

## **The Three Eternal Destinies #170** *The Labor of the Righteous*

Pr 10:16 refers to works, the labor of the righteous is life. However, the wages of the wicked are according to their deeds. The labor of the righteous and the wicked is according to Gen 3:22,16-19 and Rom 2:6-11. "By the sweat of his brow" is labor in doing what is good and not living on welfare or on wages of an unjust businessman but supporting his own family.

What our Master is saying in Mt 6:31-33 is for the *Holy* only. In these verses He makes a distinction between the nations and the Holy Ones (Mal 3:18). The nations *must* labor to earn their living. The Holy Ones must seek first the Kingdom and not be anxious about making a living. In the final judgment the nations will be judged in accordance with the way they earned their living. Did they earn their living by just means or by unjust means? The Holy Ones will be judged according to how they sought the Kingdom.

The Holy are set apart from all three sections of the nations — the Unjust, the Filthy and the Righteous. The Holy have become the righteousness of God in Messiah. They have become His Body, set apart for God's purpose, to be light and salt to the nations. This *is* the righteousness of God in Messiah (2 Cor 5:21; Phil 2:15). And they were set apart to be a light to the nations forever and ever (Rev 21:21; 21:3; 22:2-5). The nations, or Gentiles, are saved by their own righteousness as in Rev 21:24 (NKJV), "the nations of those who are saved" (referring back to the blessed and the righteous of the nations in Mt 25:34,37). In the judgment of Rev 20:12-15, as each was judged according to their deeds, their names were found in the Book of Life (obviously, since *someone's* name was found in the Book of Life, or why even mention it in verse 15?). This is in accordance with Mt 25:31-46 and Jn 5:28-29.

### **The Books of Life**

**The following are the Books of Life as we find them recorded in various scriptures:**

a. **The BOOK OF LIFE for the righteous of "the Nations," those restored** from the nations through their *own* death, as recorded in Rev 20:15;

b. **The LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE for "The Holy," those redeemed** from the nations, as recorded in Rev 21:27.

Or, in other words:

c. **The BOOK OF LIFE for the names of RESTORED MAN;**

d. **The LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE for the names of REDEEMED MAN.**

The destinies of each one as recorded in the scriptures are:

e. **RESTORED MAN** has a kingdom *prepared* for him since the "creation of the world" (Mt 25:34);

f. **REDEEMED MAN** (or the **HOLY**) has a city *prepared* for him, as in Heb 11:16; Rev 21:3.

Rev 21:24 has both *redeemed* man and *restored* man together. In verse 3, redeemed man is God's Body or temple, which is *with* restored man. The Restored are those who walk in the light of the Holy Ones' city.

### **The Holy, the Nations and the Tree of Life**

**Read Rev 22:14 in the New King James Version. Eternal life in the Holy City, through the gates of the Twelve Tribes, is only for the ones who are Holy or set apart by God in His Son to obey His commandments (Jn 14:15,21,23). No one else but these are even required to obey these holy commandments (1 Jn 2:4), because they cannot obey them, since they are not holy and do not know Him. To know Him (Phil 3:10-11) is for Him to be able to reveal Himself to them; it means opening a home in themselves for the Father and the Son. They will make their home in them (Rev 21:3; Eph**

2:21-22).

So if one does not obey His commandments, what would he do inside those holy gates in Rev 22:14? To eat of the Tree of Life is to eat of the Holy Fruit of Eternal Life (Jn 6:53). Adam never ate of it. He can only be restored to his original righteousness. But redeemed man has the very righteousness of God in the Holy Spirit, to His exact likeness (1 Jn 3:2-3).