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House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 12



Columbia

CHURCH of CHRIST

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MINISTER

Michael Tanksley

SUNDAY

Worship 9:00 a.m. CST
Bible Class 10:00 a.m. CST
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. CST

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HOUSE TO HOUSE/HEART TO HEART is published monthly. It is sent to select Columbia routes and individuals free upon request. Send all correspondence to address above. To God be the glory.

IS IT TIME TO UPDATE?

Allen Webster



Times change. The new quickly becomes old, today's technological breakthrough becomes yesterday's news, the popular is lost in the latest fad, and the up-to-date is soon out-of-date.

Truth never changes. It reads the same today as it did yesterday, and as it will tomorrow. It is "once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 1:3). Those who would change it are accursed (Galatians 1:6-9), and find that it will meet them in judgment unchanged (Revelation 20:12).

Secular man thinks he has outgrown the ancient gospel. The idea that there is an absolute standard is to him obsolete. The concepts of sin and spiritual death are replaced by "if it feels good, do it," and "live for today." He doubts that blood is needed for forgiveness and scoffs at the virgin birth, sinless life, sacrificial death, and miraculous resurrection of Christ. He thinks these are but myths of a bygone era.

When will man outgrow the gospel?

When He overcomes sin. The only way man could have outgrown the gospel is to have conquered sin. He has not. Listen to today's news reports. Look around at what people are saying and doing. Sin is still in business. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) was true in Paul's day and is true today. Sin is still the transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4), which can include violating one's conscience (Romans 14:23), omitting a duty (James 4:17), and, generally, "all unrighteousness" (1 John 5:17). Peter, for instance, names five germs that disease the soul (1 Peter 2:1):

- **Malice**—bitterness toward someone; concealed anger in the heart; to desire harm to come to a person.
- **Deceit**—to catch as a fish with bait. Craftiness; deceit; trickery.
- **Hypocrisy**—to put on a mask and act out a part. One's face and heart do not send the same message.

- **Envy**—to be jealous of what others have and to wish they did not have it; unhappy for good to come to someone else.
- **Evil Speaking**—Slander; unkind words about someone.¹

Do you recognize any of these from your workplace, marketplace, community, Hollywood, or corporate America?

Since God is the one who determines what is sin, what is sinful will not change. Men may change what they consider sin or what they call it, but it will not alter what it really is. Forgiveness is still the most basic spiritual need that man has (Romans 3:23; 6:23). The only way one can be forgiven is through the gospel (Romans 1:16).

When Man Conquers Temptation. The gospel provides power to overcome temptation (Ephesians 6:17), and man still needs its power. Humans have not conquered the desires of the flesh—far from it! We are prone to give in to the lusts of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:15–17). We will never overcome temptation without the word (Hebrews 4:12)

When Man’s Soul No Longer Needs Food. The American Medical Association says in an average lifetime a person will eat the following amounts of food:

- 50 head of cattle
- 2,400 chickens
- 310 pigs
- 26 acres of grain, and
- 50 acres of fruit and vegetables.

None of these will appease one craving of the soul. The soul feeds only on the Word of God. The gospel fills those who “hunger and thirst for righteousness” (Matthew 5:6). Peter said, “As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious” (1 Peter 2:2–3). (“Sincere” or “pure” means “unadulterated, nothing added.”) The Bible is often compared to food:

- Water (Revelation 21:6)
- Honey (Psalm 119:103)
- Milk (Hebrews 5:12–14)

As food, it has the power to nurture, sustain, and create growth. It is rich in nutrients!

How often do we feed our stomachs compared to how often we feed our souls? If we feasted on food only as often as we feasted on the Word of God, would we survive physically? (cf. Matthew 4:4; Psalm 119:165; Jeremiah 15:16).

Someone pointed out that birds can go nine days without food, dogs 20, turtles 500, snakes 800, and fish 1,000. A person can survive 60 or more without food, but most would be somewhat incapacitated going even a whole day without nourishment. Yet some do not read God’s Word, except maybe Sundays. No wonder we are weak spiritually. We need to take nourishment from the Word every day (Acts 17:11).

