

Key to the Crowns/grafted into the olive tree of Israel

There are specifically five crowns mentioned to the New Testament church. The Greek word for crown is Stephanos, properly meaning a wreath garland. It is also referred to as a “prize” awarded to a victor in athletic games. In the days of Jesus these games were being played in ancient arenas and two of the most popular race events were the chariot races and foot races. This wreath was a symbol of honor and achievement for the intense training required for success. It also granted privileged access to the elaborate banquets at the end of games. The great irony was that Jesus himself was given a wreath at the end of His earthly life which was a crown of thorns representing His grueling sacrifice for finishing the race set before Him. Then later in the book of Revelation, He as the true victor comes back on a white horse wearing many Royal Crowns on His head. Likewise our race of faithfulness can also be rewarded. If we “deny ourself, pick up our cross, and follow after Him” which is also symbolized by a crown of thorns and finish the race set before us. The author firmly believes that each crown represents an eternal privilege and that all five of them are received by “The one” who overcomes.

*All 5 crowns were given to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. They were taken away but are given back in Christ!

”Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 1:26, 28 ESV

”The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.“

Genesis 2:15 ESV

”And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,“

Genesis 2:16 ESV

”And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” Therefore a

man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.“

Genesis 2:22-24 ESV

1)Glory- Top Crown: Eve was considered the “The Crown of Creation” as Gods last act of creation. She was given as wife of Adam and helpmate and grafted back into the side of Adam in the covenant of marriage to rule with him. Jesus known as the “last Adam” will adorn His bride with jewels and crown her with glory as Queen seated with Him on His throne.

*Crown of Glory

*See Isaiah 62:1-5

2)Dominion-given dominion over the earth to rule

*Crown of Righteousness

3)Subdue-given power over the enemy to conquer/guard

*Crown of rejoicing-Living by the authority and power God has given. (Note: Apostle Paul wanted to rejoice over the Thessalonians who were walking in victory over Satan!)

4)Fill/multiply/fruitful-be satisfied in Hebrew(mawlay) and increase in abundance!

*Crown of life(age long life=to know Gods blessings and provision)

5)Land-The Promise Land, Garden of Eden, the “incorruptible place”

*Incorruptible Crown

**The Author believes that “the one” to receive the crown of glory will also receive the other 4 crowns(why they are shown as an indentation). Alternatively, you may receive any of the other 4 crowns but never receive the crown of glory.

The “one” who overcomes in Christs evaluation of His church in Revelation chapter 2 & 3 will inherit:

1. Tree of Life in paradise of God
2. Crown of Life
3. Hidden Manna and New Name on white stone
4. Authority and Rule w/rod of iron, and the morning star

5. Clothed in white garments and named confessed before Father and Angels.
6. Pillar in the temple of God, write name of Father, the New Jerusalem, and Jesus new name upon them, given an open door no one can shut.
7. Sit with Jesus on His Throne.

”The one that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.”

Revelation 21:7 KJV

The order in New Testament Scripture that the crowns are mentioned:

Incorruptible Crown / Imperishable Crown(promised land)

(1Cor. 9:19-10:22; 1Cor. 15:35-58; 1Pet. 1:3-13)

The Promised Land itself is the Imperishable Crown which was the Old Testament reference to quite possibly the New Testament offer of the New Jerusalem. The payoff of this crown is entrance and inheritance into Christ’s Millennial Kingdom. To be able to sit down at the banqueting table with Jesus in the Promised Land and eating the monstrous fruit! Or it represents the “New Jerusalem” coming down out of heaven adorned as a bride for Jesus and His bride?!

If we prove our life unfaithful (like Esau was unworthy to receive his birthright he lost this birthright). This is significant as we can lose what Christ has made available to us. This is not about going to heaven or hell. Always keep your eyes on the prize...if you don’t keep your eyes on the prize you won’t be able to have your faith approved by the testing that we have to go through.

***receiving the inheritance will like heaven and has a partial fulfillment of residing for a time in a heavenly place but not receiving the inheritance or to be disinherited will be like hell and residing in a lower more distant place.

