



# Christian Questions

TALK RADIO WITH A PURPOSE

You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Dear Paul,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You told us that we said that there are still Church members in the flesh on this side of the veil. You wanted to know what evidences we have for such a statement and also how would these members be identified? You also asked about the white stone (Revelation 2:17). You wanted to know if those who are "fully consecrated can feel or know" whether they will be recipients of the white stone and if given this stone how and for what purpose would they use it.

What evidences do we have that there are still Church members on this side of the veil? We believe that once the last Church member passes beyond the veil then the four angels who are holding back the four winds of destruction (symbolizing Armageddon) will let those winds loose. (See Revelation 7:1-4.) We personally believe that the high calling is still open since Armageddon has not commenced and many are yet being called to be Church members and have the privilege of sacrificing their wills, perfecting their characters, and witnessing about God's beautiful plan of salvation for all. Since this "harvest" work of the Gospel Age continues to this day, we believe that the Church is not complete. Scriptures state, however, that there will come a time when all work will cease. It is then that it will be evident that the Church class is complete. "Night is coming, when no one can work." (John 9:4) We believe that once the last member of the 144,000 very elect is "sealed," then the four winds, mentioned above, will be loosed bringing an end to this present age of sin and death and ushering in Christ's Kingdom on earth. "The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed." (Romans 8:19)

How do we identify Church members on this side of the veil? The Apostle Paul tells us to identify them by the fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires." (Galatians 5:22-24) The Apostle Peter further says that these chosen ones are to "declare the praises of him" who called them "out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9) Peter further says in verse 12 that Church members are to "live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us." Peter then adds that the Church of Christ is to be submissive to every authority of men who are sent by the Lord to punish wrong doers. Peter says that Church members are to live as free men. However, evil should





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not be covered up. He says that proper respect should be shown to all, even to those who are harsh. Christ's Church is to love the brotherhood of believers and to revere God. "To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps." (See 1 Peter 2:15-21.)

You wanted to know if those who are fully consecrated can "feel or know" if they are recipients of the white stone mentioned in Revelation 2:17. You asked how and for what purpose the white stone will be used.

"I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it." (Revelation 2:17)

In ancient times the Greeks and Romans had a custom of noting and perpetuating friendship by means of a white stone. This stone was divided and each person inscribed his name on the flat surface, after which the parts of the stone were exchanged. Producing either half was sufficient to insure friendly aid. Thus the divided stone became a mark of identification.

Apparently, the text refers to this ancient custom. The white stone is not literal, but is symbolic of a precious token of the Lord's love, and the new name written in the stone suggests that Jesus will give a personal name to each who overcomes and receives a heavenly reward. Each will have a personal favor and friendship with the Lord.

It may be said that the overcomers receive the mark of identification or acceptance (the symbolic white stone) now in the present life. This mark is the sealing of the holy Spirit by which the Lord identifies overcomers. The new name signifies a new relationship to God. This relationship—like stone—is lasting and imperishable and it is white. Here "white" signifies an innocent, pure, holy relationship. The full seal of the holy Spirit will be given in the heavenly resurrection when the new immortal body is received. In a sense, then, the stone is symbolically loaned to the Lord's people now; if they are faithful, it will ultimately be given them.

We hope we have answered your questions. Be sure to sign up for CQ Rewind at [www.christianquestions.com](http://www.christianquestions.com). The service is free and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio

