

Youth Service in Malang, September 23, 2017 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 11:37-54 is about 'Woe to the Pharisees and Lawyers'

Luke 11:37-39

11:37. And as He spoke, a certain Pharisee asked Him to dine with him. So He went in and sat down to eat.

11:38. When the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that He had not first washed before dinner.

11:39. Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness.

The Pharisees and Lawyers only prioritize the physical thing in their ministry and do not prioritize the word of God, so they are fulminated by God with six times of 'woe'. We learn the fourth one.

Luke 11:45-46

11:45. Then one of the lawyers answered and said to Him, "Teacher, by saying these things You reproach us also."

11:46. And He said, "Woe to you also, lawyers! For you load men with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

The fourth 'woe' is that the Lawyers load men with burdens hard to bear, but they themselves do not touch the burdens with one of their fingers.

There are two kinds of burden as follows:

1. The spiritual burden, namely one preaches the hard word, but he himself does not do it. It means that he does not love God.
2. The physical burden, namely one torments others, including the youth torments his parents. It means that he does not love others.

So, the ministry of the Pharisees and Lawyers is without love or two tablets of stone. They do not have love to God and others, and their lives are without love too.

Without love, all things will become in vain and perish forever.

The example of the servant of God who lives without love is Peter, a senior and great man. As a young man, we must be watchful, so our ministry will not become in vain.

The facts of Peter's life who is without love are as follows:

1. He stretched out his hand to **cut off Malchus' right ear** with a sword. It is the same as not loving others.

John 18:10

18:10. Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

2. He stretched out his hand to **take Jesus aside**. He did not want to bear the cross. It is the same as not loving God.

Matthew 16:21-23

16:21. From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.

16:22. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"

16:23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

Peter took Jesus aside means that he did not want to be shepherded.

3. He **denied Jesus** three times. It is the same as not loving God.

Luke 22:56-62

22:56. And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him."

22:57. But he denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him."

22:58. And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!"

22:59. Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean."

22:60. But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.

22:61. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

22:62. So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

That is why **we must always testify** all things that Jesus has helped and done in our lives, so we do not deny God.

The conclusion is that the ministry of Peter was **without love**. Consequently, he became the same as Satan who will be destroyed forever.

But by the mercy of God, Peter was still helped by the crow of rooster that made him weep bitterly. The crow of rooster refers to the repeated shepherding word.

Peter realized about two things as follows:

1. He realized that his life was without love, so **he denied God**. He sinned up to the peak.
Sinning is the same as making burden, namely weariness, heavy burden and sadness. Peter realized his sin, so he could confess it to God and others, and he was forgiven by the blood of Jesus.

God's sight is the merciful one. When we hear the repeated word that shows our sin, God is seeing us with His mercy, so we can realize, regret, and confess sin, and we are forgiven. All labor, the punishment and curse of sin will be taken away.

2. He realized that his life was without love, so **he did not want to be shepherded**.

John 21:15-17

21:15. So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

21:16. He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

21:17. He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

God instructed Moses to make the Tabernacle, so on earth as it is in heaven.

There are three places in the Tabernacle namely the court (salvation), the holy place (holiness), and the most holy place (perfection).

We have already been saved, but have not been perfected yet, so our position is in the holy place. There are three tools in the holy place that refer to the perseverance in committing three kinds of service as follows:

- The golden candlestick= perseverance in committing general service. We have fellowship with Holy Spirit God in His gifts.
- The table of showbread= perseverance in committing bible study service and holy communion. We have fellowship with Son of God in the true teaching word and Christ's sacrifice.
- The golden altar of incense= perseverance in committing prayer service. We have fellowship with God the Father in His love.

Petrus realized that he did not persevere in the sheepfold, so his body, soul and spirit had no relation with God the Trinity, and he denied Jesus three times. Peter became unhappy. He was in weariness, heavy burden, toil, tears up to perdition forever.

Through the repeated shepherding word, Peter realized his sin and he wanted to be shepherded truly and well.

John 21:18-19

21:18. "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish."

21:19. This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

The sheepfold was the place to purify Peter and grow his spirituality to maturity, so he could stretch out his hand. It means as follows:

- Being obedient until our flesh does not sound anymore.
- Peter willingly suffered in his life or bore the cross with God. Peter also willingly stretched out his hand to others. He never harmed others but became blessing.

Acts 3:6-7

3:6. Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

3:7. And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

Peter could love others as he loved himself, even he could love his enemy. Peter returned good for evil.

Peter could stretch out his hands to God and others and God stretched out His hands to him. It will happen also now for us.

The results are as follows:

- Peter was lifted up from his fall.
We are lifted up from the fall in sin up to the peak, and failures. We are restored so we can live in righteousness and holiness.
- We are used in the ministry of the building of the body of Christ. It starts from marriage. As a young man, we can obey our parents. Further, we are used in the ministry in the shepherding, inter-shepherding until the Israelites and Gentiles become one perfect body of Christ to greet Jesus when He comes a second time.
- We are lead by Jesus to the New Jerusalem.

Revelation 7:17

7:17. "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

We experience the biggest miracle, namely the renewal from fleshly men to spiritual ones like Jesus. It starts from **honesty** to confess our sin. Say yes if yes and no if no. As a result, God will finish all of our problems up to the impossible ones.

God will wipe away every teardrop of our eyes and He gives us beautiful and successful future. The last miracle is that we are changed to become as perfect as He is when He comes a second time.

God blesses us.