

Our EXCITING NEW NAMES in the kingdom



Philip Shields

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Summary: Your name is special and yet the Almighty is going to give us 3-4 brand new names in His kingdom. What is a “name”? Why do we need *new* names? What will your new names be? We’re given some strong clues. WHO will be those receiving new names? Will your name include your Father’s and mother’s names – and more? Where will you be given those names? Find out all this and more in this encouraging message. Hear the audio with notes. Though originally given in 2004, this sermon has been totally updated with new material. So if you heard it before, you’ll be inspired to hear it again.

Warm sabbath greetings to you my friends and family. This is Philip Shields bringing another message for Light on the Rock, where our messages are free, and focus on the light that Yeshua/Jesus is to us, even as we magnify God Most High, our Father.

Many of you have a pet... a cat, a dog, or maybe a gold fish. Anyway, do you remember naming your pet? When we picked up our soft and cuddly little English Springer spaniel puppy two years ago, I was feeling in the dumps for a lot of reasons just before that, and wanted a dog that would remind me there’s still a lot to love about life – and we named her Zoey, meaning “life”.

Right now she’s lying at my feet as I write this. I’ve often been tempted **to rename** her “Shadow” or “Velcro” because she sticks to me, stays close to me, pretty consistently.

More importantly – for those of you blessed with children, can you remember naming each one? Maybe you bought a book of names. Maybe the names meant something, or maybe they just sounded nice. Remember? Or maybe you wanted to honor a parent or other relative.

And sometimes, what happens? At some point, that wonderful little boy you had suddenly is being called “Bud” or “Champ” or Tiger. And late cute little princess of a daughter just seems to fit better into a new nick name. Or sometimes, we end up calling them by their middle name or by an event. But it’s not infrequent than even we “rename” our children.

Guess what? Almighty God – YHVH Most High – likes names. He tends to name things what they are or are becoming. The brilliant cherub who was once one of three main arch-angels became the enemy, so he was renamed – in Hebrew – Ha Satan – The Adversary. And his “nickname” became “the Devil” – slanderer. That’s what that means.

And on the positive side, Supplanter Yacov (Jacob) becomes Overcomer, Prince of God (Israel). Abram (“high father”) becomes Abraham (“father of a multitude”). Sarai (“*my*

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princess”) becomes Sarah – Princess, not just of Abraham, but for all peoples. And I could continue with dozens of examples of how names are so important to God.

At least subconsciously we think of God renaming the people who were really important in the scriptures – like Abraham, Jacob-Israel, Peter and others. But did you know YOU ALSO are going to receive new names –directly from the King of kings, our Savior and Master Yeshua/Jesus the Christ? Did you know that? **Turn to Revelation 3 please.**

Do you know how MANY names you’re going to receive? I believe at least 3 or 4 new names, maybe more. And I truly believe the renaming will be done in a very moving, very classy, very regal setting beyond our ability to truly picture. But I get ahead of myself.

Revelation 3:11-13

*“Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. **12 He who overcomes**, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him **the name of My God** and the **name of the city of My God**, the NEW Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him **My new name**.*

13 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

At least 3 names are mentioned there. We’ll explore all three – and then other names as well. So buckle on your seat belts and let’s get started.

WHY talk about our new names?

First, remember this: your “name” in Biblical parlance is your reputation.

But when it’s all said and done, it won’t be a human reputation, but what our holy Father, Abba, God Most High, thinks of you and me. It will be your character as HE sees you. You see, reputation is what people think you are. Character is what you and I really are.

If we all really understand that we once were all condemned sinners – every single one of us – but since that time, we’ve been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb—we’d realize that we all **NEED** a new reputation, a new name, and a new promise of our bright future.

My spirit senses some of you balk at this. Some of you feel you are a wonderful person with a wonderful reputation and that may be true. But what is also true is that you were a sinner, and sometimes still sin, and so you want... no, you *need*... a new name. If you have had to repent of *any* sins, you need a new name! So we’re talking about new names – because we all **NEED** new names. Can you admit to that? You’re no better than the next person. We all need new names.

