

Crowned for God's Glory

Sunday Morning, June 2, 2013

Thesis:

Will the Merit of our Lives be Crowned for God's Glory?

Introduction:

I love hymns because they teach us many scriptural concepts. There are several hymns like "Will there be any stars in my crown?" and "Wear a crown" that teach about the concept that we can receive crowns in Heaven.

I'm not entirely comfortable with the thoughts of having crowns in Heaven. That is, some will have more crowns than others, but yet it is Biblical. We find references to it in the Old and New Testaments. We will be rewarded for how we lived our faith here on earth.

Much like our graduates this week are being rewarded with transcripts and diplomas for College or Career that reflect how they performed while in High School. Good grades on their transcripts and high exit test scores will allow them to move ahead in College and not have to take remedial courses to begin with. They are rewarded. If they choose a job, the reward of diploma will help them to obtain that job.

I. Christians Are Eligible to Receive 5 Crowns from God

1. The Imperishable & Incorruptible Crown

(I Corinthians 9: 24-25)

24 Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way to win the prize.
25 Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. However, they do it to receive a crown that will fade away, but we a crown that will never fade away.

Faithfully Run the Race

1

(Flip)



2. The Crown of Rejoicing (or Soul Winner's Crown)

(I Thessalonians 2: 17-20)

17 But as for us, brothers, after we were forced to leave you for a short time (in person, not in heart), we greatly desired and made every effort to return and see you face to face.

18 So we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us.

19 For who is our hope or joy or crown of boasting in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? Is it not you?

20 For you are our glory and joy! Leading People to Christ

3. The Crown of Life (Martyrs' Crown) (James 1:12)

A man who endures trials is blessed, because when he passes the test he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.

(Revelation 2: 8 – 10)

8 "Write to the angel of the church in Smyrna: "The First and the Last, the One who was dead and came to life, says:

9 I know your affliction and poverty, yet you are rich. I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

10 Don't be afraid of what you are about to suffer. Look, the Devil is about to throw some of you into prison to test you, and you will have affliction for 10 days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Endure Trials - Suffering Severely

4. The Crown of Righteousness (II Timothy 4: 6 – 8)

6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time for my departure is close.

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

8 There is reserved for me in the future the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me, but to all those who have loved His appearing.

Loved/Looked For His Appearing
& Lived a Good & Righteous Life

2

(Turn Inside Out)



5. The Crown of Glory

(I Peter 5: 1 – 4)

1 Therefore, as a fellow elder and witness to the sufferings of the Messiah and also a participant in the glory about to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you:

2 Shepherd God's flock among you, not overseeing out of compulsion but freely, according to God's will; not for the money but eagerly;

3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Faithful Ministers Who Feed and Lead the Flock of God
Possibly For: Preachers, Teachers, Sunday School Teachers
and Missionaries

II. God Knows All Our Ways

(Psalm 69:5)

God, You know my foolishness, and my guilty acts are not hidden from You.

(I Timothy 5:25)

Likewise, good works are obvious, and those that are not obvious cannot remain hidden.

Conclusion:

Will the Merit of Our Lives Be Crowned for God's Glory?

(Lord's Supper Service)