

Good Friday Service in Malang, April 06, 2012 (Friday Evening)

Matthew 26:69-75 is about **Peter denied Jesus**.

Peter denied Jesus three times as follows:

1. Verse 69-70: Peter denied Jesus of Galilee.
2. Verse 71-72: Peter denied Jesus of Nazareth.
3. Verse 73-75: Peter denied Jesus with cursing and swearing.

ad. 1. Peter denied Jesus of Galilee.

Matthew 26:69-70

26:69 Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee."

26:70 But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying."

Matthew 4:18-20

4:18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

4:19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

4:20 They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Peter was a fisherman in Galilee. Jesus also grew in Galilee.

Peter received the calling and election of the Lord to become the fisher of men by the Sea of Galilee.

Peter denied Jesus of Galilee means he denied the calling and election of God.

Why do we have to have the calling and election?

All men in the world have sinned and lost the glory of God since Adam and Eve were driven to the earth. They were naked and lived in the curse of sin to perish forever.

The sinful men have no ability to return to God, even they get far away from the Lord and perish forever.

The Lord is not willing that men He has created must perish forever. Therefore, Jesus comes to the world to call and elect the sinful to be justified and sanctified.

How can God call and elect?

Revelation 1:5-6

1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

1:6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Jesus must pour His blood to die on the cross to do these things.

1. To call us, the sinful, or to deliver us from sin **to justify us**.
2. To elect us or **to sanctify us** and to lift us up as priests and kings.

Thus, Jesus's death on the cross is to call and to elect us, the sinful, not the righteous or the holy people, to become priests and kings. The priests and kings are people who have ministry to serve and minister God.

What for does God call and elect us?

2 Peter 1:11

1:11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The calling and election of God are to exalt us to become priests and kings. It is the full right or ticket to enter eternal heavenly kingdom.

You who have ministered God should not deny the calling and election as Peter has done, or else the full right to enter heavenly kingdom will go away. Actually Peter had no chance to be helped but he still got it because he was shepherded and heard the crowing of the rooster. Peter could realize his fault and returned to the calling and ministry. As a result, he was saved.

Matthew 26:75

26:75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

So he went out and wept bitterly.

As long as we are shepherded, there is still a chance to return to the calling and election of God, so we may have the full right to enter heavenly kingdom.

God always gives the sinful wide chance to receive the calling and election, so we can return to paradise even we can enter eternal heavenly kingdom. The wide chance means we can receive the calling and election of God anywhere, anytime, and in any condition.

The calling of God happens from age to age as follows.

1. The age of Father God (from Adam to Abraham, approximately 2000 years) is represented by Abraham.

Genesis 12:1-2

12:1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.

12:2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

The proof of Abraham's receiving the calling and election of God is as follows.

- Getting out of country or getting out of the friendship of the world.

James 4:4

4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

The world with all its business, sorrows, amenities, friendship, et cetera makes the sons of God unfaithful in the service and ministry to Him.

Being unfaithful means being the enemy of God.

Thus, the proof of receiving the calling and election of God is faithfulness and fervency in spirit in the calling and election.

- Leaving the family, referring to the influence of flesh.

Romans 8:7

8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

The flesh with all its emotion, ambition, and lust, makes the sons of God disobedient to the will of God.

Being disobedient means being the enemy of God.

Thus, the proof of receiving the calling and election is obedience to the Word of God and ministering according to the command of God's Word.

- Leaving the father's house or leaving Satan/sins.
Satan is the father of liar.

Thus, the proof of receiving the calling and election of God is honesty.

One who receives the calling and election of God is **faithful, obedient, and honest.**

Genesis 12:2

12:2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

Genesis 24:1

24:1 Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.

As a result, we are blessed in the midst of curses in the world. We are blessed up to our old age even to our descendants and we can become blessings for other people.

Genesis 14:19-20

14:19 And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

14:20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

The key of the blessing of Abraham is we must remember when we receive the blessings that:

- The Lord is the Giver of blessings. We remember it through giving tithe as our profession that we have already been blessed by God and we live in the hand of God's mercy which never vanishes. The tithe (the number ten that is subtracted with one) results in the number nine, referring to the mercy of God.
- We remember other people who need.

2. The age of the Son of God (from Abraham to the first coming of Jesus) is represented by twelve disciples who were called and elected to become twelve apostles.

Luke 6:12-13,16

6:12 Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

6:13 And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:

6:16 Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

Why must twelve apostles be called and elected?

Revelation 21:12,14

21:12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

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

The number twelve refers to New Jerusalem, meaning as follows.

- Our ministry in the world must be in line with the pattern of New Jerusalem/Heavenly Kingdom/Tabernacle. The Church of God in the world is as Moses who was powerless in an ark of bulrushes on the river. Allowing the influence of the world to enter the Church equals to allowing water to enter the ark. Consequently, the ark will sink little by little.
- The direction or the goal of ministry to God is to enter New Jerusalem.

