

We Will Be Judged By Our Names Being In the Book of Life  
(Revelation 20:12)

Introduction:

1. Recently we have been examining some important events that involve Christ.
2. Four of these events have already occurred: the Lord's death, burial, resurrection, and ascension.
3. Other events will occur in the future: the Lord's return, the resurrection, and the judgment.
4. At the judgment we will be judged on the basis of:
  - a. whether we know God and obey the Gospel (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)
  - b. how we receive the Lord's Word (John 12:48)
  - c. the words we speak (Matthew 12:36-37)
  - d. our works (Matthew 16:27).
5. This lesson is based on the information presented in Revelation 20:12.
  - a. This passage teaches that "we will be judged by our names being in the book of life."
  - b. In studying this subject we need to cover Revelation 20:11-15; 21:1-4.
  - c. The first point we need to make is that . . .

Discussion:

- I. "THE BOOK OF LIFE" IS MENTIONED MANY TIMES IN THE BIBLE
  - A. Old Testament verses:
    1. (Exodus 32:32) Moses referred to it as God's book that He had written and that someone could be blotted out of it.
    2. (Psalm 69:28) David referred to it as "*the book of the living,*" consisting of "*the righteous.*"
    3. (Daniel 12:1) Daniel indicated that God's people are those "*found written in the book.*"
  - B. New Testament verses:
    1. (Philippians 4:3) Paul listed several fellow-Christians "*whose names are in the book of life.*"
    2. (Revelation 3:5) A person must overcome to prevent his name from being blotted out of the book of life.
    3. (Revelation 13:8; 17:8) The names of those caught up in false worship will not be written in the book of life.
  - C. On the basis of this information, let us turn our attention to . . .
- II. SOME THINGS JOHN SAW AND HEARD (Revelation 20:11-15; 21:1-4)
  - A. Let us first consider the things that John saw.
    1. (20:11) He saw:
      - a. "*a great white throne*" [a place of judgment -- Matthew 25:31-32]
      - b. "*him that sat on it*"
      - c. that the earth and heaven were gone (2 Peter 3:10).
    2. (20:12-13) He saw:
      - a. the dead stand before God
        - 1) Included were the "*small and great.*"
        - 2) The dead were resurrected -- the sea, the grave, and Hades gave up the dead that were in them.
      - b. some books opened, one of which was the book of life
      - c. the dead judged on the basis of:
        - 1) what was written in the books
        - 2) their works.
    3. (20:14) He saw what happened to death and Hades -- they were "*cast into the lake of fire.*"
    4. (20:15) He saw what happened to those whose names were not written in the book of life - - they were "*cast into the lake of fire.*"
    5. (21:1) John saw "*a new heaven and a new earth.*"
      - a. The first heaven and earth "*were passed away*" (2 Peter 3:10, 13).
      - b. In this new dwelling place, "*there was no more sea.*"
    6. (21:2) John saw "*new Jerusalem*" that:

- a. came *"down from God out of heaven"*
  - b. was *"prepared as a bride adorned for her husband"* (John 14:2-3).
- B. Let us consider the things that John heard.
1. (21:3) John heard that God would dwell with His people in His tabernacle.
  2. (21:4) John heard that certain things will not exist in this new dwelling place: tears, death, sorrow, crying, and pain.
- C. Who will be permitted to enter this new dwelling place? (see 21:27)

Conclusion:

1. We will be judged by our names being in the book of life.
  - a. Those whose names are not in the book of life will be punished by being cast into the lake of fire.
  - b. Those whose names are in the book of life will be blessed with an eternal home in heaven.
2. We have shown from the Scriptures that:
  - a. Jesus will return one day
  - b. everyone will be resurrected
  - c. everyone will be judged.
3. As we conclude this study of important events involving Christ, is your name in the book of life?