

The Inheritance of the Saints



COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

The Fairness of God

¹⁰ For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Hebrews 6:10

- You have not / do not run in vain!

The Fairness of God

¹⁵ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:58

- Though you may not understand the trials now, nothing you go through for God is wasted or in vain.

The Fairness of God

8 You number my wanderings;
Put my tears into Your bottle;
Are they not in Your book?

Psalm 56:8

The Fairness of God

¹⁶ Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Phil 2:16

- In the 'day of Christ' there will be an assessment of our labour

Consider What We Have!

“Little needeth a godly man, though in misery, to envy a wicked man in the ruff of all his prosperity and jollity, considering what he hath in hand, much more what he hath in hope”.

– John Trapp

Consider What We Have!

“What God layeth on, let us suffer, for some have one cross, some seven, some ten, some half a cross. Yet all the Saints have whole and full joy, and seven crosses have seven joys.”

– Samuel Rutherford

Parable of the Talents

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:29-30

Heavenly Rewards

¹⁰ Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

¹¹ For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:10-11

- We cannot add to our salvation – Grace
- Our ‘Calling’?
 - invitation: to a feast
- Election?
 - of the act of God's free will by which before the foundation of the world he decreed his blessings to certain persons

Heavenly Award Ceremony

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

- We will be judged according to our works
- Our Sin was 'paid in full' at Calvary

Judgments

Various judgments in scripture

- **JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST** (Beamer Seat)
- **JUDGMENT OF THE 'GREAT WHORE'** (False Religion)
- **JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS** (Sheep & Goats)
- **JUDGMENT OF SATANIC TRINITY** (Antichrist / Satan)
- **GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT** (Judgment Day)
- *“Judgement to begin with the house of God”*

1 Peter 4:17

Judgment Seat of Christ

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

¹¹ Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

Judgment Seat of Christ

¹² For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to answer them which glory in appearance, and not in heart.

¹³ For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

Judgment Seat of Christ

¹⁴ For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:
¹⁵ And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

- We will all stand at the Beamer Seat
- We will be rewarded
- What Christ has done is our motivation

Judgment Seat of Christ

2 Cor 5:10 / Rom 14:10

- Award ceremony for the saints
- Sin is not part of the equation
- How we have lived as Christians will be the critical issue
- Our deeds will be judged (good or bad)
- Salvation is assured
- Rewards are not
- Where our treasure has been will be the key

Heavenly Reward

8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

2 John 8

Heavenly Reward

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1 Cor 9:26-27

- Castaway – Gr. *adokimos*
- rejected, reprobate, having nothing

Our Rewards?

Crowns:

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Incorruption

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.



1 Cor 9:24-25

Isthmian Games (Isthmus of Corinth)

The Crown of Incorruption

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

1 Cor 9:24-25

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
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The Crown of Life

¹² Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

James 1:12

¹³ There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Cor 10:13

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Rejoicing

¹⁹ For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

²⁰ For ye are our glory and joy.

1 Thes 2:19-20

- The joy of seeing the lost found
- Luke 15:7 – “joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repents”

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
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The Crown of Glory

- ¹ The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- ² Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- ³ Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 Peter 5:1-4

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
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The Crown of Righteousness

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8

What do we do with our Crowns?

- Spend eternity bragging about how well we've done?

Before the throne...

⁴ And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

Revelation 4:4

Elders:

- From every kindred, tongue, peoples & nation
- ‘Redeemed by the blood’
- ‘24’ representative of the whole –
1 Chron 24:1-18 / Rev 21:12-14 / 24 hours

Before the throne...

⁹ And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

¹⁰ The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹ Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 4:9-11

¹² Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

¹³ Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

¹⁴ But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

1 Chronicles 29:12-14

What do we do with our Crowns?

- Cast them before the throne

What Happens to the Crowns?

What Happens to the Crowns?

¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

Revelation 19:11-13

What Happens to the Crowns?

- We are rewarded with crowns
- We will cast our crowns before the throne
- Jesus will receive and wear the crowns we give Him

Significance?

- However great our reward, Jesus will receive the glory
- We will not be able to 'brag' throughout eternity
- Once the crowns are cast down we are all the same – sinners saved by grace
- This is our one opportunity to give something back to Jesus
- Today is our opportunity!

Significance?

- Representative of every time you wanted to quit the race
- Representative of every time you faced temptation
- Representative of every time you had the opportunity to talk to someone about Christ

*"Have you no wish for others to be saved?
Then you are not saved yourself.
Be sure of that." C.H.S.*

Significance?

- Representative of every time you wanted to quit the race
- Representative of every time you faced temptation
- Representative of every time you had the opportunity to talk to someone about Christ
- Representative of your faithfulness in ministry
- Representative of your looking for his return

Our Response

- The Crown of Incorruption
 - A disciplined Christian life, no compromise
- The Crown of Life
 - Overcoming temptation
- The Crown of Rejoicing
 - Winning souls for Christ
- The Crown of Glory
 - Faithful in ministry
- The Crown of Righteousness
 - Looking for His coming (Sanctified)

7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear
fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of
Christ;

8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not
cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be
filled with **the knowledge of his will** in all wisdom and
spiritual understanding;

Colossians 1:7-9

God's Will

- Our Sanctification – 1 Thes 4:3
- 'Gathering all in one' – Eph 1:10
- Individual 'setting apart'
- Corporate 'setting apart'
- So that which was begun in Eden – God's walk with man – will be for eternity

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all
pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and
increasing in the knowledge of God;

Colossians 1:10

¹¹ Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

Colossians 1:11

¹² Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Colossians 1:12

- What are we to inherit?
- Have we begun to grasp what awaits us as joint-heirs with Christ?
- 1 Cor 2:9-10 tells us we should have!

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness,
and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even
the forgiveness of sins:

Colossians 1:13-14


Keep On Keeping On!

⁹ And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

¹⁰ As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:9-10

- “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”
(Heb 11:1)



Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply