

"The Thousand Years"
Revelation 20

Question: What did John see? V. 1

Answer: "And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the _____ to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain." (Rev. 20:1 NIV)

Reminder: _____ has been cast down to earth – Cf. 12:9

Note: The _____ was mentioned in chapter 9 – the demonic locusts with Abaddon/Apollyon as their leader. The angel in chapter 20 is called a 'star' in chapter 9. He holds the key to the Abyss.

Question: What did the angel do? V. 2

Answer: ² "He seized the _____, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a _____ years." (Rev. 20:2 NIV)

Note: We tend to think of Satan as the next _____ thing to God himself, but not true. Another _____ has the power to subdue him, bind him, and keep him that way for a thousand years.

Thousand Year positions:

Premillennialism =

1. The binding of Satan is yet _____. It will take place when Christ returns. There is a literal Satan. A _____ binding. A literal second coming of Christ.
2. The 1000 years is a _____ period of time in which Christ will reign on earth with his saints and angels. The center of his administration will be Jerusalem.
3. The _____ of Satan will bring the 1000-year (millennial) reign of Christ to a conclusion. It will be followed by the _____ of the unrighteous dead and their judgment at the Great White Throne.

4. The _____ heavens and earth will be created after the millennial rule has concluded. (Rev. 21-22)

Rabbinical 7000 year plan [current year, A.D. 2020 = 5780].

Tohu = _____ (Speaks about being lost and without God) -
(*Ephesians 2:12*) [time from Adam to Abraham]

Torah = _____ (We learn of God) - (*Romans 10:17, John 3:16, Romans 10:8-11*) [time from Abraham to the Messiah]

Yemot Mashiach = The days of the _____ (We live the Christian life) [from the coming of the Messiah to his Second Coming]

Athid Lavo = The _____ age (This speaks of our promised eternal inheritance we receive by being believers) - (*Ephesians 1:9-14, Hebrews 9:15, 1 Peter 1:3-4*) [the Second Coming and 1000 year reign of the Messiah on earth]

Amillennialism = Roman Catholic; Eastern Orthodox position

1. The binding of Satan represents the _____ over the powers of darkness at the cross.
2. The "1000 years" is _____ of an undetermined lengthy time corresponding to the church age (now).
3. Satan will be loosed _____ to cause havoc and then the end of the age will close.
4. The fire coming down from heaven and consuming the wicked (or the Lake of Fire) is _____ of Christ's second coming.
5. A general _____ of both good and evil will come at the end at Christ's coming and will conclude with a new heaven and earth.
6. There is _____ tribulation. There is _____ thousand-year reign. There are _____ new heavens or earth. There is simply a time when Jesus returns and takes us to heaven to be with him for eternity.

Postmillennialism =

Christian influence will be of such that it brings in a _____ type of state. Thus, it is _____ who will bring in the millennial kingdom of God not _____. Christ will come only when the _____ has brought in a time of peace and all but eradicated the power and influence of Satan. [This is a very dangerous view and is the most prevalent among the Word/Faith movement; they believe that they can bring heaven to earth; it is actually their mandate from God; _____ Theology].

End Time Millennial Viewpoints Chart

Excursus: Premillennial Biblical Descriptions

Note: Revelation gives us a very _____ view of what the Millennium will look like:

It will be a _____ years [Latin: *mille* = thousand; *annum/annus* = year; Greek: *chilia* = thousand]

Historically, a _____ expectation of a thousand-year Messianic reign was held by the Jews and recently converted Jewish believers into Christianity.

It was held until the time of Origen (c. 185 -254) and the _____/spiritualization of the biblical text.

_____ is bound for a thousand years.

Those who were destined to rise at the first _____ do so and reign with Jesus on earth.

The rest of the dead (unbelievers) will rise _____ the thousand years have been completed.

Satan is _____ when the thousand years are over and goes out to deceive the world one last time.

Multitudes of unbelievers will arise during the thousand years and will _____ themselves with the Deceiver. [Those who survived the Great Tribulation, entered the Millennium, and had children; Cp. Mk. 13:20]

_____ will vanquish them all with divine fire and cast the Devil into the Lake of Fire with the Antichrist and the False Prophet.