If one could invent a substitute food for the soul, he would not need the gospel, but he has not and will not.

When Man No Longer Needs a Map to Heaven. Men have sought to invent their own ways to heaven, but these maps will only get one lost. The wise king observed, “Truly, this only have I found; that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes” (Ecclesiastes 7:29). Jesus spoke against this practice in His day: “For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men—as the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do.” He said unto them, ‘All too well you reject the

commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition’” (Mark 7:8–9).

If we follow the road of “faith only,” the avenue of “merit and self-righteousness,” the lane of “direct operation of the Spirit,” or the path of “once saved always saved,” we miss the narrow road that leads to life (Matthew 7:13–14).

When Satan Is Defeated. The devil is still like “a roaring lion,” walking about “seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). Man is still in danger; therefore, he needs God’s protection. If men were able to defeat Satan without spiritual weapons, then they would no longer need the truth, but they cannot (Ephesians 6:13–17). No one is strong enough to conquer one’s temptations without an “it is written”—not even Jesus (Matthew 4:1–11).

“The word of the Lord endures forever” (1 Peter 1:25). Only the true gospel of Christ leads to heaven (John 14:6). We can choose to heed it or harass it, to read it or reject it, to respect it or ridicule it. This same ancient gospel is our only hope of a ticket through the pearly gates.

“Ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls.”

JEREMIAH 6:16

Endnote:

¹ Original source for definitions unknown.





I've Got the Joy Down in My Heart

God's people have always been a joyful people. The word "joy" appears 165 times in 155 verses in the Bible. Add in "joyous" (4) and "joyful" (25) and you have nearly 200 references. Add to this that "rejoice" is found 192 times (in 183 verses) and we have nearly 400 references to joy in the Bible.

Consider the following verses:

- "Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them'" (Psalm 126:2).
- "His favor is for life; weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5).

- There is a time "to laugh" (Ecclesiastes 3:4).
- "God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).
- We should rejoice with those who rejoice (Romans 12:15; cf. Acts 11:23; 1 Corinthians 12:26; Philippians 2:17-18, 28) and should not be selfish with laughter.
- Being a good sport demands that we laugh when others are merry, provided the merry mood is prompted by that which is clean and legitimate (Ephesians 5:1-4).

Laughter is in order when we are happy (Ecclesiastes 3:4). The way to true happiness is found in God (Proverbs 16:20).



You Cannot Please Everybody

Aesop had a fable about a man, a boy, and a donkey.

These three were walking down a dusty road on a summer day. They overheard a passerby say, "Look at those foolish

people walking when at least one of them could be riding the donkey." Not wanting to appear foolish, the father climbed upon the donkey.

It was not long until another onlooker remarked, "Look at that inconsiderate man making that poor little boy walk." Upon hearing this, the father and son exchanged places.

Still they had not satisfied their fellow men. One said, "Look at that young man

riding and the old man walking in the heat of the day." The father then got on the donkey with the son.

They had only ridden a short distance when another passerby exclaimed, "Look at the poor donkey carrying those two people; they should be carrying the donkey instead."

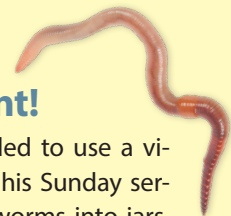
So the man and boy tied the donkey's legs to a pole and proceeded to carry the donkey. Everyone then exclaimed, "Look at those foolish people carrying a donkey."

This shows you cannot please everybody; you will be censured no matter what you do or how you do it.

"We ought to obey God rather than men."

ACTS 5:29

Missed the Point!



A young minister decided to use a visual demonstration for his Sunday sermon. He placed three worms into jars. The first worm was put into a container of alcohol. The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke. The third worm was put into a container of good clean soil. At the conclusion of the sermon, he reported these results:

- The worm in alcohol: Dead.
- The worm in smoke: Dead.
- The worm in soil: Alive.

The minister asked, "What can we learn from this demonstration?"

An old woman in the back raised her hand and said, "As long as you drink and smoke, you will not have worms!"

"Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul"

1 PETER 2:11



Only One Book Left

When David Livingstone started his trek across Africa, he had 73 books in three packs, weighing 180 pounds. After the party had gone 300 miles, Livingstone was obliged to throw away some of the books because of the fatigue of those carrying his baggage. As he continued on his journey his library grew less and less, until he had but one book left—his Bible. —*Today in the Word*, April, 1989.p.28

God's Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love: John 3:16

God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9

Holy Spirit's Word: Romans 1:16

Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism: Acts 22:16

Christian's Love: Matthew 22:37

Christian's Work: James 2:24

Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10



Do I Look Like the Type of Person?

Bill Bouknight tells the story of a little boy going door-to-door in his neighborhood. He was trying to raise some money by collecting old bottles. When he came to the home of the town grouch, he asked, "Do you have any coke bottles?"

"No," she said with a scowl.

Then he said, "Do you have any old whiskey bottles?"

"Young man," the woman replied, "do I look like the type of person who would have old whiskey bottles?"

He said, "I thought that might be what made you so mean."

Is it not tragic that some people go through life so negative and sour and bitter? Do not become the old grouch in your family. Smile. Love. Laugh.

"Rejoice always."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16



God in Our Families

Happy moments: praise God (James 5:13).

Difficult moments: seek God (Psalm 63:1).

Quiet moments: worship God (Psalm 4:4).

Painful moments: trust God (Psalm 7:1).

Every moment: thank God (Psalm 100:4).

—Via the Green Plain Proclaimer

For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to www.housetohouse.com.

Is it a sin to live together without marriage?

Society is rapidly accepting the idea that a man and a woman can live together without being married.

What does God think? According to the Bible, a man and a woman living together unmarried are "living in fornication." *Fornication* is a general word meaning, "every kind of unlawful sexual intercourse." A couple engaged in sexual union is either married to each other or sinning; there is no middle ground.

To avoid fornication, the Bible says, "Let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband" (1 Corinthians 7:2). One must cease fornication and be forgiven of it in order to go to heaven (Revelation 21:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9).

Since God instituted marriage (Genesis 2:24), this question is not merely cultural. The Bible does not give specific words that must be said or a ceremony done as one enters a marriage. Every culture is free to set up a system to recognize that a couple has become husband and wife. In our country the law has generally required that a couple must obtain a license or notarized marriage certificate. Each person entering marriage must comply with the law of God and with the laws of the land (1 Peter 2:13–15; Romans 13:1–2).

If the state does not accept a marriage without a license or certificate, then neither does God. We might also point out that there are "marriages" that the state

recognizes God will not (Matthew 19:9; Romans 7:1–4). Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at the well, "You have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband" (John 4:18). She had met the requirements of the state five times, but not the sixth. This teaches that we must comply with the laws of the land, and that mere cohabitation does not constitute a marriage. Sexual union does not make a marriage, as Jesus said, "the one whom you now have is not your husband."

If sexual union makes a marriage, then everyone who employs the services of a prostitute is married to her. God must join two together for them to be married. Jesus said, "They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matthew 19:6). God only joins those who meet His requirements.



Just for Fun Moses and the Parting of the Red Sea



Why does the church of Christ put so much emphasis on “Christ”?



A key New Testament passage is Matthew 16:16–18: “Simon Peter answered and said, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this **rock** I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.’”

Christ Is the Foundation

He said, “On this rock, I will **build** my church” (Matthew 16:18). Christ is the rock and the rejected cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20).

Christ Is the Builder

He said, “On this rock I will build My church” (Matthew 16:18). Religions invented by men are worthless (Psalm

127:1). Churches of men will be rooted up, according to the Lord (Matthew 15:13).

