

This helps us to see that here is the type of Christ - those who ate the manna in the wilderness did not escape death. But the believer in Jesus Christ who eats the hidden manna shall never die.

2 Another thing about this significant security is the white stone mentioned here. No one knows but he that receives it. The same person is given both - the hidden manna and the stone. Whose inscription is hidden to all but the recipient. These two promises. Now Satan's throne was there and dominated the city government, in that city, and it was a test of loyalty to the government. The same thing was true when Paul wrote his letter to the Greek city of Corinth. That a Christian might not eat at both the Lord's table and the Devil's table. Nor drink of both the Lord's cup and the cup of the Devil. Here is the demand that there be no compromise and the word here is going to give a new meaning. This seems to say that there is going to be a happy election. To the society in Heaven, and you at last will have won the conflict. You will not be black-balled. But you are going to receive the mark of honorable distinction. The white stone here was a precious sign and significant factor because it had a great meaning to these people. It was used for three or four purposes in that day and time.

First, to pronounce acquitted - one accused and tried. That is a man who had been accused was now set free and the thing that had been placed against him had now been removed. And he was given a white stone - and this would show as evidence.

Second, the evidence of the holder was made a free man in a free city state. The white stone would indicate that this man had been freed from slavery. And he carried this as a mark and indication of his citizenship.



Third, it was used to bind the friendship of two people who were separated by distance.

Fourth, it was used to designate the victor in the olympic games. A symbol of the one who had won the race and overcome his opposition.

Fifth, it was given to a warrior who had won a victory over the enemy.

Now this application - or either all of these - were in evidence in that day. And he says a new name is going to be written which no one knows but he that receiveth it.

Just one comment, the Christian experience is a thing that is entirely between the soul and the Saviour. If you are a Christian - then you are the person who knows about it. You are the person who has experienced this. And you have this and you are the ones that knows about it. This stone was something that was understood by the Christians in this church. It was a sacred promise and one that would increase their efforts to be loyal to Christ.

The same compassionate Christ speaks today to us. This is a time of compromise, of confussion, of terror and force. And God has standards and the Devil hates them. Now we used to specify sin and tell men about it. God hates sin and we ought to say so. And if a man does not live according to God's standards - then he ought to say so - the Bible says so. It says if a man doesn't give to God then he is a thief, a robber. But today we become friends with the liquor crowd and with the world - and as somebody has said, unless a man stands for something - he will fall for anything.



Jesus speaks to us about the great need of repentance. And he commands us that we ought to trust him, confess him, and pay the price to follow him. Men today, as in this early church, our missionary Wallace who was a great surgeon went to China some years back. And he said that he would stay as long as he could do good. He stayed on and worked - even as the communists came in. And Satan sent us his forces. Early one morning they took him to prison and for 53 days the doors would not open. And the communists killed him. Why should some Christians give all they have, and some of you give nothing?