

Meeting God's Heart Need 6 of 8

The White Stone

#0233

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—April 25, 1972

A friend of mine found this beautiful white stone, out on a walk, and I borrowed it because I wanted it for my text tonight. You will find it in 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” Revelation 2:17.

According to this text, and I believe God's promise, when I get up to Heaven, one of the wonderful things which is going to happen is that Jesus is going to give me a white stone. In the stone, there will be a name written. It's a *new* name. And nobody else ever had it, and nobody else *will* ever have it. It is a special name. It is Jesus' pet name for me. And nobody else will know it. Nobody else will understand it.

I suppose some of you, when you were youngsters, had a pet name that father or mother or brother or sister called you. Am I right? Yes. You knew what it meant. Daddy and mother knew. It might sound strange if I would tell you the pet name my mother had for me. You would be amused. And you wouldn't understand it either, but she did, and I did.

Jesus is going to give me a white stone, and in that stone a new name written, which nobody else knows, except the one who receives it.

You see, in the Bible, a name stands for character or nature. Names in the Bible were special things. Hannah called her little boy Samuel, which means, “asked of God.” The angel said to Joseph, concerning the birth of Jesus, to “Call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). It means “Savior.” And so with many of the other Bible names.

So, when Jesus gives you your name, the reason it will be a name that nobody else knows is that nobody else has your character. You will be unique in Heaven as you have been on earth. Through eternal ages you will be a special treasure, something very valuable because there is nobody else like you—a rare gem—more precious than any ruby or emerald or amethyst or diamond, more precious than gold, for it is written:

“I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir” Isaiah 13:12.

I love that little song the children sing:

When He cometh, when He cometh
To make up His jewels,
All His jewels, precious jewels,
His loved and His own;

Like the stars of the morning,
His bright crown adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty,
Bright gems for His crown.

Little children, little children
Who love their Redeemer,
Are the jewels, precious jewels,
His loved and His own;

Like the stars of the morning,
His bright crown adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty,
Bright gems for His crown.

And concerning the stars that light the dome of Heaven, it is written:

“One star differeth from another star in glory”
1 Corinthians 15:41.

Search the heavens with your eye or with the aid of a telescope, and you will never find two alike. Each has its peculiar hue and degree of light. Each one is unique. Our God is infinite, and He delights in creating everything He makes by a new and separate and distinct pattern. If this is true of the star and the snowflake, oh, how much more it is true of the being that He has created for fellowship with Him!

Through eternal ages, the fellowship which He will enjoy with You will be unique. Nobody else will share that inner joy, that sweetest fellowship which belongs to you and Him alone:

Oh friends, what will your new name be? I don't know. You don't know yet. Jesus is going to present it to you. And friends, that is only the beginning. That is only the beginning of an eternal, personal, close, intimate, exclusive fellowship that you and Jesus are going to enjoy all through eternity.

One of the things we are going to enjoy with Jesus there is that He is going to explain all the perplexities of this life—all the disappointments that we could not understand. He said to Peter there at the supper in the upper room:

“What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter” John 13:7.

And He says that to each of us. Are there some things that you wish you could understand? Are there some things you don't understand? Ah, He is saving them up to explain them to you when they will bring the greatest joy and mean the most. Under those spreading branches of the tree of life down by the river, Jesus will walk with you and explain everything that has ever perplexed you.

Read the closing pages of *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 9*. Catch the thrill of the picture, as Jesus unrolls the scroll, unravels everything, makes plain everything. And joy, unspeakable joy, will fill our hearts.

There is another thing that Jesus is going to do for us on those walks, something that He is going to give us, personally. I don't know how He is going to walk with a million, million people and give each one individual attention. I don't trouble my head about the logistics of that at all. It doesn't bother me. I know if I am ever going to get any attention at all, it will be because He is not diverted or distracted by anybody else. That is what He has promised—to give me His individual attention in Heaven, as on earth, just as though I were the only one in the universe. He is able to do that because He is infinite. I believe it. I know it because that is the kind of attention He is giving me now.

