

1 **A NEW NAME**

Revelation 2:17

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• *"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."*

3 **July 3, 1961**

- 唐恩同
- Tang² En¹ Tong²
- 唐文心
- Tang² Wen² Xin¹

4 **Daniel**

-
- 施為義
- Shi¹ Wei² Yi⁴
- Righteous
-

5 **OUR FAMILY**

-
- 盧俊夫
- Lu² Jun⁴ Fu¹
- Handsome Husband
-

6

-
- 覃榮冠
- Tan² Rong² Guan¹
- Glorious Crown

7

-
- 彭瑞父
- Peng² Rui⁴ Fu⁴
- Auspicious Father
-

8 **William Barclay**

• *The trust of the heathen was in a superstitious charm: the trust of the Christian was in*

the name of God."

9 **A NEW NAME REVEALING A NEW MESSAGE**

- Gen. 17:1-8

10 **God Appears to Abram**

- Abram was ninety-nine years old:
 - Abram was 75 years old when he left Haran (Genesis 12:4).
 - He was 86 years old when the son Ishmael was born of Hagar, the servant girl (Genesis 16:15-16).
 - He had waited some 25 years for the fulfilment of God's promise to give a son through Sarai. It had been some 13 years since his last recorded word from God.

11 **The Name**

- It seems like Abram and Sarai were MISNAMED from the beginning.
 - Abram = Exalted Father – He had no children from God's promise for a son through Sarai.
 - Sarai = *my princess* – They had no children.
- He was 99 – Sarai was 89 – There was no human possibility that they could have a child.

12 **A NEW NAME**

- Then God told Abram, "I'm changing your name to Abraham – *father of a multitude*, and I'm changing Sarai's name to Sarah – *Princess of many*."
- Can't you just imagine what Abram was thinking. "LORD, you've got to be kidding! From Exalted Father to *father of a multitude* – Here I am 99 years old with no children. Why don't you just leave well enough alone?"

13

- Sometimes the name was changed by inserting was changed by inserting one or more letters into the old that completely changed its meaning. That's what God did in the case of Abram and Sarai. Instead of Abram, "an exalted father," he was to be called Abraham, "father of a multitude of nations"

14 **A NEW NAME REVEALING A NEW MASTER**

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- Gen. 32:24-28

15 **A New Name**

- "Jacob" = 'trickster, schemer, conniver
- God had something else planned for Jacob.
- God started out with a CHANGED NAME. THEN ... He said, "Claim that name ... live up to that name." JACOB = "trickster" ... ISRAEL = "the prince and power of God".

16 **A NEW NAME REVEALING A NEW MAN**

- John 1:38-42: *One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew,*

Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

17

- SIMON = 'to make a noise ... loudmouth'.
- We see a CHANGE in Simon when Jesus changed his name from "wind-bag" to PETER ... CEPHAS ... 'a rock'. After the resurrection of Jesus, Peter took charge of the frightened and faltering Disciples. Peter fearlessly preached the news of the resurrection on the streets of Jerusalem, for all to hear. Peter was a leader in the early church ... a Missionary statesman ... a martyr for the cause of Christ.

18 **A NEW NAME REVEALING A NEW MISSION**

- PAUL, before he was saved, was called "Saul". Saul persecuted the church, killing and imprisoning Christians. This was his mission when he was on the road to Damascus. "Saul" is a Jewish name, meaning "asked". What Saul asked for and demanded, he got! He was feared and respected by the Jewish leaders. He was a man of influence and power.

19

- BUT ... God had a NEW NAME in mind for Saul ... for a new job He had for him. God changed his name to the Roman name "Paul", which means "little".

20 **God gave him a NEW NAME to claim ... "little"**

- Ephesians 3:8 – *"Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;"*
- 1 Timothy 1:15: *This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.*

21

- We have a NEW NAME ... "Christian" ... a 'follower of Christ'.
- Let's do it! Let's be PROUD of that name. Let's make Him proud that He gave us His name. Jesus says, "You have My name!" Let's give honor to that name ... the name which is above every name ... the name of "Christ".