1 Corinthians 9:25 and 1 Peter 1:4 (inherit)

(As to the identity of the white stone things are more complicated. Among the most-likely interpretations that may fit the context is a suggestion that the white stones, with names of the recipients inscribed, were given to contest winners of the Roman sport races. The white stone inscribed with a personal name presumably served as a pass to a prestigious banquet only attended by the winners. This stone would have been received upon completion of the race. While this is not a particularly Jewish cultural reference, we do know of many biblical examples of the use of Greco-Roman cultural references as illustrations for and by the Jews. For example, the Apostle Paul used many Roman sports metaphors to make his points (Phil. 3:12-14; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 2 Tim. 4:6-8). The writer of the letter to the Hebrews also employed Roman sport imagery of running a race and receiving a winner’s wreath (See also Hebrews 12:1). This kind of imagery was well

known in Judea that housed elaborate sports arenas. This kind of analogy much more closely matches the culture of the Roman city of Pergamum. No doubt the persecuted believers, both Jewish and former pagans, were aware of this practice and the elaborate banquets of honor for the overcomers/winners of the race. Most of the believers did not take part in these games by the virtue of the fact that the games included a dedication to the Roman gods. Christ tells them that in all reality they have not missed out on anything. The real race is the race of perseverance dedicated to Israel's God. Whoever perseveres in this race and overcomes will receive a pass into the heavenly banquet of eternal honor.)

Mathew 26:9

"I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the wine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

More than likely the meaning of this will be eating with Christ at His table in the Kingdom! (see 1Cor.10-about partaking of the altar: cup and bread!)

Crown of Rejoicing(Rapture?)(“enter into the joy of your Lord”)

*greatest provision is to be in Gods presence

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

“For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? For you are our glory and joy.”

Philippians 4:1

“Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.”

*what a joyous occasion to have Paul and Jesus rejoicing over you as an over comer and a bride!

This crown is given to people who stand fast in the Lord in this race to persevere as followers of Christ.

He will be rejoicing with those he sees in the Kingdom.

The boasting, the glory of seeing the people that you helped come to Christ, to help run the race and to help be in the presence of the Lord at His coming.

Crown of Righteousness(Rulers Crown)(Judge)

2 Timothy 4:8

“Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”

Remember what it means to Love(Agapao-to prefer) Jesus appearing. If you are looking forward to the Judge and Kings return to rule, then you are more than you have more than likely been walking closely with Him in faithfulness. There are certain people afraid for His appearing and certain people thrilled for His appearing. Some will mourn and be afraid at His coming, these were the ones caught unaware like a thief.

”But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. But if that wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.“

Matthew 24:43-44, 46-48, 50-51 ESV

”Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.“

1 Thessalonians 5:1-4, 6 ESV

*a thief is to be feared because he will steal your reward!

”Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.“
Revelation 3:3 ESV

”I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.“
Revelation 3:11 ESV

*Make no mistake church, crowns may be taken away!

To those who are loving and looking forward to His appearance, they are fighting the good fight, they are running the race and keeping and guarding the faith.

*You understood Gods right to righteously rule over your life, so you will have the right to rule over others lives!

Matt. 5:10

“Blessed are those persecuted for righteousness for theirs is the kingdom”

Crown of Life (life=Zoe-feminine noun)(tree of life, breath of life)

*”shall not perish but have eternal life”-this life is the privilege to be a part of the first resurrection and part of the Millennial Kingdom life with blessings and provision.

*Our calling is to come out of the world and remain/abide in Christ as a member of His body. When He returns for His bride, He will choose the overcoming faithful who loved Him back and “remove” His rib from the earth and hide it in His “chamber” which symbolizes the covenant of Eve being prepared away from Adam and then being brought back to Him and to celebrate the marriage covenant of “cleaving” to each other. He received His true “helpmate” for the Millennial reign!

See: John 1:4, 14:6, 17:2,3

May have something to do with the book of life? Blotted out is a possibility. Foolish virgins blotted out=I don't know you(eido)

James 1:12

“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love(prefer) him.” (Prefer: see also John 14,15)

Revelation 2:10

“Be faithful unto death(death to self) and I will give you the crown of life”

Col 3:4

“When Christ who is your life appears then you will also appear with Him in glory.”(see also Rom. 8:17 “joint heir with...glorified with”)

The crown of life is really this life WITH CHRIST. This is probably the Bride Coheirs with Christ, provided you have suffered with Him, You get to inherit His Glory with Him.

Deut. 30:19

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

(Genesis 2:24/Ephesians 5:31-“hold fast” to his wife”

Crown of Glory (Matt.25:31 “when Son of Man comes in his glory...then He will sit on his glorious throne”) This may be the top crown that includes them all. Just as the bride chosen is the top position that includes all privilege’s!

Mature follower of Christ, a shepherd of sheep. A general call to shepherd and look out for the people of God.

A call to shepherd for the entire body of Christ. This is to the mature, not the “clergy” who is given this great position to govern and oversee.

Quit possibly the righteous sheep who ministered to the least of these!

1 Peter 5:2-4

“Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.”

