

THE WHITE STONE

by George Kirkpatrick

Many look on the book of Revelation with fear, anxiety, and dread, but if they consider the first verse of chapter one, it should remove any fear, anxiety, and dread about the book. The first words revealed unto John were, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ . . ." Revelation 1:1

Jesus was revealing Himself to a chosen generation of people. Knowing that the book of Revelation is revealing Jesus should bring comfort and joy. Jesus gave His people a promise:

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Revelation 1:3

There is a blessing in store for anyone who reads the words of this prophecy... if he keeps the things that are written therein. It was revealed unto John that the time was at hand. Most would proclaim, "It has been almost nineteen hundred years since this book was written." So logic tells us it must have already been fulfilled. Thank God we do not depend on logic, but the leading and revelation of the Holy Spirit.

John revealed, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day," Revelation 1:10. John was in the Spirit when this prophecy was given to him, and this was on the Lord's day (or the Day of the Lord). Those who have chosen to be under the law would proclaim the Lord appeared to John on Saturday - - - to them that is the Lord's day. Others would proclaim - - - No! It was Sunday - - - that is the Lord's day. Both would be seeing the physical application through fleshly understanding, instead of a Spiritual understanding revealed by the Holy Spirit of Truth.

God had translated John through time to the Day of the Lord. The Day of the Lord is the Third Day. The Third Day lies directly ahead of us. The Third Day is the third day from Jesus. A day with the Lord is as a 1000 years, and a 1000 years is as a day, II Peter 3:8.

The Third Day is also the Seventh Day if you count from God's creation, Adam. The Third Day and the Seventh Day are one and the same.

John was translated through time to the Third Day, the Day of the Lord. Here, he would be shown the events leading up to that day and what would happen on that day. When it was revealed unto John that these things would shortly come to pass, Jesus was showing John the things that would come to pass in the Day of the Lord, the Third Day. Jesus was showing John the things that would be imminent at that

time. The whole creation is waiting for this day. Joel, speaking of this day, proclaims,

"... there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations." Joel 2:2

Most look at the book of Revelation as the great end time book. In truth, the book of Revelation is the key that unlocks all the prophecies concerning the Day of the Lord. We must use Revelation to open the understanding that is hidden in all the prophets concerning what they have prophesied pertaining to the end of the age.

The writings of the Apostles (the New Testament) are the keys that will unlock the Truth God has spoken through His prophets concerning the "Restoration" of His creation, man, back to His original created position in God. Through Adam's fall, all mankind lost his place of dominion. But it is God's whole purpose to reinstate man to this place of dominion over all His creation. With this understanding, the book of Revelation can be viewed with new eyes - - - Spiritual eyes - - - eyes that will enable us to understand the Revelation of Jesus Christ given to John.

John was one of Jesus' closest disciples. Peter, James, and John were always present with Jesus on every special occasion. John is called the "beloved" disciple. He leaned on Jesus' breast at the Last Supper. This was a sign of endearment - - - close to the heart of one that was loved. Jesus revealed Himself to John on the Isle of Patmos as

". . .Him which is, and which was, and which is to come. . ." Revelation 1:4

Jesus revealed Himself to John as . . .

". . . the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. . ." Revelation 1:5

Jesus further revealed:

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending. . ." Revelation 1:8

Jesus revealed Himself to John as the Almighty God. This fulfilled the prophecies given to Isaiah:

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

When Jesus appeared unto John, He appeared as the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father. In chapters two and three of Revelation, He spoke of His overcoming church. His message was to him that overcometh and to him that heareth what the

Spirit saith unto the churches. Through these seven churches, Jesus has revealed everything in His church that is pleasing unto Him - - - and also those things that are not pleasing unto Him. Our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The things Jesus exposed in the seven churches need to be dealt with in every individual life if we are to stand on the Sea of Glass, holy and without spot or wrinkle before our God.

John was to write one letter and send it to seven churches. He revealed to all the church what the Lord had told him to write. Then he told them how to be reestablished with God. They were also told the reward they would receive if they would repent and turn from their wickedness. Jesus wrote to the church at Pergamos,

"Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth." Revelation 2:16

If the church of Pergamos would not repent, then God would fight against them with the two-edged sword of His mouth; the Anointed Word of God that had been spoken through His saints and prophets. Then God made them a promise,

"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." Revelation 2:17

Those in the church at Pergamos who overcame would be given to eat of the hidden manna. This hidden manna is the revelation of God that has been hidden in His Word from the foundation of the world to be revealed in this last time. Then He promised a white stone to the overcomers. This white stone would contain a new name that no man knows, except the one who receives it.

