

## Encountering Jesus: Overcoming Temptation (Rev. 2)

### I. THE TEMPTATION OF POWER AND PLEASURE

A. The Spirit is preparing the Church to operate in great power. He first requires that we live in agreement with Him in a lifestyle of obedience. Idolatry and immorality, the two areas that Jesus spoke against most in Revelation, are prominent in the harlot Babylon (Rev. 17-18). Idolatry refers to **power** outside God's will; immorality refers to **pleasures** outside God's will.

1. **Idolatry** is expressed in covetousness and/or sorcery (Col. 3:5; Eph. 5:5) in those who pursue money in ways that oppose Jesus' leadership over their life.

2. **Immorality** includes all sexual activity (physical, verbal, technological) outside of a covenant of marriage between one man and one woman. Jesus understood that immorality grants Satan legal doors of access to oppress our relationship with God, our heart, and our family.

B. The churches in Pergamos and Thyatira walked in idolatry and immorality. Both were influenced by false teaching on grace that allowed them to participate in the immoral, idolatrous feasts. False teaching makes people comfortable in compromise, instead of giving us confidence to pursue purity.

<sup>12</sup>*To...Pergamos write...*<sup>14</sup>*"You have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught ...Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality..."*<sup>16</sup>*Repent, or I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth. (Rev. 2:12-16)*

<sup>18</sup>*To...Thyatira write...*<sup>20</sup>*"You allow...Jezebel...to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols..."*<sup>21</sup>*I gave her time to repent...*<sup>22</sup>*I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent...*<sup>23</sup>*I will kill her children with death...* (Rev. 2:18-23)

C. Believers are sometimes made sick and die prematurely under God's judgment on immorality. God's discipline includes Satan being permitted to make the unrepentant sick (1 Cor. 5:1-5; 11:30-32). Paul commanded the elders to deliver a believer over to Satan (lift God's protection, allowing Satan to make him sick) to wake him up spiritually so that he would not fall away.

<sup>1</sup>*There is sexual immorality among you...a man has his father's wife...*<sup>4</sup>*In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered...<sup>5</sup>deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh [sickness], that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. (1 Cor. 5:1-5)*

D. **Premise:** Immorality is dangerous because it grows and becomes uncontrollable. People imagine that they can "dabble with a little immorality," then control it later. They do not understand the power of a cold heart, darkened mind, and defiled conscience with demonic activity in their life. Some end up denying the Lord. Thus, God intervenes in judgment because He cares so much.

<sup>17</sup>*For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God...* (1 Pet. 4:17)

<sup>31</sup>*It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (Heb. 10:31)*

- E. If we judge ourselves, by repenting, then we will not be disciplined by the Lord. We can reverse God's judgment or discipline by repenting of areas of persistent compromise in our life.

<sup>30</sup>*For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. <sup>31</sup>If we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged [by the Lord]. <sup>32</sup>When we are judged, we are chastened [disciplined] by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. (1 Cor. 11:30-32)*

- F. The Lord is the avenger of immorality. He is the One who judges the unrepentant believer.

<sup>4</sup>*Each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, <sup>5</sup>not in passion of lust...<sup>6</sup>that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter [committing adultery with a brother's wife], because the Lord is the avenger of all such...<sup>8</sup>He who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has given us His Spirit. (1 Thes. 4:4-8)*

## II. ENCOUNTERING JESUS IN THE PROCESS OF OVERCOMING TEMPTATION

- A. In Revelation 1-3, John reports a vision of Jesus which highlights 30 descriptions of His majesty, ministry, and personality, and 18 eternal rewards. Each description and reward communicates a specific insight into Jesus that is necessary in equipping the church to overcome compromise. John only gave abbreviated statements of each description and reward. We are to search out the implications from the Scriptures and it will become clear to us over time.

- B. Jesus revealed four things about Himself to the churches of Pergamos and Thyatira and four rewards as part of the solution to the two main temptations they were facing (Rev. 2:12-28). (I combined the messages of the two churches since their primary temptations were the same).