So, on some of those walks, do you know what He is going to do? He is going to give me lessons from nature. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have Jesus point out this flower, that bird, yonder tree, and bring some wonderful spiritual lesson that He put into the plant or the creature? Wouldn't it be wonderful to take a nature walk with Jesus, with Him as the guide? He is going to do that for me. He is going to do it for you.

But then there is something else, and I must read this to you. This is from *Adventist Home*. See how this fits together with what we have been studying this week and what we studied this morning. Listen:

“Do you think we shall not learn anything there: We have not the slightest idea of what will then be opened before us. With Christ we shall walk beside the living waters”
Adventist Home, page 547.

The men sang just now:

My Lord and I, we have such sweet communion,
We walk and talk along life's busy pathway.

We are going to walk with Him there:

“With Christ we shall walk beside the living waters. He will unfold to us the beauty and glory of nature. He will reveal what He is to us and what we are to Him” *Ibid*.

Oh, when my wife showed me that a few days ago, I was just thrilled. She knows I like things like this, and so when she finds them, she picks them just like flowers and has them ready for me.

And isn't this wonderful? Yes.

"He will reveal what He is to us and what we are to Him"
Ibid.

Why friends, no matter how much we revel in what I have been sharing with you this week, of how much we mean to God, there is going to be bushels and bushels and bushels more when we get home, and Jesus can really walk with us and tell us what He is to us and what we are to Him.

May I tell you, friends, there is something in every human heart that longs to mean something special to somebody. And here is where you can have it—I was going to say to the limit—on beyond the limit. There is no limit. You have no idea what you mean to Jesus, and He is going to tell you about it Himself.

Wouldn't it be a shame to miss it, friends? Wouldn't it be a shame to miss it, to hear from Jesus, Himself, what you mean to Him? Not merely because of what you would miss, but think what it would mean for *Him* to miss *telling* you what you mean to Him. If there is somebody that means something special to you, don't you like to tell them? Why, of course. Jesus wants to tell you. He tells us something here, but oh, as this says:

"Truth we cannot know now because of finite limitations,
we shall know hereafter" *Ibid.*

Let's be sure to be there and make Him happy. What do you say, friends?

That was in the second chapter of Revelation. Let's go to the third chapter. We were looking at this 20th verse in an earlier lesson, but now I want to look at the 21st verse. But we will read the 20th verse with it because they belong together. Jesus says:

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 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 3:20–21.

Here is another promise to the overcomer. Jesus is not only going to give you and me a white stone with that special name in it, that nobody else knows or understands—just a personal name between Jesus and us—He is going to, wonder of wonders, invite us, you, me, to sit where with Him? In His throne. Now, I want to tell you something, friends. The more I have looked at this, the more I have come to understand that the important thing both to Him and to me is not the *throne*. It is to be with *Him*. If Jesus is on the throne, I would like to be on the throne, so I can be with Him. And if Jesus is on the throne, He would like me to be there on the throne, so I can be with Him. Do you see? But the important thing, I repeat, is not sitting on the throne.

You remember when Christ was here, as He drew near to the end of His ministry, one day James and John came to Him, and what did they ask? "Oh," they said, "will You do something for us?" Just like children, they said, "Will you give us anything we ask?"

Jesus said, "Now, what is it you want."

"Oh," they said, "we want to sit right next to you in your kingdom, one on your right hand and one on the left."

Jesus said, "You don't know what you are asking. Are you able to drink of the cup that I drink of and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

They said, "Yes, we are. We are able."

Jesus said, "You will drink of My cup, and you will be baptized with My baptism, but to decide who is going to sit on My right hand and on My left is with My Father."

You see, one of those young men that asked that question is the one that many, many years later, wrote down these words we are studying tonight. He learned the lesson. He got the point.

Even in that early day when James and John asked for that special favor, Christ knew that underneath the obvious selfishness was a longing to be with Him, and He appreciated it. And I want to tell you something, young men and women, and older ones too. If, at times, you are discouraged with your own selfishness, remember that Jesus looks deep down; He knows you want to be with Him, and He appreciates that. He looks deeper than other human beings can.

