**R999 Rumination for Mar. 17, 2024**

The **T**heme:**God’s Book of Remembrance.** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *And ﻿****a book of remembrance*** *was written before Him*

 *For ﻿them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon His name.* Mal. 3:16

Not that He will ever Forget, more to assure us that He Remembers.

The **T**hots:

**W**ow! **W**hat a number – Rumination **999**! Yes, it is one short of **1000**!

And I have **1001** questions to ask, if I may so say. Should I compile these **R**uminations into a Book

for posterity as a few followers have suggested? See **R**eflections for the Week #2.

In the Bible, the Book of books (66 books in all), written by over 40 authors with different and varied vocations spread over a span of 1500 years, God has been attributed to have written or kept His **R**ecords in *books*.

What form and make they are of, I do not venture to guess, but one thing I can be sure, God does keep his records in books. Let us have a Look at the Books that God keeps.

1. **The Book *God has Written* – the Book of the Living(?) Exo. 32:31-33**

What it Records I do not know. But it seems to be a Record of the Living. 32:32, #2

1. The **I**dolatrous **I**niquity of **I**srael – 32:8, 31

*They have turned aside quickly out of the way which ﻿I commanded them:*

*they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto,*

*and said, ﻿These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.* 32:8

*Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have ﻿made them gods of gold…* 32:31

1. The **I**ntercession of Moses – *Yet now, if Thou wilt forgive their sin —;*

*and if not, blot me, I pray Thee, out of* ***Thy book which Thou hast written****.* 32:32

1. What **F**orm is this Book? – We are not told.
2. What **F**eatures this Book? – A **B**ook of **I**nnocents – those born alive? Moses’ name was there **I**nitially.

 His name could be **B**lotted out, if found **I**mmoral – *and if not, blot me*,

1. **F**ailures, those who sin, will be **B**lotted out of this **B**ook containing all **B**orn into this world (?) – 32:33

*The Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My book.*

1. **The Book of Life** – **Records the List of those who are saved or have eternal Life**? **Rev. 3:5**

*He that overcometh, the same ﻿shall be clothed ﻿in white raiment; and I will not ﻿blot out his name out of ﻿****the book of life****, but ﻿I will confess his name before My Father, and ﻿before his angels*

1. Those whose names are Written in the Book – *He that overcometh,*  Rev. 3:5
2. The One **C***lothed in white raiment –* **C**leansed by the precious blood of **C**hrist.
3. The **C**onfirmation: *and I will not blot out his name out of* ***the book of life…***

“While this passage may imply that a name could be erased from the book of life,

 actually it only gives a positive affirmation that their names will not be erased”.Cf. Walvoord,

 *Revelation* pp. 82, 238)

1. The Lord *will* ***C****onfess his name before* (His) *Father, and before His angels*
2. Those *whose names are* ***not*** *written in the Book of* ***L****ife* Rev. 17:8

 *of the* ***L****amb slain from the foundation of the world*

1. The **E**vil “**D**uo”:**Rev. 17:8a**
2. ***The beast*** *that thou sawest was, and is not…* *and yet is.*

*and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition:*

1. *and* ***they that dwell on the earth****…whose names were not written*

 *in the book of* ***L****ife from the foundation of the world.*

1. Or The **E**arth **D**wellers: As above and Rev. 13:8

*And* ***all that dwell upon the earth*** *shall worship him* (the beast, v. 4), *whose names are not written*

*in the book of* ***L****ife of the* ***L****amb slain from the foundation of the world*

1. **The Books at the Judgment of the Great White Throne.** **Rev. 20:11-15**

*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***

1. The two **S**ets of Books: Rev. 20:12
2. The Book of Works - *and ﻿the books were opened…* *and the dead were judged out of those things which* *were written in the books, according to their works*. …20:12 cf. 13b
3. The Book of Life: *Whosoever was not found written in ﻿the book of life ﻿was cast into the lake of fire.*21:15
4. The two **S**tandards of Judgment: Rev. 20
5. According to their **W**orks as **W**ritten in the Books. 20:12a, c
6. According to **W**hosoever was not found in the Book of Life. 20:12b, 15
7. The Two Eternal **S**pecific Destinies:
8. Those whose names found in the Book of **L**ife will be with the **L**ord Eternally.
9. Those whose names found in the Books of Works will be cast into the **L**ake of Fire eternally. 20:15

*And whosoever was not found written in ﻿the book of life ﻿was cast into the lake of fire.*

*God has a praise book, a wonderful praise book, Full of thanksgivings and jubilant song;*

*Hillside and valley and beautiful blossom, Echo His praises, and glad notes prolong.* Julia H. Johnston,

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R. 999**

1. **Other Books kept by God:**
2. **The Bottle/Book of Tears** –

*Thou tellest my wanderings: Put thou my tears into Thy bottle:*

 *Are they not* ***in Thy book****?* **Psa. 56:8**

God was mindful of His people’s tribulations and tears in their travels in the wilderness. Tears were shed, and as was the custom of some of the tribes of those days, the tears of those who mourned dearly for their loved ones who had died were collected as “memorials” in bottles to remind them of their sorrows on the way. Likewise, the Lord would collect their tears, or to be more specific, would record their tears in writing in His books, to keep track of their sorrows and tears storing them in His bottle, so to speak.

1. **The Book of one’s Life** *– Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect;*

*And* ***in Thy book*** *all my members were written, Which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.* **Psa. 139:16**

Here, David speaks of God recording every moment of his life in His book before he was even born. God saw every detail in his substance even when it was not perfect, as it were yet in his embryo. And God had prerecorded all the days of the psalmist. Indeed, God had planned out David’s life before even he was born and had recorded it in His book!

1. **The Book of Remembrance –** *Then ﻿they that feared the Lord ﻿spake often one to another: And the Lord hearkened, and heard it, And ﻿a* ***book of remembrance*** *was written before Him for ﻿them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon His name.* **Mal. 3:16**

God has **a book of Remembrance** where those who fear the Lord and think upon His name are Recorded. Those Found Faithful among the Faithless shall Receive their Final Reward – all their deeds are Remembered and will be Rewarded accordingly.

Man may Forget but God will not forget. He will Remember and He will Reward those Faithful to Him and have borne Fruits for Him. They will be well Received and Rewarded for their Faithfulness. **REFLECT**

1. As pointed out at the beginning, this Rumination is the **999th** Rumination. The next one is the **1000th!** As age catches up with me (Rumination No. 1 was written on 27th February, 2005, 19 years ago) ageing frailties connected with sight or vision, energy, memory and physical endurance are beginning to set in making it more difficult for me to sit up, listen, read, write and share. Hence a few options are now open for me to decide on. The Lord has shown me the direction I should take but I would also value the God-given opinions of other saints in what they have in mind. After the **1000th** Rumination…
2. Should I stop, and compile some (perhaps 100) selected ones into a book?
3. Should I stop, and cease in this ministry completely?
4. Should I modify them into a one-page rumination and reflection?
5. Should I reduce the sequence from a weekly rumination, into a fortnightly one?
6. Should I recycle some of the ruminations and continue as usual – I have 1000 to choose from!
7. Any other advice you would like to give to me?

I sincerely value your contribution. I hope to hear from you before I decide on my 1000th Rumination next week. Thank you in advance. May the Lord continue to bless this ministry. **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:**

*A* ***T****ext* ***W****ell-****T****hought is* ***W****orth A* ***T****housand* ***W****ords* ***W****ritten* ***W****ithout Support.*