

## The Lamb's Book of Life

### Foundation Scripture:

God is life and gave to each person of His Own life, both when each person was conceived and when each person was born again. It seems reasonable to think that at one or both of those times; the person's name would have been entered into the Lamb's Book of Life (BOL). But the Scriptures do not support that concept.

If the addition and removal of a person's name to/from the BOL were dependent on the Spirit of God in the person (i.e., whether or not the person was saved), the name would be added at conception, removed at the time of the person's first sin, re-added when the person was born again and re-removed if the person committed any sin for which there is no forgiveness (e.g., Heb 6:6 – crucifying the Son of God afresh; Heb 10:26 –sinning willfully by counting the Blood unholy; Matt 12:31 – blasphemy of the Holy Spirit; 1 John 5:16 – sin unto death; Rev 14:9, 10 - taking the mark of the beast and worshipping the beast).

The Scriptures state that the names were written into the BOL from the foundation of the world and are removed under certain circumstances. There is no mention of any further additions of names to the BOL. Just as God gives a person credit for the intention of the heart (e.g. Gen 22 - Abraham and the sacrifice of Isaac), it appears that by foreknowledge of the person's future behavior, God adds the name of the person from the foundation of the world.

#### A. What is the Book of Life?

At the Great White Throne Judgment of those raised from the dead at the end of the Millennial Reign of Jesus, the Book of Life is the deciding factor between life and death. Those, whose names are written in the Book of Life, survive to enter into the reign of God and the Lamb upon the earth (i.e., under the Age of the Rod of Iron without Death). Those, whose names are not in the book, are cast into the Lake of Fire, which is the second death.

Rev 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.

Rev 20:13 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.

Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Rev 20:15 And **whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.**

#### B. Purpose of the Book of Life.

Only those, whose names are in the Lamb's Book of Life, may enter New Jerusalem, which comes down to us from Heaven.

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.

#### C. Who is in the Book of Life?

1. Is everybody's name entered into the Book of Life?

a) Not every person has his or her name in the Book of Life.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, **whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb** slain from the foundation of the world.

Rev 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.

b) Believers are in the Book of Life.

Phi 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 fellow labourers, whose names [are] in the book of life.

c) Sheep are in the Book of Life.

1) Saved by works.

**Mat 10:39** He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Mat 10:40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

Mat 10:41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

**Mat 25:31** When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth [his] sheep from the goats:

Mat 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Mat 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: .

2) Living by word in their hearts.

Deu 30:11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it [is] not hidden from thee, neither [is] it far off.

Deu 30:12 It [is] not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

Deu 30:13 Neither [is] it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

Deu 30:14 **But the word [is] very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.**

Deu 30:15 See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, [that] I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

3) Accepting God through His works of creation.

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Rom 1:19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; **for God hath shewed [it] unto them.**

Rom 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are **clearly seen**, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; **so that they are without excuse:**

d) Overcomers and martyrs are in the Book of Life.

1) Overcomers before the Age of Grace.

- Elijah and Enoch.

- Those in Abraham's bosom.

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

1Pe 3:19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

Eph 4:8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

- Clouds of witnesses – Abraham, prophets, those in Heb 11 Hall of Faith, etc.

2) Dead in Christ.

Cloud of Witnesses - Apostles, Mary, those who died standing in faith and trusting Jesus, etc.

3) 144000.

Rev 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins.

These are **they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth**. These were redeemed from among men, [being] the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

4) Overcomers via the Rapture.

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and **so shall we ever be with the Lord**.

5) End time overcomers.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them:

Rev 2:26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

Rev 2:27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

6) Martyrs.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This [is] the first resurrection.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

2. When is the name added to the Book of Life?

a) Answer.

The names were added to the Book of Life from the foundation of the world. However, at that time, the names appear to have been added based on knowledge of what the persons would do in the future.

Therefore, we have been predestinated, called, justified and glorified.

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

b) Foundation Scriptures.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the **book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world**.

Rev 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.

c) Past impact of a future event.

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Rom 8:29 **For whom he did foreknow**, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

3. Why is a person's name written in the BOL at the foundation of the world?

The Bible does not clearly state this but we can surmise based on certain Scriptures, as we examine them in view of the categories of those whom we know are in the BOL (Refer: Part C) Since believers are in the BOL, we can assume that God's foreknowledge of those who accept Jesus results in their names being written in the BOL at the time of their confessing Jesus.

Mat 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 10:33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

We can apply this logic to every category to come up with an action/confession which allowed God to write their names in the BOL. Rev 14:13, 20:4 martyrs are saved by refusing the mark. Rom 4:20-22 Abraham's faith was imputed as righteousness.

4. Can a person's name be removed from the Book of Life?

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.

Rev 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.

Since ultimate salvation, total redemption, is to become an overcomer in order to be an adult son and heir of God, it appears that the name is only removed when, after exhausting every possible avenue of becoming an overcomer, the person finally fails. Then, the name is removed; and the person is eventually cast into the Lake of Fire.

5. Can a name be added to the Book of Life?

Based on my current knowledge, I have found no place where a name was added to the Book of Life, once it was established from the foundation of the world.

Those who do well are simply accepted without any mention of being added to the BOL.

Those, who meet the conditions for failure, are rejected (Matt 7:13-26, 25:31-46).

Rev 3:10 **Because thou hast kept the word of my patience**, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Rev 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: **hold that fast which thou hast**, that no man take thy crown.