

## 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

**17** For if I [preach the gospel] voluntarily, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me.

**18** What then is my reward? That, when I preach the gospel, I may offer the gospel without charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

**19** For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more.

**20** To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law;

**21** to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law.

**22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.**

**23 I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.**

**24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.**

**25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.**

**26 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;**

**27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.**

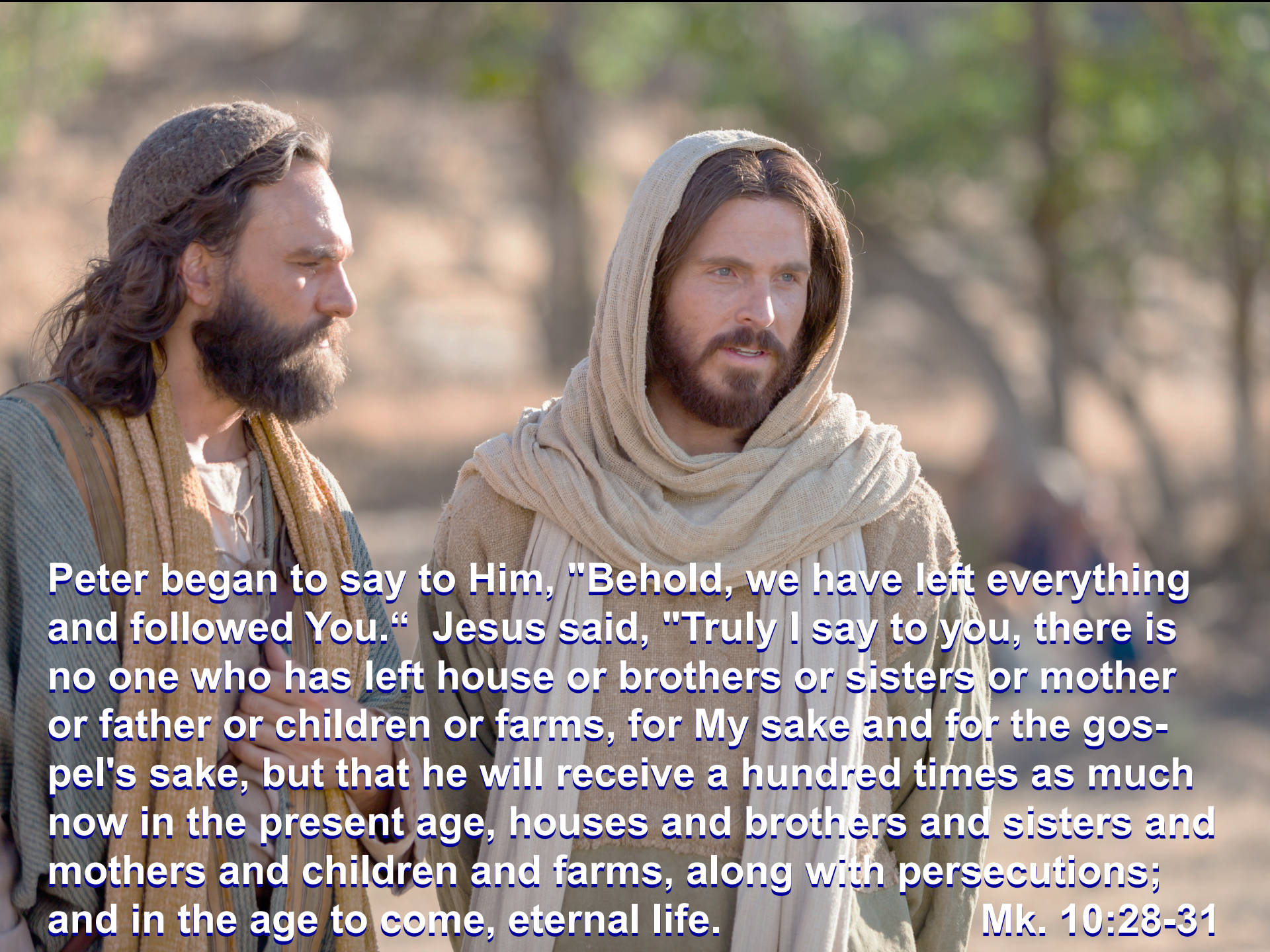


## Matthew 6: 19-21

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**Jesus**





**Peter began to say to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You." Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel's sake, but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life. Mk. 10:28-31**

# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

## **I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**

### **A. James Written to Believers Under Trial**

- 1. Scattered by Persecution Acts 8:1f**
- 2. No NT Yet – Tempted to Use Own Wisdom**

**Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. ....**

**Blessed is a 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. Jas. 1:2-4, 12**



# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
  - A. James Written to Believers Under Trial**
  - B. Temptation – Avoid God’s Maturing Work**
    - 1. Prefer Refinement Rather Than Relief**
    - 2. Refuse Shortcuts Contrary to God’s Word**
    - 3. Remember No Trial is Beyond Your Capability**

**Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. ....**

**Blessed is a 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.           Jas. 1:2-4, 12**

No temptation has  
overtaken you except  
such as is common  
to man; but

*God is faithful.*

who will not allow you to  
be tempted beyond what  
you are able, but with the  
temptation will also make  
the way of escape, that you  
may be able to bear it.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

# **The Wages of Righteousness**

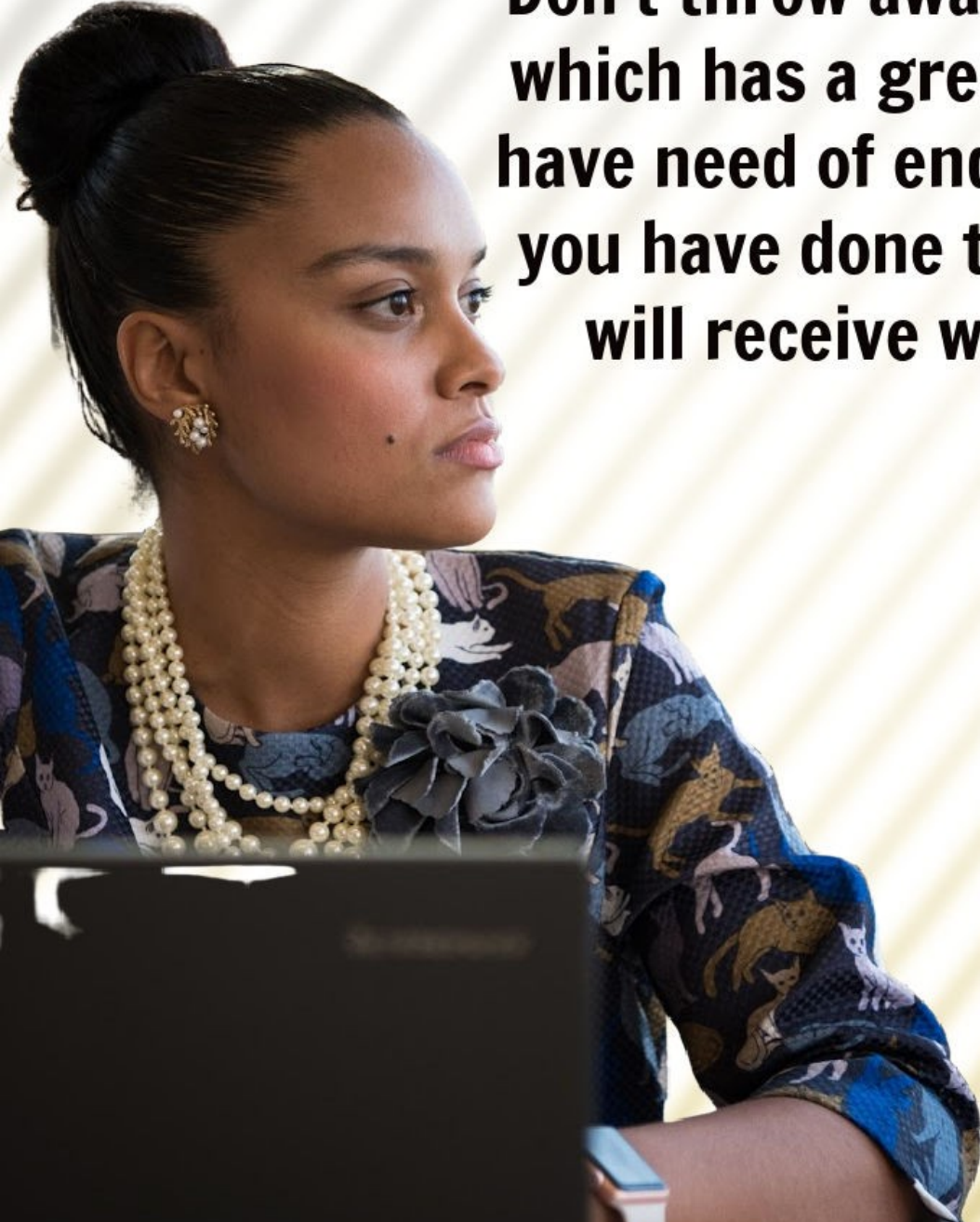
**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
  - A. James Written to Believers Under Trial**
  - B. Temptation – Avoid God’s Maturing Work**
  - C. Enduring Trials Produces Crown of Living**
    - 1. “Proving” Faith Produces Endurance**
    - 2. Endurance Produces Maturity**
    - 3. Maturity Produces Crown of Living**

**Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. ....**

**Blessed is a 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. Jas. 1:2-4, 12**





**Don't throw away your confidence,  
which has a great reward. For you  
have need of endurance, and when  
you have done the will of God you  
will receive what is promised.**

**Hebrews 10:35-36**





If you remain faithful  
even when facing death,  
I will give you

**THE CROWN OF LIFE**

Revelation 2:10

# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing**
  - A. Paul's Relationship w/ Thess & Philippians**
    - 1. Led Them to Christ – Evangelism Acts 16-17**
    - 2. Taught Them Basics of Christianity 1 Thes 5:1**
    - 3. Nurtured Them as Loving Parent 1 Thes 2:6-12**

**For we wanted to come to you-- I, Paul, more than once-- and yet Satan hindered us. 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 Thes. 2:18-20**

**Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.**

**Phil. 4:1**

# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing**
  - A. Paul's Relationship w/ Thess & Philippians**
  - B. Paul's Motivation re: Churches**
    - 1. Became All Things to All Men to Win Some**
    - 2. Sought Best Interests of Disciples – Not Self**
    - 3. Greatest Joy – Leading Someone to Jesus**
  - C. Disciple-making Produces Crown of Rejoicing**

**For we wanted to come to you-- I, Paul, more than once-- and yet Satan hindered us. 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 Thes. 2:18-20**

**Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.**

**Phil. 4:1**

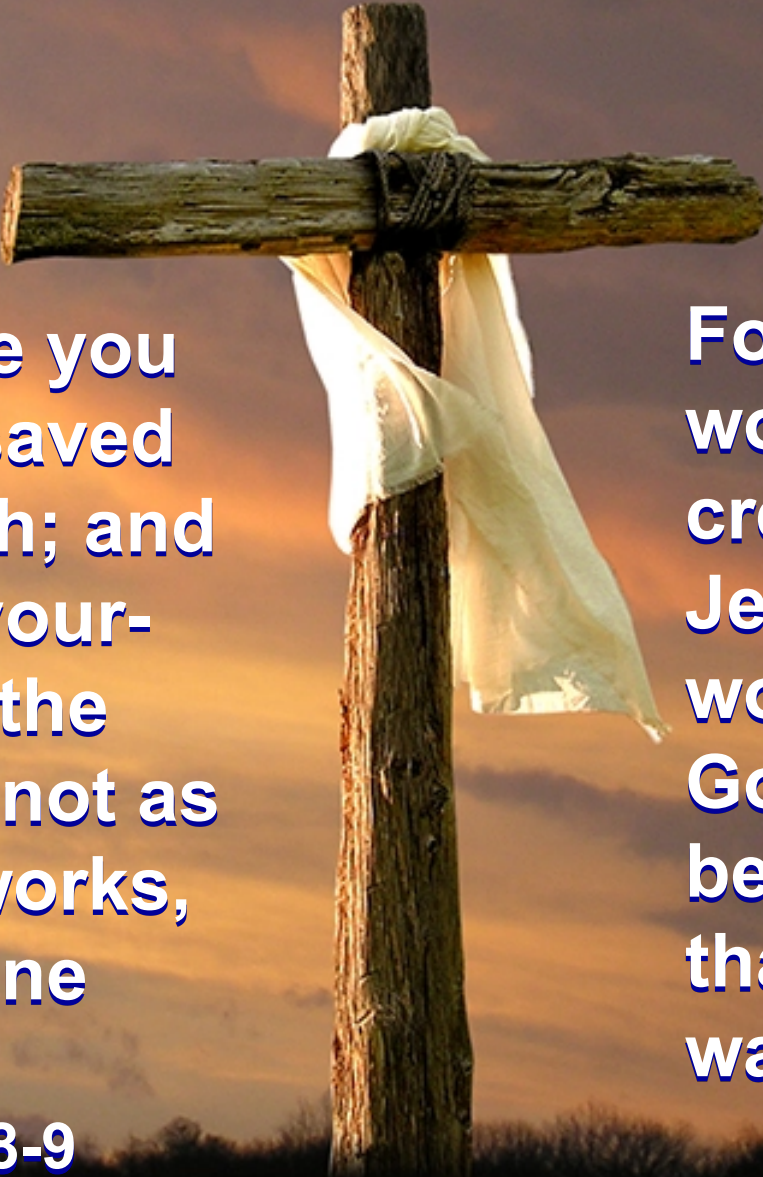


A woman in a brown dress is walking away from the camera on a paved path in a garden. The path is lined with lush green plants and flowers. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day. The woman's shadow is cast on the path ahead of her.

I have no greater joy  
than to hear that  
*my children*  
*walk in truth.*

3 JOHN 1:4





**For by grace you  
have been saved  
through faith; and  
that not of your-  
selves, it is the  
gift of God; not as  
a result of works,  
so that no one  
may boast.**

**Eph. 2:8-9**

**For we are His  
workmanship,  
created in Christ  
Jesus for good  
works, which  
God prepared  
beforehand so  
that we would  
walk in them.**

**Eph. 2:10**



He is no fool who  
gives up what he  
cannot keep, to  
gain what he  
cannot lose.

Jim Elliot

# The Wages of Righteousness

1 Cor 9:19-27

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing
- III. Mature Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory
  - A. Shepherding Goes Beyond Evangelism
    - 1. Shepherding Includes Much More
    - 2. Leading, Nurturing, Exhorting, Comforting
    - 3. Shepherds are Those Who Give An Account

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 as 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.

1 Pet. 5:2-4



Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

- Hebrews 13:17 -



# The Wages of Righteousness

1 Cor 9:19-27

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing
- III. Mature Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory
  - A. Shepherding Goes Beyond Evangelism
  - B. Shepherding Requires Mature Ministry
    - 1. Voluntarily Exercising Oversight
    - 2. Not For Personal, Sordid Gain
    - 3. Ministering As Examples – Not Dictators

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 as 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.

1 Pet. 5:2-4

# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing**
- III. Mature Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory**
  - A. Shepherding Goes Beyond Evangelism**
  - B. Shepherding Requires Mature Ministry**
  - C. Selfless Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory**
    - 1. Not Limited to Fulltime Pastors**
    - 2. Sunday School Teachers, Youth Workers**
    - 3. Those Who Accept God-given Responsibility for the Spiritual Welfare of Others**

**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 as 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.**

**1 Pet. 5:2-4**

# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing**
- III. Mature Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory**
- IV. Expectant Ministry - Crown of Righteousness**
  - A. Paul Anticipates the Crown of Righteousness**
    - 1. Crown of Righteousness is “Laid Up for Me”**
    - 2. And Not For Me Only**
    - 3. But to All Who Have Loved His Appearing**

**For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up 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 loved His appearing.**

**2 Tim. 4:6-9**



# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living**
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing**
- III. Mature Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory**
- IV. Expectant Ministry - Crown of Righteousness**
  - A. Paul Anticipates the Crown of Righteousness**
  - B. Paul Describes His Ministry Situation**
    - 1. Time of My Departure Has Come**
    - 2. I Fought the Good Fight – Kept the Faith**
    - 3. I Have Loved Jesus' Appearing**
    - 4. So I'm Anticipating Crown of Righteousness**

**For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up 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 loved His appearing.**

**2 Tim. 4:6-9**

# The Wages of Righteousness

1 Cor 9:19-27

- I. Patient Endurance Earns Crown of Living
- II. Sincere Evangelism Earns Crown of Rejoicing
- III. Mature Shepherding Earns Crown of Glory
- IV. Expectant Ministry - Crown of Righteousness
  - A. Paul Anticipates the Crown of Righteousness
  - B. Paul Describes His Ministry Situation
  - C. Loving Jesus' Appearing → Righteousness

**Loving Jesus' Appearing is Living and Serving Every Day in Eager Anticipation of His Return.**

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up 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 loved His appearing.

2 Tim. 4:6-9





**And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."**

**Rev. 4:9-11**



# **The Wages of Righteousness**

**1 Cor 9:19-27**

## **Faithful Christian Stewardship Produces Generous Rewards**

### **So What?**

- 1. Lay Up Treasures in Heaven**
  - 2. Focus on Jesus' Rewards**
  - 3. Serve With Eternity in Mind**
- 