I certainly admit I’ve done enough things that have sullied my name, my reputation and would love to have a new name, a new –and perfect, unsullied, pristine brand new name.

Let’s talk about our new names - - maybe our 3-4 new names. You’re a child of the Highest – a princess or prince of the highest order. OK, your friends don’t know it yet, but just as Prince Charles or Prince William have several names, so will you.

So Prince William is William Arthur Philip Louis – no kidding. He’s called “His Royal Highness Prince William the Duke of Cambridge”.

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WHO gets the new names?

Now but who will get these new names? It will be those who form the called-out ones, the *ekklesia* -- the actual children of God whom HE has begotten. But Revelation 3:12 is also very specific about what else must be seen before you and I get the new names.

Revelation 3:12

“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more....” (and it goes on to speak of the new names).

Only OVERCOMERS will receive new names.

- That means you're using the power and help extended to you by the Holy Spirit to crush and defeat the sins that plague each of us. I have a recent sermon on what it means to be led by God's holy spirit. These are people who are actually changing, growing up into the full stature of Christ. They're defeating sin in their lives. They're no longer doing the wrong things or keep the wrong attitudes they used to do and have. These are people LETTING Christ change them inside out.
- **These are people who realize they are at WAR against sinful impulses** in their human nature. They put on the **armor of God each day, consciously**, and FIGHT sin. Does that describe you? Are you actively at war against the weaknesses and sins in your life?
- These given the new name are asking for the righteousness ***of God – in Christ*** – to be imputed to them as I've often spoken about, and as Paul explains so clearly in **Philippians 3:9-11** and throughout Romans 3,4, 5 all the way through chapter 8 and 9. It's what scripture calls over and over – **the righteousness of Christ himself, *that we receive by faith in Christ, not of works, but by faith.*** If you don't agree, then please re-read Philippians 3:9-11 carefully, and all of Romans 3, 4, 5 carefully. The best you can do in obedience will fall short of the perfect faultless requirement of God. But with God's OWN righteousness gifted to you – see Romans 5:16-19 – you can be seen as perfect, by faith in Christ. So that also explains why the salvation of God is by faith and by grace.

So be sure you are putting up a ferocious fight against sin. We show our appreciation for God's gift of holiness by guarding it and resisting sin and temptation with His Spirit. If Yeshua is truly in us, He will want to fight the sin in our lives and smash all sin by HIS righteousness and might, but we have to get in tune with that. And when you fail, when you fall flat on your face, when you sin – repent deeply and get back into the fight, soldier!

Remember we are saved by faith. We are rewarded by works. They're 2 different things – but are often confused by people who get into arguments of are we saved by grace or by works. We're saved for eternal life by grace – not by what we do. Those who are saved by grace through faith PROVE their faith in Christ WITH their good works. But again, the saving is by grace. Saving refers to eternal life, not being condemned by sin.

The good works are about reward -- We're rewarded for the good we've done, but the reward is not salvation. Reward is about what your job will be in the kingdom. How many cities you'll serve as their ruler. That's NOT the same thing as salvation.

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So we ARE rewarded by the good we do – Matthew 16:27; Rev 22:12. But we're given a royal pardon and gifted with eternal life by GRACE.

But be SURE you're overcoming! Be sure you're using the Spirit of God. Back to names. So let's read the promise of new names once more:

Revelation 3:11-13

*"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. 12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him **the name of My God** and the **name of the city of My God**, the NEW Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him **My new name**.*

13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

THREE names are mentioned right here – and another scripture or two mention that we'll be given a brand new personal name as well. The one speaking is Christ himself!

Revelation 2:17

*"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. 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 which no one knows except him** who receives it."*

1. (Rev 3:12a) "...I will write on him THE NAME OF MY GOD...."