- C. **Four descriptions:** Jesus revealed that He has a sword that He would use to fight the saints (Rev. 2:12, 16) and that He was the Son of God with eyes like fire and feet like brass (Rev. 2:18).

<sup>12</sup>*To...Pergamos write..., "He who has the sharp two-edged sword..."<sup>16</sup>Repent, or else I will... fight against them with the sword of My mouth"...<sup>18</sup>To...Thyatira write..."The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass..." (Rev. 2:12, 16, 18)*

- D. **Four rewards:** Jesus promised to reward overcomers with hidden manna, a white stone with a new name (Rev. 2:17), power to rule the nations (Rev. 2:26), and the morning star (Rev. 2:28). These are the positive consequences of restraining our flesh because of our love for Jesus.

<sup>17</sup>*To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name...<sup>26</sup>I will give power over the nations—<sup>27</sup>He shall rule them...as I received from My Father<sup>28</sup>and I will give him the morning star. (Rev. 2:17, 26-28)*

- E. Jesus emphasized these eight specific truths to equip people to overcome immorality. We see the psychology of Jesus, who is the wisest teacher and ultimate therapist, with perfect understanding of the human heart. The four highlighted descriptions correspond to the four promised rewards. These truths are needed to overcome immorality. Each reward will satisfy in a far greater way than temporary power (idolatry) and pleasure (immorality) that are outside God's will.

### III. FOUR DESCRIPTIONS OF JESUS: OVERCOMING IMMORALITY

- A. Jesus' ministry to deliver believers from immorality includes them encountering the truth about Him as the Son of God, with a sharp sword, eyes like fire, and feet like brass (Rev. 2:12, 16, 18). All four descriptions must be included in one's approach to walk free from sin in these areas.
- B. As the Son of God, we see ***His superiority*** over immorality (His mercy and power). His eyes of fire tell us ***how He feels*** about us (His emotions). His feet of brass tell us ***what He does*** to hinder unrepentant sin (His judgments). His sword tells us ***what He uses*** to change us (His Word).
- C. ***Son of God***: Jesus emphasizes His deity and, thus, His ***superiority*** over immorality in every way. We must have ***confidence*** in the superiority of Jesus' mercy, power, and reward over immorality. His mercy is superior to our sin, His power is superior to our bondage, and His rewards are superior to the "rewards" of immorality. Many who pursue liberty freedom lack confidence in these truths, seeing that their sin as greater than God's grace. Thus, they remain in shame.
- D. ***Sharp sword***: Jesus' mouth, or words, are like a sharp sword (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12). This speaks of His zeal to intervene with the sword of His Word and to strike the heart of believers who continue in immorality (Rev. 2:16). Jesus uses the sword of His Word as a weapon to fight against the sinful agendas of His people. He understands how much sin hurts us. Therefore, He fights for our destiny, for our relationship with Him, and against all that would hinder these.
- <sup>16</sup>***Repent or I will...fight against them with the sword of My mouth. (Rev. 2:16)***
- E. We are to use the Word like a sword to resist temptation as Jesus did (Mt. 4:4). If we do not use it against temptations, then Jesus will use it against our sinful agendas. If we seek to obey Jesus, His Word is a ***sword that liberates us***. If we disobey, it will be a ***sword that troubles us***.
- <sup>12</sup>***The word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword... (Heb. 4:12)***
- <sup>17</sup>***Take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God... (Eph. 6:17)***
- F. The sword of His mouth brings the conviction of the Spirit (Jn. 16:8) to the life of a believer living in compromise. His Word cuts deeply into their heart as a sword that confronts their sin. Jesus limits His communication with them to persuade them to resist their sin and obey Him. They long for more communication, but He withholds it until they agree to resist compromise.
- <sup>8</sup>***He [the Spirit] will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. (Jn. 16:8)***
- G. The redemptive judgment here is that Jesus talks to them in a focused way on the subject of their unrepented sin, without giving them insight into other areas that they cry out for. Jesus used the sword of His mouth this way when speaking to the Pharisees. After they had firmly resisted Him, He only spoke to them with sharp and cutting truths that focused on their need to repent (Mt. 23).

