

## MENANTIKAN NATAL

source from *Renungan Harian*

### **Ayat bacaan: Lukas 2:25**

*“Adalah di Yerusalem seorang bernama Simeon. Ia seorang yang benar dan saleh yang menantikan penghiburan bagi Israel. Roh Kudus ada di atasnya.”*

Bulan Desember merupakan bulan yang paling banyak dinanti oleh banyak orang. Ya, bulan Desember selalu mengingatkan orang bahwa Natal dan Tahun Baru akan segera tiba. Sejak kecil saya juga selalu menikmati hari-hari menjelang Natal dimana terdapat suasana yang penuh dengan kasih, kehangatan, sukacita dan damai sejahtera ketika mengingat akan kelahiran Yesus.

Banyak orang menunggu datangnya Natal dengan beragam motivasi yang berbeda. Natal seringkali dihubungkan dengan sale atau discount besar-besaran, meningkatkan omzet perusahaan, liburan panjang, pesta yang meriah dengan teman-teman dan relasi kantor, serta berbagai macam alasan lainnya. Seringkali keceriaan

dan kemeriahan sesaat itu berlalu dengan begitu cepat sehingga kita kehilangan makna dari Natal yang sesungguhnya.

Apabila ada seorang tokoh dalam Alkitab yang sangat menanti akan datangnya Natal, maka orang itu adalah Simeon. Setelah menanti bertahun-tahun akan janji kedatangan Mesias, Simeon sangat bersukacita ketika raja yang dinantikan itu akhirnya lahir dan berada dalam pengkuannya. Seluruh penantiannya seakan terbayar lunas saat dalam usianya yang sangat lanjut, ia dapat berjumpa dengan bayi Yesus yang ditunggunya selama ini.

Tanpa terasa kita telah memasuki bulan Desember dan hari-hari menjelang Natal. Akan terdapat bermacam-macam kesibukan yang segera dihadapi. Apakah yang sesungguhnya Anda tunggu? Kiranya penantian Anda tidak sia-sia.

**Agar Natal menjadi bermakna, berilah Kristus tempat utama di hati Anda.**

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*“Our thoughts and words are like the rudder of a ship—they may seem small, but they affect the direction of our lives.” ~ Joyce Meyer*

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*“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the and the blind can see.”*  
**Mark Twain**

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## be PERFECT!

### **Matius 5:48**

*“Karena itu haruslah kamu sempurna, sama seperti Bapamu yang di sorga adalah sempurna”*

### **Matthew 5:48**

*“Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your father in heaven is perfect” (NKJV)*



## KESALAHAN YANG SEMPURNA

Source from <http://giajemursarisurabaya.blogspot.com>

Pekerjaan ayah dari ibu saya adalah seorang tukang kayu. Suatu hari, dia membuat peti untuk mengirim pakaian dari gerejanya dan dikirim ke sebuah panti asuhan di China. Dalam perjalanan pulang, dia mencari kacamata di kantongnya, tetapi dia tidak menemukannya.

Ketika dia mencoba mengingatnya kembali, dia sadar kalau kaca matanya jatuh dan masuk ke dalam salah satu peti dan peti itu sudah dipakunya. Kaca matanya yang baru beli sekarang berangkat bersama baju-baju ke China.

Kakek saya mengalami depresi yang besar. Saat itu dia memiliki 6 orang anak. Dia sudah menabung untuk kacamata senilai USD 20 itu setiap pagi. Dia sedih mengingat harus membeli sebuah lagi. *"Itu tidak adil,"* dia berbicara kepada Allah saat mengendarai mobil menuju rumah dengan frustrasi. *"Aku sudah beriman memberikan waktu dan uang untuk pekerjaanMu, dan sekarang seperti ini."*

