

When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God's remembrance.⁷¹

This is based on the words of the prophet Ezekiel in Ezekiel 18:24;

But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.⁷²

Third, that believer will be annihilated with the wicked. The Seventh-day Adventists say:

The drama of the ages ends in Satan's final and irrevocable overthrow, and his utter extinction -- as well as that of all who follow him -- when fire comes down from God out of heaven and devours him (2 Peter 3:10, 11; Rev. 20:9). The very surface of the earth appears to melt, and becomes a vast seething "lake of fire" (Rev. 20:10), for the judgment and "perdition of ungodly men" (2 Peter 3:7).

The earth burns "as an oven"; the wicked "shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts" (Mal. 4:1). So in the cleansing flames of the final conflagration, the wicked -- Satan, evil angels, and impenitent man -- are all at last destroyed by fire, root and branch. Even death and hades, joint partners, are cast into this lake of fire (Rev. 20:14), with no release, no escape from the dread destruction. The punishment is everlasting (Matt. 25:46), and constitutes the second death, from which there is no resurrection.⁷³

The last thing to be noted concerning this investigative judgment is its purpose. The Seventh-day Adventists claim that the purpose of this investigative judgment is to determine whether or not those who have believed in Jesus are worthy to receive eternal life. The Seventh-day Adventists say:

it seems to us abundantly clear that the acceptance of Christ at conversion does not seal a person's destiny. His life record after conversion is also important. A man may go back on his repentance, or by

⁷¹White, op. cit., p. 285.

⁷²Ezek. 18:24.

⁷³Questions On Doctrine, op. cit., pp. 506, 507.