

Blotting Out the Remembrance

Is. 43:25 – “I, even I, am He who *blots out* your transgressions for My own sake; And ***I will not remember*** your sins.”

Ex. 17:14 – “Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.’”

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- READ: **Is. 43:25**
- READ: **Ex. 17:14**
- The context of “blotting out” is to remove the memory of the transgression.
- The same is true of the Book of the Living – to remove a name from the Book of Life is viewed from God’s Perspective as if it was never inscribed to begin with.

Blotting Out the Name

Rev. 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.”

Rev. 22:19 – “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.”

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- READ: **Rev. 3:5**
- READ: **Rev. 22:19**
- The concept of blotting out the name from the Book of Life is the same in the N.T.
- “blot out” – Gr. “exaleipho” – “smear out, obliterate, erase.”
- “take away” – Gr. “aphaireo” – “to take from, take away, remove, carry off, cut off”
- These definitions are complimentary to each other. The removal of the name from the Book is equivalent to the loss of Legal right and title to Eternal Life – legal forfeiture and make taking possession of it impossible. The removal is so complete that it’s as if the name was never even written there.
- The believer who overcomes and will be clothed in white garments will have their names remain inscribed in the Book of Life. This clothing in it’s final stage represents the taking possession of Eternal Life.
- “confess” – Gr. “exomologeō” - “profess, acknowledge openly and joyfully, to celebrate, to give praise to”
 - This is related to the “general assembly” who were gathered together to celebrate at the Marriage Feast of the Lamb.

I Never Knew You

Matt 7:21-23 – “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ *shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.* Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, *‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’*”

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- READ: **Matt. 7:21-23**
- Context of these verses pertains to covenanted believers standing at the Judgment Seat. They seemingly were full of good works done in the name of Christ.
- Christ emphatically proclaims or declares 3 statements of fact:
 - “you who practice lawlessness” – they were “working iniquity” or “sowing to the flesh” or “in contempt or violating” God’s law and therefore will inherit the second Death and Dust.
 - “depart from me” – the closeness of the family relationship with the Elder Brother Christ is ended as the Spiritual Adoption process is ended in failure.
 - “I never knew you” – the name that was scribed into the Book of Life is now obliterated or blotted out at the Judgment Seat, therefore it is as if the name was never even written in the Book to begin with.
 - “knew” – Gr. “ginōskō” – “to learn to know, to become acquainted, to become known; also Jewish idiom for sexual intercourse between a man and a woman”
 - John 17:3 – “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

- This idiom is interesting as it relates to the consummation of the marriage between Christ and the bride saints, therefore the allegory of the Marriage Feast of the Lamb may allude to the timing of the saints being 'quicken' to "know" eternal life at the Marriage Feast itself.
- Therefore not only did Christ not know these Unjust brethren but "will never know" them in terms of inheriting Eternal Life.
- It seems odd that the legally adopted children of God who choose to serve sin were never known by Christ. However, understanding the meaning of that word serves to emphasize the absolute and complete removal of their name from the Book of Life, but not until after they've been resurrected to stand at the Judgment Seat.

Let's review what is happening in the proceedings of the Judgment Seat as it pertains to the Books of Remembrance.

Allegory of the Book of Life Summary

- Man is justified from the Adamic Condemnation and re-sentenced to Eternal Life at baptism.
- By God's grace, man is bestowed or gifted with a right and title to Eternal Life likened to a birthright for the spiritual firstborn of the New Creation.
- This spiritual re-birth establishes a new relationship between God as the Father, Christ as the elder brother and man as a provisional child of God.
- The spiritual adoption process commences, and the man becomes an heir of Eternal Life and the Kingdom of God with the hope of inheriting them.

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- Man is justified or acquitted from the Adamic Condemnation and re-sentenced to Eternal Life at baptism as he transfers from the Constitution of Sin to the Constitution of Righteousness and from the Law of Sin and Death to the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus.
- By God's grace, man is bestowed or gifted with a right and title to Eternal Life likened to a birthright for the spiritual firstborn of the New Creation. They are the firstborn relative to other people in the Kingdom who also come into the New Creation.
- This spiritual re-birth establishes a new relationship between God as the Father, Christ as the elder brother and man as a provisional child of God.
- The spiritual adoption process commences, and the man becomes an heir of Eternal Life and the Kingdom of God with the hope of inheriting them.