Beberapa bulan kemudian, direktur dari panti asuhan berlibur dan berada di United States. Dia ingin mengunjungi semua gereja yang membantunya di China, jadi dia berbicara di hari Minggu di gereja kakek saya yang kecil di Chicago. Misionari tersebut mengawali dengan ucapan terima kasih untuk iman dalam membantu panti asuhan. *"Tetapi, dari semuanya,"* dia mengatakan, *"Saya harus berterima kasih untuk kaca mata yang dikirim tahun lalu. Anda tahu Komunis membersihkan panti asuhan, mereka merusak*

*semuanya, termasuk kaca mata saya. Saya sangat putus asa. Walaupun saya memiliki uang, tetapi tidak dapat membeli yang baru. Karena tidak dapat melihat dengan jelas, saya sering mengalami sakit kepala setiap hari. Jadi saya dengan staff secara sehati berdoa untuk ini. Dan ketika peti kiriman datang. Saat staff saya membuka tutupnya, mereka menemukan sebuah kaca mata ada di posisi atas."*

Misionari berdiam cukup lama, dan melanjutkan ceritanya. *"Sahabatku, saat saya mencoba memakai kaca mata, sepertinya memang buat saya! Saya ingin berterima kasih pada anda yang telah menjadi bagian dari pelayanan ini."*

Orang-orang mendengarkan dan gembira pada mujizat kaca mata. Tetapi bagi sang misionari merasa aneh, karena tidak ada di dalam list pengiriman. Dengan duduk diam, dan air mata mengalir di wajahnya, seorang tukang kayu biasa menyadari bahwa Boss tukang kayu telah menggunakannya dengan cara yang ajaib.

Seringkali kita menyalahkan Tuhan sebagai ganti bersyukur padanya. Mungkin kita harus berusaha mengatakan *"Terima kasih Tuhan untuk membuat mobil saya tidak berjalan."* Mungkin dia menyelamatkan kita dari kecelakaan di jalan raya. *"Terima kasih Tuhan, karena Kau membiarkan saya kehilangan kaca mata; saya yakin mereka akan digunakan dengan baik dan ada yang dapat dipelajari."*

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*"Make no judgments where you have no compassion." ~ Anne McCaffrey*

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*"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness." ~ Mother Teresa*

## **GOD MAKES ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD**

Source from *Daily Grace Inspirations From Joseph Prince Ministries*

### **Romans 8:28**

*“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”*

In this verse, “*all things*” is literally all things — the good, the bad and the ugly! Now, it does not mean that all things are from God. Some things, such as accidents, sicknesses, broken relationships and divorces are not from Him. They are from the devil or just part of the fallen world that we live in. But what this verse does tell us is that “*all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose*”. That is our inheritance as God’s beloved children.

Do the people of the world have this inheritance? No. When bad things happen to them, they are what they are — bad things. But when bad things happen to the children of God, it does not end there. God can make those bad things work together for good. In other words, the devil may throw lemons at you, but God can take those lemons and make refreshing lemonade for you!

For example, if you have been retrenched, believe that God, who makes all things work together for good, has a better job for you. Indeed, we have received testimonies from church members who have ended up with better jobs and higher salaries after they were retrenched.

It is important you remember that God is not behind anything bad or ugly. But when those things happen, know that He can make all things work together for good. And don’t let anyone tell you that all things will work together for good only if you love God and are called according to His purpose. These two things are not conditions but descriptions of believers. Believers are those who love God because they know that God first loved them. (1 John 4:19) And they are called according to His purpose for they have been born again and belong to Him.

My friend, because you have been born again, all things in your life will work together for good. This is your inheritance as a beloved child of God!

