REWARD OR RECKONING?



(How Peace with God is Grown, part 3)

"Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand."
Philippians 4:5

- A. Peace is <u>Established</u> through a Personal Relationship with God (John 1:12)
- **B. Peace Grows through Fellowship**
 - 1. With God
 - 2. With Others
- C. Peace is Grounded in Promise
 - "...The Lord is at hand." (Philippians 4:5)
 - 1. His **Person**

Almighty, All-knowing, and Everywhere-Present

- 2. His **Promise**
 - a. His Imminent Return

What does that mean?

- Imminent almost certain to happen soon; at any moment
 - i. **No Man Knows** When "But of that day and hour **knoweth no man**, no, not the angels of heaven, **but my Father only**." (Matthew 24:26)

ii. Always Be **Ready**"Therefore **be ye also ready**: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." (Matthew 24:44)

iii. Blessed **Hope**"Looking for that **blessed hope**,
and the glorious appearing of the **great God** and **our Saviour Jesus Christ**;" (Titus 2:13)

iv. This **Promise** Prompts Us to **Live Pure Lives**

"And every man that hath this **hope** in him **purifieth himself**, even as he is **pure**." (I John 3:3)

b. His Indisputable Judgment

What does that mean?

• Indisputable - unable to be challenged or denied

i. Jesus is **Judge**"And hath given him authority to
execute judgment also, because he
is the Son of man." (John 5:27)

ii. Judge According to the **Word of God** "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."
(John 12:48)

iii. Judgment of **Believers for Reward**"For we must all appear before
the **judgment seat of Christ**; that every
one **may receive the things done in his body**, according to that he hath
done, whether it be good or bad."
(II Corinthians 5:10)

(Revelation 4:10)

"The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying..."



"...Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

(Revelation 4:11)



5 Crowns we can win to cast at Jesus feet to Honour the King

1. THE WATCHER'S CROWN

"Crown of Righteousness"

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

II Timothy 4:7-8

2. THE MINISTER'S CROWN

"Crown of Glory"

"The elders which are among you I exhort... Feed the flock of God... being ensamples to the flock... And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

I Peter 5:1-4

3. THE SOULWINNER'S CROWN

"Crown of Rejoicing"

"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy."

II Thessalonians 2:19-20

4. THE RESISTER'S CROWN

"Crown of Life"

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the <u>crown of life</u>, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

James 1:12

Martyr's Upgrade

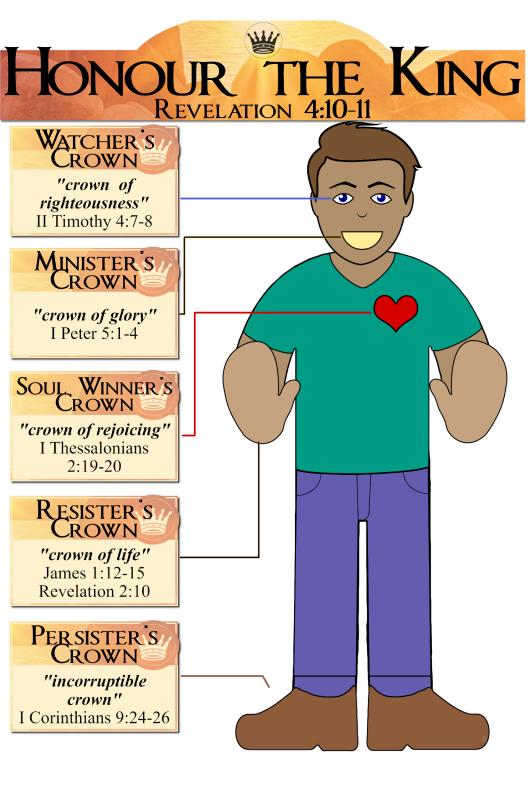
"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ve shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and *I will give thee a crown of life.*Revelation 2:10

5. THE PERSISTER'S CROWN

"Incorruptible Crown"

"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible."

I Corinthians 9:24-25



iv. Judgment of Unbelievers - The Reckoning The Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:10-15)

What does that mean?

• Reckoning - punishment for sin



"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:15)

The Lord's Return is Promised
Judgment is Certain
Rewards (Crowns) can be gained by Believers
to be given to Honour the King
Reckoning is Demanded for all Unbelievers
We can have Peace with God and Rewards
or Reckoning of Sin in the Lake of Fire for Eternity

Which Will You Choose?

To believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved, and then faithfully serve...

or reject and face reckoning of the eternal judgment of sin?

Jesus said, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

(John 6:37)