

## Introduction

When Karen and I decided to move back to Georgia, we looked for a permanent place to live. Karen and I each had things on our lists of requirements for our future home, and we came up with a joint list. The North Quarters subdivision in Rome, Georgia met all of our criteria, and we bought a lot to build a house on it. We knew we would need a temporary place to live while building our new home, so we decided to live in a fifth wheel camper. There were not any convenient campgrounds and so we looked at buying a fixer-up house and living in the fifth wheel at the property. We found an older home with four acres that was ideal. The home still had the 1950 electrical wiring, and the original windows and doors. The air conditioner and furnace did not work and had to be replaced. The temporary home had a level spot in the back where an above-ground pool used to be, and it was ideal for an RV site. We added gravel, electric, sewer, and water, and it was an ideal temporary place to live while our permanent home was being built.

Our passage today is about the life we live while in our temporary homes. Paul refers to our current bodies as earthly tents, and that it is temporary. Our real home is a building from God, a house not made with hands, and it is eternal. While we are in this temporary tent, we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven. Paul gives four exhortations for our lives while we live in our earthly tent. He tells us to focus on eternal things. Second, he exhorts us to have as our ambition to be pleasing to God. Third, he tells us to persuade others. Fourth, he tells us to be ministers of reconciliation. In Part 1, we will cover the first two points, and in Part 2 we will cover the last two points.

### Our Life While Living in a Tent – Part 1 (2 Cor 4:16-5:10)

1. **Focus on Eternal things** (2 Cor 4:16-5:5) (Part 1)
2. **Be Pleasing to God** (2 Cor 5:6-10) (Part 1)
3. **Persuade Others** (2 Cor 5:11-15) (Part 2)
4. **Be Ministers of Reconciliation** (2 Cor 5:16-21) (Part 2)

(2 Co 4:16–18) “Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. {17} For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, {18} while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

(2 Co 5:1–5) “For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. {2} For indeed in this *house* we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, {3} inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. {4} For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. {5} Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.”

(2 Co 5:6–10) “Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord— {7} for we walk by faith, not by sight— {8} we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. {9} Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. {10} For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

(2 Co 5:11–15) “Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences. {12} We are not again commending ourselves to you but *are* giving you an occasion to be proud of us, so that you will have *an answer* for those who take pride in appearance and not in heart. {13} For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are of sound mind, it is for you. {14} For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; {15} and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.”

(2 Co 5:16–19) “Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him in this way* no longer. {17} Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. {18} Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, {19} namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”

(2 Co 5:20–21) “Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. {21} He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

### 1. Focus on Eternal things (2 Cor 4:16-5:5)

Paul begins by saying that though his outer man is decaying, his inner man is being renewed day by day. The momentary, light afflictions were producing in him an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison. There is a contrast between what is eternal and what is temporal. Our lives on earth, as we know it, are temporary. Our bodies are wearing out. Paul uses the word, *diaphtheiro*, which means to be completely or thoroughly destroyed or decayed. *Dia* means through or thoroughly and *phtheiro* means to waste, destroy, or corrupt. The KJV translates it as *perish*, and the ESV translates it as *wasting away*. Our physical bodies are temporal and are gradually wearing out. Paul did not lose heart over the afflictions that he was going through because these afflictions were producing in him an eternal weight of glory. The suffering that he went through were producing eternal things which were glorious.

(2 Co 4:16–17) “Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. {17} For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,”

Therefore, Paul focused on the eternal things, not on the temporal things that were perishing, like his own earthly life. He said, “while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” Paul focused on the eternal things. What are some eternal things? The word of God is eternal. Isaiah wrote, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.” Jesus said, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.” When we spend time focusing on God’s word, we are looking at eternal things.

(2 Cor 4:18) “while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

(Is 40:8) “The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”

(Matt 24:35) “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.”

Our souls are eternal. Our lives here on earth are temporal. In the parable of the unrighteous steward, Jesus was teaching people that they should use their wealth and lives to prepare a place in the future. The unrighteous steward knew he was going to lose his job, so he took the opportunity he had to make friends with people so that after he was removed from his job, he would be accepted by others. All of us are going to lose our lives; our lives on earth are temporal. God wants us to use our current opportunity to secure an eternal dwelling place in heaven. (See Luke 16:1-9.)

Focusing on winning souls is a way of focusing on eternal things. Jim Elliot, a missionary to Ecuador, focused on eternal things. He focused on reaching out to those that had never heard the gospel. On October 28, 1949, he wrote in his journal, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” Six years later, on January 8, 1956, Jim, along with Pete Fleming, Ed McCully, Nate Saint, and Roger Youderian were martyred by the Wuaorani Indians (Auca Indians), the people they were trying to win to the Lord. Many of the Wuarorani Indians eventually received Christ into their lives.

Paul goes on to say “that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” He has gone from speaking about our outer man to an earthly tent. He is still referring to our temporal earthly bodies. Instead of our bodies decaying, he now says that our tents are being torn down or destroyed. Paul was a tent-maker, and when he planted the church in Corinth, he stayed with Aquila and Priscilla, who were also tent-makers. The tents that Paul made were not permanent residences. The tents were temporary shelters or houses that could be taken down and moved around. They were not permanent. In the same way, our physical lives are not permanent.

(2 Co 5:1) “For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

Paul contrasts the temporary tents with the permanent home in heaven. He said this building will be from God. It will be a house not made with hands, but by God. Our building or home in heaven is eternal. This is a continuation of the discussion about temporal versus eternal things. Our lives here on earth are temporal.

In our current life, in our mortal bodies that are decaying, in these tents that will be torn down, we groan. People groan when they are in pain, particularly older people. They often groan when they start an activity, like standing up or bending over, after being idle for a while. There are some things that will help seniors with these aches, like taking more frequent breaks when driving, or doing some stretching before getting out of bed. But, in this temporary house, people of all ages groan when they are in pain. Our knees wear out; several of my friends have had knee replacements. Our hips wear out. One of our friends just had a hip replacement. Our teeth, eyes, ears, and every other part gradually wear out, and we groan in these tents that are being torn down.

(2 Cor 5:2) “For indeed in this *house* we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven,”

We groan, and we also long to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven. I have found that younger people are not as concerned about trading in this earthly body for a heavenly body. They haven't experienced the bodily pains that come later in life. I have also found that those who have physical ailments, caused by diseases or accidents, have a greater longer for their heavenly body. In this earthly life, we groan because of our current body, and we long to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven.

Paul knew about pain and afflictions. He had been beaten times without number, and received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes on five different occasions. He had been stoned and left for dead. I believe he must have groaned some during these afflictions. Paul had others write letters for him, and he signed them himself with large letters. This indicates that his eyesight was not good and longer. Paul knew first-hand about his earthly tent being torn down, and the groaning that accompanies it. He also knew about the aches and pains of this life where we groan.

(2 Co 11:23b–25) “... beaten times without number, often in danger of death. {24} Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine *lashes*. {25} Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.”

(Ga 6:11) “See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.”

Paul said that we want to put on this heavenly clothing so that we will not be found naked. We don't want to be unclothed, but to be clothed. We know from John 5:28-29 that there is a resurrection of the righteous and a resurrection of the evil. None of us will be without a resurrected body. Therefore, I believe that naked refers to the resurrection body that is not clothed with Christ. (See Gal 3:27.) In verse five, Paul said that God has prepared us for this purpose and gave to us the Spirit as a pledge. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit when we become a believer. Paul is saying that we groan in this present body, longing for our resurrected body, and we want to make sure that we are true believers, and are not found naked, without Christ in our lives. We need to make sure that we are in Christ. Paul also said that we want to be clothed so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus said that eternal life is knowing God. Being swallowed up in life is being completely filled, consumed, and swallowed up in the life of Jesus.

(2 Cor 5:3-5) “inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. {4} For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. {5} Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.”

(Jn 5:28–29) “Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, {29} and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment.”

(Jn 14:6) “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

(Jn 17:3) “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

(Ga 3:27) “For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”

## 2. Be Pleasing to God (2 Cor 5:6-10)

Because we are in earthly tents, our focus is on eternal things, the life of Jesus. We groan, but at the same time, we long to be in the presence of God, clothed with our permanent home. Second, we have as our aim to be pleasing to God in this earthly tent.

While we are at home in the body, this earthly tent, we are absent from the Lord. We walk by faith, not by sight, setting our minds on eternal things. When we are going through afflictions and suffering, we can be of good courage because we know that it is temporary. At some point in time, we will receive this permanent home that has been prepared for us by God. Therefore, we are of good courage, and long for this permanent home. We prefer to be absent from the body, that is this earthly body with aches and pains, and that is decaying, and to be at home with the Lord, in our new home.

(2 Co 5:6–7) “Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord— {7} for we walk by faith, not by sight— {8} we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.”

Paul made a similar comment in his letter to the Philippians. He said to die is gain. He would prefer to be at home with the Lord, for that was gain. Paul felt hard-pressed; he had a desire to stay and have fruitful labor on earth, but he had a desire to depart and be with Christ, for that was very much better.

(Phil 1:21–23) “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. {22} But if *I am* to live *on* in the flesh, this *will mean* fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. {23} But I am hard-pressed from both *directions*, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for *that* is very much better;”

Whether Paul was living in the flesh or at home with the Lord, he had as his ambition to be pleasing to Him. While you and I are living in these earthly tents, our ambition needs to be pleasing to the Lord. Paul not only had an ambition to be pleasing to the Lord, he taught that in all the churches. In his letter to the Thessalonians, he exhorted them in the way that they should walk and please God, and he commended them because they were already doing it.

(2 Cor 5:9) “Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.”

(1 Th 4:1) “Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.”

How do we live lives that are pleasing to God? I believe that we must renew our minds and hearts. Jesus taught that all the things that defile us come out of the heart. Therefore, we need to have pure hearts. In Psalms 19:14, the prayer is for the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts to be acceptable in God’s sight. That is a good prayer, and if our words and thoughts are acceptable, the rest of our actions should also be pleasing.

(Mt 15:18–19) “But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. {19} “For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.”

(Ps 19:14) “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.”

I believe that walking in a manner worthy of the Lord is pleasing to the Lord. In Colossians 1:9–10, Paul prayed for the saints in Colosse to be filled with the knowledge of God’s will and to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects. When we walk uprightly and in God’s ways, our lives are pleasing to the Lord. When we bear fruit in every good work, we are pleasing to the Lord. Later on, in Paul’s letter to the Colossians, he exhorted the children to be obedient to their parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord. God is our Heavenly Father, and when we, His children, are obedient in all things, our lives are pleasing to the Lord.

(Col 1:9–10) “For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, {10} so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

(Col 3:20) “Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.”

Another way we can live lives that are pleasing to the Lord is by living by faith. Since we are in these earthly tents, we are exhorted to walk by faith, not by sight. In Hebrews 11, God tells us that without faith it is impossible to please Him. When we focus on the eternal things, and the things not seen, we are walking by faith and it pleases Him. When we base our decisions and actions on the word of God, not circumstances, it is pleasing to the Lord.

(2 Co 5:7) “for we walk by faith, not by sight,”

(Heb 11:6) “And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

In Hebrews 13, God tells us three additional ways to please Him. He exhorts us to offer sacrifices of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. Our worship in praise and thanksgiving are pleasing to the Lord. Next, we are not to neglect doing good and sharing.

(Heb 13:15–16) “Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. {16} And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

Learning to please God is a process. I am a better husband now than I was forty-five years ago. I have learned what pleases Karen and I try to do those things. As we grow in our knowledge and understanding of God and His ways, we learn what is pleasing to Him. As we apply those things in our lives, it is pleasing to God. Paul wrote in Ephesians 5 that we are to walk as children of Light, in all goodness and righteousness and truth, trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. As we grow in our knowledge and understanding, we learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

(Eph 5:8–10) “for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light {9} (for the fruit of the Light *consists* in all goodness and righteousness and truth), {10} trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.”

After saying that we have as our ambition to be pleasing to the Lord, Paul gives one reason that this should be our ambition. He said that we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Since we will all stand before Christ, we want our lives to have been pleasing to Him.

(2 Cor 5:10) “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

In Hebrews 9:27, we are taught that it was appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment. Some people say that two things in life are inevitable, death and taxes. They leave out the third thing, which is judgment. After death, it is appointed for all men to stand before God and be judged.

(Heb 9:27) “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment,”

The judgment that Paul spoke to the Corinthians about is the judgment of believers, not the Great White Throne Room Judgment, where those who have not made Christ their Lord will be judged. In John 5:24, Jesus said that those who hear His word and believe in Him have eternal life and do not come into judgment, but have passed out of death into life. Believers will still have to stand before God and give account, but it is not about where they will spend eternity. Believers will not be judged at the Great White Throne Room judgment, but they will have to stand before God and give account. Paul wrote the church in Rome and told them that we will all stand before the judgment seat of God, and give account of himself to God. Believers do not stand before the Great White Throne Room Judgment, but they will stand before the judgment seat of God and give account to God.

(Jn 5:24) “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

(Rom 14:10–12) “But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. {11} For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” {12} So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.”

In Hebrews 13:17, we see that church leaders must give account to God for those that God places under their care. They will give account about how they watched over, fed, and cared for the flock. God tells congregants to let them do so with joy or it will not be profitable for them. That could mean in the current life on earth, but it could also mean that there may be a loss of profit or rewards in heaven when they stand before God and give account to Him for their lives. Believers are exhorted to live lives that are pleasing to God, and when they do that, their pastors will give account with joy.

(Heb 13:17) “Obey your leaders and submit *to them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.”

The judgment of believers is in regard to their deeds, and there will be crowns and awards given on that day. The crowns that the righteous can earn include:

- **Crown of Righteousness** for living a pure life before the Lord (2 Tim 4:7-8)
- **Crown of Life** (Martyr’s Crown) for persevering through trials and sometimes at the expense of one’s own life (James 1:12, Rev 2:10, 3:10-12)
- **Crown of Glory** for shepherds who faithfully care for God’s flock (1 Pet 5:1-4, Matt 10:41)
- **Crown of Beauty** (Crown of Wisdom) for those that have sought and acquired wisdom (Pr 4:5-9)
- **Soul-Winners Crown** for rewarding those who win people to Christ (Pr 11:30, Phil 4:1, 1 Thess 2:19)
- **Incorruptible Crown** for living a disciplined life (1 Cor 9:24-27)

At the judgment of the wicked, they will be judged according to their deeds, and those whose name is not found written in the book of life will be thrown into the lake of fire, which is the second death.

(Re 20:11–15) “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. {12} And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. {13} And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds. {14} Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. {15} And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

When we stand before the Lord, we want to hear what the Master said to the slave that had been faithful with the minas given to him, “Well done, good and faithful slave...” Therefore, we want to live a life that is pleasing and acceptable to God. We want to be found faithful in the things that God has called us to do.

(Matt 25:21) “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’”

Near the end of Paul’s life, he wrote Timothy and told him that the time of his departure has come. He had fought the good fight and finished the course, and kept the faith. He knew that there was laid up for him a crown of righteousness. That was only one crown, and since Paul won souls, was martyred, faithfully cared for God’s flock, sought and acquired wisdom, and lived a disciplined life, I believe he will have many crowns awarded to him on the day that he gives account.

(2 Ti 4:6–8) “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. {7} I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept



the faith; {8} 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.”

### **Conclusion and Applications**

While we are living in these earthly tents that are being torn down, in these mortal bodies that are decaying and perishing, we are to set our minds on eternal things, not on the temporal things on the earth. Our stay here is temporary, but our real home is a building from God, not made with hands, and is eternal. Therefore, we are to walk by faith, and not by sight.

In this earthly bodies, we groan. Our outer man is perishing, and we groan. We long for our heavenly dwelling and to be home with the Lord. Everytime we have an ache, pain, or physical affliction and groan, it is a reminder that these earthly tents are being torn down. It should also be a reminder to us that we have a heavenly dwelling place, which is eternal, and it should create a longing in us to be there with the Lord.

While we are here in this body, our aim is to be pleasing to the Lord. We are all going to stand before the judgment seat of God, so we want our lives here on earth to be pleasing to Him in all respects. It is a process and everyday as we learn more about the Lord and His ways, our lives should be more pleasing to the Lord.

Next week we will be covering the last two points about living our life in these earthly tents. Since these lives are temporal and we will all stand before the judgment seat of God, we are to persuade others. We are ministers of reconciliation, and we are to preach the word of reconciliation to people. We are ambassadors for Christ. Our citizenship and home is in heaven, and while here on earth, we are God’s representatives to the people on earth.

### **Concluding Prayer**

Father God, we want to be pleasing to You. We want the meditations of our hearts to be acceptable to You. We want the words from our lips to be pleasing to You. We want to walk in a way that is pleasing to You. Help us to learn how to walk in a way that is pleasing to You. Help us to set our mind on things above, on eternal things. Help us to walk by faith, and not by sight. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

## **Our Life In Earthly Tents – Part 1**

### **Introduction (2 Cor 4:16-5:10)**

1. **Focus on Eternal things** (2 Cor 4:16-5:5, Is 40:8, Matt 24:35, Luke 16:1-9, 2 Co 11:23b–25, Ga 6:11, Jn 5:28-29, 14:6, 17:3)
  
2. **Be Pleasing to God** (2 Cor 5:6-10, Phil 1:21–23, 1 Th 4:1, Mt 15:18–19, Ps 19:14, Col 1:9-10, 3:20, 2 Co 5:7, Heb 11:6, 13:15-16, Eph 5:8-10, Heb 9:27, Jn 5:24, Rom 14:10-12, Heb 13:17, Re 20:11–15, Mt 25:21, 2 Tim 4:6-8)
  - **Crown of Righteousness** (2 Tim 4:7-8)
  - **Crown of Life** (Martyr’s Crown) (James 1:12, Rev 2:10, 3:10-12)
  - **Crown of Glory** (1 Pet 5:1-4, Matt 10:41)
  - **Crown of Beauty** (Crown of Wisdom) (Pr 4:5-9)
  - **Soul-Winners Crown** (Pr 11:30, Phil 4:1, 1 Thess 2:19)
  - **Incarnate Crown** (1 Cor 9:24-27)

### **Conclusion and Applications**