

13. THE LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE

WITH SOME THOUGHTS ON THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Nothing can compare with having ones name in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE. Knighthoods, Nobel prizes, Victoria Crosses et al, fade into utter insignificance in comparison with having ones name in that book. How can that greatest of all prizes be won? Is there a Committee that meets? Can it be won by living a good life or by incredible achievements? No, it is by none of these means. So, how then can one inherit the Kingdom of God and have their name written in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE?

YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN

Of course, the answer is found in the Book of Books, God's Holy Sacred Word, our Bible. It is a book that every Christian worthy of that name should and must read and meditate on every day of their lives. Nicodemas, burdened and seeking, came to the Lord Jesus. He was left with no possible room for doubt. Our Lord simply laid before him the age lasting truth, *YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN, except a man be born again he cannot (even) see the Kingdom of God (JOHN 3 v 7 & 3)*. So, we gather that there is one and only one vital experience that opens the door of salvation and results in the name being found in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE, and it is and note the imperative, **YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN**. How then can this vital, all else transcending, experience take place?

REPENT

John the Baptist had one message and everything else he ministered came from it. The message was REPENT.

Our Lord Jesus began his ministry with the same message and, again and again, like a gold thread running throughout his ministry, was the call to REPENT. The message of the Apostles on the day of Pentecost and the under girding of all apostolic ministry from that time on was the call to REPENT. Without repentance, how true it is that the gate to eternal life and to be found walking on the narrow way can never be found *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it (MATTHEW 7 v 13 - 14)*. We must leave the careless masses on the broad way leading to destruction for the time being and concern ourselves with sincere seekers and even the multitudes of nominal Christians, *who (only) have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof (2 TIMOTHY 3 v 5)*, for are they not among the most pitiable of poor lost souls? Our church rows are full of them. Sadly, they have never repented. Sadly, they do not walk the narrow way for they have never entered in by the strait gate. Why? Because so few preachers in our superficial churches ever call their hearers to REPENT. It is necessary, even vital, that before we place before our readers what it means to repent, let us consider together what is it that lost hell bound sinners must repent from.

WHAT ARE THE SPECIFICS?

The Word is clear. *All have sinned and come short of the glory of God, indeed, there is none righteous, no not one (ROMANS 3 v 23 & 10)*. If the Holy Spirit of God is convicting, if there is no assurance of salvation, if there is no inner witness of the Spirit that one is born of God, then almost certainly the door to life has never been found. Dear reader, please examine your heart, *Examine yourselves, whether ye (are even) in the faith, indeed, prove your own selves (2 CORINTHIANS 13 v 5)* and ponder upon your spiritual state in relation to these scriptures *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,*

(*JOHN 10 v 1 & 9*). If you are truly serious with God and have accepted that you are not found upon the narrow way that leads to life, even if you may be full of good works and church attendance, but like multitudes of others, you know with certainty that you are a lost soul, may we then endeavour to help you to come to the new birth by means of God's only way, which is to REPENT.

TAKE A PEN AND PAPER

It can often help to take a pen and paper and then to beseech the Lord to show you your sin. There are Ten Commandments. Where better to begin than by reading them, even on your knees, and making them the basis of your sin confession (*EXODUS 20 v 1 - 17*). Taken from a lifetime of experience of helping souls to salvation, we now share some of the realms so rarely touched on by our superficial ministers who are no better than hirelings or, even worse, even wolves in sheep's clothing. If it is not a "purpose driven life" that is presented, then it is psychological claptrap that views sinners as hurting victims and their circumstances or, even worse, their parents as the cause of their troubles and not as the Bible insists, the individual's sin. Now to those realms of sin.

ABORTION

Some women with a conscience that is seared can abort a baby that should have been safe in that most sacred and secure of places, the mother's womb, without seemingly a care in the world. However, many of those who have arranged for the baby in the womb (we purposely refrain from the use of the word "foetus" which seems to cloud the reality that the little baby in the womb is, in fact, a tiny human being) to be sucked out and destroyed like so much garbage, suffer tremendously in the emotional realm realising that the most awful of all murders has been committed, that of the infanticide of their own flesh and blood. One young woman that we warned unsuccessfully against going down that murderous road, later acknowledged that not a day passed by that was not full of guilt and remorse. Sadly, nothing could bring back the life so cruelly and abruptly terminated.

TWO JUDGMENTS

Sometimes, the only way for a soul truly repenting and seeking forgiveness to find peace, is to go on the knees with a caring counsellor and to bring that sin of abortion specifically to the Lord, seeking forgiveness and cleansing in and through the shed blood of our Lord Jesus. May we remind our readers of the clear and unequivocal Word. *It is appointed unto (all) men once to die, but after this the judgment (HEBREWS 9 v 27)*. Never forget that when an individual stands at God's tribunal, if there is the sin of abortion unconfessed and repented of, the judgment of the breaking of the sixth commandment will and must be applied. The punishment of a holy, righteous God inflicted on those who have killed, murdered by infanticide, must be heavy indeed. Surely too, the abortionist is an accessory after the fact and likewise guilty.

