

THE BOOKS OF HEAVEN



How the Judgment Works

Daniel 7:9-10

- ❖ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.
- ❖ A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: **the judgment was set, and the books were opened.**

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.**

How Many Books?

- ❖ The Book of Life
- ❖ Book for Evil Deeds
- ❖ Book for Good Deeds
- ❖ [Ecc 12:14] For God shall bring **every work** into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be **good**, or whether it be **evil**.

The Book of Life

- ❖ [Rev 20:15] And whosoever was not found written in **the book of life** was cast into the lake of fire.
- ❖ [Rev 21:27] And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in **the Lamb's book of life**.

The Book of Life

- ❖ [7BC 987.6] **When we become children of God, our names are written in the Lamb's book of life, and they remain there until the time of the investigative judgment.**
Then the name of every individual will be called, and his record examined, by Him who declares, "I know thy works."

How the Book of Life Works

- ❖ The Book of Life is a record of NAMES.
- ❖ It records names of those who have accepted Christ.
- ❖ Those names remain in the book until the investigative judgment. No name gets removed until the judgment is completed.
- ❖ Our names must remain in the book in order for us to be saved.

The Book of Record of Sins

- ❖ [Isa 65:6,7] Behold, **it is written** before me...
Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD.
- ❖ [Jer 17:1] **The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron**, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon **the horns of your altars;**

The Book of Record of Sins

- ❖ [GC 482.1] Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered with terrible exactness **every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling.** Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel.

The Book of Remembrance

- ❖ [Mal 3:16] And **a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD**, and that thought upon his name.
- ❖ [Neh 13:14] Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and **wipe not out my good deeds** that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

The Book of Remembrance

- ❖ [7BC 986.10] The angels of God are walking up and down the streets of these cities, and marking the deeds of men. **They record in the books of God's remembrance the words of faith, the acts of love, the humility of spirit;** and in that day when every man's work shall be tried of what sort it is, the work of the humble follower of Christ will stand the test, and will receive the commendation of Heaven.

The Book of Remembrance

- ❖ [GC 481.1] **In the book of God's remembrance every deed of righteousness is immortalized.** There every temptation resisted, every evil overcome, every word of tender pity expressed, is faithfully chronicled. And every act of sacrifice, every suffering and sorrow endured for Christ's sake, is recorded.

The Books of Record/Remembrance

- ❖ Record of all sins and righteous deeds.
- ❖ There is no error in this record, it is complete, precise, and completely accurate.
- ❖ Registered by the angels.
- ❖ This serves as evidence in our judgment.

What do the books show?

- ❖ [7BC 987.1] In the books of heaven **our lives** are as **accurately traced** as in the picture on the plate of the photographer.
- ❖ [7BC 987.2] As the artist takes on the polished glass a true picture of the human face, so the angels of God daily place upon the books of heaven an **exact representation of the character of every human being.**



Full Backup in the “Cloud”

Complete, Precise, and Unerring

How are the books used?

- ❖ [GC 483.1] As the books of record are opened in the judgment, the lives of all who have believed on Jesus come in review before God. Beginning with those who first lived upon the earth, our Advocate presents the cases of each successive generation, and closes with the living. Every name is mentioned, every case closely investigated. Names are accepted, names rejected. When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God's remembrance.

How are the books used?

- ❖ [GC 483.2] All who have truly repented of sin, and by faith claimed the blood of Christ as their atoning sacrifice, have had pardon entered against their names in the books of heaven; as they have become partakers of the righteousness of Christ, and their characters are found to be in harmony with the law of God, their sins will be blotted out, and they themselves will be accounted worthy of eternal life.

How are the books used?

- ❖ The Book of Life is the waiting list for names to be called in the judgment.
- ❖ When a name is called, the entire life of that individual is evaluated. (His/her books are opened.)
- ❖ In the end, either the name is blotted out of the Book of Life or the sins are blotted out of the Book of Records.

The One Question

- ❖ **Has this person truly accepted Jesus as his/her Lord and Savior?**
- ❖ The records in the books are the evidence to answer that question. Do we mean what we profess?
- ❖ It is not measuring if our good deeds outweigh the bad!

Evidence vs. Merit

- ❖ [GC 484.2] Jesus does not excuse their sins (*Records*), but shows their penitence and faith (*Remembrance*), and, claiming for them forgiveness, He lifts His wounded hands before the Father and the holy angels, saying: I know them by name. I have graven them on the palms of My hands... Christ will clothe His faithful ones with His own righteousness (*Christ's merits*)... Their names stand enrolled in the book of life...

The Books Tell the Real Story

- ❖ [SC 57.2] While we cannot do anything to change our hearts or to bring ourselves into harmony with God; while we must not trust at all to ourselves or our good works, **our lives will reveal whether the grace of God is dwelling within us. A change will be seen in the character**, the habits, the pursuits. The contrast will be clear and decided between what they have been and what they are. **The character is revealed, not by occasional good deeds and occasional misdeeds, but by the tendency of the habitual words and acts.**

Please ~~Don't~~ Judge Me!

- ❖ Jesus knows EVERYTHING about us and He STILL loves us and wants to save us. We can have assurance in an Advocate like that to defend us. (Woman at the Well - John 4:29)
- ❖ The whole truth will be known, no misrepresenting the facts. Everyone gets an equal hearing. The innocent will be vindicated and the guilty will be unmasked.
- ❖ But there isn't and never will be any assurance if we live in sin.



True Justice

- ❖ There will finally be true justice on those who never get what they deserve while on this Earth.
- ❖ The hurtful hypocrite? The oppressor of the downtrodden? The wicked who prospered while the righteous suffered? Those who “got away with murder”? They will all be fully unmasked in the judgment.
- ❖ Just make sure we’re not one of them!

Why is this necessary?

- ❖ Doesn't God know everything already? Why go through the trouble?
- ❖ God is opening up His decision-making process for the watching universe to examine.

Who are the books really for?

- ❖ **Satan and Fallen Angels** - So God can't be accused of being unfair.
- ❖ **The Unfallen Angels and Beings** - They are interested to know who their neighbors will be. They have not forgotten when one-third fell. (And they do the recording.)
- ❖ **The Redeemed** - For their examination during the Millennium.
- ❖ **The Lost** - For their judgment after the Millennium.

Standing in the Judgment

- ❖ [Acts 3:19] **Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out**, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
- ❖ [Rev 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.

THE BOOKS OF HEAVEN



How the Judgment Works