Bought by Christ

He said, “On this rock, I will build My church” (Matthew 16:18). Christ purchased it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). We are redeemed by His blood (Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:13–14; Romans 5:8–9). Jesus gave Himself for the church (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 5:25–26).

Wears Name of Christ

A bride typically wears the name of her husband; the church is Christ’s bride (2 Corinthians 11:2; John 3:29; Ephesians 5:27; Isaiah 56:5; 62:2). Paul said, “The churches of Christ greet you” (Romans 16:16). Its members wear His name—Christian (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16). Wearing His name gives honor to Christ

(Colossians 3:17). Salvation is found in no other name (Acts 4:12).

Preaches the Gospel of Christ

Only His truth can make one free (John 8:32). The gospel is truth; it has the power to save lost souls (Romans 1:16). Preaching saves (1 Corinthians 1:18–21).

Worships According to Christ’s Teachings

True worship is in spirit and truth (John 4:24), which means according to the pattern of the New Testament of Christ. That pattern authorizes singing, giving, communion, prayer, and teaching (Ephesians 5:19; 1 Corinthians 11:23–28; 16:1–2; Acts 2:42).

Conclusion

How could we fail to emphasize Christ? Let all emphasize only Christ and His church. Let all submit to only that which is commanded by Christ (Philippians 2:10).

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.



Bible Quiz

VOLUME 26:12

Send us your answers to receive a free Bible bookmark. We will grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark “Quick Scriptures on Salvation” as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State: _____
 Phone: _____

Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

Answers to Previous Quizzes

V. 26:10 Starts with the Letter “A”: 1. Aaron (Exodus 6:18–20; 7:1, 7); 2. Abaddon or Apollyon (Revelation 9:11); 3. Abanah (2 Kings 5:12); 4. Abba (Mark 14:36); 5. Abel (Genesis 4:8); 6. Abigail (1 Samuel 25:14–42); 7. Abishag (1 Kings 1:1–4); 8. Abishai (2 Samuel 21:16–17); 9. Abner (2 Samuel 3:8–27); 10. Abraham (Genesis 22:1–19); 11. Absalom (2 Samuel 14:25–15:12); 12. Apollos (Acts 18:24–25); 13. Annas (John 18:12–24); 14. Acts of Apostles; 15. Adam (Genesis 1:26/2:19); 16. Adultery (Galatians 5:19/Matthew 19:9); 17. Ant (Proverbs 6:6–8); 18. Ahab (1 Kings 16:29–31); 19. Ahasuerus (Esther 2:16); 20. Ahithophel (2 Samuel 15:12); 21. Ai (Joshua 7:2–5); 22. Alabaster (Matthew 26:7); 23. Antioch (Acts 11:26); 24. Amnon (2 Samuel 13:1–18); 25. Amram (Exodus 6:18–20)

V. 26:11 Places Jesus Visited: 1. Bethlehem (Matthew 2:1); 2. Egypt (Matthew 2:14–15); 3. Nazareth (Matthew 2:23); 4. In the temple (Luke 2:42–49) 5. Jordan (Mark 1:9); 6. In the wilderness (Luke 4:1–2); 7. Cana in Galilee (John 2:11); 8. Sychar in Samaria (John 4:5–7); 9. Caesarea Philippi (Matthew 16:13–18); 10. Bethsaida (Mark 8:22–26); 11. The Pool of Bethesda (John 5:1–9); 12. To the Pool of Siloam (John 9:7); 13. Nain (Luke 7:11–17); 14. A deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida (Luke 9:10–17); 15. Jericho (Mark 10:46–52); 16. Bethany (John 11:1, 43); 17. Place of a Skull or Golgotha (John 19:17–18); 18. Bethany (Luke 24:50–51).