*First note who is speaking. It is Yeshua – Jesus Christ. He will write on you the name of HIS God. **Yes, Yeshua HAS a God** – and it's the name of the God of Yeshua that we are given. The God of Yeshua/Christ is His FATHER – who is "God MOST High", the "only true God", according to Yeshua in John 17:3.*

- *On the cross, Yeshua cried out "my GOD, my GOD, why have you forsaken me?"*
- *After the resurrection, he said to Mary in **John 20:17** - "I must ascend to my Father and your father, to my God and your God."*
- ***Ephesians 1:3, 17** also make clear that God the Father is the God of Yeshua. "Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ.." and then in verse 17, "...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory..."*
- *Scriptures that clearly teach Yeshua's God is God the Father. God the Father does not have a God. He is IT. He is the ultimate.*

So all of us will be given this one SAME name probably – identifying that we are children of the Highest. ALL my children have one same name – SHIELDS – identifying which family line they come from. Then the ladies marry and take on their husband's name. We also must be identified as having God as our father. Until we believe in Christ, to be blunt, Christ himself said unbelievers' father is not the true God but the god of this world. John 8:41-44.

*I like the way the Spanish cultures give honor to their mom. Men retain the last name or surname of their father – as their first surname, and then add the maiden name of their mom. So I would have been *Philip Shields de Williams*, but informally I'd be simply Mr. Shields in a Spanish culture.*

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

You're going to see that when **we** are given **our** new names – now listen carefully – your new names **will include**:

- your **FATHER'S NAME** – God the Father's name
- plus the name of your **mother**, as we shall see.
- And more!!

So again, it says in Revelation 3:12 that we will have written on us the name of Christ's GOD – who is God the Father. WE know him simply as our heavenly Father. That's what Yeshua said to pray – “Our FATHER in heaven”. That was a blockbuster concept when he taught that. God most High was the terrifying God to most – not a loving daddy. But Christ came to reveal the ultimate God, God Most High, as – ABBA, DADDY – A NAME only CHILDREN of that daddy could use!

MY father's name was Clyde. Others knew him as Clyde Shields or Pastor Shields. I knew him as “Daddy”. Daddy was not his name, but to ME – it was his name. Are you getting it?

Our heavenly Father's most personal name – used about 7,000 times in the Old Testament, more than ALL the other names put TOGETHER – was YHVH. And THAT is the name that Satan has been trying to ERASE by having everyone change it to Adonai, or make it a TITLE by adding the word “The” that is not in the original – THE LORD. But you'll see that God wants us to know him as YHVH – and I believe it is pronounced as Yehovah, based on the latest finding of ancient manuscripts with vowel points in them, making the pronunciation Yehovah. Others believe it is pronounced Yahweh.

Let me prove that YHVH – translated badly as “the LORD” in our English Bibles – that YHVH is his name. And remember Yeshua said “Hallowed, holy, special, to be revered – is your NAME...” singular.

Isaiah 42:8

“I am YHVH (the LORD), THAT is My name; (it can't get clearer than that) And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.”

“...YHVH (the LORD) IS his name.” – Amos 9:6; Amos 5:8; Exodus 15:3; Jeremiah 33:2.

Exodus 15:3 –

“YHVH (the LORD) is a man of war, YHVH (the LORD) is his name.”

Again, YHVH is his name. It doesn't mean Lord, doesn't sound like Lord, and isn't Lord by that covenant name.

Often YHVH combines it with Elohim – translated “The LORD God” – so we have “YHVH Elohim” – or “YHVH God” to identify we're talking about the one true living God.

Many times the fuller name with a title is used: “YHVH of HOSTS is his name” – Isaiah 47:4; 48:2; 51:15; 54:5; Jer. 10:16; Jer 31:35; Jer 50:34; 51:19; Amos 4:13.

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

YHVH does not mean Lord. It means “I AM” – I exist. Yeshua several times referred to himself simply as “I am” – John 8:58 and other places. It means “I AM right now, I was, and I will be”. So he is referred to as “the One who IS, and WAS and is to come.” In Hebrew that comes down to YHVH. Probably the best translation is Eternal One. Or “I am”. Avoid putting the word “the” in front – because that makes it a title.

Neither is “God” the NAME of our Creator. “GOD” is what he IS. He’s not an angel, not a man, not a mammal, not anything but GOD. It’s OK to call him “God” – of course it is. But that’s not his name. There is only one true eternal God, according to Yeshua in John 17:3. But “God” is not his name, any more than saying “man” or “woman” is your name. “Man or woman” is what you ARE.