Allegory of the Book of Life Summary

- The Man's name is registered in heaven by virtue of his name being written into the Book of Life and he becomes a legal citizen of the Kingdom of God.
- With the hope of resurrection realized to stand before Christ at the Judgment Seat, the assessment of a worthy probationary walk will allow the completion of the adoption process through the redemption of the body or quickening to the fullness of Eternal Life.
- Receiving the inheritance or taking possession of Eternal Life and a royal priesthood position in the Kingdom of God will not occur until the Marriage Feast of the Lamb.

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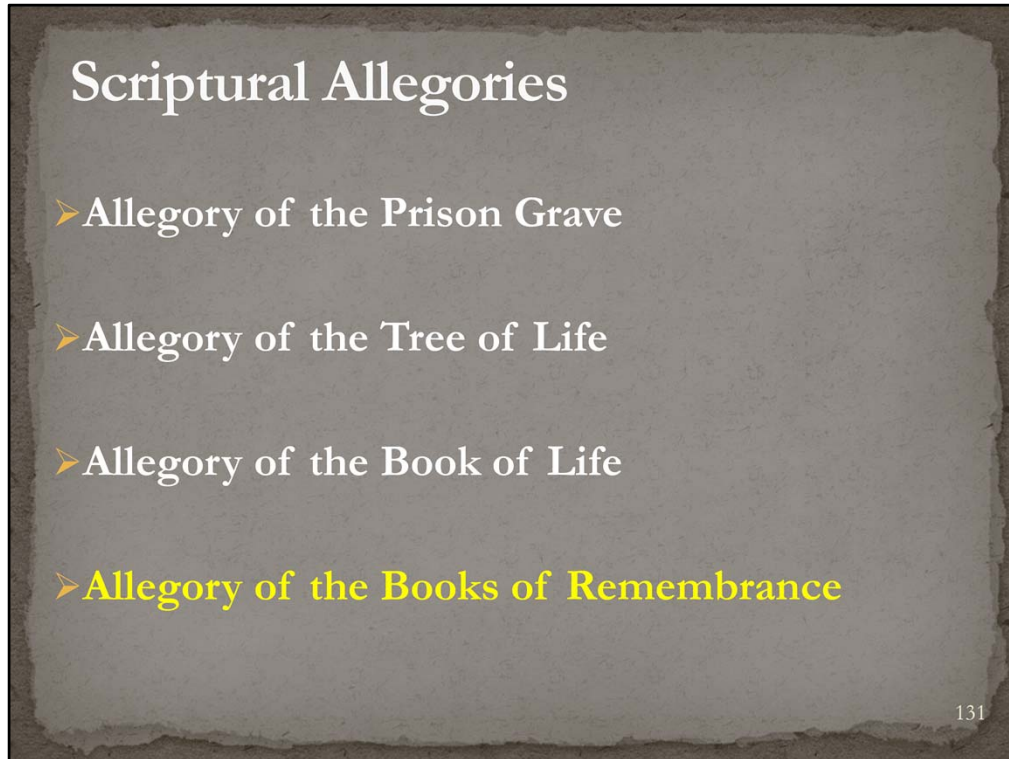
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Allegory of the Book of Life Summary

- The group of glorified saints of the Multitudinous Christ will be the manifestation of the Sons of God.
- If the birthright is forfeited through disobedience of the Covenant terms during probation, the adoption process will be terminated at Judgment by Christ.
- Thus his name is blotted out of the Book of Life and his relationship with God and Christ is forgotten as if it had never been established at baptism.

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- The 4th Scriptural Allegory for our study of Eternal Life is the Allegory of the Books of Remembrance.

Allegory of the Books of Remembrance

- Perceiving the application of God's Spirit that influences our Inner Man to live in a Godly manner of life.
- Connecting the sowing to the Spirit with being Just and reaping Eternal Life.
- Depositing the Books of Remembrance to reveal the testimony of the Saints' probation to discern the works of the flesh and the works of the Spirit.