Note: Revelation 20 and the Millennium focuses on the unbeliever and Satan's demise but does not tell us about _____ during the thousand-year reign of Jesus.

Premillennial Primary Texts of Description For The Millennium

Note: The _____ interpretation of Scripture supports a premillennial viewpoint and is in accordance with Jewish and Christian expectations at the beginning of the Church. Therefore, unless, expressly stated, the descriptions are literal descriptions.

Isaiah 2:1 – 4 – 4th Temple or renewed 3rd (?) in Jerusalem will be established as the _____ of worship for all the nations. Jesus will _____ in righteousness and there will be no more war among nations.

Isaiah 24:1-3; 23 – After the _____ of the earth during the tribulation, the LORD will come down and reign in a _____ earth and Jerusalem.

Isaiah 11:6-9 - The whole of creation moves back into an _____ state where all living things are in _____ with each other because of the personal knowledge of the Lord.

Ezekiel 34:23-31 - Flowing out of Israel, widespread _____, justice, prosperity, and abundance will cover the earth.

Isaiah 65:20 - Life _____ will go back to pre-Noahic times.

Summation: Life will, in essence, be _____ externally. One problem: people will still be _____ internally and there will be no external scapegoat to blame. The judgment will be clear and _____ when they give their allegiance to Satan and not to God.

Question: What did the angel do next? V. 3

Answer: ³ He threw him into the Abyss, and _____ and _____ it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. (Rev. 20:3 NIV)

Note: Reminder that the Abyss can be sealed. It's like _____.

Note: The basic strategy of Satan is to _____. He deceives individuals but he also deceives _____.

Note: There is an end to his imprisonment, but his freedom will be _____-_____.

Question: What did John see next? V. 4

Answer: ⁴ "I saw _____ on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the _____ of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not _____ the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and _____ with Christ a thousand years." (Rev. 20:4 NIV)

Note: There are two groups of people mentioned in this verse.

Question: (1) Who are on the thrones?

Answer:

Option 1 – Luke 22:29-30; Rev. 4:4 = the 24 elders seated before the throne of God (representing the O.T. tribes of Israel; the 12 Apostles of the N.T.; the 24 priestly serving groups; or _____)

Option 2 – I Corinthians 6:1-3; 2 Timothy 2:2 = the _____

Question: (2) Who are these martyrs?

Answer:

1. They are those _____ by the Antichrist because of their unwavering faithfulness to Jesus and the truth of the Word of God.
2. They did not _____ the beast or his image or take his mark.
3. They came to life (resurrected) and _____ with Christ for the 1000 years.

Note: If you are pre-trib, these are _____ saints that did not ascend after they were killed but had to wait until the Millennium.

If you are mid-trib or pre-wrath, these are saints that were killed during the tribulation but _____ with the other saints at the rapture/resurrection.

Question: What parenthetical and additional information does John give us in verse 5?

Answer: "The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the _____ resurrection.

Note: If you are pre-trib you will have to resort to a _____ - _____ resurrection – one before the tribulation and one during the tribulation or look at both resurrections as a unit.

If you are mid-trib or pre-wrath, it is the _____ event and there is no issue.

We have another "beatitude" or "blessing" in verse 6. Question: What is it and what is it compared to?

Answer: ⁶ "Blessed and holy are those who share in the _____ resurrection. The _____ death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years." (Rev. 20:6 NIV)

Note: Salvation = _____ death, _____ resurrection, eternal life

Condemnation = die _____, resurrect _____, eternal damnation

The second death – the final judgement – will be explored in verses 11- 15.

Remember that death does not mean _____ of being; it means _____. Death separates us temporarily from the ones we love here on earth. The second death will separate us eternally from God.

Note: This verse connects with verse 4 and ties in both views: There were _____ groupings of O. T. priests that served in the Temple and they collectively represent the Church who are priests who will serve God (Rev. 1:6).

Question: When the thousand years are over, what happens? Vv. 7-9

Answer: ⁷ "When the thousand years are over, Satan will be _____ from his prison ⁸ and will go out to _____ the nations in the four corners of the earth-- Gog and Magog-- and to gather them for _____. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the _____ he loves. But fire came down from heaven and _____ them." (Rev. 20:7-9 NIV)

Note: This is similar to the Battle of _____ (16:14) but the difference is that _____ himself is now heading up the fight.

Note: Look at how the Millennial period is described in Isaiah 11:6 – 9. The world will have an _____ quality where creation will be in harmony with each other, except that man will still have a _____ nature. It is proof that our _____, while contributing to mankind's delinquency, is not its cause. It is the heart of man. Thousands will come against a _____ king, ruling with perfect justice, in a perfect environment.

Note: The potential battle will once again be for and at _____.

Note: There is no _____. Judgement comes _____ from God in the form of divine fire and kills them all.

Question: What happened to Satan? V. 10

Answer: ¹⁰ “And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be _____ day and night for ever and ever.” (Rev. 20:10 NIV)

Note: As was the immediate and _____ judgement of the beast and the false prophet, so will be the ultimate adversary and deceiver – Satan.

Note: This verse is used in support of an eternal, never-ending, _____ torment in the Lake of Fire. It goes against annihilationism and _____.

Cp. Isaiah 66:24; Matthew 18:8; 25:41, 46; Jude 7

Question: What did John see next? V. 11

Answer:

11a. Then I saw a _____ and him who was seated on it.

Note: The term for “white” (leukos) literally means “_____” as in so bright that it appears white (Cp. Matthew 17:2; Rev. 1:14; 14:14).

Note: The _____ is mentioned 41 times in Revelation. It is the place where God sits. In general, where God the Father and God the Son rule. In particular, in context, and in New Testament theology, it is the place where Jesus will _____ unbelievers for denying Him and his saving work.

Cp. John 5:19-22; Acts 10:42

Note: For a combination of both and including the judgment of the beast, see Daniel 7:9-14

11b. The earth and the heavens _____ from his presence, and there was no place for them. (Rev. 20:11 NIV)

Note: Cp. Isaiah, 65:17; 66:22; 2 Peter 3:7-13

Note: **Two views:**

1. Complete _____ and _____ (no longer exist)
2. _____ but _____ (exist but purged and reformed)

Question: What else did John see? Vv. 12-13

Answer: ¹² And I saw the _____, great and small, _____ before the throne, and _____ were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of _____. The dead were judged according to what they had _____ as recorded in the books.

¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had _____. (Rev. 20:12-13 NIV)

For an Old Testament connection to the books, note Daniel 7:10.

¹⁰ A _____ was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. (Dan. 7:10 NIV)

The books were a record of _____ providing moral _____ of guilt before a holy God. Each unrighteous resurrected person was called to _____ based on his _____, in contrast to those who are _____, not by their works, but by the work of Christ.

This may include _____ sinful acts against God and humanity or...it could mean _____ actions done with sinful, self-centered motives.

Note: Matthew 7:22-23 and Isaiah 65:6-7

The sea, death, and Hades are three aspects of _____ event.

This is speaking to the resurrection of _____ the unrighteous dead no matter where the final place of extinguished life happened. If it was at sea, if it was death and earthy burial...all unrighteous souls ended up in the place of the

unseen dead or Hades. They were all resurrected and given a new body – one that would endure the flames and tortures of hell forever.

Regarding the Book of Life...

Ex. 32:32

Psalm 69:28

Philip. 4:3

Rev. 3:5

Rev. 13:8

Rev. 17:8

Rev. 21:27

Summation:

It appears from Scripture that:

1. There is a book of life whose author is _____.
2. There is a book of life with names written in it but _____ all names are in it.
3. It appears, but is not substantiated, that one can be _____ from the book.
4. It appears that the sin of _____ keeps one out of the book of life.
5. It appears that belief is the description of those who are in the book of life.

6. It appears that those who are not written in the book of life are worshippers of the _____.
7. It appears that the names written or not written have been in place or absent since before _____.

Question: What was the next phase of the judgment? V. 14

Answer: ¹⁴ Then _____ and _____ were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. (Rev. 20:14 NIV)

Note: The last _____, death, and its temporary holding place, Hades, was thrown into the eternal place of judgement, the lake of fire. Cf. 1 Cor. 15:26, 54-55.

Note: The lake of fire is the final, eternal, place of _____ (death) from God and eternal blessings.