You know, sometimes even when we are trying to testify or to sing or to speak for God, somebody may say in their hearts, or they may even tell us, "It looks to me like you are just trying to show off, just trying to get attention, or this or that." Or our own hearts may condemn us. Dear ones, I want to tell you: Anything we do for God, the way we are at present, is marred with our humanity. It is weak and inefficient. It is incomplete. And thank God, Jesus is in the business of adding the incense of His merits all the while.

You remember in the ancient sanctuary, as the people prayed and as the priest interceded, the incense ascended. And oh, I am so glad that Christ is in the business of making my prayers acceptable. He makes them smell sweet. He perfumes them. Aren't you glad for that, friends? So don't be afraid to talk to God or to talk *about* Him. Bring to God what you have, the best you have. And He will make up the deficiency. He understands what human beings may not understand. He loves you. He loves to have you with Him.

And He took James and John, in spite of their strange and obviously selfish request, and got them ready for the place where they cannot only sit *next* to Him like

they asked, but they are going to sit right in the throne with Him. Isn't that wonderful?

Oh, how it must have thrilled John's heart, out there on rocky Patmos, to get the answer of how he was to be so close to His Lord. He had pressed close to Him, you remember, in those journeys through Galilee and Judea. He had leaned on His breast at supper time, right next to Him. Friends, press close to Jesus. He wants you. He loves you.

I've found a friend; oh such a friend!
He loved me ere I knew Him;
He drew me with the cords of love,
And thus He bound me to Him.

And 'round my heart still closely twine
Those ties which naught can sever,
For I am His, and He is mine,
Forever and forever.

Yes, He is going to give me a white stone with that new name which nobody else ever had, and nobody ever *will* have nor understand—that pet name—through all eternity. And He is going to invite me to sit with Him on His throne, right up there next to Him in the throne of the universe, friends. I am glad He is going to be there. I am glad He is not going to go off and leave me there on the throne without Him. Aren't you? Oh yes.

You know the picture I get? When my little girl was really little, sometimes I used to take her on my lap and let her hold the wheel in the car. She just liked to do that. Sure. It is a good thing daddy's hand was on the wheel too, wasn't it? Yes. And friends, Jesus is going to let me sit in the throne of the universe with Him. He is going to be there too. We will sit there together.

But it is going to be more than a child-father relationship. It is going to be heart to heart. Oh, thank God, friends, we are going to grow up. We are going to be people that God can counsel with, not that we will ever be infinite like He is. But oh, thank God, we will be able to share His thoughts, His plans, His ideas, and He will love to hear us talk with Him.

You know, He is going to take us with Him on tours throughout the universe. You remember the 14th chapter of Revelation tells about that?

"These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth" Revelation 14:4.

Yes, as the King goes throughout His vast dominion, we won't have to have any spaceships, any rockets, any oxygen tanks, nothing of that awkward, bungling nature. No, no.

"Unfettered by mortality, they wing their tireless flight to worlds afar—worlds that thrilled with sorrow at the

spectacle of human woe and rang with songs of gladness
at the tidings of a ransomed soul" *Great Controversy*,
page 676.

On through the universe, and Jesus is going to be so happy having us enjoy meeting the people on the other planets, and talking with them. Jesus is going to enjoy listening as we give our testimony.

You will give your testimony there, and it will not be like anybody else's. Why should it be like somebody else here, then? Oh, no, never try to parrot someone else. We are not parrots, nor apes, nor tape recorders. No, nothing of the kind. We are individuals, each one different. Each one, a rare gem selected by the Creator to shine in His crown forever and forever.

Say folks, if we are going to have those wonderful experiences there, what is the use of waiting until we get there to have them? You know, there is no end on the other end. Eternity has no end. The only way to get more of what we are talking about is to start quicker, start sooner—start earlier. And there is no time earlier that you can start than right now. Behold, now is the accepted time.