H. ***Eyes like fire:*** His eyes like fire speak of His burning desire of love and His perfect knowledge that penetrates all things as fire penetrates metal. His eyes have fire in them because His heart is filled with the fire of desire for His people. His eyes are burning because His heart is burning. He ***feels*** love for us and ***imparts*** love to us as He ***sees*** everything about our life.

<sup>18</sup>***To...Thyatira write...“The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire...” (Rev. 2:18)***

1. God is love; He is a consuming fire of desire. God connected His fire to His jealous love.  
<sup>24</sup>***For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous [passionate] God. (Deut. 4:24)***

2. The first time we see Jesus’ eyes of fire manifested after His resurrection is when He appeared to the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Lk. 24:32). Jesus veiled His glory to them, but when He spoke their hearts burned as the fire of His love touched them.

<sup>32</sup>***They [the Emmaus disciples] said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us...and while He opened the Scriptures to us?” (Lk. 24:32)***

3. Jesus looked on the first prayer meeting in the Upper Room and the fire of God rested on each one (Acts 2:3). This was not the fire of judgment, but an expression of His love.

<sup>3</sup>***There appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. (Acts 2:3)***

I. Another dimension of His eyes of fire is His ability to see everything about our life. He sees the full truth about us. He is fully attentive to His people. The essence of the fear of God grows in us as we grow in awareness that God continually sees everything about us.

<sup>13</sup>***There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. (Heb. 4:13)***

<sup>3</sup>***The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on...evil and the good. (Prov. 15:3)***

J. Being equipped to overcome immorality is related to understanding the power of His eyes and the power of our eyes. The path of freedom includes our eyes being fixed on His eyes. Bondage occurs when our eyes are disconnected from His eyes. To interact with His eyes means to be aware that God sees everything good and bad in our lives.

<sup>1</sup>***I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a young woman? (Job 31:1)***

K. ***Principle:*** Purity is established first in the eyes. ***The progression of adultery:*** eye adultery leads to heart adultery, then to getting into circumstances that lead to physical adultery. It is much easier to close the eye gate than to try to put out the raging fires of immoral passions.

<sup>28</sup>***Whoever looks at a woman to lust...has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (Mt. 5:28)***

- L. ***Feet like fine brass:*** Jesus' feet like brass speak of His zeal to intervene to alter circumstances and increase the fear of the Lord in our lives. Brass is a symbol of judgment against sin. Jesus "steps in" and "steps on" circumstances to alter or crush the circumstances which empower His people to continue in immorality. In loving redemptive judgment, He will cut off sinful options and frustrate circumstances to make it more difficult for His people to persist in immorality.
- M. We must have the confidence that He will surely intervene if His people refuse to repent of immorality. This element of the fear of God is missing in many who seek freedom from immorality. By neglecting to emphasize the certainty of negative consequences for continuing in unrepentant sin, God's people lack the fear of God and are thus more vulnerable to immorality.

