

Third, the book of life. The Seventh-day Adventists say that this book contains the name of every person who has believed in Jesus. They base this on such passages as Philippians 4:3 where Paul said, "I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life"<sup>54</sup>, and Revelation 21:27 where John said, "and there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."<sup>55</sup>

In regard to this book of life, the Seventh-day Adventists say:

The book of life is the register of those who have professed to be followers of God and have made some start toward the goal of eternal life. The apostle Paul speaks of "the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written ["enrolled," margin and R.S.V.] in heaven" (Heb. 12:23). Speaking after the manner of men, we would say the book of life is the heavenly church register. In this list would be all whom God could conceivably consider as candidates for His eternal Kingdom, from Adam down to the very last person on earth who turns in yearning to God, no matter how limited may be his understanding of the glorious gospel evangel.<sup>56</sup>

In addition to these books of record which we have previously mentioned, the Seventh-day Adventists also claim that there is a record in heaven of every sin which has been confessed and forgiven. In their book entitled, Questions On Doctrine, the Seventh-day Adventists state, "If every detail of a man's life is recorded in heaven, then his confessions are recorded there too, and of course the fact that Christ has forgiven his sins."<sup>57</sup>

This brings us to the description of this investigative judgment. The Seventh-day Adventists claim that in this investigative judgment all the names

<sup>54</sup>Phil. 4:3.

<sup>55</sup>Rev. 21:27.

<sup>56</sup>Questions On Doctrine, op. cit., p. 438.

<sup>57</sup>Ibid., p. 441.