

Youth Service in Surabaya, March 09, 2013 (Saturday Evening)

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

Luke 3:21-22

3:21. *When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened.*

3:22. *And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."*

Jesus is innocent man, even He does not know sin. Actually, **Jesus does not need to be baptized.**

But, why must Jesus be baptized?

1. For doing God's will.

Matthew 3:15-16

3:15. *But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.*

3:16. *When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.*

2. For giving us example about right water baptism.

Water baptism comes from word "baptiso", which means **being dived/buried in the water**. So, in the water baptism, people who already died to sins are buried/dived in the water as Jesus does.

After Jesus is baptized in the water, heavens are opened and a voice comes from heaven, saying "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased".

It means, Jesus is recognized as the Son of God who is sealed by the Holy Spirit.

John 3:5

3:5. *Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

We have to be baptized by water and spirit too, that we can enter into Kingdom of Heaven.

If we are just born by physical mother, but are not reborn by water and spirit, we cannot enter into Kingdom of Heaven.

John 3:6-8

3:6. *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

3:7. *"Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"*

3:8. *"The **wind** blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

The practise of being born again by water and spirit is becoming like wind and fire, same as God's minister.

Psalm 104:4

104:4. *Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a **flame of fire**.*

1. **The Wind.**

Philippians 2:5-8

2:5. *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,*

2:6. *who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,*

2:7. *but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.*

2:8. *And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*

The wind is the ministers of God who **make themselves of no reputation** as Jesus who has but feels nothing.

It means that we **do not rely on anything from the world**, that we can totally obey until our flesh does not sound

anymore.

If we still rely on something from the world, we will resist much more for sure.

The minister of God who is as the wind will **bring peace and coolness**.

We also bring **Jesus' fragrance** as our Savior (to save people who have not known God) and Jesus' fragrance as the Groom (bride tidings).

2. The flame of fire.

Exodus 3:2-5

3:2. And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a **flame of fire** from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed.

3:3. Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

3:4. So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

3:5. Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

The flame of fire is the minister of God who **experiences purification** by fire of true teaching Word, that we can appear as baby.

Baby is **life with holiness in heart and mind**, whose deed, word, and whole life are holy. Baby's word is **crying only**, that is worshipping God. If we **use our mouth to cry so much** (to worship God), we do not speak sin too much. Otherwise, if we do not worship God too much, surely we will say lots of sin.

Romans 12:11

12:11. not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

The flame of fire is God's minister who is **annointed by Holy Spirit**, that we can be faithful and fervent in spirit in ministry to God.

The minister of God who is holy, faithful, and fervent in spirit is like the flame of fire.

God's eyes are like a flame of fire.

Revelation 1:14

1:14. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;

So, the minister of God who is holy, faithful and fervent in spirit is the apple of God's eye.

The minister of God who is like the wind and the flame of fire will **experience opened heaven**, that our view is only to Jesus the High Priest who sits at the right hand of the Father God.

Otherwise, **Jesus as the High Priest will look at us too**, care, understand and struggle with us.

The results as follows:

1. The High Priest bears all of our weakness, labor and heavy burden, that we experience relief and all things become easy and light.

Hebrews 4:14-15

4:14. Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

4:15. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

2. The High Priest is able to help us and finish all impossible problems right on His time.

Hebrews 4:16

4:16. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

If God has not helped us yet, it means that we are taught to be patient for waiting the time of God and totally surrendering to Him.

3. The High Priest is able to purify and change us from carnal men to spiritual men as He is.

Hebrews 12:2

12:2. looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The renewal starts from being strong and of good courage always, not being disappointed and desperate.

Being strong and of good courage means we only trust and commit ourselves to God, worshipping God a lot.

The more we are renewed and purified, our future will be more beautiful. We are changed and purified until perfect as Jesus is when He comes a second time and we experience the top of happiness in the marriage supper of the Lamb of God.

God blesses us.