Question: What is the sum of the judgement? V. 15

Answer: ¹⁵ _____ whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:15 NIV)

Excursus on Luke 16:19-31: Jesus' Teaching on Abraham's Bosom

The debate:

There is a debate among scholars of whether this section in Luke 16 is considered a _____ or not.

My opinion is, "_____." A parable can be based on a _____ story, e.g. the parable of the soils, (which is the point of contention). Some say that if it is a true parable, it has only one _____ of teaching and in this case, it is teaching about having money as your god and in your abundance, not meeting the dire needs of those around you.

My argument is that it does not take the usual form of a parable, i.e. "And he told them a parable..." And, although parables do have one major point to

them, it does not mean that we cannot learn valuable _____ from the matter surrounding it.

So...yes, this is a parable, not a parable, regarding money, but it does tell us things that Jesus believed about the _____ in his context.

The story begins...

¹⁹ "There was a _____ who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.

²⁰ At his gate was laid a _____ named Lazarus, covered with sores
²¹ and _____ to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores." (Lk. 16:19-21 NIV)

²² "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to _____ side. The rich man also died and was buried." (Lk. 16:22 NIV)

Note: Jesus seems to indicate that those who are believers in Yahweh, especially those close to His heart, e.g. poor, widows, children, orphans, foreigners, are _____ at death to Abraham's side (a.k.a. as Abraham's bosom).

The rich man is described very matter of fact: he _____ and was buried.

The word "kalpos" is the word for "side" or "lap" or "bosom/breast." It is the place of _____ and honor where one leans upon the host at a banquet" ²³ Cp. Mt. 20:21, "sitting at the right and left hand," and Lk. 14:8-10, "when you go to a wedding feast don't take the seat of honor."

It was synonymous with the word, " _____ " in Jewish teaching, i.e. the place where the righteous go after death for rest and peace. Abraham is the father of "righteousness" and therefore is associated personally with the place. Cp. Lk. 23:43, "today you will be with me in paradise."

The story continues...

²³ "In Hades, where [the rich man] he was in _____, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side." (Lk. 16:23 NIV)

Note: The rich man was immediately in the _____ holding place of the unrighteous dead.

Note: He was already _____ for his unrighteousness. Some type of sensory experience is being had.

Note: The rich man is _____ and aware of his surroundings. He is aware of spatial distance.

Note: The rich man retains _____ from when he was alive – some would argue, a greater knowledge. He knows the beggars name (which he probably didn't) and he recognizes and knows the name of Abraham.

²⁴ "So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have _____ on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'" (Lk. 16:24 NIV)

Note: There is _____ in this place between the righteous and unrighteous.

Note: The place of the unrighteous is characterized by fire, heat, and _____.

²⁵ "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your _____ you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.'" (Lk. 16:25 NIV)

Note: There is a _____ of order and a lesson on eternal versus temporal. Lazarus suffered in the temporal world, in his earthly life, but will have comfort in this eternal world, eternal life. The rich man had everything in the temporal world, in his earthly life, but will now suffer in this eternal world, eternal life.

²⁶ "And besides all this, between us and you a great _____ has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'" (Lk. 16:26 NIV)

Note: Whatever earthly decision for eternity has been made, cannot be _____ after death.

Note: There is a divinely set uncrossable chasm that _____ and keeps separate the two groups.

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him _____ them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’” (Lk. 16:27-28 NIV)

Note: There is an _____ and concern for the eternal destinies of those yet living.

Note: The rich man presumes that one can leave the place of the righteous and _____ to the land of the living.

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have _____ and the _____; let them listen to them.’” (Lk. 16:29 NIV)

Note: Abraham testifies that there is ample testimony in the Law and the Prophets (the Old Covenant/Testament) that can lead a person to a place of _____ with God by/through faith in his promises.

³⁰ “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the _____ goes to them, they will repent.’” (Lk. 16:30 NIV)

Note: The rich man argues that the Law and the Prophets are _____, that something else needs to be done, like someone who is here going there. God’s word is _____. A personal encounter with a returning dead person will only be convincing.

³¹ “He [Abraham] said to him, ‘If they do not _____ to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’” (Lk. 16:31 NIV)

Note: If someone is _____ to the truths of the Scriptures regarding faith and righteousness with God, a _____ will not convince them either. They will simply try and explain it away.