NOT JUST THE INDIVIDUAL

God's people went into captivity because of their blood guiltiness. As it was a national sin the judgment fell upon the entire nation. Since David Steele's (now Lord Steele) abortion law reform in 1967, many millions of babies have been mercilessly slain. A massacre of the infants indeed. *When (the Lord) makes inquisition for blood (PSALM 9 v 12)*, national judgment must follow as sure as night follows day. If God is just (and He is) I tremble for my nation and by extension for my beloved children and grandchildren. What a nation we have bequeathed them.

Now to another realm of sin that needs a deep and thorough going repentance. Not new, but one that has mushroomed in recent times and in the most insidious of manners.

PORNOGRAPHY

Once upon a time, the world of painters and illustrators were the erotic domain of pornography. Then came "girlie" magazines, which ranged from titillating to the abominable. The worst of them only available from the seedy sex shops frequented by those desperately trying to preserve their anonymity to prevent detection and exposure. However, with the blossoming virtual world, women, men, yes tragically even "Christians" and unbelievably even so called "men of God", can feed their soul destroying addiction without ever leaving the security of their computer room. It is a filthy addiction. It is a Satanic bondage. It is a Christian life and ministry destroying vice. The Psalmist said *I will set no wicked thing before my eyes (PSALM 101 v 3)*. May we implore our readers to give heed to these matters of untold seriousness. Please read *ACTS 19 v 18 - 19* in the light of what has been shared. It might be that computers need to be safeguarded from pornographic, even paedophilia filth, to ensure that such abominations can never be accessed. Are there books that need to be burned, like an Ephesian bonfire no less? Likewise, DVDs and old videos. Do television habits need to be reformed and not just late night triple X rated movies as it is staggering how many "Christians" are addicted to "soap operas" where, in these nightly blasphemous presentations, every commandment of God is regularly broken.

Those who write and preach will know that sometimes in the "night watches" our Lord speaks and ministers and sermons and written texts have to be revised. The three Addendums are a case in point.

At this juncture it must be emphasised that only the *marriage bed that is undefiled (HEBREWS 13 v 4)*. Sexually speaking, man and man in a bed is defilement and sin. Likewise, woman and woman sexually joined are in a bed of defilement. A bed of unmarrieds (fornicators) is as sinful. A bed of adulteries is so tragically common today, breaks the seventh commandment and is a defiled bed. Divorcees sharing a bed with another, except for the causes found in *MARK 10 v 11 - 12* and in *1 CORINTHIANS 7* join the list. Again, the only answer is to REPENT and to be washed clean in the blood of the Lamb.

THE LIST IS AS LONG AS MANS PROPENSITY FOR SIN

We have just detailed a couple of matters. Space prevents more than just a few more finger posts by way of direction. We are content in the knowledge that the gracious ministry of the Holy Spirit will bring to remembrance all sins needing specific confession and repentance. Be it adulteries, especially where marriages have been broken and poor children scarred for life. Unnatural sexual relations which so disfigure our nation and world and will inevitably bring a Sodom type judgment must be on the list. Careful attention must be paid to involvement in witchcraft and other satanic, new age and occult practices. Isn't it amazing to think that multiplied thousands of our UK women invoke demons when they mumble their yoga mantras in health clubs and women's institutes. We recommend our UTube presentation "OUGHT AGAINST ANY" which deals with bitterness, hatred and family feuds, also the UTube presentation "RESTITUTION" which details practical repentance more in depth than what follows.

RESTITUTION

It is well said that restitution is practical repentance and how true that is. It is futile just apologising to the Lord for thefts. Put it right, pay back your debts incurred through stealing, including public bodies. If not possible, swell the coffers of the Barnabas fund or something similar, so that what began as sin can be a blessing to our brethren in the persecuted church. If a bitter root, such as in *HEBREWS 12 v 15 lest any root of bitterness spring up trouble you and thereby many be defiled*, has marred and defiled

relationships in church or family, leave your gift at the altar, *go thy way; first be reconciled with thy brother and then come and offer thy gift (MATTHEW 5 v 23 - 24)*.

Some who read this presentation will perhaps say to themselves "I've not done any of that". Just go to your knees, ask the Lord to show you your sin, even your sins of ignorance and your sins of omission, believe me, but for God's grace you would be overwhelmed, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and all must REPENT.