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## **GOD’S PERFECT PLAN FOR US**

source from *Renungan Harian Kita*

### **Jeremiah 29:11 NIV**

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

I recently had an interesting discussion with a family member who said that he wasn’t convinced that God had a perfect plan for every believer. I begged to differ with him. The

promise above belongs to every child of God, and it’s important that all of us believe it and live each day of our lives as though it’s true. If we don’t, we are at risk of spending a lifetime trying to figure out where we should go, what we should do and who we should be with. God told the prophet Jeremiah, “*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to*

*the nations.*" (Jeremiah 1:5 NIV) Our call may be different from Jeremiah's, but it's just as important for us to fulfill our purpose as it was for Jeremiah to fulfill his. We are not called to duplicate or imitate anyone else in this life. We are called to become all that God has destined US to be. When we hand God the "steering wheel" of our lives--giving Him complete control--He begins to unveil His plans for us one step at a time. He usually doesn't reveal the "big picture" to us all at once because we'd either become fearful or have an attitude that says, "Okay, God-I can take it from here!" The Lord knows that we need His constant help, so He wisely encourages our dependence on Him.

So why are so many believers afraid of surrendering themselves to God? Perhaps they are afraid that the Lord would ask them to do something they despise, or something that doesn't fit their idea of success. The truth is that we can never be truly happy or successful apart from fulfilling our God-given purpose. Suppose the Lord created you to be a bus driver. He could abundantly supply all your needs, and fill your life with real purpose and meaning as a bus driver, simply because that's your God-given call in life. But suppose you decide you don't want to be a bus driver--you'd rather be a teacher. So you go through all of the expense and training of becoming a teacher, and you never find true peace, joy or satisfaction because you're living your life doing something that God never created you to do. There's always something missing in your life, and you can't deny the emptiness you feel every time you have to face a new day. The truth of the matter is that because God called you to be a bus driver, He has equipped you to enjoy being one. You surely won't enjoy every aspect of your call, but it doesn't matter so much because you have a deep-down satisfaction in your soul that says, "This feels right for me." Sadly, a lot of believers

don't follow their God-given call simply because of what other people might say or think. Then they wonder why they aren't experiencing the abundant life that Jesus died to give them.

Ephesians 2:10 NIV says, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." When God designed you, He equipped you with everything you would need to fulfill your God-given purpose. He's given you gifts and skills that He wants to help you develop over the course of your life. If you ask Him what they are, He'll show you. He may direct you to get some special education or training, or He may not. The key to fulfilling your God-given call is to seek the Lord DAILY. Don't wait until you're at a crossroads in your life, having to make an important decision that will affect your whole future. If you do, chances are that you will significantly delay receiving the rich rewards God has in store for you. Hebrews 11:6 says: "You can never please God without faith, without depending on him. Anyone who wants to come to God must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely look for him." If you live your life depending on God's wisdom, guidance and grace daily, you can count on Him to lead you in the path of His greatest blessings. The truth is that there is NO WAY for us to improve on God's perfect plan for our lives. The sooner we get ahold of this truth, the sooner we can begin cooperating with Him to bring it to pass in our lives--and the sooner we can begin reaping His blessed rewards!

Lord, I believe that You created me for a special purpose, and that You have a perfect plan for my life. I ask that You fulfill Your purpose for me, and help me to do my part by earnestly seeking You daily through prayer and Your Word. Thank You that as I seek You each day, You will "guide me along the best pathway for my life!" (Psalm 32:8 NLT)

## **BELAJAR LEBIH MENGHARGAI SUMBER BERKAT**

### **Matius 6:33**

*“Tetapi carilah dahulu Kerajaan Allah dan kebenarannya, maka semuanya itu akan ditambahkan kepadamu.”*

Hasil yang kita peroleh adalah berkat dan berkat di tangan itu bisa lenyap begitu saja kalau kita tidak memelihara dengan sebaik-baiknya. Sedangkan pemberi berkat itu sendiri tidak mungkin lenyap, dialah Tuhan kita.

Konon ceritanya ada seorang pemuda yang tersesat di hutan. Sudah berbagai cara yang ia usahakan untuk mencari jalan keluar, namun tetap saja ia tidak bisa. Hari sudah larut malam, sementara pemuda ini masih berada di hutan. Dari jauh ia melihat ada setitik cahaya lampu dan ia berjalan pelan menuju kearah cahaya itu yakni sebuah gubuk tua yang sudah reot. Karena kebaikan dari kakek tua yang tinggal di dalam gubuk itu maka pemuda itu diberi nginap satu malam di gubuknya.

