

Book of Life

The Church, the Body of Christ is not listed in the Book of Life. The Book of Life is mentioned 3 times in the Old Testament (even though it is not exactly called the Book of Life.) We know it is referring to the Book of Life because it is God's book and names are being blotted out of, or found in it. Since the Church, the Body of Christ is the mystery program, nothing about us is found in the Old Testament.

Exodus 32:31-33

And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, **blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.**

Psalm 69:27-28

Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. **Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.**

Daniel 12:1

And 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.**

Joel Finck calls the Book of Life a national registry for believing Israel. I don't agree with that. I think it's a registry for the entire Kingdom of Heaven on the earth, not just Israel. There will be Old Testament saints, starting with Adam and Eve onward, as well as Israel, being resurrected to enter the Kingdom when Christ comes to set it up.

The Bible records a precedent for entering a kingdom. After the kingdom of Judah (which was carried off to Babylon for 70 years) was allowed to go back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple and the wall, Nehemiah found a register of the genealogy of the people who had been taken into captivity. Only those people and their families were allowed to re-enter Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 7:5-6

And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And **I found a register of the**

genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein, These are the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of those that had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one unto his city;

People who couldn't prove they had come from Israel were denied entrance.

Nehemiah 7:61

And these were they which went up also from Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addon, and Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel.

Men of Israel were not allowed to take wives or children back with them who were not of Israel.

Ezra 10:17-19

And **they made an end with all the men that had taken strange wives by the first day of the first month.** And among the sons of the priests there were found that had taken strange wives: namely, of the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren; Maaseiah, and Eliezer, and Jarib, and Gedaliah. And **they gave their hands**

that they would put away their wives; and being guilty, they offered a ram of the flock for their trespass.

Ezra 10:44

All these had taken strange wives: and some of them had wives by whom they had children.

Ezra 10:11-12

Now therefore make confession unto the LORD God of your fathers, and do his pleasure: and **separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives.** Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, As thou hast said, so must we do.

The penalties would be severe if eligible people refused to separate from the land (and their wives and children if they were not of Israel) to return to rebuild.

Ezra 10:8

And that **whosoever would not come within three days**, according to the counsel of the princes and the elders, **all his substance should be forfeited, and himself separated from the congregation of those that had been carried away.**

The Book of Life will be used at the resurrection of the Old Testament saints to usher them into the Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth, like the registry that Nehemiah used to determine who could go back to Jerusalem.

I think Matthew 25 is what it will be like for the faithful Old Testament saints (who have their names in the Book of Life) to enter into the Kingdom.

Matthew 25:14-17, 20-23

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

20And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over

many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. **His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.**

The book of Revelation says the names were written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world. The Book of Life will also be used to verify that the unsaved from all times deserve to be cast into the Lake of Fire.

Revelation 17:8

The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, **whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world**, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Revelation 20:12-15

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.**

The Book of Life will be used for the saved people in the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth and for the unsaved people who will be cast into the Lake of Fire.

The Church, the Body of Christ is just that— Christ's body. Once we are saved and placed into Christ's body, we are where He is, we have what He has, and we are co-heirs. It is unnecessary to put each of us in the Book of Life, we are Christ's and Christ is God's.

1 Corinthians 3:23

And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

Finally, Paul does mention the Book of Life, but not about the Body of Christ. It is to let us know that there were some faithful Jews (whose names are in the Book of Life, meaning that they were

following Peter's message) who were helping Paul in his ministry to the Gentiles.

Philippians 4:3

And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, **and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.**

He mentions other Jews who were helping him and says they "who are of the circumcision." This is much more frequently the way that Paul distinguishes those who followed Jesus and his disciples from those, Jews and Gentiles, who were part of the Church, the Body of Christ.

Colossians 4:10-11

Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, **and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas**, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;) **And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision.** These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.