

Speaker: John Campbell

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Reading: Luke 10v17-20

“Rejoice rather because your names are written in heaven”

To have our name written in heaven is far more important than miraculous things. People want to see the spectacular and not just accept the truth. The world seeks after the sensational and supernatural.

It should be a priority in our life's to have our names written in heaven. We need to see the importance of things belonging to heaven.

People want to become superstars and make a name for themselves. This may be in sports, music, entertainment or business and commerce. What your name is on earth does not matter. A lifetime only lasts for a few years. Like birds who build they nest in a tree bound for demolition so too the world and all that is in it is going to be brought to nothing.

Think of Moses, the heir to the Egyptian throne, he “[refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter](#)” (Heb 11:24). He turned his back on fame and fortune and the world's glory. When Moses stood on the mount of transfiguration Egypt counted for nothing.

Are we looking for this world or that to come?

Are we living for the present or the future?

Our name written in heaven should cause us to rejoice. We can sing because we have something to sing about.

In Acts 8, an Ethiopian eunuch on his journeys is reading Isaiah 53 but not understanding, Philip the evangelist comes alongside and explains. The man in Isaiah 53 was the one who came to Calvary to die for sins. The eunuch believed and was saved and then baptised. He went on his way rejoicing as his sins were forgiven and Christ was his Saviour. His name was written in heaven.

Can we rejoice in this?

In Acts 16, Paul and Silas are thrown into a jail at Philippi. They spend the night singing and praising God until they are disturbed by an earthquake. The jailer comes about to commit suicide for fear all the prisoners have escaped. Paul and Silas stop him and having doubtless heard how they were preaching the way of salvation he asks “[What must I do to be saved?](#)” (v 30). The answer comes back, “[Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved](#)” (v 31). That night he was saved and he rejoiced with his family.

You'll never know real joy in your life until you know your name written in heaven.

A rich young ruler who was moral, honest and respectable came to Jesus and asked, “[Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?](#)”(Mark 9:17) Jesus answered that it would involve sacrifice and then he would have to follow the Saviour. He went away sad for he had much of this world. He had not realised that eternal life is far more important than all the material blessing he had.

The knowledge that our names are written in heaven is something we can have here and now. You may ask whether it is not just a case that we need to wait and find out. That is not what the Bible teaches.

In Philippians 4, Paul writes of those “[whose names are in the book of life](#)” (The register of all those Christians who are truly saved). You can have your name written on the church role yet not in heaven. It is nothing to do with good works, simply through trusting Christ.

Not a case that the names will be, may be or should be written in heaven but that they already are.

Do you have that assurance that your name is written in heaven?

Revelation 13v8 “[Book of life of the Lamb](#)”

Who is the Lamb? The Lord Jesus.

Names written because of what the Lamb of God did at Calvary.

Having our names written in heaven will guarantee eternal salvation from the lake of fire.

In Revelation 20, John has a vision of the Great White Throne. There is no appeal to any higher throne. The white speaks of the purity of the justice that will stem from that throne.

No one is so important to avoid the judgment. Those whose names are not written in the book of life are then cast into the lake of fire. Cast into outer darkness for all eternity.

The guilty sinner could come now to the Saviour and know the blessings of sins forgiven and eternal life.

Accept Him into your life and rejoice that your name is written in heaven.