

Youth Service in Malang, September 12, 2015 (Saturday Evening)

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

We still discuss about Luke 9:22-27.

Verse 22 refers to the direction of our following to enter the building of the perfect body of Christ or New Jerusalem.

Do not follow God just to be rich, clever, *et cetera*, but to enter New Jerusalem or the eternal kingdom of Heaven.

Luke 9:23-27

9:23. *Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.*

9:24. *"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.*

9:25. *"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?*

9:26. *"For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.*

9:27. *"But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the kingdom of God."*

The terms of our following to Jesus are as follows:

1. **One has to deny himself.** It means saying "no" to everything that is not pleasing before God.
2. **One has to take up his cross.** It means one crucifies the flesh with all of its lusts and desires until it does not sound anymore and we do not sin anymore.

King Saul hated David without a reason; even he had been helped by David to fight against Goliath. Consequently, King Saul always tried to kill and harm David.

On the contrary, David got two chances to kill Saul, but he did not want to do it.

It means **David denied himself and took up his cross.**

Why is it so? Because David appreciated the anointing on Saul.

I Samuel 24:2-7a

24:2. *Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats.*

24:3. *So he came to the sheepfolds by the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to attend to his needs. (David and his men were staying in the recesses of the cave.)*

24:4. *Then the men of David said to him, "This is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it seems good to you.'" And David arose and secretly cut off a corner of Saul's robe.*

24:5. *Now it happened afterward that David's heart troubled him because he had cut Saul's robe.*

24:6. *And he said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD."*

24:7a. *So David restrained his servants with these words, and did not allow them to rise against Saul.*

I Samuel 26:7-9

26:7. *So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and there Saul lay sleeping within the camp, with his spear stuck in the ground by his head. And Abner and the people lay all around him.*

26:8. *Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not have to strike him a second time!"*

26:9. *And David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD'S anointed, and be guiltless?"*

Every servant of God who wants to deny himself and take up his cross will **experience the anointing even infilling of Holy Spirit.**

One who experiences the anointing of Holy Spirit (one denies himself and takes up his cross) has the following practices:

1. **Walking in the spirit.**

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.

It means we do not follow our flesh desire, so we can obey the word of God or God's will.

Psalms 119:105

119:105. NUN. Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

The result is the word of God becomes a lamp to our feet, so we will never stumble, fall, or be ruined both physically and spiritually.

The word of God also becomes a light to our path. It means the word of God gives certain way to New Jerusalem, the city of light, and we do not perish.

Be careful! Our attitude to the word determines our fate.

2. Being Led by the Spirit.

Galatians 5:18-21

5:18. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

5:19. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

5:20. idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

5:21. envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

It means Holy Spirit puts to death the works of the flesh or sinful deeds, so we can live in righteousness.

Romans 8:13

8:13. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Living for righteousness means one lives in righteousness and becomes instrument of righteousness, namely becoming the servant of God who serves Him faithfully and correctly.

Proverbs 10:2-3

10:2. Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, But righteousness delivers from death.

10:3. The LORD will not allow the righteous soul to famish, But He casts away the desire of the wicked.

The result is we are delivered from death, we receive eternal life and we are taken care of abundantly. We do not lack, but give thanks always.

3. Living in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-26

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.

5:24. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

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.

It means we crucify all of flesh desires and lusts until it does not sound anymore.

The characters of flesh are as follows:

- Becoming conceited. If the flesh is crucified, we can honor one another.
- Provoking one another even God. If the flesh is crucified, we will feel that we need others and God.
- Envying one another. If the flesh is crucified, we will love one another.

If we walk, are led, and live by the Spirit, we will yield nine fruits of Holy Spirit and they are as follows:

- **Love, joy, peace.** They are the images/characters of God the Father.
- **Longsuffering, kindness, goodness.** They are the images/characters of Son of God.
- **Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.** They are the images/characters of Holy Spirit God.

If we walk, are led, and live by the Spirit, we receive the fruits of the Spirit. We are returned to the image of God the Trinity and we become new creation.

When does the formation of character happen (receiving the fruits of the Spirit)? It happens when we are hard pressed, oppressed, *et cetera*. When we are hard pressed, our real characteristic will come up.

We must keep silent and correct ourselves until we can confess that we are just mortar. We are unworthy, incapable, and worthless, but only deserve to be trampled.

The result is the mortar is in the hand of Holy Spirit to be formed and created to become new creation.

Holy Spirit's hand also performs physical miracle. Failure becomes success, nothing can be changed into something, and impossible thing becomes possible.

Until Jesus comes a second time, we are changed to become as glorious as Him and meet Him on the glorious clouds. We enter the One Thousand Years Kingdom of Peace until New Jerusalem.

God blesses us.