Keesokan harinya, pemuda ini sudah mempersiapkan dirinya untuk pulang, namun kakek tua itu menyuruh pemuda itu untuk tunggu sebentar sebab ia akan memberikan sesuatu kepada pemuda tersebut. Lalu kakek itu mengambil tongkatnya dan dihentakkan

sekali, keluarlah sekeping emas. “Ambillah anak muda, mungkin ini dapat menjadi bekal di dalam perjalananmu untuk pulang!” Namun pemuda ini hanya tersenyum-senyum saja “Apakah kamu merasa tidak cukup? Ini saya tambah lagi.” Demikianlah untuk kedua kalinya kakek itu menghentakkan tongkatnya, tetapi pemuda itu tetap tidak mengambil emas tersebut. “Bagaimana kalau saya tambah satu lagi supaya menjadi tiga?” Pemuda itu tetap tidak mau mengambil emas itu. “Apa sebenarnya yang kamu inginkan anak muda, saya tidak mengerti!” demikianlah komentar kakek itu dengan agak heran. “Kek, saya tidak butuh emas walaupun ada tiga keping; tetapi saya butuh tongkatnya!” demikian balas pemuda ini dengan tenang.

Seringkali kita sebagai orang-orang Kristen hanya mau mendapatkan berkat saja, tetapi kita tidak pernah berusaha mendapatkan sumber berkat itu. Tatkala kita memperoleh sesuatu baik itu berupa keuntungan dan sebagainya, kita merasa suka-cita sekali dan rasanya sudah lebih dari cukup. Padahal yang paling penting adalah mendapatkan sumber berkat itu sehingga kita bukan hanya mendapat berkat berlimpah, kita juga dapat memberkati orang lain.



## ABOUT US...

### INDONESIAN SUNDAY SERVICE

Ibadah Raya, 10.00 AM • Grand Park Hotel, Ballroom Level 4

### YOUTH SERVICE

*Diliburkan sementara selama bulan Desember (akan kembali pada bulan Januari)*

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Every Sunday, 10.30 AM • Grand Park Hotel • Alink +65 90664130

### KOMUNITAS MESIANIK (KM)

Every 2nd and 4th Friday, 07.30 PM

#### **KM Abraham**

Ibu Roosje + 65 9002 0959

Ibu Helen+65 9628 3796 (East Coast)

Every Friday, 07.30 PM

#### **KM John the Baptist**

Lenny +65 9457 7470 (Toa Payoh)

#### **KM Daniel**

Ervita +65 8173 9355 (Braddell)

#### **KM David**

Sumarto +65 9144 6605 (Tiong Bahru)

#### **KM Joshua**

Ernita +65 9722 8333 (Orchard)

#### **KM Joseph**

Alink +65 90664130 (Orchard)

### WOMEN GATHERING

Every Thursday, 10.30 AM • 18 Newton Rd #23-03 (kediaman Ibu Linda) • Ferdi +65 8510 7534

### PRAYER MEETING

Every Saturday, 12.00 PM • Novena Tower, 27 Moulmein Rise, #09-29 • Ida +65 9234 9771

Web: [www.rocksg.org](http://www.rocksg.org) • Email: [gbirock.sg@gmail.com](mailto:gbirock.sg@gmail.com) • Tel: **(+65) 6251 5378**

**ROCK MINISTRY SINGAPORE COVERED BY: Charis Christian Church**



## HOW TO GET US...

### GRAND PARK HOTEL

270 Orchard Road, Singapore 238857

#### nearest MRT:

Orchard MRT (exit A - Tangs/Lucky Plaza)

Somerset MRT (exit B - 313)



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