THE BOOK OF LIFE

Reflections on Eternal Life

Proponents of the insidious and satanic doctrine of '*Once-Saved-Always-Saved*' insist that all of humanity's names, saved and sinner alike, are written in the *Book of Life*. They maintain that names are only '*blotted out*' when someone dies in a state of unbelief. Of course, they assert this in a futile attempt to address verses like *Exodus 32:32-33*, *Deuteronomy 9:14*; *Revelation 3:5* which teach names written in the Book of Life can be blotted out, which would suggest men can lose their salvific-standing with God. A brief study of this topic in the Scriptures proves this view to be both grossly unscriptural and disingenuous.

Consider the following Scriptural passages…

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.

If all men's names who are alive, both saved and unsaved, are written in the *Book of Life*, why would God inspire the *Apostle Paul* to write as if one's name written in the *Book of Life* was exclusive to believers? Isn't it strange that God would write the names of spiritually dead people in His *Book of Life?*

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.

The wording here clearly aligns with what is said elsewhere in the Scriptures, namely, that '*enduring unto the end*' is a condition of being '*saved*'. When a man is truly born-again, God writes his name in the *Book of Life* and he must overcome to remain. Salvation is conditional.

Revelation 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.

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.

I thought everyone *alive* has to have their names written in the *Book of Life*? In these passages, men who have yet to die, do not have their names written in the *Book of Life*. This clearly refutes the argument of the *OSAS* camp.

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.

This verse plainly indicates the penalty for tampering with *God's Word* is the removal of one's part or name from the *Book of Life*. This has little to do with dying in unbelief.

Moreover, consider the following verses…

Exodus 32:32-33 Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.

Psalms 56:8 Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?

Psalms 69:28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

Psalms 109:13 Let his posterity be cut off; and in the generation following let their name be blotted out.

Daniel 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Malachi 3:16-17 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Luke 10:20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Revelation 20:12-15 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. 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. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

These are all very strange statements if everyone's name who is alive has their names written in the *Book of life*.

Conclusions we can make based on the authority of Scripture:

1. There is such a *Book*.
2. Those whose names are written in the *Book* at judgment have *eternal life*.
3. Names can and are blotted out of the *Book of Life*.
4. Only the righteous and believers are associated with the *Book*.

5. The only reasons cited for having one's name blotted from the *Book of life* is *sin* (Ex 32:32) and *taking away from the Scriptures* (*Rev 22:19*).

—B.W.

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