
CROWNS & REWARDS

Welcome to week 8! We are continuing this week with a short side study. The topic is Crowns and Rewards for the believer. Today we will take a quick look at our topic. It will serve as a basic introduction, then throughout the week we will take a deeper look at each crown and reward, and the technique the believer needs to implement to receive that crown. We are using Philippians 3:21 and 4:1 as a basis for our study. Let's read Philippians 4:1 which says,

“Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown,
in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.”

Last week we ended our study in chapter three with verses 20-21 which tell us that our citizenship is in heaven, and our bodies will be transformed into the conformity of Christ's body. **As a reminder, read 1 Corinthians 15:50-57.**

Now, read and write Philippians 3:21 in the space below.

Before we get to heaven, and to our transformation, we must first live here on earth. Even though our citizenship is established at salvation, our purpose as a Christian is to glorify God here on earth after salvation.

There are four basic techniques the Bible outlines for carrying out our stewardship here on earth and four resulting crowns. **Please take time to read the verses referenced for each technique, making any notes you'd like to remind yourself of.**

~ **Faithful Stewardship: The Crown of Joy**

Philippians 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

~ **The Filling of the Holy Spirit: The Crown of Righteousness**

2 Timothy 4:7-8

~ **Development of the Structure of Spiritual Maturity: The Crown of Glory**

1 Peter 5:4

~ **Development of the Faith-Rest Technique: The Crown of Life**

James 1:12; Revelation 2:10

The Bible talks about two different types of crowns. The first is 'diadema' and the second is 'stephanos.' Crowns of 'diadema' are a symbol of kingly dignity, whereas, 'stephanos' crowns are a type of crown received as a result of a victory. It was similar to the laurel wreath placed on the heads of the victorious athletes in the Grecian Olympics.

As Christians, we are awarded 'stephanos' crowns on the basis of our victory in living out the four techniques of the Christian Life.

We will look deeper into each crown this week.