#### IV. FOUR REWARDS: OVERCOMING IMMORALITY

- A. Jesus highlighted four eternal rewards to motivate us: hidden manna, a white stone with a new name (Rev. 2:17), leadership over the nations with Jesus, and the morning star (Rev. 2:26-28).  
***<sup>17</sup>To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written...<sup>26</sup>He who overcomes...I will give power over the nations...<sup>27</sup>He shall rule them...<sup>28</sup>I will give him the morning star. (Rev. 2:17, 26-28)***
- B. Eternal rewards will far surpass anything the most creative producers in Hollywood could ever imagine (1 Cor. 2:9). They will correspond in glory to the New Jerusalem and the resurrected body, which are spectacular in their design by Jesus. Each reward will be spectacular. The white stones will be much more than a dull little white rock with a simple name on it.  
***<sup>9</sup>Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. (1 Cor. 2:9)***
- C. Jesus only gave abbreviated statements of each reward. Each reward has vast implications which can be more fully developed by searching the Scriptures for related truths.
- D. I believe that each reward is related to experiencing more of Jesus because they are rewards for loving Him. God is so generous and pays so well and remembers the love we have showed Him. Each reward expresses a facet of Jesus' affirmation, "Well done, faithful servant" (Mt. 25:21).
- E. Rewards are expressions of how Jesus feels about the way we loved Him in this age instead of boasting to others. We will "wear" our love for Him in the rewards we receive from Him.
- F. Each person will differ in the measure of glory and rewards that they receive. Paul said that as the stars differ from one another in glory, so also will we differ in the resurrection. Some will have more insight than others and a greater measure of glory in their resurrected body and in their garments. There are over 100 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy and over 100 billion galaxies (as seen through the Hubble Telescope).  
***<sup>41</sup>For one star differs from another star in glory. <sup>42</sup>So also is the resurrection of the dead. (1 Cor. 15:41-42)***

- G. I believe that each reward has great diversity in the measure of glory related to the reward. For example, there may be thousands of different expressions of the white stone. God is so creative. Consider how many different types of fish are in the depths of the ocean, or flowers on the tops of mountains, or stars in the sky, that humans never see. They exist as proof of God’s creativity.
- H. Some teach that rewards are automatic to all believers, in the same measure of glory. Thus, their interpretation of rewards does not affect how they live. However, Scripture is clear that we will not all experience the same measure of God’s glory in the age to come.
- I. We can receive a measure of the rewards in this life, knowing that their fullness is in the age to come. Jesus gives tokens, or small measures, of the ultimate eternal rewards in this age as a glimpse into the age to come. For example, the hidden manna and authority in the nations have the dimension of a “foretaste” now, prior to their fullness in the age to come.

## V. HIDDEN MANNA

- A. ***Hidden manna:*** Jesus is the true manna from heaven (Jn. 6:48-51). Receiving the hidden manna speaks of an increased capacity to feed on Jesus as the Word. It promises an increased capacity to enjoy the Word in the age to come related to how we respond to it now.  
*<sup>17</sup>To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. (Rev. 2:17)*  
*<sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate the manna... <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread...from heaven... (Jn 6:48-51)*
- B. A study of manna in Scripture gives insight into the manna in the age to come. Manna was hidden in the golden pot in the ark of the covenant in the Holy of Holies (Ex. 16:32-36; Heb. 9:1-5). Only the high priest could see this hidden manna once a year, on the Day of Atonement. The fact that it was hidden in the ark speaks of receiving deeper insights in the Word. It speaks of eating the hidden manna as we live in the holy of holies of God’s immediate presence.
- C. While the promise is mostly eschatological, it applied to the persecuted people of Pergamos. Some also see this as a promise of supernatural provision of food in end-time persecution (Rev. 12:14), in the same way that God provided manna in the wilderness (Ex. 16:35).

## VI. POWER OVER THE NATIONS

- A. ***Power over the nations:*** The reward for resisting immorality and idolatry is to reign with Jesus in the millennial kingdom (Lk. 19:11-27; Rev. 3:21) and to have leadership over the nations. The promise of ruling the nations includes making an impact on people in this age.  
*<sup>26</sup>I will give power over the nations—<sup>27</sup>He [the overcomer] shall rule them... (Rev. 2:26-27)*
- B. To rule our spirit means to restrain our flesh because of love for Jesus. All will rule the nations with Jesus in the age to come according to how they ruled their spirit in this age because of love.  
*<sup>32</sup>He who rules his spirit [is stronger] than he who takes a city. (Prov. 16:32)*

## VII. THE MORNING STAR

- A. ***The morning star:*** Jesus is the bright morning star (Rev. 22:16). Jesus giving us the morning star is a promise to increase our capacity to encounter Him. This speaks of being fascinated with Jesus and releasing the light of His glory in us and through us (including the gifts of the Spirit). Jesus, as the Morning Star, will shine on us and make our spirit bright with His very brightness.