The word “God” comes from either Elohim (or El, Eloah if singular) in Hebrew or in the Greek from “Theos”. But elohim is also used of pagan gods, so it can’t be the personal name of our Creator. “Elohim” is simply the Hebrew word for “God” or “gods”. See **Exodus 12:12** for one of dozens of examples where the true living GOD said he would execute judgment against all the GODS (ELOHIM) of Egypt, and then says, “I AM YHVH” (The LORD – in a failed English translation).

There IS a Hebrew word for “LORD” – and that is Adon. Or Adonai makes it “my Lord”. But the 7,000 times YHVH is used, it does NOT mean Lord. Adonai means Lord, but YHVH does not. By the way, Baal also means “lord”. Wives-- even Bathsheba—at times called their husband their “baal” – their lord, their master. But there are countless examples of “adonai” being used for people’s masters, as in “my lord the king” or “my lord Joab”. You see, it’s a description of a relationship – master – and is not the NAME of the one true living Elohim, the one true God.

So in the Old Covenant – the proper name of the one Living God is YHVH. No one seems sure how that was pronounced and the top 2 pronunciations are Yahweh and Yehovah. I’ve used both. **The shortened form was Yah** and that is found a dozen or more times in scripture too. Every time we say “hallelujah” – we’re speaking Hebrew, which means, “Let us all praise Yah.” The poor English translation commonly used is “Praise the LORD”. The “J” sound does not exist in Hebrew. It’s pronounced as a Y – as even Jerusalem is *Yerushalayim* in Hebrew.

Back in the days of the prophets, the very personal name of God – YHVH – was commonly known and people named their BABIES with part of that name. Many of the prophets were given names that included YAH or Yahu in their names – so we have Isaiah (Yesha’yahu), Elijah (Eliyah or Eliyahu), Jeremiah, Hezekiah, (Hizkiyahu), Zephaniah, and Uriah – all those and more included the name of their God in their name.

So get this now: we will be given a name that IDENTIFIES us as coming from, and being a part of, God the Father. HE’s our Dad, HE’S the one we belong to, and all the world will know!

Revelation 14:1

*“then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, **having His Father’s name written on their foreheads**”.*

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

Did you get that? And who are these 144,000?

Revelation 14:4-5

“These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins [speaking spiritually]. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, **being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.** 5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, **for they are without fault** before the throne of God.”

And who are the first fruits? WE ARE. Those being called now out of this world, by God our Father. See James 1:18.

So WE know him as “ABBA, FATHER”. But he has a NAME, and that name is “YHVH”. And somehow you and I will carry that awesome name as part of our very own name! Wow! Amen! Let that sink in! ALL who are a part of the 144,000 will have that name, just as all my children took my name as their surname – at least until they got married.

And we will be given the name of our God the Father written on our foreheads. But also – WE get to call him “ABBA, DADDY, Father” – the very same name Yeshua used when crying out to his father in the Garden of Gethsemane!

Ephesians 3:14-15

For this reason **I bow my knees to the FATHER** of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 **from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named...**

So God Most High, the God and father of Yeshua, is just as much you're Abba, your daddy, as He was for Christ. So that's why we say “Our Father” when we pray.

John 1:10-13

He (Jesus) was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 **But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God,** to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

If there's any doubt about that, please hear my sermons I gave in October 2011, on “What is the Creator's name?” –

www.lightontherock.org/index.php/message/what-is-our-creator-s-name-part-2-of-2

John 17:6-7

“**I have manifested Your name** to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.”

John 17:25-26

“O righteous **Father!** The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26 **And I have declared to them Your**

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name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

But we have NO scripture record of Yeshua ever teaching his disciples that God's name is YHVH or anything else. NONE. But here's what we DO have a record of...

He taught us to pray – “**our FATHER** in heaven...” –not “YHVH in heaven”. When he was resurrected, note what he says to Mary Magdalene, the first to see the resurrected Yeshua:

John 20:17

Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to **My Father and your Father**, and to My God and your God.'"

