

HEAVEN'S LIBRARY

Mal.3:15; Rev.20:11-15

Text: Rev.20:12, "And....books were opened."

The Bible Itself

The Bible is a collection of 66 books. It is the Book—*par excellence*. The Bible is a real library. It is the recognized record of divine revelation. *It is written that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we may have life in his name* (John 20:31).

The Book of Remembrance

In ancient times, kings owned a book of remembrance, so that in due time they could reward their subjects (Esther 6:1-11).

Malachi reveals that God, the King eternal, possesses such a book. *Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in His presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honoured His name. "They will be mine," says the LORD Almighty, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession"* (Mal.3:16-17).

We call this God's Autograph book, for those very near to God's heart.

The Book of Works

They are the books of dead and wicked works, of sin and shame, of rejection of the Son of God (Rev.20:12). Each of these books consists of a record of the deeds of unbelievers as a basis of their judgment proving they all fall short of the righteousness of Jesus Christ (**Dan. 7:9-10; Rom. 3:19-24**).

Titus 3:5, *"He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy."*

The Book of Life

Another book was opened, which is the book of life (Rev.20:12). If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire (Rev.20:15).

The Book of Life, or roll, is also called the Lamb's Book of Life because it contains the names of those who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lord Jesus (Rev. 3:5; Phil.4:3; Rev. 13:8; 21:27). It is the list of names of those who will live with God forever in heaven. In Luke 10:20, the Lord said to His own, *"Rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

The Great White Throne Judgment described in Revelation 20:11-15 is a judgment for unbelievers. That passage makes it clear that no one at that judgment has

his name in the Book of Life (Rev. 20:12-14). Since their names are not in the Book of Life, their destiny is sealed, their punishment is sure, and their torment everlasting.

Soli Deo Gloria