

# **Casting Our Crowns Before Him**

**September 6, 2020**

**There's a beautiful verse in Revelation 4:10, that speaks of ...**

**Those who are near the throne, casting their crowns before the Lord.**

**“The four and twenty elders fell down before Him who sat on the throne, and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne...” Revelation 4:10, KJV.**

**What does a crown represent? It is a symbol of position, authority, but it is also a symbol of overcoming, of victories gained, of battles won.**

**Casting ones crown before the Lord is saying something: it is a ... Declaration, a realization that God helped me get that crown.**

**To cast our crown before the throne...**

**Is saying, – God is the one responsible for giving me every victory.**

**I owe Him my all. All credit belongs to him! Amen.**

**When Jesus comes again, it says in Revelation 19:12: that “upon his head were many crowns...” he's the king of kings.**

**Jesus has conquered sin, and Satan, and death, and all evil.**

**He's the one who has broken all of our bondages.**

**He is the victorious One! But He also wants us to have a crown.**

**We are to have many victories; we're called to become kings / priests**

**We are called to rule and reign with him on the earth for 1000 years.**

**Let's remember this:**

**We have nothing to brag or boast about, because ...**

**Everything we have has been given to us by another, by the Lord.**

**God has entrusted us with different gifts and talents,**

**Yet, basically there's only one thing that we can do is — obey God.  
The one basic thing that man can do, is cooperate with God.  
But we even need God to help us to say yes, and respond to him.  
Because man can still say no, even if God's grace is there to help him.**

**Here are some things we need to acknowledge to God**

**Lord, any good thing I have is because — You gave it to me.  
Any talent or ability is something you gave me.  
It doesn't matter how much I've studied or practiced, or applied myself  
Ultimately, all success and prosperity has come from your hand.  
A healthy body, physical energy, riches, all came from you Lord.  
Any deliverance from bondages is because you set me free.  
Only your grace has got me out of my ruts, and routines, and prisons.  
Even the ability to handle stress, rejection, or persecution...  
Is because of your grace. I have no power of my own.**

**As a man, Jesus declared total dependence upon the father**

**Jn.5:19 - “Then answered Jesus and said to them, Truly, I say unto you,  
The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father do...:**

**Jn. 5:30 - “I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my  
judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the  
Father which hath sent me.”**

**John 8:28 - “Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the  
Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of  
myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.”**

**Even in the life of Christ we see total dependence upon God the father.**

## The apostle Paul asks several questions

In Galatians 3:2, he asks: How did you receive the Holy Spirit,  
Was it By the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

“This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?” Gal. 3:2

He declares to them, it was not by rituals, or works, or traditions,  
No, it was by relationship of faith. By responding to God.

And in 3:5: And the miracles that we performed among you...  
Were they performed because we observed traditions?  
No, it was by a relationship of faith.

“He therefore that ministers to you the Spirit, and works miracles among you, does he do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?” Galatians 3:5. The Galatians believers, were backsliding. They were turning back to the OT, and observing all the OT rituals.

Tradition can be a tremendous hindrance to Christian growth.

Tradition often is placed above the word of God.

Tradition is man's mind, placing his mind above Gods word.

And the root of much tradition, is pride. Lets read Mark 7: 9, 13,

7:9 “And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.” 7:13 “Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.”

The Jews added an extra 450 man-made rules, and ignored many of God’s laws. They were exalting their mind and tradition above God.

**Here is the issue — Are we independent or dependent upon God**

**When man exalts his own mind and traditions above God.....**

**He will never conquer a fallen nature.**

**He will not be an overcomer.**

**He will not be conformed to the Image of the son of God.**

**He is self-reliant, more than reliant on God.**

**He may not have a crown a victory to lay at the feet of Jesus.**

**He will not be able to say, it is all because of you Lord.**

### **It is possible to lose our crown**

**People who are not faithful to the Lord, could totally lose their crown.**

**In these last days, there will be many pressures.**

**There will be temptations to compromise, because of the fear of man.**

**“Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.” Revelation 3:11**

### **A Special crown for those who are martyrs - Rev. 2:10**

**“Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life.” A crown of life!**

### **We must be careful not to compare or measure ourself with others**

**Remember, even our faith to believe and perform, comes from God.**

**We should not say, O, I have followed the principles that lead to faith Others haven't. This is why I have such great results. And they don't.**

**No, all the glory still belongs to God. God helped me to obey,**

**And it was God who helped me to understand all these principals.**

- Let's remember, any beautiful garments we have God put them on us.
- Any understanding we have, is a gift of grace.
- Any riches or power we have, God gave it to us. Let's read Deut. 8:18

“But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.”