The basic Greek word translated stone is LITHOS. This word has six derivatives. It is used eighty-two times in the New Testament. Another word translated stone is PETROS and is used 161 times as "Peter" and one time as "stone".

When we consider the white stone that was spoken to John, the word used for the phrase white stone was PSEPHOS. This word is only used twice in the New Testament and only translated once as stone. The other time it was used is in the book of Acts.

"Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice (PSEPHOS) against them." Acts 26:10

Paul stated, "I gave my voice against them . . .". The word **voice** is PSEPHOS. Paul gave his consenting vote to the death of the saints. This same word PSEPHOS was translated stone in Revelation 2:17.

The word **white** is LEUKOS and means "*brilliant from whiteness, dazzling white.*" This was the white used to describe the angel's raiment at Jesus' tomb. This same white was used to describe Jesus' garments when He was transfigured before Peter, James, and John on the Mount of Transfiguration.

"And His raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them." Mark 9:3

A fuller is a launderer. No fuller on earth could clean garments as white as the Spiritual garments that clothed Jesus. This same brilliance was used to describe the white stone that was revealed to John. White always represents righteousness.

In ancient times, the white stone was used in many ways. When someone was accused of a wrong doing and taken to court - - - when they were acquitted they were given a white stone as a symbol of their innocence. They could show anyone their white stone to prove their innocency. We can show our innocency before God by putting on the Robe of Righteousness. Paul revealed to the Romans:

"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." Romans 5:19

We are made righteous by our obedience to Jesus and the voice of the Father. Jesus was obedient unto death on the cross. When we accept Jesus' shed blood, we are made the righteousness of God through the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit. Paul spoke to the Corinthians,

"For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." II Corinthians 5:21

We are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. He has acquitted us from our sin, that we may overcome the sin nature.

The white stone was also used in elections. A person voting was given a white stone and a black stone. The white stone meant acceptance - - - the black stone meant rejection. In later years, marbles were used. Most are familiar with the term "blackballed". This meant rejection. Paul wrote to the Ephesians:

"To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the Beloved." Ephesians 1:6

We are accepted in the Beloved, and we now walk in the praise of His glory and grace.

The white stone was given to victors in athletic events. Sometimes the victors were given white stones with the name of the event or the winner of the event inscribed on the stone. Paul related:

"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." I Corinthians 9:24

We are all in a race, and we run that we may receive the prize that is set before us. Paul stated:

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14

"And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible." I Corinthians 9:25

Those who run in this race must be temperate in all things. Temperance is a fruit of the Spirit. We are not in this race to receive a corruptible crown. The word corruptible means "to rot". The crown we desire is the crown of life. In order to receive this crown, we must finish the race. No one ever won the prize who did not finish the race. In Paul's final letter to Timothy, just before being taken to the chopping block, he proclaimed,

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing." II Timothy 4:7-8

Paul had finished the race. He had kept the faith to the end. Paul was promised an incorruptible crown, a crown of righteousness, the white stone of victory, the righteousness of God. Paul was proclaimed the winner of the race. But all who finish the race will be declared winners. Paul also declared:

". . . and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing." II Timothy 4:8

The promise of an incorruptible crown is to all those who finish the race. Another use of the white stone was that a white stone was often given to honored guests. It was generally inscribed with the host's name. The special guest who received the white stone could use it to purchase, or to order the host's servants to do as they asked. It was used as a sign of authority and power granted by the host. All things that belonged to the host were at the disposal of the special guest. We have this promise in Christ Jesus our Lord.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things: and I will be his God, and he shall be My son." Revelation 21:7

The overcomers are those special guests at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. These are the inheritors of all that belong to the Father. These are the Christs in the earth today. Paul stated,

"And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29

Before we can become heirs we must be overcomers in God's kingdom realm. Paul further wrote to the Galatians,

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." Galatians 4:6-7

When the overcomers come into the sonship realm, they will no longer be servants, but heirs. The servants will not inherit with the sons. If we are inheritors, then we will have already overcome the old Adam nature, the carnal mind, and the desires of the flesh. This is the only way we can come into sonship. This is the only way we will become joint heirs with Christ. When this has been accomplished in our lives, we, too, as special guests, will be given our white stone. Then everything that belongs to the Father will be at our disposal. He will then give us power and authority to rule and reign with Him. Jesus revealed this promise to John:

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne." Revelation 3:21

The promise of ruling and reigning is made only to the overcomers, and they, alone, will sit with Him in His throne. This is our place of authority in the kingdom.