Starts with the letter “U”

Directions: Find answers in the following passages: Genesis 15:7; 2 Samuel 6:3–11; 11:1–27; Job 1:1; Psalm 1:1; Daniel 5:1, 25; Mark 14:14–16; 16:14; Luke 16:10; 22:1; Acts 10:28; 11:3; 17:23; 1 Corinthians 6:9; 2 Corinthians 9:15; Ephesians 4:3; Philippians 4:7; 1 Timothy 2:12; Hebrews 7:26. Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

- “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the _____.”
- The risen Jesus criticized His disciples for their _____.
- The Jews criticized Peter for eating with men who were _____.
- Peter learned he should not call any man common or _____.
- Christ “is holy, harmless, _____ separate from sinners.”
- The peace of God “surpasses all _____.”
- We are to endeavor to keep the _____ of the Spirit.
- He that is _____ in what is least is unjust also in much.
- The Athenians had an altar to the _____ God.
- Passover was also called the Feast of _____ Bread.
- “Do you not know that the _____ will not inherit the kingdom of God?”
- “Thanks be to God for his _____ gift.” (See KJV)
- Belshazzar saw this word written on a wall. _____
- Christ instituted the Lord’s supper in an _____ room.
- Job was a perfect and _____ man.
- Abraham was from _____ of the Chaldees.
- _____ was Bathsheba’s husband; murdered by David.
- “But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to _____ authority over the man, but to be in silence.” (See KJV)
- _____ Place of Job’s residence.
- _____ touched the ark of the covenant and died.

The Parable of the Three Trees

Once three trees in the woods discussed their dreams. The first said, "Someday I hope to be a treasure chest filled with gold, silver, and precious gems. I would like to be decorated with intricate carving so everyone would see my beauty."

The second said, "Someday I will be a mighty ship. I will take kings and queens across the water and sail to the corners of the world. Everyone will feel safe in me because of the strength of my hull."

The third said, "I want to grow to be the tallest and straightest tree in the forest. Seeing me on top of the hill, people will look and think of the heavens and how close to them I reach. I will be the greatest tree of all time. People will always remember me."

After years of praying, their dreams would come true. A woodsman came upon the trees. As he cut the first tree, he said, "This is a beautiful tree. I will sell the wood to a carpenter." The tree was happy because he knew a carpenter could make him into a treasure chest.

At the second tree, the woodsman said, "This is a strong tree. I will sell it to the shipyard." The tree was happy because he knew he was on his way to becoming a mighty ship.

When the woodsman came to the third tree, the tree was frightened because he knew that if he was cut down his dreams would never come true. He wept as the woodsman indeed cut him down.

- The first tree arrived at the carpenter's shop and was made into a feed box for animals! This was not what he had prayed for.
- The second tree was made into a small fishing boat. His dreams of being a mighty ship and carrying kings had come to an end.
- The third tree was cut into pieces and left alone in the dark.

Years went by, and the trees forgot their dreams. Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth and placed her baby in the hay of the feed box. The man, a carpenter himself, wished

he had made a crib for the baby, but this manger would have to do. Little did the tree know that it now held the greatest treasure of all time.

Some years later, a group of men got into the fishing boat. One was tired and fell asleep. While out on the water, a great storm arose. The tree did not think it was strong enough to keep its passengers safe. The men woke the sleeping man. He stood and said, "Peace." The storm stopped! The tree then knew he carried the King of kings.

Someone finally came to get the third tree. It was placed on a man's back and carried through the streets as people mocked and shouted. Eventually, they stopped, and the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die at the top of a hill. When Sunday came, that cross became the tree people would always remember because Jesus had been crucified on it.

"The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you murdered by hanging on a tree"

ACTS 5:30

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

Recommended Resource



Why should we believe the Bible? Who is God? How do I become a Christian? Get answers to life's biggest questions. Listen to a new podcast about faith that is engaging, challenging, and fun to listen to. New episodes every Wednesday.

Listen on Spotify, Apple, and Google Podcasts. Watch on Instagram, YouTube, and the free GBN App. More at housetohouse.com/ac.

I want to learn more about the Bible!

