

May 26, 2024

The Last Judgment – Lesson 8

We have learned that we will receive the crowns of *...Life, Righteousness and glory...* at bema. We will wear these crowns in recognition of Jesus' Royal status as *...KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS* **[Revelation 19:16]**.

Each crown will testify that there is a Man in the Heavens Who is sitting on the Throne of God [Heb.12:2], a Royal Sovereign Who has been given *...all authority in Heaven and Earth* **[Matt. 28:18]** to rule and reign over all the creation.

Each crown certifies that God has bestowed His royal status upon us in fulfillment of Gen. 1:26.

Each crown announces that *...we will also reign [and rule] with [Jesus]* [2 Tim 2:12] in keeping with Genesis 1:28.

This is what we read in **1 Peter 2:9** -

...you are a CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR GOD'S OWN POSSESSION...

Now let's talk about *...the crown of thorns...* that Jesus had to wear in order to redeem us for *...GOD'S OWN POSSESSION...*

What is God showing us in the crown of thorns?

Then God said to Adam, Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you... 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall grow... Gen. 3:17-18

Adam's sin caused him to forfeit his royal status to become a slave to Satan [2 Tim. 2:26]

And the *...thorns...* were the symbol of the curse of sin.

Now let's consider God's message in the crown of thorns.

In **John 19:5** we read that *...Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns...*

The crown of thorns was the visible symbol that Jesus *...bore our sins in His body on the cross* **[1 Peter 2:24]** by becoming a curse for us [Gal 3:13].

Jesus bore the full weight of our condemnation.

The crown of thorns was placed upon Jesus' Head in fulfillment of **Is. 53:6**, *...the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him...*

This is why we read in **1 John 3:8** that *...the Son of God appeared for this purpose, ...to destroy the works of the devil...* by becoming a curse for us [Gal 3:13] at the cross.

Therefore, Jesus wore the crown of thorns:

To *...redeem...* from the curse [Gal 3:13]

To forgive us of our *...lawless deeds...* [Rom 4:7], Rom. 8:1

To *...deliver [us] from the domain of darkness, and transferred [us] to the kingdom of [God's] beloved Son* [Col 1:13]

To free us from our slavery to Satan [2 Tim 2:26]

To give us the *...gift of the Holy Spirit* [Acts 2:38].

To *...give us the Victory through our Lord Jesus Christ* [1 Cor. 15:57].

Because Jesus humbled Himself on earth by wearing the crown of thorns, He has been exalted to sit *...at the Right Hand of the Throne of the Majesty in the Heavens...* **Heb. 8:1**

...[Jesus] humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross; therefore, God has highly exalted Him, and has bestowed on Him the Name which is above every name, 10 so that at the Name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father [Phil 2: 9-11].