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- BORN OF THE SPIRIT AND CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS
- OUR PROBATION WALK ON THE WAY TO THE TREE OF LIFE IS FOCUSED ON THE INNER MAN OR MANNER OF OUR LIFE MATCHING THE EXCELLENCE OF DEITY OR DIVINE MORALITY
- SOWING TO THE FLESH VS SPIRIT WILL REAP AN OUTCOME; JUST VS UNJUST.
- PURPOSE OF THE BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE IS TO JUDGE OR DISCERN BETWEEN THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

Sealed with Holy Spirit

Eph. 1:11-19 – “In Him also *we have obtained an inheritance*, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who *first trusted in Christ* should be to the praise of His glory. *In Him you also trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, *you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession*, to the praise of His glory. Therefore I also, after I heard

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- READ: **Eph. 1:11-19**
- “obtained” – Gr. “klēroō” – “to allot, to assign or determine or appropriate by lot”
- The believer puts his trust in Christ and in God that the gospel of your salvation – things pertaining to both Eternal Life the Kingdom of God – and acts on that belief by being baptized.
- “sealed” – Gr. “sphragizō” – “to mark with a seal in order to prove, confirm, attest, authenticate, or prove beyond doubt regarding one’s testimony”
- “guarantee” – Gr. “arrabōn” – “an earnest payment, money which in purchases is given as a pledge or down payment that the full amount will subsequently be paid.”
- We somehow come into contact with the Holy Spirit as a form of earnest or down payment to confirm the authenticity of the Covenant Promises and prove that we are being purchased from the Power of the Grave.
- 2 Cor. 5:2 [Slide 87] – “For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,”
 - “habitation” – Gr. “oikētērion” – “a habitation of the body as a dwelling place for the spirit”
 - Upon the redemption of the body, the Holy Spirit will dwell in our entire being fully – both mind and body.

- 2 Cor. 5:5 – “Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”
- In man’s terms as well, when a contract to purchase a large possession like a land or house is executed, typically earnest money is provided by the Buyer into an escrow account as a form of guarantee that the Buyer is sincere about closing the deal.
- In God’s terms, He is Figuratively the Buyer that is providing an earnest payment ahead of closing.
- The Holy Spirit is our proof that there is a legally binding covenant between God and man. Therefore the Holy Spirit is acting or influencing our mind to substantiate our trust in Christ and God.
- The deal ‘closing’ of this transaction will be completed when our redemption is completed in full at the time of the redemption of our body.

Sealed with Holy Spirit

of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your *love for all the saints*, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may *give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him*, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that *you may know what is the hope of His calling*, what are the *riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints*,” and what is the *exceeding greatness of His power toward us* who believe, according to the *working of His mighty power...*”

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- The probation of the believer is predicated on 2 principles:
 - Faith in the Lord Jesus (according to Truth)
 - Love for all the saints
- “wisdom” – Gr. “sophia” – “wisdom, broad and full of intelligence; used of the knowledge of very diverse matters”
- The Holy Spirit is the mighty power of God that is working in our minds to give us the full intelligence and insight in order to grow in the knowledge of God and his plan and purpose.
- We need to know the “elpis” of God’s calling or invitation to the Wedding of the Bridegroom to his Ecclesia Bride, and grasp the abundance of inheritance glory that will be manifested in the saints, and how His power is working in us as believers.
- “power” – Gr. “dynamis” – “strength, power, ability, specific to either the power residing in a thing which a person exerts and puts forth, or moral power and excellence of soul”
- Therefore the Spirit of God is exerting effort in our minds for the sake of developing moral excellence or what may be termed Divine morality.

Spirit Bears Witness

1 John 5:1-13,18-20 – “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is *born of God*, ...By this we know that we love the *children of God*, when we love God and *keep His commandments*. For *this is the love of God, that we **keep His commandments***. ...For whatever is *born of God **overcomes*** the world. And this is the ***victory*** that has *overcome the world--our faith*. ...This is he who came by water and blood--Jesus Christ; ...And it is the ***Spirit that bears witness***, because the ***Spirit is truth***. For there are three that *bear witness in heaven*: the ***Spirit***, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. ... He who believes in the Son of God ***has the witness*** 135

- “witness” – Gr. “martyreō” – “to be a witness, to bear witness, i.e. to affirm that one has seen or heard or experienced something”
- [therefore the Spirit is active in the Judgment Seat hearing as a witness for the saint]
- “keeps” – Gr. “tēreō” – “to attend to carefully, to guard, to keep one in the state in which he is”

Spirit Bears Witness

*in himself;...And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son **has life**; ...you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that **you have eternal life**, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. ...We know that *whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God **keeps himself**, and the wicked one does not touch him.* ...And we know that the Son of God has come and has *given us an understanding*, that we may know Him who is true; *and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.*"*

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- “have” – Gr. “echō” – “to have or hold in the hand, in the sense of wearing, to hold fast keep; to have or possess external things such as pertain to property, or riches, or furniture or utensils or goods or food etc and used of those joined to any one by the bonds of natural blood or marriage or friendship of companionship.”
 - Hold Fast – hold on to your garment!

