

## WHAT DOES THE RECORD SAY?

### 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

**Introduction:** Everybody keeps records. We live in a record-keeping society - medical records, school records, business records, financial records, sales records, utility records, etc. Name it, we probably have it stuck back somewhere, keeping it for whenever.

God keeps records. He has His Book of Life where every person born is recorded, then He has a Book of Deeds, where every person's thoughts and actions are recorded, then God has His Lamb's Book of Life where He has recorded those who have believed in His Son, Jesus, being therefore born into His Family.

The Bible states that God has set a day called Judgment Day when everyone will stand before Him and be judged according to His records and standards (**Romans 14:12; Acts 17:31**)

We already give an account from time to time such as the end of the year and the Internal Revenue Service on April 15 of each year. Then there are the exam times during the school years and anyone who runs for public office has to give an account of his/her record before being considered for election.

Logic tells us that it is good to reflect on our past record from time to time although we cannot change the past but only deal with the consequences of past actions, but from what is learned from reflecting on our past we can do better with the future.

Knowing you will one day stand before God and His record of your life will be reviewed, what would you want His records of your life to indicate?

### I. OBVIOUSLY YOU WOULD WANT YOUR NAME IN HIS LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE

1. The most important book of records that God has is His Lamb's Book of Life, for therein are listed the names of those who have believed in His Son, Jesus and have been born again, therefore becoming a member of God's Family.
  - Being a member of a church, baptism, doing good things really mean nothing if your name is not in God's Lamb's Book of Life.
2. Everybody wants to go to heaven, wants to be listed among God's Children and there is a way to know for sure that your name is written in this Lamb's Book of Life.

### II. SURELY YOU WOULD WANT GOD'S RECORD BOOK TO SHOW YOU WERE OBEDIENT

1. There is no substitute for obedience for obedience is essential for successful service to God.
2. Willing, glad obedience brings happiness to the heart.
3. Willing, glad obedience enables one to be useful and fruitful.
  - It is disobedience that causes a child of God to lose his/her influence with others.

### III. YOU WOULD WANT GOD'S RECORD BOOK TO SHOW THAT YOU WERE FAITHFUL

1. Being faithful to God's Word is more than owning a Bible. One must know it and love it, letting it teach and guide.

2. Being faithful to God's Church is more than just being a member for there must be loyalty in being active in the matters of the Church.
3. Being faithful to God's Family is more than remembering one's marriage vows, one's faithfulness must also bring happiness into the lives of the entire family.

#### **IV. HOW YOU LIVED A LIFE DEVOTED TO HELPING OTHERS WOULD BE GREAT**

1. Most people save for and look forward to retirement therefore making deposits regularly so that someday at retirement time, there could be enjoyment and money for needed expenses.
2. Unselfish service to others needs to be practiced regularly. Giving, assisting, helping, sharing and most important of all, witnessing to others should be on a daily, regular basis.
3. Very few ever win or inherit a fortune, so waiting for that to happen is not very wise. Neither is waiting to do something for others wise. Helping others must be done regularly and faithfully.

#### **V. BEING FAITHFUL IN WITNESSING WOULD BE WONDERFUL TO HAVE ON RECORD**

1. A preacher said some time ago that "if a "Christian" is not witnessing, he/she is a phony."  
- One of the basic instincts of every soul is to find God.
2. Most people follow the wrong temporary and fatal things, never finding God.
3. What can you do to bring others to God? Who/what/how/when does witnessing happen?

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Yesterday is past, unchangeable, but still accountable for. Learn from it.
2. What you failed in yesterday, don't repeat it again today.
3. What is recorded on God's Books about YOU is entirely up to YOU.
4. God does keep records and one day YOU will stand before Him and learn what He has recorded about you. So, what do you want God's records about you to say?