

Three Handles For 2021
#1 - The Book of Life
Phil.4:1-7; Rev.20:11-15; 21:22-27

0.0 Introduction

- 0.1 Chippewa business billboard & some practical options
- 0.2 Another option: something solid to stand on this new year

1.0 A Brief Glance at Books in History

- 1.1 From clay/stone tablets → papyrus & parchment → scrolls → codex (book)
- 1.2 Subjects included history annals, poetry & literature, magical potions...and more
- 1.3 Among most famous of English books (aside from Bible): *Domesday Book* (1086)
(see at <https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/education/domesday.pdf>
or https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domesday_Book)
- 1.4 First moveable metal type: *Jikji* (1377) and *Gutenberg Bible* (1455)
- 1.5 Books & libraries = public collective memory
- 1.6 References to books (or scrolls) sewn through Bible: book of generations (e.g. Gen.5:2), of Law (e.g. Deut.31:26), various chronicles (e.g. Esth.10:2), & book/scroll of God's will (e.g. Ps.40:7)

2.0 The Book of Life

- 2.1 In the Old Testament - Is.4:3; Dan.7:10; 10:21; 12:1; Mal.3:16
- 2.2 In the New Testament - Rev.3:5;13:8; 20:12; 21:27; Lk.10:20; Phil.4:3
- 2.3 Metaphor for ongoing memory in heaven – things that are real & true

3.0 Importance of the *Book of Life* for 2021

- 3.1 You are what you are: “if in Christ, a new creature” (II Cor.5:17)
- 3.2 The Recorder of the Book remains in possession of it
- 3.3 Start the new year on solid footing; *this* is rock solid.

Upcoming:

Jan.10 (#2) – All Things for Good – Rom.8:28

Jan.17 (#3) – He Will Build His Church – Matt.16:18

Philippians 4:1-7 (NASB)

Think of Excellence

⁴ Therefore, my beloved brothers *and sisters*, whom I long *to see*, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord. ³ Indeed, true companion, I ask you also, help these women who have shared my struggle in *the cause of* the gospel, together with Clement as well as the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all people. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Revelation 20:11-15 (NASB)

Judgment at the Throne of God

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them; and they were judged, each one *of them* according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:22-27 (NASB)

²² I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illuminated it, and its lamp *is* the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; ²⁶ and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; ²⁷ and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.