



WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS

'THE BOOKS'

PART I

The Books, well what Books? There are many books and if you research the Bible there are many quite relevant verses to 'The Books' in the King James Version. (KJV)

This two part series is hopefully dealing with the importance of Books, human and God's and the MOST important books, and also the super book which is called-- **'The BOOK OF LIFE', and why that should be of the utmost importance to us.**

But let us start gently, and work our way up, as we often do here at the WCF, into something very inspiring .

Over the last two years I have twice viewed something on the TV in which part of the program dealt with how British people kept records very faithfully and exactly, using 'Books' or Ledgers. This was perhaps especially more true in the past before the computer age. Everyone it seems had ledgers.

What I viewed spoke about the British Navy and how everyone who was inducted or recruited

into the British Navy, that their names were recorded and their ages at conscription, their weekly wage and their rank. All this was very exact.



Businesses, hospitals and schools and so many areas of society, every one kept records! I was quite amazed the two different times I saw this type of thing. How diligent and exact people were in those days! And perhaps they are now also.

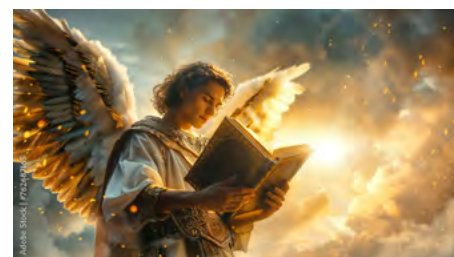
Then I saw the records of a large manor house in the north of England, which offered itself to the Government to become a hospital during the First World War to treat wounded or dying soldiers of that terrible conflict. The same feeling of awe and of diligence pervaded all their records. In fact it seems to me that diligence and meticulousness was the order of the day and the expected

norm and any one being slothful at that, probably got quite reprimanded! Perhaps it is the same where you live.

Now where did all this idea of keeping records actually come from? I believe it came right out of the Bible, God's great Book! I will share some verses shortly to confirm that.

Books and records were essential. My mother even kept all my school records since I was 6 years and 5 months! I have looked at them once or twice with happiness and also some pessimism at a few subjects I was quite hopeless at! I have assigned them to a special suitcase of many family photos and stories.

It seems that keeping books, is good for us. It **is** good for us, because it requires us to fulfil those scriptural injunctions that God is pleased with, which I have just spoken of.



**THE BOOKS WERE OPENED
AND THEN THE BOOK OF LIFE**

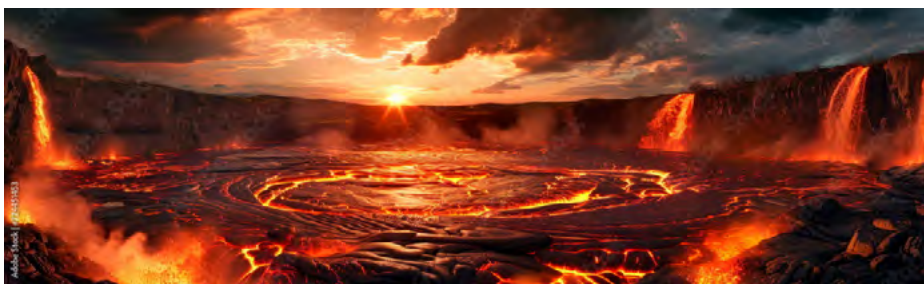
God and Jesus are quite interested in Books. In fact they use books and especially THE BOOK OF LIFE to both reward and punish people.

Revelation 20:11 And I saw a **great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.



15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Here we see one of the two great Judgments in the Bible. This is **The Great White Throne Judgement, (GWTJ)** which occurs way off into the future.

The first Judgment, the Judgment Seat of Christ, has

already occurred a thousand years earlier, sometime shortly after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. That judgment is **ONLY** for believers and those who loved Jesus in their earthly life. They were also given rewards according to their faithfulness love and good works. Their 'good works' did not save them or qualify them for Eternal Life, but rather, the good works produced rewards, as 'their works do follow them!' Revelation 14:13.

But here at the Great White Throne, all the souls of the unsaved dead of all ages have been raised up from the various locations they were in, and judged before God. Many books were opened, some have speculated that God has put into each human a 'book' which records their whole life story and that is the book that will judge them in that awful day. Nobody knows, but the Bible says the books were opened.

Even here at the Great White Throne Judgement, there is actually the possibility of some of the unsaved dead of all ages, will be found to have their names written into the Book of Life! Now that is quite a mind boggling thought to some believers today, **but there it is as plain as day; some of the unsaved dead will be transferred into a better life at this GWTJ, because their names were (found) written in the Book of Life! as the**

Apostle John has said in verse 15 directly above!

The BOOK OF LIFE is the key Book. That's the Book where your name has to be written, and MUST be written in, for you to make it into an eternal Heavenly Life.

Luke 10: 19

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight. *Even Jesus Himself spoke of the Book of Life and it's importance!*

Here are some other both very beautiful and terrifying verses about the Book of Life!

You will notice that most or all are in the New Testament. I am using the King James Version for everything today.

Philippians 4:3

And I intreat **thee** also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in **the** gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, **whose names are in the book of life.** (Paul is speaking)

Revelation 3:5

He that overcometh, the same

shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of **the book of life**, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Revelation 13:8

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him (**The Anti Christ**), whose names are **not** written in the book of life of the Lamb slain.

Revelation 17:8

The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, **whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world**, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

the world! It is not clear exactly whether the names have also been written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, but it certainly gives that impression!)

Revelation 20:12

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and **the books** were opened: and another **book** was opened, which is **the book of life**: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in **the books**, according to **their** works.

