

Youth Christmas Service in Malang, December 19, 2015 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 9:28-36 is about Jesus Transfigured on the Mount.

Luke 9:28-29

9:28. Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray.

9:29. As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

The result of prayer is the glory, namely renewing of life from carnal men to spiritual ones like Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:50

15:50. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

We must experience the renewal of life because flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, but perdition.

How can sinful flesh and blood men experience the renewal of life like Jesus? Through Christmas. It means God who is Spirit has been born to become the same as human in Jesus' life, so the sinful flesh and blood men can be changed to become as glorious as God and we are worthy to inherit the kingdom of God.

We experience the renewal of life through **prayer**. Christmas (the birth of Jesus) is also linked with prayer.

There are 2 kinds of prayer on Christmas day as follows:

1. The worship of Herod. It is the same as false worship.

Matthew 2:7-8, 13

2:7. Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.

2:8. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

2:13. Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him."

The signs of the false worship are as follows:

- It is driven by false teaching and without the anointing of Holy Spirit, but relies on flesh power only, namely cleverness, riches, *et cetera*.
- We do not experience the renewal of life, but keep flesh men, namely lie and hatred.
- Watching physical signs only that guide to the worship of antichrist.

Revelation 13:11-13

13:11. Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

13:12. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13:13. He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

2. The worship of wise men. It is the same as true worship.

John 4:23-24

4:23. "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

4:24. "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

The signs of the true worship are as follows:

- It is driven by true teaching word and the anointing of Holy Spirit.

Matthew 2:2-5

2:2. saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

2:3. When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

2:4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

2:5. So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

The worship of wise men is driven by star (Holy Spirit) and the prophet (the true teaching word).

Without the true teaching word, Holy Spirit will become flesh spirit, so we will get lost and come to Herod (Satan).

The word without Holy Spirit will get lost too.

The true teaching word in the anointing of Holy Spirit will guide us to the true worship.

The worship of wise men guides to Jesus as King of kings, the Bridegroom of Heaven, and the Head [verse 2].

Revelation 19:6-7

19:6. And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

19:7. "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

It is the same as worshipping with the voice 'Alleluia'.

- Experiencing the renewal of life from carnal men to spiritual ones like Jesus. It is the same as three kinds of gifts from wise men.

Matthew 2:11

2:11. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

- **The gold.** It refers to tested faith.

1 Peter 1:6-7

1:6. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

1:7. that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

The practice of the tested faith is we keep believing and hoping God when we are against trial or difficulty. We keep holding fast the true teaching word and obey God.

When we are in trial or difficulty, it is the time to humble our life as low as we can and hear the true teaching word.

The obedience to the teaching word which is often unreasonable is the way out from all problems.

- **Frankincense.** The color is white. It refers to holiness, especially purification of heart from evil and unclean desire.

The evil desire is the will of money that makes one stingy (one cannot give) and greedy (one robs others' and God's).

The unclean desire is sin of eating-drinking (smoking, getting drunk, and drug abuse) and marrying-giving in marriage (sexual sin with all of its kinds, false marriage).

Living in holiness is the same as producing fragrance, so we please God.

We can be used by God to testify about good news to people who have not believed in Him, so they believe Him and are saved.

We also testify about bride tidings to people who have believed God, so they can be purified until perfected.

- **Myrrh.** It refers to the blood of Jesus.

The myrrh is the same as sap that is obtained from the myrrh tree that is wounded.

It refers to Jesus who was wounded on the cross to drip the blood of redemption.

Revelation 14:2-5

14:2. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

14:3. They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

14:4. These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

14:5. And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

We are redeemed by the blood of Jesus until there is no deceit. It is the same as being **honest**. Saying yes if yes and no if no. Starting from honesty about God (the true teaching word, ministry, and worship). We are honest to confess our sin, namely confessing and forgiving one another.

Matthew 2:12

2:12. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

If we worship Jesus as the King of kings by presenting gold (**obedience**), frankincense (**holiness**), and myrrh (**honesty**), God will give the new way or the way without Herod (Satan).

The results are as follows:

1. God makes a way in the sea.

Isaiah 43:15-17

43:15. I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King."

43:16. Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea And a path through the mighty waters,

43:17. Who brings forth the chariot and horse, The army and the power (They shall lie down together, they shall not rise; They are extinguished, they are quenched like a wick):

God gives the way out the we never think about. God is able to give the way out from all of our impossible problems. God is able to give successful, beautiful, and happy future.

God is able to give extra power. The bruised reed will stand upright again. The smoking flax will be burning again

God is able to recover everything in our life.

2. God purifies and uses us.

Isaiah 6:4-8

6:4. And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

6:5. So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

6:6. Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.

6:7. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."

6:8. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

Isaiah is a man of unclean lips, and he dwells in the midst of a people of unclean lips. But God wants to purify him, so he can be sent by Him.

3. God makes a way to Paradise.

The criminal who was crucified beside Jesus is the image of failed life. He was like the bruised reed and smoking flax. But by confessing his sin, God is able to recover him physically and spiritually until He opens the door of Paradise.

When Jesus comes a second time, we will be lifted up to the glorious clouds. We enter Paradise until the eternal kingdom of Heaven.

God blesses us.

