

Christ, Righteousness & Heavenly Crowns

CHRIST — KING OF KINGS

Revelation 19:11–16 — Christ returns wearing **many crowns**, called **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**.

Question: Where did He get these crowns?

Contrast: Jesus was mocked with a **crown of thorns**, but returns wearing **many crowns** as King.

We Will Be Like Christ

- **1 John 3:2** — When Christ appears, **we will be like Him**.
 - **Philippians 3:20–21** — He will transform our bodies to be like His glorious body.
 - **1 Corinthians 15:49** — We will bear the image of the heavenly Man.
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1. THE WHITE ROBES — RIGHTEOUSNESS

Revelation 19:6–9 — Fine, clean, bright linen represents the **righteous acts of the saints**.

Psalms 132:9 — “Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness.”

Isaiah 61:10 — God clothes us with the **garments of salvation** and the **robe of righteousness**.

Laodicea

Revelation 3:14–19 — They believed they were rich and needed nothing, but Jesus said they were **poor, blind and naked**.

- **Gold** = true/heavenly wealth
- **Nakedness** = lacking righteous clothing
- **Eyesalve** = spiritual eyesight rather than carnal sight

What they believed about themselves was almost the **opposite of their true spiritual condition**.

Put On Christ

Romans 13:11–14 — “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 — Jesus became sin for us so that **in Him we might become the righteousness of God**.

Ephesians 4:17–24 — Put off the old man and **put on the new man**.

Greek *endyo* = to put on/sink into a garment.

KEY: Our righteousness comes through **Christ**, but the righteousness we receive should produce **righteous living**.

2. THE FIVE CROWNS

1. Imperishable Crown

1 Corinthians 9:24–27

Reward for **self-discipline, self-control and faithfully running the Christian race** rather than surrendering to fleshly desires.

Earthly crowns perish; this crown is **eternal**.

2. Crown of Rejoicing

1 Thessalonians 2:17–20

Often called the “**soul winner’s crown**.” Paul describes believers he helped bring to Christ as his **hope, joy and crown of rejoicing**.

Connected with **bringing people to Christ and investing in their spiritual lives**.

3. Crown of Righteousness

2 Timothy 4:6–8

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

For those who:

- Remain faithful
- Finish their race
- Keep the faith
- **Love His appearing**

4. Crown of Life

James 1:12; Revelation 2:10

For believers who **endure trials and temptation and remain faithful to God**, even through persecution and death.

“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

5. Crown of Glory

1 Peter 5:2–4

For those who faithfully **shepherd God’s people** by:

- Serving willingly and eagerly
- Not abusing authority
- **Being examples to the flock**

When the **Chief Shepherd** appears, they receive the unfading crown of glory.

QUICK REFERENCE

CROWN	SCRIPTURE	REWARD CONNECTED TO
Imperishable	1 Cor. 9:24–27	Discipline & running faithfully
Rejoicing	1 Thess. 2:17–20	Winning/investing in souls
Righteousness	2 Tim. 4:6–8	Finishing faithfully & loving His appearing
Life	James 1:12; Rev. 2:10	Enduring trials & remaining faithful
Glory	1 Pet. 5:2–4	Faithfully shepherding God’s people

THE BIGGER QUESTION

Why does God give believers crowns—and what will we do with them?

→ **Revelation 4:10–11** — The twenty-four elders **cast their crowns before the throne**, declaring that God alone is worthy of glory, honor and power.

Our rewards ultimately become another opportunity to **honor and worship the One who made them possible.**