Be alert! There is Judas who became a traitor in the calling and election. Why?

- Judas kept the lust of money or wickedness sins. There must be uncleanness sins in it.
- Judas often heard strange voice. One who often hears strange voice will someday despise Jesus.

Matthew 26:14

26:14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests.

The strange voice is the voice which is not in line with Shepherding Word or bible. Eve heard the voice of serpent until she fell in sins. King Solomon heard the voice of his wives and he fell in sins. If one hears two kinds of teaching, someday he will choose the wrong one.

Hebrews 10:25-31

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.

10:28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

10:29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

10:30 For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people."

10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Being a traitor means leaving the godliness or being unfaithful doing the service and ministry.

The sin of not doing the service to God will increase and peak as follows.

- Habitual sin, that one does not do the service to God and there is no regret.
- Intentional sin, meaning one does not want to serve and minister God although there is great chance to do it. Someday he will have no chance to serve God.

The end of Judas' life was very terrible. His entrails gushed out, so all his life seemed bad without any good thing.

Judas went out and he was replaced by Matthias. Meaning God kept the number twelve. The ministry must be in the pattern of heavenly kingdom or Tabernacle to go toward the heavenly kingdom.

1 Timothy 4:8-10

4:8 *For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*

4:9 *This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.*

4:10 *For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.*

God fought for the number twelve and we also have to fight for the calling and election more than anything in the world. As a result, there is guarantee of the preservation from God for our present life, future and eternal one.

3. The age of Holy Spirit God (from Jesus's first coming to the second one) is represented by a colt.

Mark 11:1-2

11:1 *Now when they drew near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples;*

11:2 *and He said to them, "Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring it."*

The proof of the Gentiles receiving the calling and election of God is as follows.

- Being bound to the True Vine.

Genesis 49:11

49:11 *Binding his donkey to the vine, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine, He washed his garments in wine, And his clothes in the blood of grapes.*

Meaning we are shepherded to the true teaching Word as a branch attaining to the True Vine. It determines our life and death physically and spiritually. If the branch does not attain to the Vine, it will be dry little by little and it will never yield fruit.

The place we are bound determines our life direction, whether we are ridden by Jesus to go to New Jerusalem or by Balaam to go to Babylon.

- Being sanctified intensively and continually by these things.

- a. The true teaching Word, the Word Jesus has spoken or the Word that is revealed through a verse explaining another verse.

John 15:3

15:3 *"You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you."*

What must be sanctified from the Gentiles?

- Vain words, slander, et cetera (as tongue licking vomit) must be sanctified to become righteous words and blessings for other people.
- Repeated sinful deeds, falling and rising in sin (as swine wallowing in the mire of sin) must be sanctified to become righteous, good, and holy deeds.
- The characteristic of the Gentiles who are always in anxiety.

Matthew 6:31-34

6:31 *"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"*

6:32 *"For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things."*

6:33 *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."*

6:34 *"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."*

If we are sanctified from anxiety, we will be able to be faithful and we can live in righteousness.

- b. The sprinkling of blood or suffering in the flesh without any sin or death experience together with Jesus.

It can happen in our suffering to do the service and ministry to God or when we are slandered. Being in the death experience, do not repay slander for slander or evil for evil but repay good for evil.

We experience the sprinkling of blood until we face impossible matter. God lets it happen because of these purposes.

- The robe is dipped in blood, so Satan cannot strip us. We can keep our ministry until the end. We keep wearing the tunic of many colors of the ministry until Jesus comes a second time.
- We experience life renewal from carnal men to spiritual ones.

2 Corinthians 4:16

4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

We do not become disappointed and hopeless facing all things but we keep being strong and of good courage as well as believing and entrusting ourselves fully to God whatever risk may come.

If the Gentiles **believe and obey God**, they will become as donkeys Jesus rode. We place Jesus as the Head who rides us to lead us. It equals to lifting up our two hands to God and surrendering all things to Him. He will also stretch His merciful hand to embrace us.

The result is as follows.

- Jesus as the Head has been crowned with thorns. Jesus bears all heavy burdens, weariness, tears, sorrows, et cetera. His merciful hand is able to give us rest and peace to make all things easy and beautiful.
- Jesus as Heavenly Bridegroom is responsible to nourish and cherish us, His body.

Ephesians 5:28-29

5:28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

5:29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

Jesus as the Head has died on Golgotha, the hill of skull. He will also be responsible to preserve and protect us. We become as the chick under the wings of its hen. Jesus makes us warm and solves all our problems.

- Jesus sanctifies or cleanses us until we have no spot and we can welcome His second coming on glorious clouds.

Ephesians 5:25-27

5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

5:26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

God blesses you.