

JAMES

Lesson 5: Rewards for the Faithful in Christ / The Five Crowns

13 December 2019

1. **CROWN OF LIFE** (James 1:12, Revelation 2:10). (The Martyr's Crown)
 - a. There is a present blessing associated with resisting temptation (Blessed IS the man).
 - b. There is a future blessing also (he SHALL receive the crown of life).
 - i. Faithful "UNTO" death, refers to the faithful saints who love not their lives even unto death (Rev 12:11). They would die before they would deny the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ii. Remembering that no one can take away our eternal life will help us to remain faithful. They can kill the temporal body, but not the eternal soul (Mt 10:28, 2 Cor 5:8).

2. **CROWN OF GLORY** (1 Peter 5:1-4)
 - a. This is for the faithful spiritual leader who doesn't seek his own glory, but seeks to glorify the Lord, and serve and be an example and a minister to others.
 - b. He didn't seek his own glory down on Earth. Therefore, he'll receive a crown of glory in Heaven.

3. **CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** (2 Timothy 4:6-8)
 - a. This is for those who earnestly desire to see Jesus as He is.
 - i. This does not refer to His physical appearance, but to His likeness (what He is like), His character (see 1 John 3:2). We'll see a pure heart, a pure mind, pure love, etc. (1 John 3:3).
 - ii. Philippians 3:12-14. We're not perfect yet, but we aim to be one day. And when we leave this body of sin, we'll be like Jesus Christ.
 - b. This crown is connected with our sincere desire to be righteous. We "love His appearing" because we're tired of sin and want to be able to do right. When the Lord comes, we'll get a right heart and be able to see things the way Jesus sees them.

4. **INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN** (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)
 - a. This is for the Christian who is striving to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord, no matter what the cost, bringing their body into subjection (denying the lusts of the flesh).
 - b. The person who wins the incorruptible crown is the one who go all-out to live a life according to that which is spiritual. At the same time this person is going to eliminate from their life all interests and desires that pertain to the natural or carnal.

5. **CROWN OF REJOICING** (1 Thessalonians 2:19, Philippians 4:1)
 - a. This crown will go to the faithful Christian who gave up their own personal time to seek the lost, lead them to Jesus Christ, and get them grounded in the word of God. There is no greater joy than this.