The head of God's kingdom realm will be established in Mt. Zion. At the conception of Jesus, the angel spoke to Mary:

"He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father, David." Luke 1:32

Jesus' throne was established on David's throne. David's throne sat on Mt. Zion. Mount Zion was the highest place in Jerusalem. Jerusalem represents the true place of worship. So Christ Jesus will rule from Mount Zion. Mount Zion is also called the New Jerusalem. The writer of Hebrews proclaimed,

"But ye are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels." Hebrews 12:22

Mount Zion is the city of the Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. John was shown this Holy City:

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Revelation 21:2

This Holy City was coming down from God out of heaven. This Holy City was being revealed from the Spiritual realm. This city was adorned as a bride - - - a beautiful glorious city - - - beautiful enough for the bridegroom. John was shown the dimensions of this city:

"And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal." Revelation 21:16

Mt. Zion, the Holy City, is this city foursquare. The length, breadth, and height are equal. Man has envisioned this city to be a cube. But through the revelation of God, He has shown that His Holy City is in the shape of a pyramid. A pyramid is made up of four triangles. The triangle is the strongest of all geometrical figures. When these four triangles are put together, they form a square. The base of the pyramid is square. It was revealed to John that the length, breadth, and height of the Holy City are equal. The dimensions of a pyramid meet these specifications; the length of the base, and the breadth (or the width) of the base are equal making a square. The height of the pyramid is equal to one side of the square's base, making this equation true and equal; length = breadth = height.

The pyramid is a picture of the Body of Christ. Josephus, the Jewish historian, recorded Israel's history as passed down from father to son. In his writings he speaks of two pillars that were built by the sons of Seth. Seth was born to Adam and Eve after they were expelled from the Garden. Seth was a virtuous man and was of excellent character. His children displayed these same virtues in their lives.

"They (Seth's sons) also were the inventors of that peculiar sort of wisdom which is concerned with the heavenly bodies, and their order. And that their inventions might not be lost before they were sufficiently known. Upon Adam's prediction that the world was to be destroyed at one time by the force of fire, and at another time by the violence and quantity of water, they made two pillars; the one of brick, the other of stone: they inscribed their discoveries on them both, that in case the pillar of brick would be destroyed by the flood, the pillar of stone might remain, and exhibit those discoveries to mankind; and also inform them that there was another pillar of brick erected by them. Now this remains in the land of Siriad to this day." Josephus, Verse 2, page 72

Many believe the Great Pyramid at Giza, Egypt, is that pillar of stone erected by the sons of Seth. The pyramid at Giza was never completed. The head stone was never set in place. When Jesus was addressing the multitudes, He asked:

"And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner:" Mark 12:10

Paul revealed Jesus as the Cornerstone, Ephesians 2:20. Isaiah revealed Jesus as the tried stone:

"Therefore thus saith the Lord God. Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." Isaiah 28:16

Jesus was the tried stone, the chief cornerstone. But Jesus also spoke of the stone the builders rejected becoming the head of the corner - - - or the Headstone. Peter revealed the Headstone on the Day of Pentecost:

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." Acts 2:36

Jesus, the tried stone, the chief cornerstone had become the head of the corner. Jesus, the Christ (the Anointed One), had become Christ Jesus (the Holy Spirit Anointing). The stone the builders rejected was Christ Jesus - - - the anointing in our lives - - - the Holy Spirit - - - the power from on high. He has become the head of the corner, the capstone that has yet to be set in place as the head of His Body. This, He will do when the building is complete. In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul stated:

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Ephesians 4:15

We are to grow up into the head which is Christ the Anointing. The headship of Christ has not been established in His Body. It has not been set in place upon the Body of Christ. The Pyramid at Giza is a picture of the Body of Christ in the earth today because the Headstone, Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit Anointing, has not been set in place.

When we look at the pyramid today, it is very drab, sitting in the middle of nowhere. This is not the way the sons of Seth constructed it. Ancient writings reveal the Pyramid at Giza was covered one foot thick with polished limestone. It was stated that it had the appearance of a jewel, set in the desert. But looters, robbers, and builders stripped this glorious, white covering from the pyramid. Today all the limestone is gone. This, too, is a picture of the Body of Christ.

When the church was in its infancy, the anointing was fresh and clean. The church grew by multitudes. Miracles were common. People were healed by Peter's shadow. Jails were opened. Jailers were saved. People dropped dead when they lied to the Holy Ghost. Others were translated. Some were blinded when they spoke against God and His people. The glory of God shone through all the earth. Truly, God's Body (pyramid) in the earth was a jewel set in the desert of religion and corrupt government.