Revelation 20:15

And whosoever was not found written in **the book of life** was cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:27

any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but [only] they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. Here the Book of Life is described as the 'Lamb's Book of Life'.

Revelation 22:19

And if any man shall take away from the words of **the book** of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of **the book of life**, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in **this book**. (The Book of Revelation and its wonderful promises)

People's names can be blotted out

you will have noticed, and it is very clear in scripture that a person's name, can actually be removed or taken out or blotted out of the Book of Life! This is quite shocking for us modern Christians, but this is actually something the ancients understood very clearly, beginning with Moses:

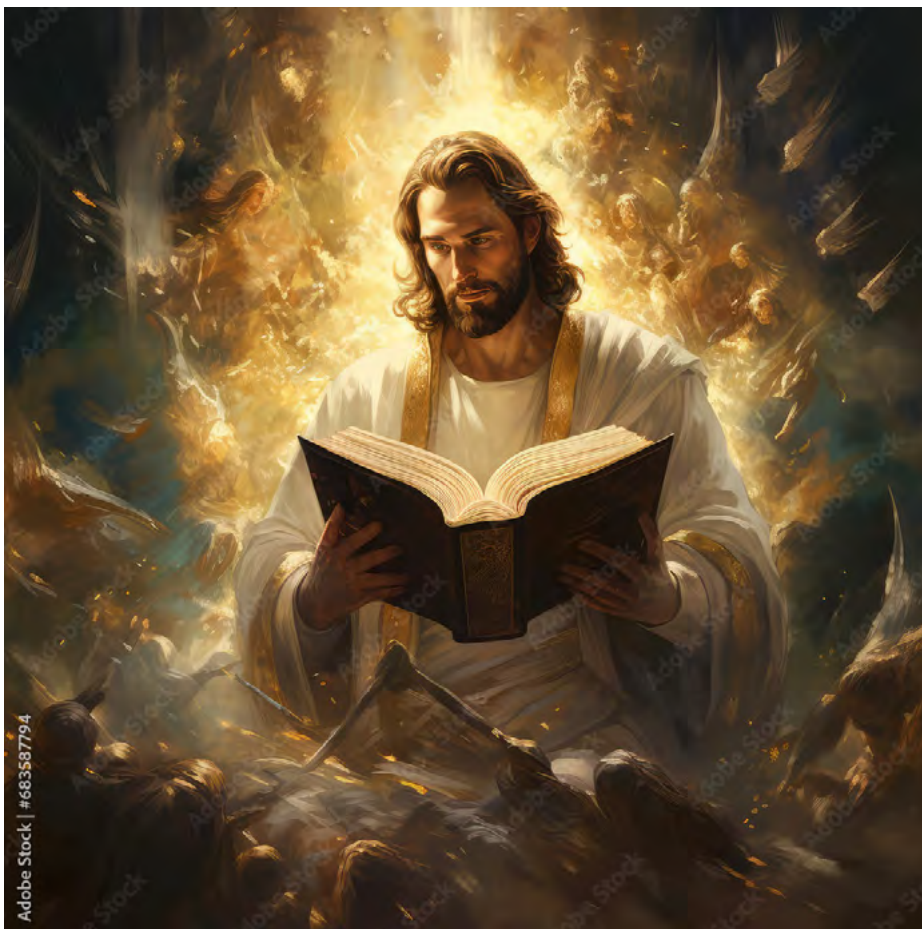
Exodus 32:32

Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin (The children of Israel); and **if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.**

Exodus 32:33

And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my **book**. In both of these verses emphasis is made that this is God's Book, and no one else's

Also in the verses further above: Revelation 3:5 and 22:19 we see that a name can be removed or blotted out. So this is also in the 'Age of grace'. Does this mean our Salvation is not eternal as some believe?



(**The Book of Life** has been around since the foundation of

And there shall in no wise **enter into it** (The Heavenly City of New Jerusalem)

Many Christians believed for two thousand years that our salvation is eternal and there are far more verses about that truth than this also important concept of someone's name being removed. So is there a difference between the Book of Life and Eternal Salvation?

I don't know the answer to that.

I believe there is, and if there is it is the knowledge that Eternal Salvation is free, it cannot be lost and it is all paid for by Jesus Christ.

I do know that by receiving Jesus in our lives, repenting of our sins and starting to witness and testify for Him, that we have eternal life and therefore our names are in that amazing Book. Because there are two factors that are exactly the same:

1. People who have received Christ have eternal life.
Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **And dozens of other verses.**

2. Your name being found in the Book of Life, spares you from the 'Second Death'.

How do we get our names written in the Book of Life?

I believe it is the same way as we receive Eternal Salvation which is this:

Choosing to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour is really the most important decision you'll ever make!

The Bible says "That if

thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (**Romans 10:9,10**).

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (**Romans 10:13**).

By His grace, God has already done everything to provide salvation. Your part is simply to believe and receive.

You can do this by praying out loud this sincere prayer:

Jesus, I confess that You are my Lord and Saviour.

I believe in my heart that God raised You from

the dead. By faith in Your Word, I receive your salvation now.

*Thank You for saving me.
Amen*

Let us rejoice as Jesus said, that our names are in the Book of Life, and that we have eternal life through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and will be entering that Heavenly city. Praise the Lord.

We hope to return to this amazing topic of The Books in a future edition, God willing.

Let's close with this encouragement.

Love in Jesus,

Jerry and the WCF Team

Job 33:27 He (God) looketh upon men, and if any say, I have sinned, and perverted that which was right, and it profited me not;

28 He will deliver his soul from going into the pit, and his life shall see the light.

29 Lo, all these things worketh God oftentimes with man,

30 To bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living.

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AND ANOTHER BOOK WAS OPENED,
WHICH IS THE BOOK OF LIFE



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