To call the Supreme Being “Abba, Daddy” –words that could come only from the lips of legitimate children – was a blockbuster announcement. Paul also picks up on this in **Romans 8:15 and Galatians 4:6** – where he says “we cry out, DADDY! Abba-DADDY”

My earthly father had a name - Clyde. But I knew him as “Daddy”. I would never have called my Dad by his first name. If someone asked me his name, I would have revealed it – “CLYDE” –but to me he was always “dad” or “my dad”.

So the Almighty's NAME is YHVH. But to his children – you and me – he's something special with a special name only true children can use: ‘ Abba, Father’.

And to ME -- that's more than a name. It's a **RELATIONSHIP** of the most beautiful kind possible! In searching the NT scriptures, that surely has to be the revealed name. God as our Father was only abstractly known in a few verses in the OT, not intimately known as a REAL DADDY, real Abba, that way until Yeshua came.

So what is his official name? It's YHVH. No question about that. But we children get to use a name that is special for us: “Daddy. Abba. Dear Father.”

2 -- “and the NAME OF THE CITY OF MY GOD

The second name is “the name of the city of my God, heavenly Jerusalem..”

Revelation 3:12

*“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him **the name of My God** and **the name of the city of My God, the NEW Jerusalem**, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him **My new name.**”*

This, when this is understood, is so inspiring. This name reveals your authority, your standing, where you're from, who you are.

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

Brethren, in Galatians we're told that **heavenly Jerusalem is "the mother of us all"**. Just as Spanish communities use their mother's name as well as their father's name, so will WE! And the mother of us who will be in the first fruits is heavenly JERUSALEM.

Galatians 4:26

"...but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all."

And this is our SECOND NAME according to Rev. 3:12 – **"the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God...."** You can't get much clearer than that.

For example, the title "PRINCE OF WALES".

In 1301 King Edward 1 of England had conquered Wales, and the following year had his son born in Caernaeon Castle in Wales, in 1302. He was called "the Prince of Wales", because he was *born there*, and the custom stuck, the custom of calling the heir to the throne "the Prince of Wales". I don't think the Welsh liked it at the time, but my point is – we KNOW if we're introduced to someone as "the Prince of Wales" – we know he is the next king of England. Today that title goes to Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales.

When Queen Elizabeth had a baby son Feb 6, 1952, HE was given a new name too. In fact several new names: Charles Philip Arthur George, as well as the family name – of the House of WINDSOR, and another name or title: "PRINCE OF WALES".

When he uses his name and title together -- PRINCE CHARLES, of the House of Windsor, the PRINCE OF WALES—that tells anyone who understands it, that he's the successor to the throne of England.

We will be no different. When we have the name of our God, *and the name of the city of our God*, it says we're from *there* -- not from here. We were *born there* as it werenot here, the way God sees it, hence Heavenly Jerusalem is called the "mother of us all", of all God's children (**Galatians 4:26**).

When we are citizens of a particular country, we are REGISTERED as citizens of that country.

Hebrews 12:22-24

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and CHURCH of the firstborn who ARE REGISTERED IN HEAVEN, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect...."

I recommend you hear my sermon "Your city" (put that in the search bar on the home page)

Psalms 87:1-6 A Psalm of the sons of Korah. A Song.

"His foundation is in the holy mountains. 2 YHVH loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. 3 Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God! Selah 4 "I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to those who know Me; Behold, O Philistia and Tyre, with Ethiopia: This one was born there."

5 And of Zion (heavenly Jerusalem) it will be said, "THIS one and THAT one were born in HER; And the Most High Himself shall establish her."

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

6 YHVH will record, When He registers the peoples: "THIS one was born THERE."

Are you hearing what that verse is saying of you and me?

Our name will include where WE were born: in the NEW Jerusalem above. We will have our Father's name and the name of the mother of us all – heavenly Jerusalem. Everyone will know you are one of the first fruit born in the first resurrection.

