

Passover Service in Malang, April 05, 2015 (Sunday Morning)

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

Revelation 2-3 is about the seven times of the sprinkling of blood in front of the Ark of Covenant. It refers to the last sanctification to the seven churches of the Gentiles or the church in the last days, until we become perfect and blameless as Him. We are worthy to welcome His second coming on the glorious clouds.

Revelation 2:18-29 is about the church in Thyatira.

Revelation 2:18,23

2:18 And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:

2:23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

Jesus appears in two forms as follows.

1. His eyes are like a flame of fire, meaning the sanctification to the inner part.
2. His feet are like fine brass, meaning the judgment.

If those two are combined, Jesus appears with the eyes like a flame of fire and the feet like fine brass means He tests and sanctifies our heart and mind up to the deepest one (the kidney). Why is it like that?

Revelation 2:20-22

2:20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

2:21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

2:22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds.

It is to sanctify the church in Thyatira from destructive heresies.

2 Peter 2:1

2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

Celebrating the Passover is celebrating the resurrection of God. It is the proof that the last enemy, that is the death, has been beaten, and all the other enemies have been too.

The death is the source of all bad things, failure, uncleanness, evil, sadness, suffering, tears, impossibility, and perdition.

With the death and resurrection of Jesus as the proof that the death has been beaten, there is a new hope for us that there is nothing impossible for God, and that we can be perfect and as glorious as Him to welcome His second coming.

What is the relation between the resurrection of God and false teaching?

Matthew 28:11-15

28:11 Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened.

28:12 When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

28:13 saying, Tell them, His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept. 28:14 And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure.

28:15 So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

False testimony and false teaching try to obstruct the resurrection of Jesus or to prevent us from receiving His resurrection power.

1 Corinthians 15:17-18

15:17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!

15:18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

If we do not receive the resurrection power, our faith and belief are futile, and so are our following and ministry to Jesus. We will be destroyed forever.

There are three things that obstruct the resurrection of Jesus or prevent us from receiving His resurrection power (the power of the Passover) as follows.

1. [Matthew 28:11-15] False testimony or false teaching that is driven by the spirit of lie and selling-buying.

Although a servant of God preaches the true teaching, if he lies, sometime he will preach the wrong one. Although the congregation listen the true teaching, if they lie, sometime they will follow the wrong one. The same case will happen if there is the spirit of selling-buying, that is the bond of money that causes stinginess and greediness.

Judas Iscariot heard the true teaching from Jesus Himself. But since he stole the belonging of God, in the end he was no longer willing to hear His teaching. He preferred to hear the teaching of the chief priests and the elders, until he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. He was destroyed forever.

Acts 23:7-8

23:7 And when he had said this, a dissension arose between the Pharisees and the Sadducees; and the assembly was divided.

23:8 For Sadducees say that there is no resurrection and no angel or spirit; but the Pharisees confess both.

The form of false teaching that opposes the resurrection is the teaching of Sadducees that says that there is no resurrection, and no angel or spirit. It means that a man is only as an animal that has body and soul but no spirit. After men dies, there is no continuation.

1 Corinthians 15:32

15:32 If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me? If the dead do not rise, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!

The consequence is men live as the wild beast. They fall in sin concerning eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, consuming drugs) and marrying-being given in marriage (sexuality sin with all its variety, mix marriage, marrying-divorcing, free sex). It means they will be destroyed forever in the hell.

Romans 4:25

4:25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

The true teaching is Jesus dies to bear all our sins, and He is raised because of our justification so we live in righteousness. We die to our old life and are raised in the new life. We experience renewal towards the New Jerusalem.

Ephesians 4:24-26,28

4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

4:25 Therefore, putting away lying, let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.

4:26 Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath,

4:28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

The new man is as follows.

- Putting away lying. We say the words that are good, right, and become blessing to the others. We live in righteousness.
- Not getting angry without love until it causes hatred, moreover hatred without any reasons.
- Not stealing the belonging of God and the others. Let us become one who likes to give for the work of God and the others who are in need.

The Pharisees believe in resurrection, but they never experience the resurrection power.

Mark 10:1-2,11-12

10:1 Then He arose from there and came to the region of Judea by the other side of the Jordan. And multitudes gathered to Him again, and as He was accustomed, He taught them again.

10:2 The Pharisees came and asked Him, Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife? testing Him.

10:11 So He said to them, Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her.

10:12 And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.

The teaching of Pharisees permits marrying-divorcing. It is an adultery that will lead to perdition.

Mark 10:6-8

10:6 But from the beginning of the creation, God *made them male and female.*
 10:7 *For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,*
 10:8 *and the two shall become one flesh; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.*

The true teaching is a marriage must be right and holy, until it becomes one unity in flesh that cannot be separated by anyone. It is continued until we reach a bigger unity in the marriage supper of the Lamb of God, that is the spiritual marriage between Christ and the congregation.

