



## "Crowns" in the Bible

Matthew 27:29 "And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' " NASB

The word crown, crowns or crowned appears 71 times in the Bible. A crown is a circular article worn on the head to indicate authority or supremacy, or it is the act of placing such an article on the head. Ones made of precious metal often with jewels were worn by royalty or other governmental leaders, and ones constructed of vegetation were worn by the winners of sporting events. Sometimes one was just worn as a decoration to flaunt wealth. Sometimes the word was just used to mean the top of something. When it is used in the Bible it sometimes meant a literal crown, but just as often its meaning was metaphorical or perhaps even spiritual.

Please read these scriptures and answer the related questions:

(A) John 19:1-7 They crowned Jesus the king of what nation? \_\_\_\_\_

(B) Philippians 4:1 Besides "beloved brethren" what else did Paul call his readers? \_\_\_\_\_

(C) 1 Thessalonians 2:19 What kind of crown are Paul's readers here? \_\_\_\_\_

(D) If those who have been your pastor or leader during your time as a Christian were to write you a letter, would they call you their "joy and crown," their "crown of exultation," or their "crown of thorns"? Why?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

(E) 2 Timothy 4:8 What kind of crown will Paul someday receive? \_\_\_\_\_

(F) Hebrews 2:5-10 What kind of crown does Jesus wear? \_\_\_\_\_

(G) James 1:12 A man who perseveres under trial gets what crown? \_\_\_\_\_

(H) 1 Peter 5:4 Who will receive an unfading crown of glory when the Chief Shepherd appears? \_\_\_\_\_

(I) Revelation 2:10 Who will receive the crown of life? \_\_\_\_\_

(J) Revelation 3:11 What must we do to keep our crown? \_\_\_\_\_

(K) When it comes time for Him to pass out the crowns, what kind will you get? (Hint: 1 Corinthians 3:10-14)

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

(L) Revelation 4:4 What did the elders have on their heads? \_\_\_\_\_

(M) Revelation 4:10-11 What did the elders do with their crowns? \_\_\_\_\_

(N) Revelation 6:2 What was given to the conquering rider on the white horse? \_\_\_\_\_

(O) Revelation 9:7 What was on the locusts' heads? \_\_\_\_\_

(P) Revelation 12:1 What was on the woman's head? \_\_\_\_\_

(Q) Revelation 14:14 The One sitting on the white cloud had what kind of crown? \_\_\_\_\_

(R) What are you going to do with the crown you receive in the end times? \_\_\_\_\_

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

----- "CROWNS" POSSIBLE ANSWERS -----

- (A) John 19:1-7 They crowned Jesus the king of what nation? Jews Jn 19:3 (See Mt 27:29, Mk 15:17)
- (B) Philippians 4:1 Besides "beloved brethren" what else did Paul call his readers? Joy and crown
- (C) 1 Thessalonians 2:19 What kind of crown are Paul's readers here? Crown of exultation
- (D) I hope some of them are proud of me, but the truth is I didn't really learn very much about being a good follower until I tried being a leader for a while. I hope I'm doing better as a follower now.
- (E) 2 Timothy 4:8 What kind of crown will Paul someday receive? Crown of righteousness
- (F) Hebrews 2:5-10 What kind of crown does Jesus wear? Glory and Honor Heb 2:7 & 9
- (G) James 1:12 A man who perseveres under trial gets what crown? Crown of life
- (H) 1 Peter 5:4 Who will receive an unfading crown of glory when the Chief Shepherd appears?  
Elders who have been a good example 1Ptr 5:1-5
- (I) Revelation 2:10 Who will receive the crown of life? Those who are faithful until death
- (J) Revelation 3:11 What must we do to keep our crown? Hold fast
- (K) That is like trying to predict which prize you are going to win at an athletic event. If you say first place you sound arrogant. If you don't, it sounds like a lack of confidence. The only righteousness I have is what He has given me. I owe Him my life, and I'm trusting Him to give me eternal life. If I manifest any glory, it will simply be Him shining out from within me. Perhaps I'm sounding a little "holier than thou" but this is what I really think, when I'm thinking rightly.
- (L) Revelation 4:4 What did the elders have on their heads? Golden crowns
- (M) Revelation 4:10-11 What did the elders do with their crowns? Cast them before the throne in worship
- (N) Revelation 6:2 What was given to the conquering rider on the white horse? A crown
- (O) Revelation 9:7 What was on the locusts' heads? Crowns
- (P) Revelation 12:1 What was on the woman's head? A crown of twelve stars
- (Q) Revelation 14:14 The One sitting on the white cloud had what kind of crown? Golden
- (R) I believe I will just be so happy to be there that I will not clutch them in greedy hands. Hopefully. My plan is to offer any rewards that may come my way to Jesus as an act of worship.

**For further thought:**

- [s] Compare Genesis 3:17-19 with John 19:1-5. What did you learn?
- [t] In 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:5 the prize was a wreath, a crown of laurel, as a symbol of their achievement. But Paul is not talking about sports except as an analogy for something else. What is he really talking about?
- [u] The Greek word for crown is *stephanos*. The martyr, Stephan, had that word for a name. (Who would name their child "Crowned" and why?) Read his story in Acts chapters 6, 7 and 8. Does his name fit his character? Why?
- [v] Read and discuss these verses in context:
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|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Genesis 49:26        | 1 Chronicles 20:2  | Psalm 65:11          | Song of Solomon 7:5 |
| Exodus 29:6          | 2 Chronicles 23:11 | Psalm 68:21          | Isaiah 23:8         |
| Exodus 39:30         | Esther 1:11        | Psalm 89:39          | Isaiah 28:1-5       |
| Leviticus 8:9        | Esther 2:17        | Psalm 103:4          | Isaiah 62:3         |
| Deuteronomy 28:35    | Esther 6:8         | Psalm 132:18         | Jeremiah 2:16       |
| Deuteronomy 33:16-20 | Esther 8:15        | Proverbs 4:9         | Jeremiah 13:18      |
| 2 Samuel 1:10        | Job 2:7            | Proverbs 12:4        | Lamentations 5:16   |
| 2 Samuel 12:30       | Job 19:9           | Proverbs 14:18-24    | Ezekiel 16:12       |
| 2 Samuel 14:25       | Job 31:36          | Proverbs 16:31       | Ezekiel 21:26       |
| 1 Kings 7:31         | Psalm 8:5          | Proverbs 17:6        | Ezekiel 23:42       |
| 2 Kings 11:12        | Psalm 21:3         | Proverbs 27:24       | Zechariah 6:11-14   |
|                      |                    | Song of Solomon 3:11 | Zechariah 9:16      |