Born of the Spirit

John 3:3-8 – “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless *one is born again*, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ ...Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is ***born of water and the Spirit***, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is ***born of the Spirit is spirit***. ...The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is ***born of the Spirit***.”

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- We can't see the wind, but we see the evidence of its power working through us into actions of righteousness.

Renewing of the Holy Spirit

Tit. 3:4-8 – “But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the *washing of regeneration and **renewing of the Holy Spirit***, that He *poured out on us abundantly* through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been *justified by His grace* we should become *heirs according to the hope of eternal life*. This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to *affirm constantly*, that those who have believed in God should be **careful to maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable to men.”

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Renewing of Your Mind

Rom. 12:1-2 – “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but *be transformed by the **renewing of your mind***, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

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Spirit of God Dwells in You

Rom. 8:5-14 – “For those who live according to the flesh *set their minds* on the things of the flesh, but those who *live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit*. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be *spiritually minded is life and peace*. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. . . . But you are not in the flesh but *in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you*. Now if anyone does not have the *Spirit of Christ*, he is not His. And *if Christ is in you*, the body is dead because of sin, but 140

Spirit of God Dwells in You

*the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies **through His Spirit that dwells in you**. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors--not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For **if you live** according to the flesh you will die; but if **by the Spirit** you put to death the deeds of the body, **you will live**. For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.**"*

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Walking in Newness of Life

Rom. 6:4 – “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should *walk in newness of life.*”

Body is a Temple	+	Mind Filled with Spirit Word	=	Godly Manner of Life
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Rom. 6:13 – “present yourselves to God...and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”

“newness” – Gr. “kainotēs” – “newness, in the new state of life in which the Holy Spirit places us so as to produce a new state which is eternal life”

The Holy Spirit should be working in us such that we should be walking in a manner of conduct according to the newness of life during our probation. This process is best described by another Equation of Life applied in a **FIGURATIVE** perspective. Once again we’ll use the same basic components that are **PHYSICAL, MENTAL,** and the resultant **FORM OF LIFE.**

BODY:

1 Cor 6:19-20 NKJV - Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit [who is] in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

MIND:

Eph 4:22-23 NKJV - that you put off, concerning your **former conduct**, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be **renewed in the spirit of your mind**,
Eph 3:16,20 NKJV - that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through **His Spirit in the inner man**, Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power that works**

in us,

LIFE:

Eph 4:17,18 NKJV - This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer **walk** as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the **futility of their mind**, having their understanding darkened, being **alienated from the life of God**, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

2 Pet 3:11 NKJV - Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what **manner of persons** ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

2 Tim 3:10,12 NKJV - But you have carefully followed my doctrine, **manner of life**, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, Yes, and all who desire to **live godly** in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

This Godly manner of life is the “**LIFE**” that Christ manifested to us during his 1st Advent and it’s the manner of life that should be **abiding in us** during our probation.

1 John 1:1,2 NKJV - That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- the **life was manifested**, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that **eternal life** which was with the Father and **was manifested to us—**

1 John 3:14-16,18 NKJV - We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that **no murderer has eternal life abiding in him**. By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. My little children, let us not **love** in word or in tongue, but **in deed and in truth**.

[Phil. 1:20 NKJV] 20 according to my earnest expectation and **hope** that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by **life** or by death.

The New and Living Way

Heb. 10:20 – “by a *new and living way* which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,”

2 Pet. 2:21 – “For it would have been better for them not to have known the *way of righteousness*, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.”

Acts 2:28 – “You have made known to me the *ways of life*; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.”

