

**July 28, 2021**

**God is Writing**

We live in a society that preaches “free speech.” The purpose of the freedom of speech is primarily to protect one’s right to proclaim the truth of God’s Word. Lost man does not want to hear the Word of God and history reminds us they will do everything in their power to suppress the preaching of God’s Word. Many of God’s faithful servants have been persecuted, imprisoned, and martyred for preaching, proclaiming, and printing the Word of God. This protection, however, has also been used by the world to proclaim its false teachings and philosophies. But with every right comes a responsibility. Just because we have the right to speak, doesn’t mean we should. As citizens and as Christians, we are responsible for our words, what we write, what we say, how we say it, when we say it, and to whom we say it. One day we will have to give an account for the words we have spoken. Matthew 12:36-37 “But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”

As we continue in **Malachi 3:16** it is important to note that not only is God listening, but God is also writing. He is keeping a written record of our words. Malachi 3:16 says, “...a book of remembrance was written before him...” There are two reasons why a book of remembrance would be written.

First, as a reminder. In Exodus 17, Joshua led the children of Israel into battle against the Amalekites. Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of a hill overlooking the battle. When Moses held up his hands, Israel prevailed, but when he lowered his hands, Amalek prevailed. As Moses’ arms grew heavy and tired, he sat upon a rock and Aaron and Hur held up his arms. In **Exodus 17:10-14**, what did God tell Moses to do after the battle was over? The written record was to serve as a reminder to Joshua of what God had done. But God is omniscient, He doesn’t need a reminder, so why a book of remembrance?

Second, it serves as a record. In Daniel 7:10 the Bible says, “...the judgment was set, and the books were opened.” Read **Revelation 20:12**. The eternal judgment of man will not be based on opinion. It will be based on the written record of our lives. A record that will be true and accurate. A record that cannot be changed or rewritten. At the judgment bar of God, your record will either confirm your faith in Christ or it will deny you a place in heaven. In **Matthew 7:20-23**, how many thought they were going to heaven? What did the Lord say to them? According to verse 23, what was the problem? The question is not, “Do you know God?” The question is, “Does God know you as one of His children, born into His family through the new birth?” Many people profess to know God who have never been born into God’s family. Although they may do many outward works, they are not truly born of God.

Have you been born again through faith in Jesus Christ? Is your name written in the Lamb’s Book of Life. Read again **Revelation 20:12** and compare it to **Revelation 21:27**. Only those whose name is written in the book of life will be allowed into heaven. Take a few moments to read and meditate upon **Romans 10:1-10** and **John 3:1-18,36**. If you have never asked Christ to save you, why not do so right now?