

The Rules Associated With The Crowns

We will examine the four church age crowns and the rules associated with them. There were rules associated with each specific Greek game and contests for the crown (1 Cor.9:27).

(2 Tim.2:5) "And also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules."

(1 Cor.9:24, 26) "Run in such a way that you may win."

(Gal.2:2, 16-21) "For fear that I might be running, or had run, in vain."

The Crowns and associated Rules:

- **CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** ([2 Tim.4:7-8](#))
 - **Awarded to the Believer for:** Faithfully reaching and maintaining spiritual maturity until dying grace or Rapture (crossing the finish line) (Rom.1:17; 10:4, 17; 2 Tim.3:16/ Hab.2:4).
 - **Rules:** "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith."- "Those who loved His appearing." (Col.2:16-18; Jude 3/ warning)

- **CROWN OF LIFE** ([James 1:12](#); [Rev.2:10](#))
 - **Awarded to the Believer for:** Faithfully enduring undeserved suffering until dying grace or Rapture (crossing the finish line)
 - **Rules:** "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, for once he has been approved, he will receive the **crown of life**, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him." (James 1:12) (Rom.4:6-9; Phil.1:29)

(Rev.2:10) "Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may **be tested**, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the **crown of life.**" [Church of Smyrna] (Rev.2:3) [Church of Ephesus]

- **CROWN OF BOASTING** ([1 Thess.2:19-20](#); [Phil.4:1](#); [Phil.1:27-28](#); [1 Cor.9:18-19](#); [2 Cor.5:18-21](#); [2 Tim.4:1-5](#))
 - **Awarded to the Believer for:** Faithful ambassadors and evangelists of the gospel of grace salvation until dying grace or Rapture (crossing the finish line).
 - **Rules:** "**For who** is our hope or joy or **crown of exultation**? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? **For you are our glory and joy.**" (1 Thess.2:19-20) "Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, **my joy and crown**, so stand firm in the Lord, my beloved." (Phil.4:1; **1 Pet.1:23; 2:2**)

- **CROWN OF GLORY** ([1 Pet.5:1-4](#); [Col.1:28-29](#); [4:12](#))
 - **Awarded to the Believer for:** Faithful teacher, shepherd, and overseer of the spiritual growth of body of church until dying grace or Rapture (crossing the finish line).
 - **Rules:** "Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God, and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the **unfading crown of glory.**"