It is God who gives us the ability to do things.

It is only by his mercy that we can see and understand.

We need a great spirit of humility.... of dependence on God.

- Any trials we have passed, or battles we have won...
- It was not our Great endurance or strength alone.

Yes, it did take discipline, prayer, long-suffering, forgiveness,  
But all of this was because of God helping us with his Grace.

Any success or fruitfulness we have, is because of God's hand.

God made Joseph fruitful. He made Abraham fruitful.

Souls saved, healed, it is because of Gods grace.

Yes, we have a part in this. The apostle Paul said “I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:” Acts 26:19. We must cooperate with God, by his grace.

He also said in 1 Corinthians 15:10, “By the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; even though I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet it was not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”

## The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

Revelation 14:1-5 144,000 on Mt Zion

The individuals on the summit of Mt. Zion in heaven. Rev.14:1-5 are the highest ranking in the Kingdom of heaven. We should study their characteristics and seek to have these virtues worked out in our lives in order to *win* Christ and be close to Him for all eternity. Here are some of the issues we should pursue in life. Those in this group around the throne on Zion's hill, *excel* in the following:

**And these are Qualities we should pursue:**

**Most Humble** – Therefore God has highly exalted them. Phil. 2:5-9, Mk.10:43,44

**Most Meek** – These have become “lambs” and are positioned next to the Lamb.

**Most Light** – Dwelling with Him who is the Light, and thoroughly searched with his Light.

**Most Wisdom** – Invested in eternity, built in the invisible, made wise choices.

**Most Vision** – This kept them pressing toward a defined mark. Others dwell carelessly. Without vision we dwell carelessly.

**Most Holy Fear** – This holy fear makes one afraid of coming short of God's mark.

**Most Dependent** – He is nigh unto those of a broken spirit. Isa. 57:15, Mt. 5:3, Mk. 7:25-29

**Most Grace** – When is Grace given? in time of need. They had many trials and needs, but were willing to receive grace and not harden the heart.

**Most Pure** – Morally, In Motives, In Speech. Rev.14:4,5 Jas.3:2 The tongue reveals the heart. In their tongue was no guile or deceit.

**Most Holy** – All the inner paths of their heart belonging wholly to the Lord. No idols or other loves.

**Most Faithful to Duty** – “Following the Lamb wherever He goes” Rev.14:4.

**Most Conformed to His Image** – Totally compatible with Christ. A totally surrendered mind.

**Most Fruit of the Spirit** – Having all his virtues. Willing to go through the necessary processes.

**Most Unselfish** – Love of God perfected in them. 1 Cor. 13:4-7 Love is unselfish. Love seeks not her own interests, Love bears all things, endures all things, is long-suffering, it is not easily provoked. Divine love is unselfish.

**Most Dead to Self** – they have said continually, “Not my will but thine be done”. “Delighting to do His will” . No self-will

**Most Faithful to Others** – “Not breaking the least commandments and teaching men so” Mt.5:19

**Most Near to Christ / seeing His face** – Forever gazing upon His beauty and being transformed.

**Most Excellent Resurrection** – This is the mark, the goal, and the prize. To win Christ, have a superior resurrection and be as close to Christ as possible for all eternity. Phil. 3:10-14. To know Him is life eternal. Jn.17:3 This is a capsule of the message of Zion — to be where He is.

**Study the characteristics of these in Revelation 14:1-5.**

**These are the qualities that make one great in the kingdom of heaven. Humility is the hallmark of greatness. And these will cast their crowns before him, acknowledging that all their good qualities and success came from God.**

