

## A Name Written in Heaven Is Very Special (Luke 10:20)

### Introduction:

1. The theme of our lesson is based on the Lord's statement recorded in this verse -- "a name written in heaven is very special."
2. To properly understand the Lord's statement we need to consider the events that led up to it.
  - a. (Luke 9:1-6) Jesus had sent the apostles on "the limited commission."
  - b. We read about the return of the apostles in Luke 9:10a.
  - c. Jesus gave the same mission to the 70 in Luke 10:1, 9.
  - d. We read about the return of the 70 in Luke 10:17.
    - 1) They rejoiced because of their power over demons.
    - 2) (Luke 10:18-19) Jesus stated that Satan's power had been checked.
  - e. (Luke 10:20) Jesus talked to the 70 about the cause of their joy.
    - 1) He told them not to rejoice because of their power over evil spirits.
    - 2) Rather, they were to rejoice because their names were written in heaven.
3. We conclude that a name written in heaven is very special.
4. As we study this subject, we first need to point out that . . .

### Discussion:

- I. NAMES WRITTEN IN HEAVEN ARE IN "THE BOOK OF LIFE"
  - A. (Philippians 4:3) Paul mentioned his co-workers "*whose names are in the book of life.*"
  - B. According to Revelation 20:15, having a name in the book of life is a matter of utmost importance.
    1. False worshipers will not be in this book (Revelation 13:8; 17:8).
    2. (Revelation 3:5) A person must overcome to prevent his name from being blotted out of this book.
  - 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 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.
      - b. some books opened, one of which was the book of life
      - c. the dead judged on the basis of "what was written in the books" and "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.
  - C. Who will be permitted to enter this new dwelling place? (see 21:27)

### Conclusion:

1. (Luke 10:20) Jesus said that a name written in heaven is very special.
2. Is your name in the book of life?