And I am not talking just about living the Christian life. You know there is many a burdened Christian like a weary pilgrim walking up the steep road with a heavy load upon his back, seeking to make the top. Well friends, do you remember—how many of you ever read Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*? Oh, yes. Do you remember that picture of Christian going along with that heavy load on His back and oh, he wished he could get rid of it, but he never could. He tried this and that, and it was still there. But one day, as he was going along the road to the Celestial City, he stopped. He saw a cross. And as he stopped and looked at that cross, something happened, friends. Bunyan, in describing it, says:

"The strings that bound that load to him loosened, and he saw that load fall off his back and roll and roll and roll until it went into an empty tomb" John Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress*.

And He says:

"I saw it no more" *Ibid*.

Then Bunyan says:

"Then was Christian glad and joyful. He went on his way happy.

"Thus far did I come laden with my sin,
Nor could ought ease the grief that I was in."
Ibid.

And then he says:

“Blessed cross, blessed sepulchre, blessed rather be
The man that there was put to shame for me”
Ibid.

This morning, I think we saw Him on the cross. And we saw the empty tomb, didn't we? We heard His words of love both before Calvary and afterward:

“Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be
with me where I am” John 17:24.

Let's enter into the joy of it now. What do you say? And when Satan comes to bother us with our past sins, let's sing, “My sins are all nailed to the cross. Jesus took them there.” He suffered the burden. He carried the burden. He took the load. He doesn't want us to carry it; it would crush us. He wants us to enjoy fellowship with Him.

The fellowship doesn't begin up there. It begins down here. Notice the One with whom we will sit up there is the One that wants to sit with us down here. The One who will gird Himself and feed us up there wants us to feed Him down here. The One that will take us on a walk up there, all through the universe, wants to walk with us the dusty paths of daily life. The One who is going to talk with us up there, wants us to talk with Him down here, and let Him talk to us.

Let me give you what I think is one of the most beautiful statements on this whole subject. It is found in *Ministry of Healing*. Listen:

“Cultivate the habit of talking with the Savior when you
are alone, when you are walking, and when you are busy
with your daily labor. Let the heart be continually uplifted
in silent petition for help, for light, for strength, for
knowledge. Let every breath be a prayer” *Ministry of
Healing*, pages 510–511.

You know, I was asking you in one of the other studies if I came to your house and knocked at your door and you invited me in for supper, who would you expect to furnish the food? What did you tell me? Would you feed me? Will you feed Jesus?

Now I want to ask you another practical question. Suppose Jesus is here now. He is knocking there at the door. We say, “Come in, dear Jesus. Sit down.” Listen, would you talk to Him, or would you just sit there? Or would you go off in another room and just talk to other people and leave Him sitting there? Really, what would you do if He knocked at the door and you invited Him in? Would you visit with Him? Well, why not do that? Why not make it very practical?

Every morning when you wake up say, “Dear Jesus, I want You to be with me all day today.”

You say, “Well, I do that.”

Do you? Do you say anything to Him during the day? Suppose I came to your house to visit. You would feed me breakfast. Would you just leave me sitting there all day until evening? Would you? Oh, no, I know you wouldn't. Do you see what I mean, dear friends?

Let's be very practical and simple in our faith about this matter. Let's visit with Jesus all day long. Remember, the relations between God and each soul are as distinct and full as though that one were the only one in all the world (*Steps to Christ*, page 100). He wants to be with us. That is what He died for, so He could be with us and we with Him.

And He can't wait until we get up to Heaven for it. He comes down here—invisible, true, but nonetheless *real*—and walks with us in the daily routine of life. He who walked the paths from His home to the carpenter's shop and from the carpenter's shop to His home, who walked to church every Sabbath morning, who walked out in the community in missionary work, who walked in chores around His own home, helping father and mother, that same Jesus wants to walk with us as we cheerfully take up the burdens of daily life, and enter into the experiences of serving. My dear friends, I want to tell you something. The sweetest fellowship with Christ we shall ever enjoy is fellowship in working for others.

