

Prayer Service in Malang, July 31, 2014 (Thursday Evening)

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

Mark 2:23-28

2:23 Now it happened that He went through the grainfields on the Sabbath; and as they went His disciples began to pluck the heads of grain.

2:24 And the Pharisees said to Him, "Look, why do they do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?"

2:25 But He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry, he and those with him:

2:26 how he went into the house of God in the days of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the showbread, which is not lawful to eat except for the priests, and also gave some to those who were with him?"

2:27 And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.

2:28 Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."

The Sabbath was made for man. **Sabbath means rest.**

There are three kinds of Sabbaths as follow:

1. The small Sabbath is the rest in Holy Spirit.
2. The big Sabbath is the rest at a thousand years kingdom of peace.
3. The eternal Sabbath is we are in New Jerusalem.

Why does God make Sabbath for man?

Matthew 11:28-30

11:28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

11:30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

For condition of man are in labor and heavy burden. If it is continued, man will not endure but get perdition forever. For that reason, God makes Sabbath so man can receive calmness, the rest, and everything becomes light and easy.

The causes of labor and heavy burden are as follows:

1. **Having no true teaching Word.**

Isaiah 50:4

50:4 "The Lord God has given Me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to hear as the learned.

The true teaching Word is the Word that is written in Bible, a verse is explained by another verse.

If we serve God but do not look for the true teaching Word, our condition will become weary, in labor, despair and heavy burden. The Word refers to the food. If one does not eat, he will be weak.

2. **Having no shepherd.**

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.

We must be shepherded in Jesus that is the true teaching Word. It is like branch that abides in the true vine. If we have no shepherd, we will be weak, in heavy burden, fall until get perdition forever.

Having no shepherd means not having perseverance in shepherding or three kinds of main service.

Psalms 38:3-4

38:3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger, nor any health in my bones because of my sin.

38:4 For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

The cause of a heavy burden is sin, fault, and transgression.

The condition of labor and heavy burden is striking all men. But God invites us in **Matthew 11:28**. The invitation of God refers to the conveying of the true teaching Word.

The contents of the true teaching Word are correction, rebuking, and encouraging. If we receive the invitation of God, we will experience the Sabbath and everything becomes light and easy. Our opportunity to hear the Word is the opportunity to be helped by God and experience the rest from Him.

The true teaching Word is connected with Sabbath as follows:

1. The small Sabbath.

If we obey the true teaching Word, Holy Spirit will lead, anoint, and fulfill our life so we live by Holy Spirit. It means we experience Sabbath.

At the age of Noah, the spirit of God left man because he disobeyed God. We must obey the Word so we can experience the small Sabbath.

Galatians 5:25-26

5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

5:26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

The signs of experiencing the rest in Holy Spirit as follows:

- Not being conceited, provoking one another, envying one another (if there is self-truth, ones will provoke one another).
- Not fulfilling the lust of the flesh [Galatians 5:16-21].

Galatians 5:16-17

5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

5:17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

- Doing the will of Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23

5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

5:23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

2. The big Sabbath.

If we obey the true teaching Word, we will enter the one thousand years Kingdom of peace.

Hebrews 4:11

4:11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

This is the warning for us; do not disobey the Word just like the Israel when they came out from Egypt to the land of Canaan. They listened to the Word but disobeyed it.

Psalms 95:8-11

95:8 Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, as in the day of trial in the wilderness,

95:9 When your fathers tested Me; they tried Me, though they saw My work.

95:10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation, and said, 'It is a people who go astray in their hearts, and they do not know My ways.'

95:11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'

Because of disobedience, Israel could not enter the place of rest.

Exodus 17:1-3

17:1 Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink.

17:2 Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, 'Give us water, that we may drink.' So Moses said to them, 'Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?'

17:3 And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, 'Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?'

The forms of disobedience of Israel were as follows:

- At Massah and Meribah, Israel contended with Moses. It happened because Israel kept the lust of the flesh. We do

not need to serve such kind of life. Contending signifies that the life has no rest.

- Repeating the sin.

Numbers 14:20-23

14:20 Then the Lord said: "I have pardoned, according to your word;

14:21 but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord."

14:22 because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice,

14:23 they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it.

At the age of Israel, only two people entered the rest. The rest of Israel liked to contend and repeat the sin. We must watch ourselves.

3. The eternal Sabbath or New Jerusalem.

Those who can enter the New Jerusalem are the life that is renewed. If we obey and practice the teaching Word, It will renew and change us from carnal men into spiritual ones.

Listening to the Word is the same as we look at ourselves with a mirror. At that time, we see two personas that is Jesus' persona in glory and ours in a lot of weakness. When we hear, understand, and practice the Word, the renewal happens so our face becomes glorious. For that reason, we must be grateful when the Word is conveyed.

In **Mark 2**, when the disciples began to pluck the heads of grain, Pharisees hindered them but God defended. **God is defending our life when the teaching Word is being conveyed. Let us learn and struggle to obey the teaching Word whatever the risk may come.**

God blesses us.