Then man took hold of what God was doing and began to organize it under his control. When this happened, the glory left. Today the pyramid has been stripped of its glory and it sits in a desolate place. Now it looks to the corrupt, manmade, governmental systems for its existence. God has made us a promise. Jesus revealed to John:

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Revelation 21:2

This Holy City came down from God out of heaven (Spiritual realm) prepared as a bride that was made beautiful for her husband. Jesus went on to reveal who this bride would be:

"And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife." Revelation 21:9

Jesus was going to reveal to John who the bride of Christ, the Lamb's wife was to be:

"And He carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." Revelation 21:10

It was revealed to John that the Great City, the Holy Jerusalem that he saw descending out of heaven (the Spiritual realm of God), was the bride, the Lamb's wife. What John saw was a beautiful, glorious bride.

Today, the church proclaims they are the bride of Christ. But the church, as seen in the earth today, is not gloriously adorned for her husband. The church in the earth today is truly drab. It no longer displays the power and authority God has set in His church, nor does the light of His grace shine in its face. Their righteousness is self-righteousness. Self-righteousness is as filthy rags in the sight of God. The very fact that the church proclaims itself to be the bride of Christ shows its pride, arrogancy, and self-esteem in our day.

The Holy City is called a Great City. The word **great** is MEGAS and means "large". It is inclusive of the whole Body of Christ in all the earth. As the Body of Christ, we are going to make up that city - - - a corporate Body of Spirit-filled saints - - - glorified, cleansed, and prepared for the husbandman's Body. We have wonderful promises of this glorifying process. Jesus revealed this glorifying process to John:

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready." Revelation 19:7

There is a preparation that must be made if we are to become part of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. The wife hath made herself ready. When the bride is preparing for her wedding, she does not wait until the bridegroom comes to make herself beautiful. She prepares for months, perhaps years, making preparations for this joyous day. And yet, those who claim to be the bride, the virgin in the earth today - - - are not prepared - - - nor are they ready. Jesus declared the condition of the church today:

"While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept." Matthew 25:5

The bridegroom is tarrying today, waiting for His Holy City to prepare herself. But while He is tarrying, they all sleep. They have settled back on their lees, taking their rest. Jesus related to John how the Holy City will appear:

"And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Revelation 19:8

The Holy City of God is going to be arrayed in fine linen, clean, and gloriously white. Linen is the symbol of purity. Linen is the clothing of the priest. The fine linen the Holy City will be clothed in is the righteousness of the saints - - - those who have become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. These are those who have sought first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness in their lives, Matthew 6:33, and have been accepted in the Beloved.

"And He saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And He saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." Revelation 19:9

Blessed are those who have been called to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Those who have been called are the elect. Those who have prepared themselves are without spot or wrinkle. These have clean hands and a pure heart. These will ascend into the hill of the Lord, Psalm 25:3, the Holy City of God. Matthew recorded Jesus' words:

"For many are called, but few are chosen." Matthew 22:14

The multitude has been called to the Marriage Supper, but only those who have been given the white stone - - - as special guests of the Father - - - only those who have been given all authority and power to use His name - - - only those who have finished the race and have become victorious in the eyes of the righteous Judge - - - only those who have been acquitted of all charges made by the enemy and found innocent will be at the supper. Their righteousness is the fine linen, pure and white, that will clothe the city of God. God is constructing this city today with living stones, pure and white.

Jesus revealed to John that a new name would be written on that stone, a name no one would know except the one who received it. The world cannot receive that name, nor will they understand that name.

Those today who are called by His name, and have not allowed the cloven tongues of fire to cleanse, purify and make them whole, will not receive their new name.

Only those who are without spot or wrinkle will make up God's true church. Only these will receive the white stone and new name. Isaiah foretold of those who would receive that new name:

"For Zion's sake will I not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." Isaiah 62:1

Isaiah was speaking of God's Holy City, New Jerusalem. "God will not hold His peace, nor will He rest." The word rest means "to be quiet and inactive". The righteousness of God's Holy City will go forth as brightness. God is preparing His people who will shine forth into all the earth to become the lamp of salvation. These will become that Holy City set on an hill. Jesus spoke:

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid." Matthew 5:14

We are that city God is going to set on Mt. Zion for all the world to see.

"And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." Isaiah 62:2

God will give those set on His Holy Hill a new name. His mouth will name that name. Only those who receive that name will understand the meaning of their new name.

"Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God." Isaiah 62:3

We will be that crown of glory in His hand, a royal diadem. A diadem is a turban. This is to signify our crown of righteousness that God has laid up for those who will finish the race and receive His new name.

"Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married." Isaiah 62:4

Those who are given the white stone will no longer be termed forsaken. The word forsaken means "to leave alone". The opposite of the word forsaken is RESTORE, those who have been restored to their original created place in God. Our "land" is speaking of our bodies that were created from the earth. Our land will not be called "desolate". The word desolate means "devastation, waste, and desolation." Our bodies will be restored to their eternal, everlasting condition. This will constitute a change. Paul spoke of this change:

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." I Corinthians 15:51-53

Paul spoke of a change that would come in our mortal bodies (a body that will die). It would be changed into an immortal body (a body that will not die). Our corruptible body (a body that will rot and return to dust) will be changed into an incorruptible body (a body that will not rot, an eternal Spiritual body). This will take place in the twinkling of an eye. Those who are given the white stone will be given their new bodies. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians spoke of this same time:

"For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life." II Corinthians 5:4

We are still tabernacle. We are still in our temporal bodies. We desire to be clothed upon with our Spiritual house, so that mortality (a body that will die) will be swallowed up of life. This is eternal life that will dwell in us by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We will no longer be called Desolate. We will be inhabited by the Living God, endowed by all His power and authority to do the greater works that were revealed by Jesus.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father." John 14:12

Isaiah went on to reveal:

". . . but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married." Isaiah 62:4

Our new name will be Hephzibah. The name Hephzibah means "My delight is in her." Those who are a delight to our Father will receive His sign of acceptance as a special guest at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, His white stone. Malachi, the last writer in the Old Testament, reveals:

"And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:12

When we come into God's order, we will become His delightsome land. Our land will be called Beulah. The name Beulah means "married". The meaning of marriage is coming into a oneness of relationship. The bridegroom only has one bride. So the bride of Christ is the body of Christ that comes into oneness with each other.

Our land will be married. The word married is the Hebrew word Ba'al and means "to rule over, possess, own, to be lord and husband (provider) over." When the Body of Christ becomes one with the head - - - which is Christ - - - then we will be one with Him. Our land will be married (become one with). We will no longer be a group of individuals, but a corporate Body with one head, one purpose, one Lord and Master over all. The Body of Christ will be the king's domain, or the kingdom where Christ will rule for all eternity. These are those who are His delight in the earth. These will receive the white stone of acquittal, also. These will be known as the city of the Living God.

"The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 60:14

We become Zion, the Holy One - - - not the holy ones - - - but one and only one - - - the united Body of Christ - - - the holy nation, Israel. Paul wrote to the Galatians:

"For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God." Galatians 6:15-16

To the Ephesians Paul wrote:

"That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world." Ephesians 2:12

When we were without the anointing, Christ, we were aliens (Gentiles) from the commonwealth (nation) of Israel. Now we are fellow-citizens of the covenants and promises made to Israel.

We are that city of the Lord. Our white stone will be used in the construction of His temple. Our white linen of purity and holiness will clothe that city in all the glorious righteousness that God will have put in His people. We will become those living stones that Peter spoke about:

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." I Peter 2:5

Paul revealed what God will do with these living stones:

"In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Ephesians 2:21-22

We are being built into an habitation of God, through the Spirit. The cloven tongues of fire must cleanse and purify this body so God can change it into an immortal body that He may inhabit for all eternity. Paul further revealed:

"From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Ephesians 4:16

The whole Body must be fitly joined together, compacted (united and knit together). Every joint must supply its ministry in the Body of Christ, so that the whole body can function together. The body then will increase and edify itself. When the body comes together, and all ministries are working as one, then it will edify itself in love (agape love). God does not have many bodies and many brides - - nor does He have many plans. He has one plan and that is His redemption plan for all mankind. Those who will become part of His kingdom must become the king's domain. They must become a supplying joint in the Body of Christ. Paul wrote to the Ephesians that Christ gave Himself for the church:

"That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word,

That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Ephesians 5:26-27

Christ Jesus will have a glorious church that He may present to Himself without spot or wrinkle. That church will be holy and without blemish, and those who are a delight unto Him will receive the name "Hephzibah". These will receive their white stone as special guests at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. This stone will give them all power and authority in His kingdom. These will rule and reign with Him from that Holy City of which they have become a part.

God has our white stone with our new name written on it. He is only waiting on us to become a delight unto Him. The cleansing fire is being turned up in our lives. We must let it do its cleansing work. The prophet Malachi states:

"And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." Malachi 3:3

God is refining us that He may present us with the white stone as victors and overcomers in the race He has set before us. We must press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14