

The Book of Life

The Bible is the greatest Book ever written on earth! It is actually 66 books written by over 40 different human authors over a 1500 year time span in three languages. One of the very interesting things about the Bible is that in its pages it refers to many other books.

Some of the more interesting names of books referred to in the Bible are:

Book of the Covenant

Book of the Wars of the Lord

The Book of Jasher

Book of Nathan the Prophet

Book of the Acts of Solomon

Book of Gad the Seer

It would be interesting to know what was written in the Book of Jasher, wouldn't it? But that's nothing compared to other books the Bible talks about. God's Word also speaks of several books that are being written in Heaven!

One of them appears to be a type of diary written about our lives. Psalm 139:16 says: "In your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them." During a time of struggle King David took comfort in knowing that his tears had been noted in book form (Psalm 56:8). The prophet Malachi wrote: "then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and who meditate on His name (Mal. 3:16). Believer in God, does your image of Heaven include books being written about you in front of Him? According to Malachi 3:16, it should!

Another book you may have heard about is the Book of Life! Moses was aware of the Book of Life in his day 3500 years ago. Moses knew the people had sinned against God and faced judgment. He pleaded with God to forgive the people, wanting their reconciliation so badly that if God wouldn't forgive them he was willing to have his own name blotted out of the book (Exodus 32:32).

The prophet Daniel, receiving a vision of a time of great tribulation which would come upon the world, wrote: "At that time Michael (the archangel) shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book" (Daniel 12:1).

When Jesus was talking to his jubilant disciples about some of their neat accomplishments, he told them, "Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this...but rather rejoice because your names are written in Heaven" (Luke 10:20). The apostle Paul later spoke of his fellow workers in getting out the good news about Jesus as those "whose names are in the Book of Life" (Philippians 4:3).

Friend, is your name written in the Book of Life? It happens when you begin a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through repenting of your sin and receiving Jesus as your Savior and Lord. John 1:12 promises “as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.”

The Bible describes these two books, the book of the records of our lives, and the Book of Life, as coming together on the Day of Judgment. Revelation 20: 11-15 says “I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books...and anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

The difference in the two books couldn't be starker. The one book includes an analysis of all the things we've ever done, both good and bad. Those trusting in their own accomplishments to get into Heaven will be sadly disappointed. It won't be enough. But in the Book of Life will be the names of those who realized the only way to be perfect on judgment day is to have somebody perfect take your place. And that's exactly what Jesus did. Moses' prayer had been answered! A way had been made for sinners to experience eternal life! And think of it- when you believe, your name is written on a Book in Heaven!

If I can be of any help in starting your relationship with Jesus, give me a call!

Danny Campbell <><

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