<sup>28</sup>***I will give him the morning star.* (Rev. 2:28)**

<sup>16</sup>***I, Jesus...am the bright and morning star.* (Rev. 22:16)**

- B. He will impart His brightness to and through us. Jesus' anoints His people to impart light to others like He did through John the Baptist, who was a burning and shining lamp (Jn. 5:35).

<sup>35</sup>***He was the burning and shining lamp, and you...rejoice in his light.* (Jn. 5:35)**

- C. Jesus and Daniel both prophesied that the saints would shine like stars in the age to come.

<sup>43</sup>***Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.* (Mt. 13:43)**

<sup>3</sup>***Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.* (Dan. 12:3)**

- D. Jesus, as the Morning Star, has a countenance filled with light (Rev. 1:16; Ps. 4:6). God told Moses to bless Israel by praying that He would make His face shine on them (Num. 6:22-27).

<sup>6</sup>***His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.* (Rev. 1:16)**

<sup>25</sup>***The Lord make His face shine on you...<sup>26</sup>lift up His countenance on you...* (Num. 6:25-26)**

- E. Jesus will release the light of His glory, that we may encounter the realm of His glory which includes dreams, visions, angelic visitations, manifestations of His glorious light. He visited Moses, Isaiah, Ezekiel and John in this way (Ex. 33:18; 34:29-30; Isa. 6; Ezek. 1; Rev. 1).

<sup>6</sup>***A great light from heaven shone around me...<sup>8</sup>He said to me, "I am Jesus of Nazareth..."***

<sup>18</sup>***And he [Moses] said, "Please, show me Your glory."* (Ex. 33:18)**

<sup>51</sup>***You shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending...* (Jn. 1:51)**

- F. The morning star is the brightest star in the sky (planet Venus), seen just before the dawning of a new day. It is brightest when the night is darkest. Jesus gives more insight as darkness abounds (Isa. 60:2). Receiving the morning star includes receiving understanding of prophetic Scriptures as the darkness of the Tribulation increases and the new millennial day draws nearer and nearer.

<sup>19</sup>***We have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts...* (2 Pet. 1:19)**

<sup>2</sup>***For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you.* (Isa. 60:2)**

## VIII. WHITE STONE

- A. **White stone:** The white stone is a “reward of remembrance” for unusual dedication to Jesus. It may tell the story of our love for Jesus and how it moved Him. I imagine that the white stone (probably a precious stone) will be one of our most valued possessions in the age to come. The knowledge of this reward assures us that what we do for love now is remembered by Jesus.
- <sup>17</sup>Who overcomes...I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it. (Rev. 2:17)*
- B. This white stone is a promise given in the context of OT temple imagery. It probably refers to the **precious stones** in the breastplate of the high priest (Ex. 28:17-21) or to the Urim and Thummim with those terms most probably meaning “lights” and “perfections” (Ex. 28:30; Num. 27:21).
- C. The word *white* (Gk. *leukos*) can be translated as “shining” or “glistening” (Mt. 17:2; Rev. 3:4, 5; 6:11; 7:9, 13; 19:14). This stone is possibly like a heavenly precious stone, such as a diamond. The word **white** (Gk. *leukos*) describes Jesus’ garments at the Mount of Transfiguration as white as “**light**” (Mt. 17:2), as “**shining**” (Mk. 9:3), and “**glistening**” (Lk. 9:29) and it describes the garments of the angels at the resurrection as white (Jn. 20:12) yet **shining** (Lk. 24:4).
- D. In the ancient world, white stones were given for heroic deeds done for the community or in military service. Some were referred to as a *tessera*, which was a small stone or tablet of wood used for many purposes, such as a voting ballot, a ticket to special functions like a banquet or given to victorious gladiators, granting them permission to retire from the gladiatorial games.
- E. The white stone that Jesus will give to overcomers will be a “reward of remembrance” that will tell the story of one’s unusual service and love for God. The love God’s people express to Him in resisting immorality or idolatry will be remembered and may be viewed by Jesus as “heroic.” I assume many will not receive such a stone, but only those who overcome as described by Jesus.
- F. In this age, rewards are rare, telling the story of unusual skill, dedication, and accomplishments. They have many different expressions according to the nature of the deeds that were done, such as receiving a medal of honor, an Olympic medal, a trophy, an Oscar (movies), a Grammy (music), a signet ring, a bar on a military uniform, or a plaque, etc. Precious stones are used in many different ways such as in necklaces, earrings, bracelets, lapel pins, rings, hats, braids in the hair, or as jewels on clothing. (The same type of diversity may exist in the age to come).
- G. There may be thousands of expressions of this supernatural “shining” precious stone. I assume that each white stone, big or small, will be unique and that no one will have the exact duplicate of the stone you may receive. Some stones may be far greater in glory and beauty than others.