If you knew for sure that the religious path you are on would not get you to heaven, would you change? If there was the possibility of a doubt, would you investigate? Why not request a personal Bible study today?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Prayer requests or comments: _____

I would like:



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A DVD Bible Study



An In-Home Bible Study

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- Look at the Context
- The First Christian in Europe
- I Don't Want You to Join My Church
- A Parable Jesus Never Told

More subjects:



The Rich Man The Separate Man



Should the Church Be Politically Correct?



The Half Has Never Been Told



5 (Five) Views of Mark 16:16



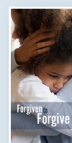
Signs for the Times



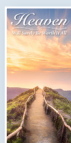
Victory Where There Was Once Defeat



Enough and to Spare



Forgiveness to Forgive

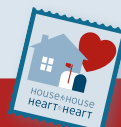


Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All

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VOLUME 26:12



ABC'S OF FAITH

ASK
MATTHEW 7:7

BELIEVE
MARK 11:24

CHEERFUL
MATTHEW 9:2

DEDICATION
ROMANS 12:1-2

ENCOURAGEMENT
1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

FOLLOW
LUKE 9:23

GIVE
2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

HOPE
1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

INSTRUCTION
2 TIMOTHY 3:16

JOY
PHILIPPIANS 4:4

KINDNESS
EPHESIANS 4:32

LOVE
MATTHEW 22:37

MERCIFUL
MATTHEW 5:7

NARROW
MATTHEW 7:13-14

OBEDIENCE
HEBREWS 5:8-9

PRAYER
1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

QUIET
1 THESSALONIANS 4:11

RIGHTEOUS
1 PETER 3:12

SERVE
GALATIANS 5:13

THANKFUL
COLOSSIANS 3:15

UNASHAMED
ROMANS 1:16

VIGILANT
MARK 13:37

WORSHIP
JOHN 4:24

EXCELLENCE
PHILIPPIANS 1:10

YIELD
ROMANS 6:13

ZEALOUS
TITUS 2:14



Get Healthy— Go to Church?

A *Wall Street Journal* article reported on the results of a study that stated, "A growing body of scientific evidence shows that Americans who attend religious services at least once a week enjoy better-than-average health and lower rates of illness, including depression. Perhaps most importantly, the studies show that weekly attendance confers a significant reduction in mortality risk over a given period of time."

According to the *Journal*, "The panel reported that studies showed a 25 percent lower mortality rate for those who attend religious services at least weekly. . . . Religious services . . . boast various features that can be beneficial to health—meditation, a social network, a set of values that discourage smoking, infidelity, and other unhealthy behaviors."

As the medical professor who chaired the panel concluded, "After seeing the data, I think I should go to church."

That is what we have been saying all along.

"Worship God."

REVELATION 22:9



Want to Wear a CROWN?



In the ancient athletic games, a fragile leafy crown was awarded the winner.

This garland—called the victor’s crown—was a collection of pine, wild olive, parsley, ivy, or celery leaves. In the Isthmian Games, the prize was a pine wreath. With this crown came instant fame, high acclaim, and the life of a hero. Winners were immortalized, much more than they are today. These wreaths were taken home with great pride, but in a few days, they would wither and discolor.

Making a striking comparison, inspired authors contrasted these earthly crowns with the imperishable crown of Christ—Heaven’s Heisman. What can be said about God’s eternal crown?

- It is an unfading crown of glory (1 Peter 5:4).
- It is a crown of righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8).
- It is a crown of life (James 1:12).
- It is an imperishable crown (1 Corinthians 9:25).

When we stand before Christ, each of us will long to hear Him say, “Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:21) The Master’s approval is all that will matter. Then Christ will take an incorruptible crown, the emblem of God’s approval for a race well run, and place it upon each winner’s head.

Of course, to win the crown we have to get in the race! Are you running the Christian race? Do you want to wear a crown?

—adapted from Steven J. Lawson, quoted in KneEmail, Mike Benson, editor



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4158 Columbia

Why do you believe what you believe? Do you know how to defend your faith, or how to share it with someone else?



THE DAILY APOLOGIST

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