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Having the first love, we will live in the atmosphere of paradise although we are still in the world.

2. Persevering in loving God.

Joshua 23:11

23:11. "Therefore take careful heed to yourselves, that you love the LORD your God.

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.

Meaning we have perseverance in committing three main services to the Lord as the three equipments in Holy Place of Tabernacle as follows:

- a. Golden Candlestick (in the days of Moses) (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_golden+candlestick.html) ->perseverance in fellowship (in the days of apostles or the first rain church) -->perseverance in committing General Service (at present in the last rain church).
- b. Table of Showbread (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_table+of+showbread.html) -->perseverance in the apostles' doctrine and the breaking of bread -->perseverance in committing Bible Study Service and Holy Communion.
- c. Golden Altar of Incense (https://www.gptkk.org/tabernacle_the+golden+altar+of+incense.html) -->perseverance in prayers -->perseverance in committing Prayer Service.

We have to persevere in committing the three main services for our own souls.

John 21:15-17

21:15. So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

21:16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

21:17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

Having the perseverance in committing the three main services, we experience the growth of our love to God and other people.

Peter, who had been great, did not have the love actually. He denied Jesus and cut the ear of Malkhus. Being shepherded (three times of the Lord's asking refers to three kinds of service in shepherding system), he grew in his love to other people and to God more than all things.

Acts 3:1,5-7

3:1. Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

3:5 So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

3:6 Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

3:7 And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

John 21:18-19

21:18 "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish."

21:19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

The result of loving other people and God is Peter's name is written in New Jerusalem. Our names are remembered by God, we are reckoned and cared by Him.

Revelation 21:14

21:14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

3. Having the perfect love.

Matthew 5:43-48

5:43. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

5:44 "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

5:45 "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

5:46 "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

5:47 "And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

5:48 "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect."

The perfect love is as the sun shining its light to the earth.

The practice of having it is real through loving our enemies and praying for the ones who persecute us.

The functions of the perfect love that is as the sun are below:

- a. To preserve us in the world which has many crises, where we live as if in the midst of fire and brimstone, and to protect us from all disasters in it.

Genesis 19:22-24

19:22 "Hurry, escape there. For I cannot do anything until you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

19:23 The sun had risen upon the earth when Lot entered Zoar.

19:24 Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens.

- b. To give us victory over all struggling, fear, anxiety, struggling in marriage, struggling for future life, up to our victory in struggling for entering heavenly kingdom.

Genesis 32:24,30-31

32:24. Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

32:31 Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.

- c. To renew us from carnal men to spiritual men.

Matthew 17:2

17:2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

The renewal of life begins with our not lying mouth. Lying, one has no love. On the contrary, the prayer of the upright is God's delight.

Proverbs 15:8

15:8. The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, But the prayer of the upright is His delight.

The miracle of God will happen as long as the sun shines its light.

God blesses you.