

Prayer Service in Malang, October 05, 2010 (Tuesday Evening)

Matthew 25:14-30 is about the parable of the talents.

Matthew 25:14-15 We were sinful but we can serve and minister God right now because of His mercy and justice.

Matthew 25:16-30 is about our attitudes to the talents. The positive one is being faithful and good to receive the wage of eternal joy. The negative one is being wicked and lazy which makes one's being cast into the outer darkness.

Matthew 25:16-30 is about **THE LORD'S ATTITUDE TO THE TALENTS.**

Matthew 25:19,27

25:19 "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

25:27 'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.

The Lord wants **the growth of the talents.**

At the beginning, He gave $5+2+1 = 8$ talents.

It points to eight people who were saved in Noah's ark or the salvation of bride.

Afterward, there was a growth in $5+2 = 7$ talents.

The figure 7 refers to the perfection of bride.

Thus, **the Lord wants the growth of our spirituality from the salvation of bride to the perfection of bride.**

Lot was the example.

He went out of Sodom and Gomorrah, referring to the salvation, but he had to escape to the mountain, referring to the perfection of bride. Lot refers to the servant receiving five talents and two talents who experienced the growth of talents. As a result, there was heavenly joy.

Genesis 19:16-17,26

19:16 And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.

19:17 So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

19:26 But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

On the other hand, his wife did not run to the mountain but looked back. Consequently, she became the pillar of salt which is useless like the servant receiving one talent.

Matthew 25:18,24-25,30

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.'

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

The servant receiving one talent hid the talent in the ground so there was no growth. He was wicked and lazy servant or unprofitable one.

Looking back = hiding talent in the ground.

Meaning one is influenced by the world with the lust of eye, the lust of flesh, and the pride of life, which result in disobedience to the Word of God or the true teaching Word.

The commandments of God are never too hard to do. The influence of the world makes it is hard to do.

1 John 5:3-4

5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

Luke 17:32

17:32 "Remember Lot's wife.

There are many priests and servants of God becoming like Lot's wife in the last days because of not obeying the true teaching Word. Consequently, they are called as wicked and lazy servants, unprofitable servants, and cast into the outer darkness to perish forever.

The greatness of the ministry is not the quality to enter heavenly kingdom but the obedience to the true teaching Word.

Matthew 7:21-23

7:21. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

7:22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

Peter was a great servant of God but he could not be obedient. How about us? We have to observe this thing solemnly.

John 21:3,7

21:3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing.

21:7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea.

Peter was naked, and ashamed because he caught nothing. He would have been cast into the outer darkness if the condition had continued.

John 21:4-6

21:4 But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

21:5 Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No."

21:6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

Nevertheless, the Lord still gives His mercy to His unprofitable servants.

He helps through His presence in the true teaching Word which is sharper than any two-edged sword.

He asked about their failure. Similarly, the true teaching Word points to our sins and condition. Do not be angry or reject it at that time or else we only go to perdition.

The true teaching Word will not be suitable to our logic and will, seeing that they were commanded to cast their net at noon day.

The right attitude is **being obedient to the true teaching Word whatever risk may come**.

As a result, we have the power of God as follows:

1. **Power of creation:** from no fish to many fish.

John 21:11

21:11 Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken.

The power of creation preserves us although we are powerless in the middle of difficulties in the world. Education certificate, experience, at cetera cannot face the world. The power of creation can create from nothing to something, from impossible to possible, and solve all our problems.

2. **Power of life renewal.**

The renewal of life is from carnal men to new men.

There were 153 fish caught.

The figure 3 refers to the renewal of our body, soul, and spirit.

Ephesians 4:21-25

4:21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:
4:22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,
4:23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,
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.

The fact found in the renewal is not lying.

Ephesians 4:11-12

4:11 And He Himself gave some to be (1) apostles, some (2) prophets, some (3) evangelists, and some (4) pastors and (5) teachers,
4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

After being renewed, there will be figure 5, meaning we are employed by God in the ministry of building Christ's body with the consecration and gifts from the Lord.

One will never be employed by God as long as s/he keeps on lying!

Ephesians 4:15-16

4:15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ--
4:16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Not lying, there is oneness in the perfect body of Christ, oneness between the body and its Head, or the oneness between Heavenly Bridegroom and His Bride. We rejoice forevermore.

God blesses you.