- Being as an empty tomb, meaning the heart is empty and never satisfied.
 This kind of life always grumbles and gossips about bad matters. He also looks for fake satisfactions in the world through watching movies, attending parties, *et cetera*. The consequence is falling in sin up to its peak, that is sin concerning eating-drinking and marrying-being given in marriage, that is destructive. The satisfaction of the world is also inserted into the ministry so the ambience of the ministry equals to the one of the world.

- Always accusing the others.

John 20:15

20:15 Jesus said to her, *Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?* She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, *Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.*

One even judges Jesus and the true teaching Word. The consequence is he cannot judge himself, becomes weary and heavy laden.

- Weeping many times.

John 20:13

20:13 Then they said to her, *Woman, why are you weeping?* She said to them, *Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.*

It means experiencing problems that never end. The biggest problem is being separated from God and far from Him, or being dry spiritually. It is detected from dry words, that is the words that weaken the faith of the others or burn the emotion of the others. If this life is not helped, he will be destroyed forever.

2. Not understanding the resurrection power because of not understanding the true teaching Word or the shepherding Word.

John 20:1-2,9

20:1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

20:2 Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, *They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.*

20:9 For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.

The shepherding Word is the true teaching Word entrusted by God to a pastor, to be preached to the congregation faithfully, regularly, continuously, and repetitively. It becomes the food for the congregation to grow their spirituality until they are mature spiritually and perfect as Jesus.

Jesus preaches His death and resurrection repetitively. It is a shepherding Word. But the disciples do not understand and they forget it. It means they do not eat the shepherding Word and they are not right and well shepherded.

John 20:13-15

20:13 Then they said to her, *Woman, why are you weeping?* She said to them, *Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.*

20:14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.

20:15 Jesus said to her, *Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?* She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, *Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.*

One who is not right and well shepherded is close to false teaching and easily being deceived. God who has been raised is supposed as a ghost, and vice versa. This kind of life is always vacillated. He never becomes calm, but is always weary and heavy laden. He is neglected and there is none responsible for the salvation of his life.

The signs of one who is not right and well shepherded are as follows.

John 20:16

20:16 Jesus said to her, *Mary!* She turned and said to Him, *Rabboni!* (which is to say, Teacher).

The way out is Jesus is raised and says "Mary!" It means He preaches the true shepherding Word that is repeated. The preached shepherding Word is the private calling from Jesus the Great Shepherd to us.

John 10:3-4

10:3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

10:4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

We receive God's call when the shepherding Word points our sins and actual conditions. At that time, Jesus as the Great Shepherd knows our condition deeply. We also know Him deeply. Our attitude is confessing our sins and condition honestly to Him. We pray and worship Him. At that moment, the shepherding Word with the resurrection power will lead us out. The hands of God, with the print of the nails, with the resurrection power, are able to give us way out from every problem even the impossible one. The hands of God will erase all our tears and give us happiness.

3. A doubtful and unbelieving heart.

John 20:24-25

20:24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

20:25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

The faith of Thomas is caused by sight, so he is doubtful and not blessed.

John 20:29

20:29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

The right faith is caused by hearing and obeying the true teaching Word. Thus, we will be blessed.

John 3:18

3:18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

One who is doubtful and unbelieving will not be blessed. It means he is already in the cursed ambience or the one of the hell, up to the everlasting perdition.

John 11:14-15

11:14 Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead."

11:15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."

Lazarus is let die for four days so the disciples may believe. If we face something that is not nice even impossible, it is so that we may believe in Jesus who has been raised.

John 6:29

6:29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

God wants the ministry that is begun with faith and belief that Jesus has been raised. A ministry with doubt equals to doing sin.

Romans 14:23

14:23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

Faith means believing and being sure. Faith also means righteousness. We must minister with righteousness. A ministry without righteousness equals to doing sin.

John 7:6

7:6 Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready."

If God's time to help us has not come yet, there is always time for us to correct ourselves and our faults. Also, there is always time for us to learn to believe and fully surrender our life to Him. The condition of the woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years only got worse, but she learned to believe and fully surrender her life to God, until she could say, "If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well."

John 20:27

20:27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

Correcting ourselves and learning to believe and fully surrender our life to God equal to having fellowship with His death and resurrection. Thus, we will also have fellowship with His glory.

Daniel 3:16-18

3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

3:17 If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

3:18 But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

We will face false teaching, worship, and ministry. We will also face temptations and impossible problems as the fire that is heated seven times more than it was usually heated, up to the days of antichrist. We will face the cross or flesh suffering without any sins. When the temptations and sufferings increase, our faith and surrender must increase. It is until we have the perfect faith and become perfect as Jesus.

Daniel 3:24-25

3:24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."

3:25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

When we face temptations and sufferings, Jesus with the resurrection and glorious power will be with us.

- To give us happiness in the middle of suffering.
- To care and protect our body, soul, and spirit in the middle of difficulties and impossibilities in this world up to the days of antichrist, even forever. He is able to help Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego from the fire without any injuries.
- To give us beautiful and successful future.
- To renew our life little by little from the flesh man to the spiritual one as Him.
It is started with being honest and obedient to God. When He comes a second time, we will be renewed as perfect as Him and worthy to welcome Him on the glorious clouds.

God blesses us.