

057 - A White Stone - Revelation 2:17 - 2022-09-14

(2022-08-31 was devotional on sharing our possessions; 2022-09-07 cancelled due to illness)

Revelation 2:17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

a white stone, and in the stone a...name written

Exodus 28:9-12 And thou shalt take two onyx stones, and grave on them the names of the children of Israel: 10 Six of their names on one stone, and the other six names of the rest on the other stone, according to their birth. 11 With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, shalt thou engrave the two stones with the names of the children of Israel: thou shalt make them to be set in ouches of gold. 12 And thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod for stones of memorial unto the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD upon his two shoulders for a memorial.

Exodus 28:9-12	Revelation 2:17
Stone is onyx, which is mixed black and white in layers	Stone is white
Name is by tribe and nation	Name is by individual (“To him that overcometh...”)
Name is publicly known	Name is privately known
In the Old Covenant, a member was part of a mixed community, some believing and some unbelieving	In the New Covenant, a member is part of a holy community, all believing
In the Old Covenant, the members are remembered before God communally; the whole nation obeys God and prospers or disobeys God and suffers.	In the New Covenant, the members are remembered before God individually.

a new name

Several times in the Bible, God gave someone a new name, indicating profound blessing.

Genesis 17:4-7 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. 5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. 6 And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. 7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

Genesis 17:15-16 And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. 16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

Genesis 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

Matthew 16:15-18 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

So, the one who trusts in Jesus Christ, overcoming all temptations, remaining in that faith, will find himself blessed so profoundly that his present name must give way to a new name.

a new name...which no man knoweth, saving he that receiveth it

In the Old Covenant, you have a name by which you are known to men, by which you are known to belong to God.	In the New Covenant, you know in your heart that you belong to God in Jesus Christ. It cannot be seen by others.
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