Sunday Morning Bible Class "The End Times" Taught by Minister Cecil Cross

The Revelation of Jesus Christ to John

Lesson 4 Week 5

Revelations 2:17 (Rev 2:17a)

a. He who has an ear: The danger of false teaching and immoral conduct still faces the church today. So does the danger of *allowing* false teaching and immorality, as was the problem with the Christians in Pergamos.

7. (Rev 2:17b) The promise of a reward.

a. To him who overcomes: The one who overcomes this spirit of accommodation to false teaching and living will receive hidden manna. This is God's perfect provision, the true bread from heaven (John 6:41).

b. And I will give him a white stone: In the ancient world, the use of a white stone had many associations. A white stone could be a ticket to a banquet, a sign of friendship, evidence of having been counted, or as a sign of acquittal in a court of law. Jesus may have any one of these meanings in mind, but at the very least we know that it has the assurance of blessing. (Guzik)

c. And on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it: What is the meaning of this new, secret name promised to him who overcomes? One idea behind this new, secret name is that it shows what an intimate relationship we have with God. When a couple is close, they often have "pet names" for each other. Another idea associated with the new name is simply the assurance it gives of our heavenly destination. Your name is there, waiting for you. It is as if your "reservation" in heaven is made.