

The Escutcheon – A Promise of Rewards – (Revelation 3:12)

Read Revelation 3:7-13

Studying the incarnation we learn that the Lord of heaven and earth came to this earth as the God-Man... In Hebrews 10 we see that even at the time of His incarnation, Jesus said “*A body thou hast prepared for me*”, a quote from Psalm 40:6 where it says “...*you have pierced my ears...*”

In the ancient world when a person freely chose to be the slave of another he expressed that desire by allowing a hole to be placed in his ear: he was “earmarked” for life. In the ancient world, sometimes when a person was placed into slavery for a number of years, when it came time for them to be released, they *didn't want to be released*. They wanted to remain under the control of their master. So in the ancient world, when a person freely chose to remain the slave of another, he expressed that desire by allowing a hole to be placed in his ear; in other words, he was *earmarked* for life, to show his desire to remain in slavery to his master. Sometimes this occurred for an entire family of slaves; where they all willingly became earmarked for life to slavery.

Related to Jesus' birth...

When Jesus Christ came into this world as the God-Man, it revealed that He was “earmarked” forever. The body was the identification mark of the Hypostatic Union.

Jesus (Deity II) was saying: I AM here because *I want to be here*. I have *chosen* to become the Father's slave.

There is nothing greater for me than to respond as a slave to My Father's Plan. This is an identification, or *Escutcheon*.

Related to Jesus' death...

In Luke 23:46, when it came time for Jesus to pass from this physical life, He said “*Father, into thy hands I commit My spirit...*” Then he breathed out *EKPNEUMA*, and didn't breathe in. The scripture He quoted at this moment was Psalm 31:5, not completely quoted in the New Testament. The rest of the verse says, “*Thou hast ransomed me, O Lord God of Truth.*” From this fact, it appears that the last word our Lord actually uttered when He was dying on the cross was the word *Truth*.

The Escutcheon – A Promise of Rewards – (Revelation 3:12) (Continued)

Literal Translation Revelation 3:12 – “*The one overcoming I will make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God; and my new name.*”

The word *overcoming* is the word *NIKON* (νικῶν) – the word for *victory*.

POEO (ποιήσω) – To do, translated here *make*.

STULOS – (στῦλον) – The word *pillar* refers to the *escutcheon*.

No more out – *OU ME* – this is a double negative in the Greek, a strong negative, meaning once in heaven, no believer goes out any more (no in and out of heaven).

The word *name* – *ONOMA* (ὄνομα) – is used three times in this verse, an emphasis on the character of the Person being referenced – it is a reference to the *escutcheon*.

ESCUTCHEON – Identification

- I. Definition: A shield, crest, helm, wreath, coat of arms.
- II. Used by medieval knights to cover, protect and identify the wearer.
- III. The design was a symbol to represent an individual person or a family.
- IV. Escutcheon was used in many different ways:
 - (1) In furniture, the escutcheon was a covering that surrounded the keyhole or lock cylinder.
 - (2) In firearms it was a piece of metal inlaid in the wood on the wrist of a gunstock between the tang and the stock to me as decoration, or engraved for *identification*.
 - (3) The escutcheon was also used as a plate on the stern of a ship, inscribed with the ship's *name*.
 - (4) A protective cover over circuit breakers in electrical distribution boards.
 - (5) Sometimes the escutcheon is a decorative plate surrounding a faucet in a bathtub or shower.
 - (6) The word *pillar*, used in Revelation 3:12 is the Greek word *STULOS* – (στῦλον). The word *pillar* or column was also used in Galatians 2:9 to present *authority*. In I Timothy 3:15 the word was used for *foundation of Truth*.

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- (7) In this verse, Revelation 3:12, the word *pillar* is used as a believer properly identified with God's Word and God's plan. Thus, we are emphasizing the *escutcheon* as an emphasis for rewards that God has for believers. It simply means that a believer is properly identified with God's Word and His plan.
- When ancient gods were honored, often a pillar or column would be inscribed with the name a particular god.
 - When Solomon ascended to the throne and built the temple, He had workers construct from brass two massive pillars on the porch. He had inscribed on those two pillars the words *JACHIN* and *BOAZ* (I Kings 7:18-21).
 - *JACHIN* = *Establish*
 - *BOAZ* = *Strength* (I Kings 7:18-21)
 - God has put us on this earth. We are reminded that we are to be *His Escutcheon*. We are to be his identification marks, so other individuals will be able to see the Lord Jesus Christ in us. When we advance on a daily basis to the mountain peak of the echo zone, then other individuals will be able to recognize in us, that Jesus Christ is more important to us than anything else in the world.

V. The word *Pillar* is also found in Revelation 10:1, Galatians 2:9, and in I Timothy 3:15.

VI. In Revelation 3:12 the pillar will have written: My God; City of My God (new Jerusalem) and a New Name.

- (1) My God – believers will be made *GODLIKE* (*"We know not what we shall be, but we know when He shall appear we will be like him for we shall see Him as He is"*).
- (2) City of My God – a vivid picture of the wonderful city where the Bride is adorned for her Husband in heaven (during the tribulation on earth). Jesus Christ is the Groom; all believers will make up His Bride. We have been born into God's kingdom and have a relationship to the groom. The Groom and bride have not yet been united.
- (3) New Name – Before Jesus was born in Bethlehem an angel appeared to Joseph and Mary – *"you will bring forth a Son – you will call His NAME – JESUS"*... WHY? To save ... Matthew 1:21 – Redemptive name – When the work is finished – THERE WILL BE A NEW NAME!!