As everyone eventually comes to love Christ in the Millennial reign, knowing your name -- and that it **includes where you're from -- will help you be far more effective and get things done faster. You're a son of God on a mission from the King!** *In fact, besides being a child of God, you will also be the BRIDE of the KING OF KINGS! All this is not just for vain glory and pomp and ceremony – but to help us be more effective in serving people and opening doors of opportunity for them.*

3. "...AND I WILL WRITE ON HIM MY NEW NAME"

Revelation 3:12

*"He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him **the name of My God** and the **name of the city of My God**, the NEW Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. **And I will write on him My new name.**"*

We know Yeshua will be given a new name – **Revelation 19:12** – a very personal name. When a bride marries, she takes on the name of her husband. Our Husband is Yeshua the Christ (Anointed One). We are "Christians" – which actually means "anointed ones".

Father will give Jesus, Yeshua-- a new name to add to his many other names and titles. just as Prince Charles has many middle names.

Revelation 19:11-16

*"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. **He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.** 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And **He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**"*

I suspect we will be sharing a name that lets everyone know we are the Bride of Christ. We'll also have one of his names, just as – when my wife married me – she became one with me and was called Mrs. Shields. But it appears we will also be given our own unique new name by our Husband and King – Yeshua the Great King of Kings.

Revelation 2:17

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. 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 which no one knows except him who receives it.***"

Or, perhaps it's a name that reveals the way Jesus now sees us. *God names people for the way they will be or have become. There are SO many examples of that. In OUR CASE, redeemed from sin, we will be renamed BEAUTIFUL NAMES. Wonderful names.*

We all know that though you and I often fail, our husband loves us and defends us. He intercedes, he mediates, he stands as our advocate against Satan (1 John 2:1). He sees you and me as brand new in Christ, a brand new creation. We are not to keep viewing someone the way they were. You should read that again **in 2 Corinthians 5:16-17**– that though we once knew what someone had done, or was “really like”, we are not to think of one another that way anymore. Let’s read it:

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

“Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

We are in Christ. We focus on HIM, and in doing so, we are being transformed into his likeness, from glory to glory (2 Cor. 3:18).

You’re not yet fully what you **want** to be; You’re not yet what you’re **going** to be – but you know what? But neither are you or I what we USED to be. Through Yeshua’s life in you – you are changing and He will name you something very special.

Perhaps someone who had been unfaithful to God early in their calling, in various ways – who knows? Maybe their new name after they repented and overcame -- might be “Faithful one”. Or someone who constantly lost his temper – might be renamed, as he overcomes – “KINDNESS”. Or “Gentleness”. Who knows? But whatever name it is you’ll be given, it will bring tears of joy, perhaps even of feeling unworthy – that our King sees you that way and so will rename you that way.

Now look at Isaiah 62. Here we see how you, and your name – and the city of Jerusalem above – are all intertwined. Why? Because the Holy City above is considered the city of God, YES – but remember Christ is heir of all things, and we become co-inheritors, or co-heirs with Him! So heavenly Jerusalem is where your home, your residence, your CITY – WILL ALL be. Heavenly Jerusalem is YOUR city.

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns.

2 The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory.

You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of YHVH will name.

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

3 **You** shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of YHVH, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God.

4 **You shall no longer be termed Forsaken**, nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate;

But you shall be called Hephzibah (My ***DELIGHT*** is in her), and your land Beulah (married); ***For YHVH delights in you***, And your land shall be married.

5 For as a young man marries a virgin, So shall your sons marry you; And as the Bridegroom rejoices over the Bride, So shall your GOD (the BRIDEGROOM) rejoice OVER YOU, (the bride).

Isn't that an awe inspiring and moving verse?

Isaiah 62:11-12

"Indeed YHVH has proclaimed To the end of the world: "Say to the daughter of Zion,

'Surely your **salvation** is coming; Behold, His **reward** is with Him, And His work before Him."

12 And they shall call them The Holy People, The Redeemed of YHVH; And you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Remember when we're told in Hebrews 11 that Abraham was looking for, and longing for, a city whose maker and builder was God? That applies to you and me too!

Hebrews 11:8-10

"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 **for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.**"

Presenting you with your new name

HOW and where will we be given our new names? The Bible doesn't tell us, as far as I know. But since heaven is outside of time and space as we know it – it can take as long as God wants, or as fast as he wants. If you hear my sermon on "**I go Prepare a Place for you**" – June 2011—or just click on this

<http://www.lightontherock.org/index.php/message/i-go-prepare-a-place-for-you-john-14-1-3>

I explain why it seems clear to me that we go to heaven to get married. I've believed and preached that since 1984. If you've been to this site for any length of time you know I believe **the Wedding Supper of the Bride will be performed by God the Father Himself, in the Holy City in heaven**, on the massive Sea of Crystal Glass. **Matthew 22:1-10** is about this wedding – when a great King puts on a wedding supper for his son. We know the Son is Christ. The Great King must be the Father. And where ELSE could you have it, except in heaven?

I believe it is during this time – from the time we are changed to spirit glorious bodies as 1 Cor. 15 and 1 Thess 4 explain –when we will likely be given our new names. We are zoomed up to heavenly Jerusalem, and I see a special ceremony led by God the Father and Yeshua, the king of kings.

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

Now understand, Heavenly Jerusalem is 1,500 miles long, 1,500 miles wide – AND – 1,500 MILES high. That ONE CITY would cover half the entire USA! Certainly all of Europe! ONE City. Rev. 21:15-16.

Some see it as a cube; others as a pyramid. I see it as a beautiful shining city – the holy mountain of God, the city of the Bride. In fact, the name of the city is emblazoned on to us, as part of our name too. Mt Zion is often called the mountain, the high point. We'll find out for sure, I guess, what its exact shape is, once it is revealed. Scripture doesn't tell us the particulars of how or when we receive our new names. I believe it will be a spectacular venue however.

RECEIVING YOUR NEW NAMES

MY VISION OF THIS: (Hear the audio... the throne of God in heaven, with the sea of GLASS, a massive palatial indescribable wedding site, sparkling in brilliant light.... Read Revelation 4, 5 and 14 to get an idea of what I'm talking about. The sea of Glass and 100 million angels and more – all praising God.

Revelation 14 speaks of the 144,000 coming in to this brilliant, colorful, magnificent temple of God on the Sea of Glass. And they sing their new song, which only the 144,000 know. Imagine yourself – singing in perfect voice, perfect pitch, along with 144,000 others in perfect voice and pitch! WOW! (Hear the audio version of this)

And there's another song – sung by those who had victory over the Beast and his name and his number – **Revelation 15** – “Great and marvelous are your works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are your ways, O king of the saints. Who shall not fear you?...”

Can you hear in your mind, the applause, the cheers, the *hosannas*, the *angelic choruses*, and the thunder and lightning..... as we come into the presence of the throne of God Most High and Yeshua, the Prince of Peace sitting at his right hand. Can you feel it? Can you be there with me for a moment?

And then we come before our *Father* and *kneel*...no, we fall prostrate, flat on our faces in total worship. Others around us follow suit, and pretty soon are in total worship and awe of what is going on.

Then Abba rises and *accepts us gladly*, emotionally, *passionately*—just as surely the Father of the prodigal son did when the son came home (see Luke 15). That story is really **OUR story. And the way that Father reacted -- is a prophecy for what will happen when Abba's children “come back home”**. We've been away too long (meaning since the Garden of Eden). We will be coming home, as it were – and for a moment, in my view of this... holy Father rises and touches a few at the front and says to all of us: “Arise. I'm so glad you're all home. I'm so GLAD you and I are fully together again, literally together.

And we remember the story of the Prodigal son coming home (Luke 15) and how father ran out to accept him.

Yes, we're accepted in the beloved Savior (Ephesians 1:6). We're home.

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

There will be celebration, a wedding supper, a party, joy forevermore (Psalm 16:11).

TOO MANY OF US FEAR coming before Christ. Those of us who have repented should be *joyously* awaiting our king – as Hebrews 9:28 says: “those who eagerly WAIT FOR HIM.... apart from sin, for salvation”. I’ll have to give a full sermon soon on that.

Hebrews 9:27-28

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, [too many quit reading at this point]

28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. ***To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.***”

So now we’re in heaven. We’re home. Imagine the mood, the thrill, the joy, the oneness, the beauty, angels coming and going. Some look like horses, some look like eagles, some look like men or women – but it will all also be very familiar, just spirit.