- H. **Memorials:** Biblical information about memorials gives us insight into this eternal reward. By definition, a memorial points to the heroic story of the person for whom the memorial has been established. When we visit a memorial, we usually want to hear the story of a person or an event. Memorials in the Scripture include Mary anointing Jesus' feet (Mk. 14:9), Cornelius' prayers and alms (Acts 10:4), the Passover feast (Ex. 12:14), the 12 stones placed in the Jordan River as Israel entered the land (Josh. 4:7-9), the two stones on the shoulder of the high priest (Ex. 28:12), and the names engraved on the jewels of the high priest's breastplate (Ex. 28:29).
- I. **A new name:** Jesus will give His people names that reveal how He feels towards them and how they loved Him. A new name will be given to indicate many things including one's faithfulness, role in the Millennium and their unique relationship with Jesus. One reason for the name on the stone is to function as a memorial that tells the story of one's love and dedication to Jesus.
- J. **A name no one knows:** Each stone will have a new name that no one knows. One reason that it may be "new" is because the fullness of the story of how Jesus feels about the way you lived for Him may be new to you. We will not know how much our love moves Him until that day.
- K. We are moved when telling the heroic stories of dedicated missionaries to inspire others. In the same way, in the age to come, the stories of love and dedication will move others. Jesus may tell the story about your love for Him many times because He enjoys telling stories about true love.
- L. Eternal rewards will far surpass anything the most creative producers in Hollywood could ever imagine (1 Cor. 2:9). They will correspond in glory to the New Jerusalem and the resurrected body, which are spectacular in their design by Jesus. The New Jerusalem is made of gold that is as clear as glass; its walls are made of jasper that is as clear as crystal and the foundations of the walls are adorned with precious stones (Rev. 21:11-20). Each reward will be spectacular. The white stones will be much more than a dull little white rock with a simple name on it.
- <sup>11</sup>Her light [New Jerusalem] was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal ...<sup>18</sup>The city was pure gold, like clear glass. <sup>19</sup>The foundations...of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones...jasper...sapphire...emerald... (Rev. 21:11, 18-20)*
- M. How spectacular will these heavenly white stones be? If someone put the most advanced video technology inside a precious stone that is clear as crystal and more brilliant than a diamond, it would still come up far short of the glory of the white stones that Jesus will give as a reward. These stones may have supernatural capabilities far beyond any high-tech ability to project video, light, color, and music. What if these stones had video-like capacity and could show the **story behind your new name**, including every episode in your life when you demonstrated love to Jesus? (Your story may have thousands of episodes highlighting your love). What if you could share these "episodes" with loved ones who could rejoice with you in how you loved Jesus?
- N. **Summary:** The manna nourishes and strengthens us with deeper understanding; the morning star fascinates and anoints us and makes our spirit bright; power over the nations gives us relevant impact and partnership with Jesus; and the white stone gives us the assurance that the small things we do for love now are valued and will be remembered and rewarded forever by Jesus.