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[COPIED FROM SLIDE 19]

- The MORAL perspective of the Way is borne out by Scriptures.
- “Way” – Greek “hodos” – 2nd Meaning: “metaphorically (or figuratively) a course of action, a way or manner of thinking, feeling, deciding”
- READ: **Heb. 10:20**
- READ: **2 Pet. 2:21**
- This 2nd meaning of the Way is interesting because it’s described with words like “new and living” and “righteousness”.
- “new” – Greek “Prosphatos” – “recently made, new; lately slaughtered, freshly killed”. Referring to the newness of the Way back to the Tree of Life opened up like a veil, upon the blood-shed sacrifice of Christ.
- READ: **Acts 2:28**
- “ways” – Gr. “hodos” – “properly a way, a travelled way or road; metaphorically a course of conduct, a way or manner of thinking, feeling, deciding”
- “life” – Gr. “zoe”
- Our course of action while walking on the Way should be based on the same manner of

life that Christ led.

- We'll consider these "ways of life" and the "living way" in a later class.

*Acts 13:10 – and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, [you] son of the devil, [you] enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the **straight ways of the Lord**?"*

*Luk 1:79 NKJV - To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, To **guide our feet** into the **way of peace.**"*

Put On the New Inner Man

Eph. 3:16,20 – “that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be *strengthened with might through His Spirit **in the inner man***, ...Now to Him who is able to do *exceedingly abundantly* above all that we ask or think, *according to the power that works in us,*”

Eph. 4:22-24 – “that you *put off, **concerning your former conduct***, the *old man* which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be *renewed in the spirit of your mind*, and that you *put on the new man* which was *created* according to God, *in true righteousness and holiness.*”

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Col. 3:10 – “

We “put on” Christ’s Eternal Life legally by right and title at baptism.

We “put on” Christ’s Eternal Life (zoe manner of life) on the inner man during our probation.

We “put on” Christ’s Eternal Life (fullness of the physical body of the Divine Nature) on the outer man after successful Judgment.

Eureka, Vol. 1, pg. 357

Faith in the Last Days

“You will perceive, therefore, that in order to enjoy or possess the things to which we obtain a title by obeying the Gospel, *we must also patiently continue in well-doing till the Lord comes*, be that event sooner or later; in other words, the interval between believing the Gospel and being baptized, and our departure hence, *must be occupied in forming our characters after the model of Jesus*; ‘who is the exact representation of the *character of God*’, and therefore, the very best after which we, can aspire. Character and not

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Faith in the Last Days

opinions will be the test of our admission into the Kingdom of God; let us form, then, ***such a character*** as we have delineated in the *Lamb's Book of Life* -- the New Testament; and be assured, whether our names be repudiated by our contemporaries, or ourselves persecuted to the deprivation of the means of subsistence, *we shall be invested with incorruptible life, and crowned with glory and honour in the future age.*"

[Bro. John Thomas, Pgs. 311-312]

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Therefore our walk on the Way to the Tree of Life is a Probation for the purpose of forming a Christ-like character in faith and doing righteous acts.

The Life of Jesus

2 Cor. 4:10-12,16-17 – “always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the *life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body*. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the *life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh*. So then death is working in us, but *life in you*. Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, *is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,*”

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Eureka, Vol. 2, Pg. 253 – “Men attain to immortality, or deathlessness, in recompense for character, conformed to the moral image of the Deity, as he shines forth in the example of Jesus Christ. Faith and obedience are the basis of this character.”

Manner of Godly Living

2 Pet. 3:11 – “Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, *what **manner of persons** ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,*”

2 Tim. 3:10,12 – “But you have carefully followed my doctrine, **manner of life**, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, ... Yes, and all who desire to **live godly in Christ Jesus** will suffer persecution.”

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Therefore our walk on the Way to the Tree of Life is a Probation for the purpose of forming a Christ-like character in faith and doing righteous acts.

Rom 8:3 NKJV - For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:4 NKJV - that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Rom 8:5 NKJV - For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

Rom 8:6 NKJV - For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

The Revealed Mystery

“FIRST PROPOSITION – Eternal Life is a matter of promise. By *eternal* is meant *unending*; - *by life* is intended a *full, perfect, and renewed manifestation of the intellectual, moral, and physical faculties or constituents of man*; and by a matter of promise is signified a thing which is assured by a declaration previous to its possession; hence my proposition thus defined, will read as follows: *The possession of intellectual, moral and physical powers by man in full, perfect, renewed, and unending manifestation, is the subject of an assurance made previous to its realization.*”

[Bro. John Thomas, Pg. 10 of 18] ¹⁴⁹

Aroma of Life Leading to Life

2 Cor. 2:14-16 – “Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For *we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To the one we are the **aroma of death leading to death**, and to the other the **aroma of life leading to life**. And who is sufficient for these things?”*

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Therefore our walk on the Way to the Tree of Life is a Probation for the purpose of forming a Christ-like character in faith and doing righteous acts.

Principles: Gifting & Reaping

	Baptism	Judgment Seat of Christ
Life	Eternal Life Gifted by Right or Title	Having sown to the Spirit during probation will reap Everlasting Life

Rom 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death, but the *gift of God is eternal life* in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Gal 6:7-8 – “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who *sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.*”

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HANDOUT SLIDE (Page 19)

Scriptural Principles established by God with respect to Eternal Life sound contradictory, but they are describing two different parts or phases of salvation. We are **GIFTED** with the entitlement of Eternal Life by coming into contact with the blood-shed sacrifice of Christ at our baptism. It was completely by the grace of God matched with our voluntary sincere faith, and had no bearing on our prior works. During our probationary walk, we’re required to “work out our salvation” such that if we faithfully sow or work according to the Spirit, then we will **REAP** or take possession of the harvest of Everlasting Life. Once again this reaping is not without the grace of God that off-sets our imperfect faith and walk.

Book of Remembrance

Mal 3:16,18 – “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. ... Then you shall again *discern between the righteous and the wicked*, Between one who *serves God* And one who *does not serve Him*.”

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The purpose of the Book of Remembrance is figuratively to keep a log of a covenanted believer’s probationary walk, whether it be to serve God righteously by sowing to the Spirit or not serve God in a wicked manner of sowing to the flesh.

It’s possible that in a **FIGURATIVE** manner, the Angel that is encamping around us individually is inscribing the record of the Book of Remembrance based on what they observe.

Mat 18:16 NKJV - "But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that '**by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.**'

Perhaps that same Angel is **LITERALLY** serving as a witness at the Judgment Seat and participates in the dialogue with Christ and the person being judged. This is certainly not necessary for Christ to provide a righteous judgment, but the principle from the Law of Moses may be applicable.

Books of Remembrance

Rev. 20:12,15 – “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**. . . . And anyone *not found written in the Book of Life* was cast into the lake of fire.”

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Judging their works at the Judgment Seat is an assessment as to whether the person sowed to the Spirit or to the flesh – identifying what was sown will determine which harvest is received. If they had sown to the flesh, then their name would be blotted out of the Book of Life.

What are these other “books” that were opened up at the Judgment Seat? It is clearly not the Book of Life which is mentioned separately. These books appear to have an accounting or a record of everything that was done during a covenanted believer’s probation. It’s mentioned in the plural, so we assume that **FIGURATIVELY** there is perhaps one book per believer. It indicates that Christ will have all of the evidence necessary at the Judgment to provide an accurate judgment and appropriate outcome.

Victory Through Christ

1 Cor. 15:54-58 – “So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ ‘O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?’ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the *victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, *always abounding in the work of the Lord*, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

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- [SLIDE OLD 77]
- READ: 1 Cor. 15:54-58
- “put on” – Gr. “endyō” – “to sink into (clothing), put on, clothe one's self”
 - This is an important clue for another minor allegory regarding the putting on of an article of clothing or a ‘garment’.
- “swallowed up” – Gr. “katapinō” – “to drink down, devour [into oblivion], destroy” and translated “drowned” once
 - Heb. 11:29 – “By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry *land*, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.” – or swallowed up by the Red Sea.
 - Is. 25:8 – “He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.”
 - “swallow up” – Heb. “bala” – “to swallow up, engulf” – to consume or destroy, but the figure of devouring is preserved
 - The destruction of death has the connotation of swallowing down or submerging death into the stomach or pit like the grave, but in this case is the pool of liquid in our stomach that drowns out death.
 - This is also tied to the other allegory here regarding the ‘garment’ relative to “sinking into” it when it is put on.

- “victory” – Gr. “nikos” – “victory, utterly vanquish forever”
 - Over Death – putting on of Immortality
 - Over Hades (Grave) – putting on of Incorruption
 - 2 separate victories tied together through the removal of the Law of Decay.

If we desire to have this change made in our nature, we are clearly instructed to remain steadfast in our walk on the “Way”, not easily moved off of the “Way” to the group of the Unjust, and not just doing the work of the Lord, but **ABOUNDING** in the work of the Lord! This labor of love is **NOT IN VAIN**, which means it will be efficacious towards us being rendered Eternal Life.

According to the Allegory of the Power of the Grave, Apostle Paul states that man needs **VICTORY** over both Death and Hades (Grave) and He “**GIVES US**” this victory through Christ; therefore we can’t earn it ourselves. This victory is a **GIFT** that God is enabled to give to us because of an action or work completed by Christ. Despite this victory being a gift, we’re still obligated or required to continue working in the vineyard by faith to grow into a spiritually complete child of God such that we may take possession of our birthright inheritance in that great day to come in the future.

Dwelling Place of God

Eph. 2:1-22 – “And you He *made alive*, who *were dead in trespasses and sins*, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the *flesh* and of the *mind*, and were by nature *children of wrath*, just as the others. But God, who is *rich in mercy*, because of *His great love* with which He loved us, even when *we were dead in trespasses*, *made us alive* together with Christ (*by grace you have been saved*), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the 155

We by birth were as good as dead in our trespasses and sins, serving the master of sin and thus children of wrath.

To be “made alive” through baptism into Christ was in effect to be “re-deemed” or to be LEGALLY deemed by God to be the opposite of how we were originally deemed by natural birth under the auspices of Adamic Condemnation.

Dwelling Place of God

heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of *His grace* in His *kindness* toward us in Christ Jesus. For *by grace* you have been *saved* through faith, and that *not of yourselves*; it is the *gift of God, not of works*, lest anyone should boast. For we are His *workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works*, which God prepared beforehand that we should *walk in them*. Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh--who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands--that at that time you were *without Christ*, being

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We were saved out of the power of the grave and the bondage of corruption by our faith and the grace of God that provided the sacrifice of his son Jesus Christ. This first milestone of being saved was not of our doing of works, but Christ, therefore we should consider it to be a gift. We have a legal right and entitlement as a citizen of the future literal kingdom on earth. Therefore we should commence a walk of probation doing good works.

Dwelling Place of God

aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death

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Before being saved we were without God, without Christ, legal aliens, having no connection to the promises and most especially the promise of eternal life, therefore we had no hope of resurrection or hope of life forevermore. Christ opened up a Way for us to walk down a path to the Tree of Life.

Dwelling Place of God

the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have *access by one Spirit to the Father*. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but *fellow citizens* with the saints and members of the *household of God*, having been *built* on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the *whole building*, being fitted together, *grows into a holy temple* in the Lord, in whom *you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit*.