When YOU are called forward—amidst the cheering angels and other family of God -- and given YOUR new name, what will it be?

What do you think God will name you?

I think you and I are going to hear some incredibly endearing and encouraging words from our Savior and our Father. I believe they will tell the assembled group some of the *really awesome things* you did, as led by His spirit, that nobody even knew about... though some or many might have heard some of some of your sins, this time it’s different. O how I long for that day. *Maybe our Savior will reveal some things about your new nature and your character that perhaps are precious to God....*

Scripture supports what I just said.

1 Timothy 5:24-25 NIV

“The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. 25 **In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not, cannot be hidden.**”

1 Corinthians 4:4-5

“For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness **and reveal the counsels of the HEARTS. Then each one's PRAISE will come from God.**”

It’s not a time of condemnation or judgment! If we’re in Christ, there IS NO more condemnation (Romans 8:1). HE took the wrath and condemnation on himself, remember! But God is going to reveal some pretty startling things about each of us – and *it will be GOOD things, like I’ve just read.*

Each one’s good deeds won’t be known until later. And our Holy Father himself, God Most High, will personally tell everyone some of the great things you’ve done.

Matthew 6:3-4

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

“But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; **and your Father who sees in secret will HIMSELF reward you OPENLY.**”

WOW, brethren. (Hear the audio where I describe the time leaders being trained at one company – in a group – got to hear inspiring stories others of what others had done to help people. Very, very moving.)

So God has some wonderful new names for us, perhaps names like:
ENCOURAGER, Unbelievable COMFORT-BRINGER, PREVAILER in prayer, Prayer warrior for thousands, GENTLENESS in troublesome times, UNSPEAKABLE JOY, HAPPINESS BRINGER, ENLIGHTENER, LOVING ONE, STEADFAST ONE, PERSEVERER, EVERLASTING PEACE..... whatever!

YOUR name will be very, very special and meaningful. It will be the way Yeshua sees you now, not the way you were when he first called you.

Brethren, none of us are yet 100% of the time what we want to be or ought to be. Not yet. But thank God, in Jesus' name, we are no longer what we once were. Not me, not you. In Him, we are new creations and He will give you some awesome words of encouragement.

And you and I are going to say to Abba, to our great and awesome Dad, the Creator of the Universe: “You’re talking about ME? That’s how you see ME? I always thought I never measured up! I always felt like such a failure!”

And God will reassure us, wipe away our tears, embrace us, and welcome us to His family amidst cheers, applause, hosannas, choruses of angels, lighting and fireworks unseen in the universe before! **And then He’ll whisper in our ear, “Yes, that’s how I see you now-- in my SON, and HE in you... perfect, without fault, with NO condemnation, but accepted in the Beloved. You’re a NEW creation. And my Son and I are CREATOR of all things, including the “New Creation”. You’re not the creator of that; we are.”** (Jude 24; Rev 14:5).

At least that’s my read of the scene.

Then, in the world to come, when our Father sends us on a mission, and we’re introduced to a group, we’ll be possibly introduced this way: Your new name—Let’s say “this is Powerful Encourager, child of the Father YHVH Most High, born of the heavenly Jerusalem, the Mt Zion of God, part of the bride and the one body of the King of kings, His Majesty King Yeshua... again, let me present Powerful Encourager.”

Once the people in the millennium understand how these new names work, they’ll understand that is truly what you are. It should speed the process of being able to serve and help them, especially as they experience us serving and helping them. When they see that everything we do is ALL about them, not about us, they’ll see and accept God in us quickly.

So value your name. Protect your name. Cherish your name.... and the name of God, whose honor and reputation we also carry with every deed, every word, every action of our lives.

Our Exciting New Names, continued...

That's it for today folks, and I hope you feel encouraged and are looking forward to your new name.

God bless you, keep you, preserve you, guide you and may you always feel the love of God in your lives and let that love flow to *all* of God's children. It's time we come together and be one again.

Until next time...this is Philip, your brother in our Messiah. May our loving Father bless you all, may His face shine upon you, may he open and shut doors in your life as He guides and leads you. In Yeshua's mighty name, amen