There will be some backsliders who read these lines and some believers who have never truly repented. Follow the path that has been presented, it will be like beginning the Christian life all over again and this time in God's mercy you really will be a new creation in Christ Jesus, and now you can do the things that you ought to have done.

THE PILGRIM PATH TO THE LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE

If all known sins have been confessed to the Lord, (reading Psalm 51, which is David's Psalm of repentance after adultery and murder, and how he received forgiveness, although he lived with sins consequences for the rest of his life, has been a blessing to many) now faith can rise in the heart. Dear reader, take it upon your lips before God that you truly believe that our beloved Lord Jesus took the guilt and burden of your sin when He died on the cross, and that He rose again for your justification, and that you are forgiven and clean through the blood of the Lamb and that your name is in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE. Now your journey on the Pilgrim path of faith can really begin.

A NEW CREATION

Never forget you are completely and utterly new, *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 CORINTHIANS 5 v 17)*. What has passed away? Old habits, old company, old interests and old ambitions, in a word, all the life of sin. Now it is one vision only, that is the Lord Jesus and His Kingdom.

It is not just to "think the think", but to "walk the walk". The Psalmist said, *I thought on my ways and turned my feet (PSALM 119 v 59)*. Believe me, your feet will do so much turning it will make you giddy. Never forget, you are a new creation, brand spanking new, so live like one! Never forget you are not alone, our beloved Lord Jesus is interceding for you at God's right hand (*ROMANS 8 v 34*). God's Holy Spirit is guiding you every step of your pilgrim way and interceding for you also (*ROMANS 8 v 26*). And, of course, there is the constant ministry of the angels to you who is now an heir of salvation (*HEBREWS 1 v 12 - 14*).

MORE ON THE LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE

This book of life is not new. If we think of God's people in the wilderness, potentially they could be recipients of untold blessing, but by the same token, failure in their spiritual warfare could present untold disasters. God's people faced the greatest disaster since the Hebrew nation was born. They had sinned unbelievably to the extent that they were in grave danger of being disinherited as a nation and as individuals being blotted out of the book of life (*do read EXODUS 32 v 31 - 32*) and all the chapter to see the context.

A SLIGHT DIGRESSION

Not only is there a book of life which ones name can be in (and blotted out) but there are many other books. Among them is the book of the righteous, *Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous (PSALM 69 v 28)*.

Prophet Malachi refers to perhaps the same book or maybe another and gloriously enlarges, *Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD harkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name (MALACHI 3 v 16 – 17).*

THE BOOK IS LINKED WITH PARTICIPATING IN THE RESURRECTION

Prophet Daniel, the greatly beloved of God, writes with a power and unction that can only come from God Himself. He links being found in that book of life with both righteousness and resurrection. *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. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever.” (DANIEL 12 v 1 – 3).*

NOW TO SOME NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCES

Paul was writing to friends and beloved co-workers, as well as to the church in Philippi. By extension, he was without doubt, writing to every church in every clime and in every age. Mentioning some of these co-workers by name, he gives them the most glorious of accolades, by describing them as *those whose names are in (the lambs) book of life (PHILIPPIANS 4 v 3).*

Whether rich or poor, bond or free, black, white or something in between was of no consequence whatsoever. The only thing that mattered and that beyond all else was that their names were in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE.

NOT BLOTTED OUT OF THE BOOK

The Spirit said to the church in Sardis that *thou hast a name that thou livest yet are dead*, further, their only hope was that they would *REPENT (REVELATION 3 v 1 & 7)*. He also said that there were but few names in Sardis *which had not defiled their garments and would walk with (the Lord) in white (REVELATION 3 v 4)*, of course, by extension and development, we must understand that the many (in the Church at Sardis) had defiled their garments and would not walk with the Lord in white. Then to the awesome proclamation. Only *he that overcometh would be clothed in white raiment* and would not *have his name blotted out of (THE LAMBS) BOOK OF LIFE*. Could anything be more solemn? Could anything be more clear? Could any proclamation demand more, the attention of every believer alive on Planet Earth? It begs the questions; are your garments spotless? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Is your name in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE?

THE TINY GROUP THAT DISCERNS THE ANTICHRIST

We now move much closer to the end of the age. Antichrist is approaching complete dominance of the inhabited earth. Soon there will be just one passport to survival and that will be to take the mark of the beast and to worship him. *And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. (REVELATION 13 v 7 & 16 – 18).* However, there is a group who both

discern Antichrist for what he is and resist him even to martyrdom. They know their God and as prophet Daniel said *but the people that know their God will be strong and do exploits (DANIEL 11 v 33)* and their greatest exploit will be to resist indescribable pressures inflicted by Antichrist and his False Prophet and be lights in the world, warning all to resist the almost inescapable demand to take the 666 mark of the Beast, whatever the cost. What is it that singles out this glorious group from all others of humankind? ALL EARTH DWELLERS WILL WORSHIP HIM EXCEPT THOSE WHOSE NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE OF THE LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD (REVELATION 13 v 8)? Dear reader, is your name in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE?