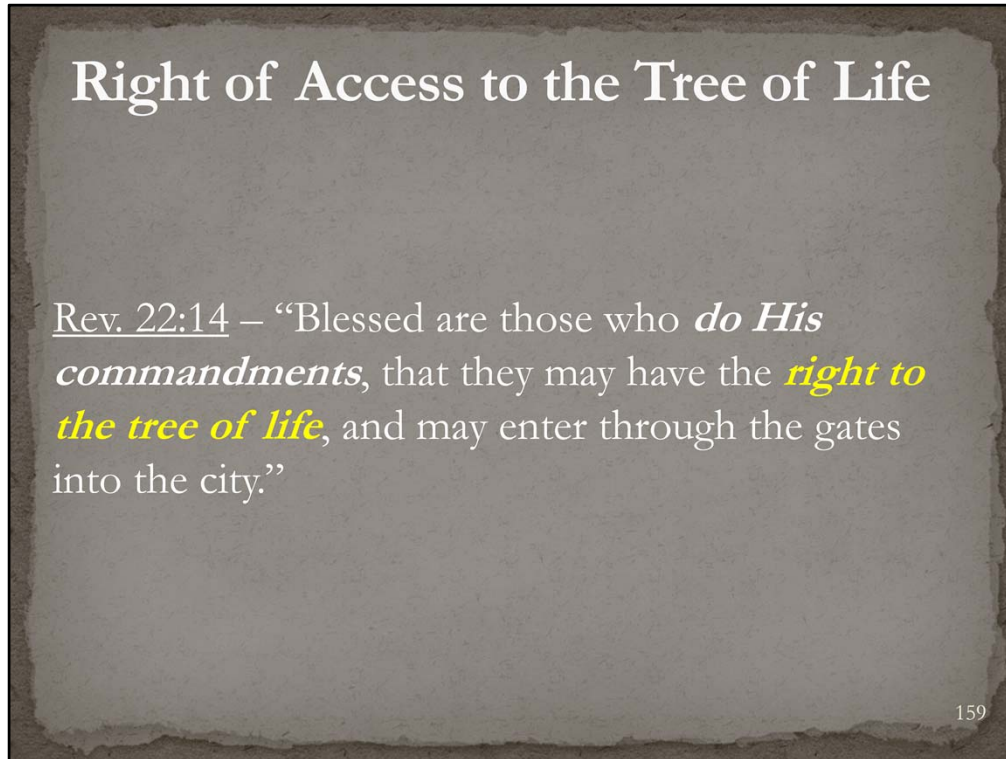
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Through Christ's sacrifice, he has reconciled us back to God into 1 new creation, namely the multitudinous Christ. Christ is the "Way" or the Access to the Father from which we may partake of the fruit of the Tree of Life and eat and live forevermore. The baptized believers are now fellow citizens of the future Kingdom that Christ will bring with him to re-establish on the earth. We are collectively a household of God for the purpose...(vs. 22)

...for the purpose of God indwelling within and through us by His Spirit, that we might manifest the glory and the excellency of the character of God. We must undergo a PHYSICAL change in our nature to enable us to handle the shear power of the Spirit of God dwelling within this group.

If we desire to be filled with this Spirit, we must walk worthy on the "Way" by sowing to the spirit and not sowing to the flesh.

Therefore taking possession of eternal life includes the aspect of God dwelling within us wherein his spirit power, glory, excellency of character, honor and in all summary His peace will reside within us as fully completed new creation creatures built upon the mental nature being devoid of the serpent way of thinking and the physical nature of immortality existing within incorruptible bodies.



HANDOUT SLIDE (Page 20)

The end of the Right-of-Way to the Tree of Life in order to figuratively partake of the fruit of the Tree of Life and eat and live forever.

“THEY MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO THE TREE OF LIFE” – That LEGAL right to the Tree of Life must remain in order to LITERALLY take possession of Eternal Life.

GATES INTO EDEN OR THE KINGDOM OF GOD RE-ESTABLISHED ON EARTH – FUTURE TENSE!!! ONCE AGAIN TAKING POSSESSION OF ETERNAL LIFE AND THE KINGDOM ARE CONNECTED IN TIME AND PLACE.

INSERT figurative explanation of the spiritual equation of life relative to the Holy Spirit “renewing” in our minds??

distinguishing the entitlement of eternal life from the literal taking possession of it, and understanding the need for Christ’s life saving sacrificial work on our behalf along with the godly manner of life required during our probationary walk in Christ.

This allegory which helps define the difference between the bestowal of eternal life and the actual obtainment of it.



Bro. D.W. Bughman’s pictorial depiction of The Way of Salvation is a very good **FIGURATIVE** representation of both the **LEGAL** and the **MORAL** perspectives that pertain to our hope of eventually partaking of the Tree of Life [*“The Trees of the Life”*]. We **LEGALLY** transfer from Adam into Christ AND we are bestowed with the Right and Title to be on the Way to the Tree of Life. Thus begins our probationary walk to confirm that our faith and works will grow in righteousness to uphold the righteousness of Christ that was imputed to us at baptism.

THEREFORE BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

STAY ON THE PATH THAT LEADS TO THE TREE OF LIFE AND PERSEVERE TO OVERCOME AND ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM TO PARTAKE OF THE TREE OF LIFE AND AT LAST FINALLY OBTAIN THE POSSESSION OF THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL NATURE OF ETERNAL LIFE AND THUS LIVE FOREVERMORE. AMEN.

Here’s the positive Christ-like mindset and proper perspective: If you’re still alive and living within your probation, it’s not impossible to change your ways like Samson did at the end of his life and repent and ask for forgiveness and change your course on the “Way” to the Tree of Life. It is never too late because there is always hope.