You know that to have fellowship with somebody, you have to become acquainted with their goals and share them, more or less. What they are interested in has to be something you are interested in. Do you know what Jesus is interested in? He is interested in souls. He is interested in you, and He is interested in others. And as you begin to understand more and more what you mean to Him, you will understand what *other* souls mean to Him, and your heart will be linked with His in a longing that they, too, shall know this fellowship.

Soul-winning—that is the great joy of life. Oh, I hope every one of you will dedicate your life to soul-winning. For may I tell you, friends. The last opportunity to do this will soon be over. In Heaven, we shall have all these wonderful things we have been talking about tonight, but we shall never have the opportunity to go out and win a soul. Never. All we ever do in that line will be now. Oh, I am so glad that we can share that fellowship with Christ. What do you say?

So, when we kneel down to pray to Jesus, let us share with Him His burden for the lost. I hope you have a prayer list. If you don't, I hope you will start one. I have one. I write down the names of people that God especially burdens me to pray for. Some of them are in this room tonight.

Oh friends, I am glad your name is on Jesus' prayer list. He is thinking of you every day. As you make a little prayer list, remember: *your* prayer list is part of *His* prayer list. This gives you a bond of fellowship with Him. You and Jesus agree to pray for a certain soul, and this ties you to Him in an intimate way.

You can remember those names on your knees. As you kneel there with the open Bible and let Jesus talk to you through His Word, and then you talk to Him in prayer, remember those names and pray for those souls that God has burdened you

with. And then do not wait until evening, or the next morning to pray again. What did I read here?

“Cultivate the habit...”

What is a habit? Well, that is something you have done so much that it just becomes a habit; it comes naturally:

“Cultivate the habit of talking with the Savior when you are alone” *Ibid.*

How do you cultivate a habit? Do the same thing over and over again.

Now, there is somebody here tonight that will say to me, “Brother Frazee, I would like to do that, but I don’t think about it.”

Listen. Just do it when you *do* think about it. That is the only time you can do it. It is when you think about it, isn’t it? And let me tell you a secret. If you start doing it when you do think about it, pretty soon you will be thinking about it often. Jesus will bring it to your attention.

Just have a little understanding with Christ that when He brings it to your mind, you will talk to Him (audibly, if you are where you can, or silently, if it is not appropriate to speak out loud). You can have a two-way walkie-talkie conversation with your Lord. Just keep tuned in on Heaven’s wavelength. You can talk to Jesus, and Jesus will talk to you.

Thus you can share a fellowship that angels can only admire. They do not envy. They love to bring you and me closer to Christ than they can ever know. As they see that love, that sacrificial love that He has shown to us, they know that He would have done the same for them had they needed it. And they rejoice in the inner circle experience that you and I share.

“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.

This little thought, friends. Listen. If nobody else will know your name there, I mean this special name between you and Jesus, would it be a strange thing if there were some things in your experience here that other people didn’t understand? Would that be a strange thing? Do you see? Don’t worry if other people do not understand everything in your life. And by the same token, do not think it is strange if there are things in *other* people’s lives *you* do not understand. Do not let that worry you. Do not let it worry you because somebody else can do something that the Holy Spirit won’t let you do. Do not let it worry you because Christ reproves you for things that other people do not seem to be bothered with. Just be thankful that you have a personal, intimate fellowship with Jesus, which nobody else knows or understands. Just enjoy getting in there with Him and having a wonderful feast. Sup with Him, and let Him sup with you. Begin it here. Continue it on through eternity.

I want to give an opportunity this evening, for somebody that would like to speak. This may be the last opportunity that we will have in this series, so if you would like to speak to the glory of God—somebody who hasn't spoken yet at all—I think we will give you an opportunity first. You who haven't spoken at all in the meeting, just come right up, if you would like to, and bear your testimony. And then others, perhaps who *have* spoken, if you want to give a word. And thus, we will make the heart of Jesus glad with our witness and our praise tonight.

[Testimony service follows]

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W. D. Frazee Sermons
435 Lifestyle Lane, Wildwood, GA 30757
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755
www.WDFsermons.org
support@WDFsermons.org