“For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.”
Isaiah 62:1-5 ESV

“The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a graceful garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful(glorious) crown.””
Proverbs 4:7-9 ESV

“An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones.”
Proverbs 12:4 ESV

“Go out, O daughters of Zion, and look upon King Solomon, with the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, on the day of the gladness of his heart.”(crowned him with a wife!)

Song of Solomon 3:11 ESV

“In that day the Lord of hosts will be a crown of glory, and a diadem of beauty, to the remnant of his people,”

Isaiah 28:5 ESV

“Say to the king and the queen mother: “Take a lowly seat, for your beautiful crown has come down from your head.””

Jeremiah 13:18 ESV

Esther 2:17 “Royal Crown”

Matt. 6:29-Solomon clothed in glory

Matt. 19:28-sitting w/ Jesus on glorious thrones

Exodus 24-Moses talks with God and carry's His Shikinah glory. Intimacy with God is the most glorious crown!

John 17:5 “authority”

-Matthew 6:1-34: “The hypocritical believer”- a significant testing of our hearts that only care about what God sees and thinks as compared to living for the approval and accolades of men!

Ex. Mary and Martha

Ex. Matthew 7:22 -doing great deeds before men for Jesus received “I never knew you, depart from me you who practice lawlessness”

Insight: 24 elders cast their crowns(plural) before His feet! all five represent complete and full rewards/inheritance(Rev.4:10)

Revelation 3:7-13-the church at Philadelphia represents all five crowns and is exhorted not to forfeit “The” crown but to hold it tightly! until Christ returns!!

1. little strength= poor in spirit, internal affliction yearning for Groom to return.
2. kept my word=
3. not denied my name=
4. kept command to endure= to remain under His commands/full submission
5. Hold fast til the end= hold on tightly until He comes!

**all crowns may represent in some way Jesus' crown of thorns. Symbolically representing the suffering and hardship involved with denying self, picking up cross, and following after Him! These crowns turn to gold in the kingdom just like Jesus' also(see Rev.4:4)

The Greek word translated “crown” is stephanos (the source for the name Stephen the martyr) and means “a badge of royalty, a prize in the public games or a symbol of honor generally.” Used during the ancient Greek games, it referred to a wreath or garland of

leaves placed on a victor's head as a reward for winning an athletic contest. As such, this word is used figuratively in the New Testament of the rewards of heaven God promises those who are faithful.

***The idea throughout the epistles to the church is that you have all of them at rebirth but can lose some or all of them over the course of your life!?

“You shall also be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord”
(Isaiah 62:3)

Strong's Greek: 4735. στέφανος (stephanos) -- that which surrounds, i.e. a crown

Strong's Concordance
stephanos: that which surrounds, i.e. a crown
 Original Word: στέφανος, ου, ό
 Part of Speech: Noun, Masculine
 Transliteration: stephanos
 Phonetic Spelling: (stef-an-os)
 Definition: that which surrounds, a crown
 Usage: a crown, garland, honor, glory.

HELPS Word-studies
4735 stéphanos – properly, a wreath (garland), awarded to a victor in the ancient athletic games (like the Greek Olympics); the crown of *victory* (versus 1238 /diádēma, "a royal crown").
 [4735 (stéphanos) is used of a plaited wreath ("crown"), like the one made of thorns placed on the head of Christ at His trial (Mt 27:29, Mk 15:17; Jn 19:2,5).]

Englishman's Concordance
Matthew 27:29 N-AMS
 GRK: και πλέξαντες **στέφανον** ἐξ ἀκανθῶν
 NAS: And after twisting *together a crown* of thorns,
 KJV: when they had platted *a crown* of
 INT: And having twisted together *a crown* of thorns

Mark 15:17 N-AMS
 GRK: πλέξαντες ἀκάνθινον **στέφανον**
 NAS: and after twisting *a crown* of thorns,
 KJV: platted *a crown* of thorns,
 INT: having twisted together [it] thorn *crown*

John 19:2 N-AMS
 GRK: στρατώται πλέξαντες **στέφανον** ἐξ ἀκανθῶν
 NAS: twisted *together a crown* of thorns
 KJV: platted *a crown* of
 INT: soldiers having twisted together *a crown* of thorns

John 19:5 N-AMS

Bonus: how does the Olive Tree in Romans 9 fit these crowns of inheritance?

”They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.”
Romans 9:4-5 ESV

*Grafted into the olive tree of the sons of Israel:="the adoption"

1. The glory=brideship(intimacy, plus everything)
2. The covenants=dominion
3. The giver of the law=judges
4. The service=priestly duties(given best foods and provisions)
5. The promises=land of promise

What does it mean to be “grafted in”?

What does it mean to be “cut-off”?

*Remember be a good Berean of the scriptures and as you run a faithful race, teach others to do the same.