Note: Jesus would make a subtle point here that even a _____ will not convince the dead in spirit of their need to repent.

The Witch of Endor and the Calling Up of Samuel: An Old Testament Look at the Underworld - 1 Samuel 28

Context: 1 Samuel 28:1-5

The Philistines were closing in on Saul and his sons.

King Saul was terrified.

Samuel, the prophet was dead, so no mediator was available.

King Saul had rightfully banished all the witches and mediums from the land on penalty of death.

So this is what King Saul did next...

⁶ He _____ of the LORD, but the LORD did not answer him by dreams or Urim or prophets.

⁷ Saul then said to his attendants, "Find me a woman who is a medium, so I may go and inquire of her." "There is one in Endor," they said.

(1 Sam. 28:6-7 NIV)

Endor was located between the hill of Moreh and Mount Tabor in the Jezreel Valley.

Note: It is interesting how they knew this?

⁸ "So Saul disguised himself, putting on other clothes, and at night he and two men went to the woman. ' _____ a spirit for me,' he said, 'and bring up for me the one I name.'" (1 Sam. 28:8 NIV)

Note: There seems to be a reality where one thinks or thinks that it is able to bring back a person or at least his/her spirit from the dead. Notice that direction – " _____ ."

⁹ “But the woman said to him, ‘Surely you know what Saul has done. He has cut off the mediums and spiritists from the land. Why have you set a trap for my life to bring about my death?’

¹⁰ Saul _____ to her by the LORD, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, you will not be punished for this.’” (1 Sam. 28:9-10 NIV)

Note: Ironically, King Saul swears to the LORD who has _____ him and commanded that all witches and mediums be killed.

¹¹ “Then the woman asked, ‘Whom shall I bring up for you?’ ‘Bring up Samuel,’ he said.

¹² When the woman saw Samuel, she _____ at the top of her voice and said to Saul, ‘Why have you deceived me? You are Saul!’” (1 Sam. 28:11-12 NIV)

Question: What do you observe?

Answer:

1. A very _____ person was asked for – Samuel, his old prophet friend.

2. The _____ startled her.

a. Because her gift was actually a form of _____ and magic.

b. Because the appearance of Samuel happened so _____. [And perhaps without any of her assistance].

3. Through Samuel's appearing she recognized the _____ to King Saul.

¹³ The king said to her, "Don't be afraid. What do you see?" The woman said, "I see a _____ figure coming up out of the earth."

¹⁴ "What does he look like?" he asked. "An old man wearing a _____ is coming up," she said. Then Saul knew it was Samuel, and he bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. (1 Sam. 28:13-14 NIV)

Note: He is coming up from the earth with a _____ form but clothed in familiar clothing. Some scholars believe it was a distinguished prophetic stole.

Note: The word for "ghost" here is "a _____."

¹⁵ Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you _____ me by bringing me up?" "I am in great distress," Saul said. "The Philistines are fighting against me, and God has departed from me. He no longer answers me, either by prophets or by dreams. So I have called on you to tell me what to do."

¹⁶ Samuel said, "Why do you consult me, now that the LORD has _____ from you and become your enemy? (1 Sam. 28:15-16 NIV)

Note:

Samuel speaks – there is _____ between the "dead" and the living. Cp. Luke 20:37-38

Samuel's _____ has been disturbed.

Samuel is _____ of the situation with King Saul.

¹⁷ The LORD has done what he _____ through me. The LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hands and given it to one of your neighbors-- to _____.

¹⁸ Because you did not _____ the LORD or carry out his fierce wrath against the Amalekites, the LORD has done this to you today.

¹⁹ The LORD _____ both Israel and you into the hands of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The LORD _____ the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines." (1 Sam. 28:17-19 NIV)

Note:

Samuel remembers _____.

Samuel remembers _____.

Samuel _____ the reason for the Lord's departing from King Saul.

Samuel is still a prophet who _____ the _____ for King Saul and for the nation of Israel.

Regarding the phrase "you and your sons will be with me" there are two suggestions:

1. It simply means that _____ and leave this world for the place of the dead.
2. It may mean that King Saul and his sons were _____ and were to be at _____ with Samuel. Saul's loss of the Holy Spirit was not a losing of _____ but rather the _____ to lead the people of Israel. Cp. Psalm 51:11-12

You can see the teaching of Jesus in the story of the rich man and Lazarus lines up with the account of King Saul and the prophet, Samuel.

_____ of things and people around you.

_____ of things and people who are "living."

_____ between two different parties.

The possibility to _____ the future or to know the future.

The possibility of the "dead" going _____ to the "living."

A place of _____ for the righteous.

The Bema Seat of Christ (the Believer's Judgment)

Question: Will there be a judgement for believers?

Answer: _____. It is called the Bema Seat of Christ.

The Bema was the ancient _____ place where a judge sat for Olympian type games. He would pronounce the winner and place upon their head the coveted wreath _____. In many places it meant that you were exempt from paying local taxes and were given great honors by the people of the city. Cp. 1 Cor. 9:24-25

Two Primary texts:

I Corinthians 3:10-15

¹⁰ By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care.

¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw,

¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work.

¹⁴ If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward.

¹⁵ If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved-- even though only as one escaping through the flames. (1 Cor. 3:10-15 NIV)

Points of notation:

1. _____ is the foundation.
2. Each person _____ on this foundation.
3. Be _____ how you build on this foundation.
4. We build on this foundation with _____ materials.
 - a. We build with costly material that on this earth will last.
 - b. We build with cheap material that on this earth will easily be burned up.
5. Our materials = our _____ = what we have done with our lives as followers of Jesus.
6. This is not a judgment regarding _____. This is a judgment of rewards or the lack thereof. Cp. Rev. 20:12, "I am coming, and my reward is with me."
7. The _____ is the divine judgment which determines if what you offered God is eternal and if it was done with right heart motives.
8. If everything is burned up, a person will not lose his/her salvation but will enter the presence of the King without a _____ – without the joy of giving.

2 Corinthians 5:8-10

⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. (2 Cor. 5:8-10 NIV)

Points of notation:

1. There is a _____ of soul/spirit and body at death.
2. There is a _____ of soul/spirit and body at our resurrection.
3. The _____ matters = body, soul, spirit. It is what we have done as a "person" (unit) that will be judged.
4. It is the believers _____ – what we have "done" – that will be judged not whether we are "saved" or not.

The King's Rewards – The Believer's Crowns

1. The crown of _____/victor's crown = Believers who maintain their love for Christ in the face of trial, testing, persecution, and especially, martyrdom will receive this crown.

James 1:12 - ¹² "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."

Rev. 2:10 - ¹⁰ "Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and _____ as your victor's crown."

2. The crown of _____ = Believers who long for their Savior's appearing, who long for heaven and for glorification.

2 Timothy 4:8, ⁸ “Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day-- and not only to me, but also to all who have _____ for his appearing.”

3. The Crown of _____ (Soul winner's crown)

This is the “Soul Winner's” crown. Those brought to Jesus by us will be our “crown of rejoicing” at His Coming.

¹⁹ “For what is our hope, our joy, or the _____ in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you?” (1 Thess. 2:19 NIV)

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and _____, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!” (Phil. 4:1 NIV)

4. The _____ Crown (Victory/Self-Control)

Serving God involves _____ our focus to those things with the highest eternal value. Life is full of good things that take our eyes off the best Christ has to offer. It is up to us to choose appropriately. Those who choose wisely will receive an incorruptible crown.

²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last _____.

²⁶ Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air.

²⁷ No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

(1 Cor. 9:25-27 NIV)

5. Crown of _____

This crown is given to those who are _____ in shepherding God's people. This is not only to pastors but to lay elders, deacons, Sunday school teachers, and other leaders who help guide, direct and care for the flock of God.

^{NIV} **1 Peter 5:1** "To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed:

² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them-- not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;

³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of _____ that will never fade away." (1 Pet. 5:1-4 NIV)

Question: What will we do with the crowns we receive?

Answer: We are not specifically told, but if Revelation 4:10 is any indication, we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus as an act of _____.

¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They _____ their crowns before the throne and say: ¹¹ "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." (Rev. 4:10-11 NIV)