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GRACE**

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Adding and Taking

away from the

Book of Life

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Learn the Bible with Friends

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Adding and Taking Away from the Book of Life.

- **Revelation 22:18-19:** I warn (testify in KJV) everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. (Take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city in the KJV).

The "I" here is emphatic; it introduces the final warning; the revelation must not be tampered with. These are not the words of John, but of the Lord Jesus Christ, spoken by the voice of his angel as appears in the following verse:

- **Revelation 22:16:** I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.

The words, "if anyone adds or takes away," by extension embraces the idea, if anyone denies the authority of this book (which some have done).

God will take away their portion from the tree of life, and out of the holy city are a serious warning to those who would:

- Dilute down the force of its warnings and things they do not like.
- Deceitfully add their own thoughts and interpretations to it.
- Diminishes the fulness of its promises and the way to the tree of life and the Holy City.
- Interpret it for their own advantage and gain.
- Claim that new truth had been communicated by God's inspiration, and proclaim their own view.

This warning would especially apply to those who place hinderances in the way of the faithful and those seeking God, in order to prevent them from hearing the Lord's words, "I come," and answering, "Come, Lord Jesus."

Moses gave a similar warning to Israel.

- **Deuteronomy 4:2:** You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you.
- **Deuteronomy 12:32:** Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

At the time of John, the books that now form the Bible were not collected into a single volume, therefore this passage is not referring to the whole of the sacred Scriptures. However, the principle is applicable to all the Bible, for it is obvious that no one has a right to change any part of the inspired prophecies, messages, and revelations of God or to add or take from it.

- **Timothy 3:16:** All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

It would seem from the warning here in Revelation that even in the time of John, books were liable to be corrupted by additions or omissions, or

at least there was a danger that mistakes might be made by the carelessness of transcribers, because of the many symbols.

God will add to him the plagues described in this book: (v18) these plagues refer to the numerous severe judgments mentioned in this book that God will bring upon those who persecute the church and oppose and corrupt the Christian faith. The meaning is; all who add or take away from the book will be treated as an enemy of God and as such will share in the fearful doom of all His enemies.

To distort, twist and change God's revelations shows that the faith of such a person was not true faith, but faith according to their own view, mind, and belief, for the following verse shows God will never blot the name of a true believer out of the Book of Life.

- **Revelation 3:5:** The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.

The type of believers God would blot out of the book of life, would be, those whose faith is a faith of lip service, hypocrisy, pretence, and who though they confess to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, use the Gospel for their one advantage and gain (i.e., fame, worldly riches, and a sense of importance etc.). It may also embrace those whose faith is founded upon ignorance, because they never made any effort to seek out the truth.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.