

God's Other Book

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Introduction:

Tonight we are going to talk about a very special book. This book is special because:

- It is written by God
- Will determine where each of us will spend eternity.

And you might suppose that that I am referring to the Bible, but you would be incorrect.

It is true that the Bible is written by God and will determine where we will spend eternity, but there is another book that also has these characteristics, and which will continue to exist after every printed copy of the Bible is gone. That is the book that we will be talking about tonight. The only place you can learn about it is in the book of God's revealed will to man: the Bible.

It is called by various names:

- The book of life Rev. 22:19
- Book of remembrance Mal 3:16
- Book of the living Ps 69:28

It has these characteristics:

- It is written by God Ex. 32:31
- It is the Lamb's Rev. 21:27
- It contains names of people Phil. 4:3

It will be used in the final judgment Rev. 20:12-15

- Two sets of documents used: “the books” and “the book of life” (heaven and earth have fled and found no place – all printed copies of the Bible have been destroyed)
- Judgment made based on the contents of the books
- All men who ever lived will submit to the judgment
- Eternal destiny depends on whether our name is in the book of life

Those whose names are not in the book:

- will be judged by what is written in the books, according to their works Rev. 20:12
 - Jews have Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)
 - We have the law of Christ (John 12:48)
 - How do our works compare with the requirements of the law?
 - God will not just check to make sure we haven't done anything horribly evil (Matt. 12:36)
 - None are righteous (Rom 3:10, 20, 23)
 - If my name is not in the book of life, I will be judged by my works and found guilty before God
- will be cast into the lake of fire Rev 20:15
 - All who are not in the book of life will receive the same judgment, because all have sinned

Those whose names are in the book:

- will have their names confessed by Jesus to God and his angels Rev. 3:5
- will be delivered Dan. 12:1
 - o from the guilt of their sins
 - o from the punishment of their sin
 - o their punishment has already been paid by Jesus
- will enter the heavenly city Rev 21:27

Whose names are in the book of life?

- Those who belong to Jesus Rev. 3:5, 21:27
- Those who are righteous Ps. 69:28
 - o Not because they are sinless
 - o Because they have been forgiven by the blood of Jesus Christ
- Those who fear God and think upon His name Mal 3:16
- Those who overcome Rev. 3:5

Is your name in the book of life?

- Have you sinned? Ex. 32:33
- Have you had your sins blotted out? Acts 3:15, 2:38
- Have you put on Christ, thereby becoming one of His own people (Gal. 3:27)
- Do not assume you are Christ's, make sure (Matt. 7:22-23)

2 Timothy 2:19

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal: "The Lord knoweth them that are his." And, "Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."