THE AWFUL END OF THOSE WHO RECEIVE THE 666 MARK

May we ask all those who have taken the time to read this presentation also to take the time to read the scripture that follows. Surely it is among the most awesome and solemn portion to be found anywhere in God's Holy Word. *And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name (REVELATION 14 v 9 – 11)*. Could any end be worse than this one? To drink of the wine of the wrath of God; to be tormented with fire and brimstone, and that in the presence of the angels and of the Lamb. Not just for a moment, for it is for ever and ever and they have no rest, not by day or by night. Remember these are not my words, but the word of one who cannot lie. What had they done to receive such an unparalleled punishment? They had worshipped the beast and his image and received the mark of his name. There is one and only one security. There is one and only one assured protection from that awful fate. As we have seen, it is to have ones name in THE LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE. May we ask once more? Is your name in that book?

ANOTHER POTENT REASON FOR BELIEF IN POST TRIBULATION RAPTURE

We have presented in some detail on our site how the scriptures emphatically present a post tribulation rapture. We will not cover that ground again but just present our readers with another cogent reason why the saints, the Christian believers whose names are written in the Lambs Book of Life, of necessity must be still dwelling on the earth during that awful tribulation time which is the "Wrath of Satan". *Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time (REVELATION 12 v 12)*. These solemn words are not penned by one who is naturally brave, but we are not talking about earthly human courage but divine heavenly grace. What is written is not from bravado, but just a deeply burdened heart. Before we journey on, please read those awesome words of the fate of those who take that blasphemous mark. We now pose the most serious of questions. Would our loving Lord waft away via rapture the one and only effective human bulwark against the deceit of taking the mark of the Beast, the Antichrist? That bulwark is God's discerning Christian saints. Would God? Of course not! What greater honour could God bestow on any of his redeemed saints than to commission and equip them by His grace to be a witness, warning against taking that hell ensuring mark. If but one human being could be prevented and brought into "life" not death, would it not be worth any suffering? Who was it who said "One soul is worth a thousand worlds"? Like so many of my readers, I have deeply loved family members and treasured friends, some far from being hardened sinners. Some are church goers and, to a greater or lesser extent, God-fearers, but if they or their offspring are faced with awful choice; take the mark of the beast or it will be starvation or even a cruel death, would they falter? Indeed, they would have the memory of many wise words, but how much more telling

would be the very presence of one so respected and beloved, warning of the consequences of worshipping the Antichrist and taking his mark. Could the pleading tears, coupled with the witness of the Holy Spirit within, prevent the disaster of taking the mark of the beast? What we have presented is one of the most potent and cogent arguments refuting a pre-tribulation rapture. For are we not called to save some *with fear and pull them out of the fire?* (JUDE 23).

THE JUDGMENT OF THE GREAT WHITE THRONE

We now must come to one of the most solemn, the most august moments in all history. The thousand year millennial reign is over, the Devil, that old serpent, the dragon and Satan, has been finally sentenced to join both the Beast and False Prophet in the Lake of Fire. Now, in five brief verses of scripture, the final judgment, known as the Judgment of the Great White Throne takes place. Please read those five brief verses, *And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 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* (REVELATION 20 v 11 – 15). Only the dead form the group to be judged. The books of the life of every individual are opened. What a thought, that every thought and deed is recorded there. A complete and entire "This is your life" for every human being who had not been resurrected prior to this assize. Again, there was but one divine path to safety. One divine path to escaping being cast into the lake of fire, we repeat the verse *And whosoever was not found written in (the Lambs) Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire*. The Holy Spirit never wastes a word. If none were to be found written in the Lambs Book of Life, the possibility would never have been presented. Who were those who were at the judgment of that throne, who had remained in the congregation of the dead for the thousand years of the millennial reign, is not the subject of these deliberations. They were conscious, but dead. They were written in the Lambs Book of Life but had not been resurrected. Your writer has pondered these things for forty years or more and some conclusions have been presented in our books and booklets. For now it is enough, enough to re-affirm the scripture and emphasise the fact that all that prevented them joining the multitudes cast into the Lake of Fire was that their names were in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE. Once more the question. Is yours?

FINALLY, THE NEW JERUSALEM

Please read the final two chapters of our Bible which are the final two chapters of the REVELATION. Does not the description ravish your heart? It certainly does mine. Yet the only passport to gain entry into that glorious city, the New Jerusalem, is clear and unequivocal. None, but none can enter in *but they which are written in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE*. For the last time, I promise you, we pose the all important question. Is your name in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE?