

When is the believer's name written in the book of life? Are there other books mentioned in the Bible?

Book of Life

When are names written in the Book of Life?

(Revelation 13:8) All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

- Our names must be written in the Book of Life.
- All who worship God are written in the Book of Life.

It is evident that we are not written in the Book of Life before belief in Christ.

(The Desire of Ages, p. 564) [Jesus] did not refuse the simplest flower plucked by the hand of a child, and offered to Him in love. He accepted the offerings of children, and blessed the givers, inscribing their names in the book of life.

(An Appeal to the Youth, p. 70) Dear children, ... delay not to make an entire consecration to God, that your names may be recorded in the Lamb's book of life.

Can names be removed from the Book of Life?

(Revelation 3:5) He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

- Everyone who overcomes sin and temptation will keep their name written in the Book of Life.

(Revelation 22:18–19)¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

- Yes, names can be removed from the Book of Life.

Other Books

(2 Corinthians 5:10) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

- We will each be judged according to the things we do while on earth, whether good or bad.

We are not saved by our works.

(2 Timothy 1:9) who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.

(Titus 3:4–5) ⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us...

- We are saved by the grace of God, not by the works we have done.

The Book of Remembrance

This does not mean that our good works are not recorded in heaven.

(Psalm 56:8) You number my wanderings; put my tears into Your bottle; are they not in Your book?

(Malachi 3:16) Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who meditate on His name.

(Nehemiah 13:14) Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for its services!

- There is a book with the record of the good deeds of the righteous.

The Book of Remembrance is for the purpose of rewarding the work of the saints for the glory of God.

(1 Peter 1:17) And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work...

(Matthew 16:27) For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

(Christ in His Sanctuary, p. 174) 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

(Isaiah 65:6) "Behold, it is written before Me: I will not keep silence, but will repay— even repay into their bosom."

(The Great Controversy, p. 481–483) There is a record also of the sins of men ... Every man's work passes in review before God, and is registered for faithfulness or unfaithfulness. 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. ...

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.

- Ellen White indicates that there is a book of record for everyone. This means there are millions of books of record recording the sins of the unrighteous.

NOTE: By deduction, it appears that the books of record with the sins of all true believers has been canceled by the blood of Christ. Their sins have been placed upon the Lamb of God who bore our sins on the cross. These sins are transferred from the individual to the sanctuary for cleansing at the time of forgiveness.

(Romans 4:7–8)⁷ “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸ blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin.”

(Psalm 103:12) As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

(Leviticus 16:30) For on that day the priest shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD.

Great White Throne Judgment

(Revelation 20:12–15)¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

(Testimonies 4, p. 384) The great day of the execution of God's judgment seemed to have come. Ten thousand times ten thousand were assembled before a large throne, upon which was seated a person of majestic appearance. Several books were before Him, and upon the covers of each was written in letters of gold, which seemed like a burning flame of fire: "Ledger of Heaven." One of these books, containing the names of those who claim to believe the truth, was then opened. Immediately I lost sight of the countless millions about the throne, and only those who were professedly children of the light and of the truth engaged my attention. As these persons were named, one by one, and their good deeds mentioned, their countenances would light up with a holy joy that was reflected in every direction. But this did not seem to rest upon my mind with the greatest force.

Another book was opened, wherein were recorded the sins of those who profess the truth. Under the general heading of selfishness came every other sin. There were also headings over every column, and underneath these, opposite each name, were recorded, in their respective columns, the lesser sins.

...

As the Holy One upon the throne slowly turned the leaves of the ledger, and His eyes rested for a moment upon individuals, His glance seemed to burn into their very souls, and at the same moment every word and action of their lives passed before their minds as clearly as though traced before their vision in letters of fire. Trembling seized them, and their faces turned pale. Their first appearance when around the throne was that of careless indifference. But how changed their appearance now! The feeling of security is gone, and in its place is a nameless terror. A dread is upon every soul, lest he shall be found among those who are wanting. Every eye is riveted upon the face of the One upon the throne; and as His solemn, searching eye sweeps over that company, there is a quaking of heart; for they are self-condemned without one word being uttered. In anguish of soul each declares his own guilt and with terrible vividness sees that by sinning he has thrown away the precious boon of eternal life.