

# MOTIVATION TO FINISH STRONG

## AUGUST 23, 2020

### 2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8

Paul's life and ministry should speak volumes to our lives. He started as a destroyer and finished as a major builder of the church of our Lord. In between, he suffered more than any man, second only to Jesus Himself. Just as Jesus kept His eyes on the prize (**HEBREWS 12:2-3**), even so, Paul did the same.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

Paul was driven to obtain an incorruptible crown. He says we all should be so motivated. There are many that are only satisfied with making Heaven and fail to realize there are crowns to be awarded to those who serve Christ faithfully while here on earth. These crowns serve as motivators.

### FIVE CROWNS

1.) Incorruptible Crown. **1 CORINTHIANS 9:25** this crown is for those who crucify the flesh, practice self control and deny themselves in order to honor God in conduct, character and behavior. They sacrifice personal ambition in order to do God's will.

A.) **MARK 10:28-30** They give up family, career, even personal ambitions in order to serve God.

B.) This crown is also called the imperishable crown. This means it endures forever.

2.) Rejoicing or Soul Winners Crown. **1 THESSALONIANS 2:19-20**

A.) This crown is for those who witness to God's saving grace and attempt to lead others to Christ. This doesn't mean how many get saved, for God gives the increase. It means you presented the opportunity for salvation.

B.) **2 THESSALONIANS 2:10** By example, by words and by behavior, we are to influence others for Christ.

C.) Paul almost persuaded Agrippa - **ACTS 26:28** to become a Christian.

**3.) Crown of Life. JAMES 1:12**

**A.)** In this life we all will face temptations, persecution, and trials. Jesus, Paul and James all agree.

**B.)** The crown goes to those who endure it all. To endure means to continue serving out of love for God no matter what may come our way.

**C.) 1 CORINTHIANS 10:13** God will reward those who endure.

**4.) Righteousness. 2 TIMOTHY 4:8**

**A.)** This crown is for those who finish their course, not someone else's. They do what God told them to do while living a righteous life for God with what time they have on earth.

**B.)** We all have flaws and imperfections. God's not looking for sinless perfection, just faithfulness.

**5.) Glory. 1 PETER 5:1-4**

**A.)** This crown is for those who minister God's Word. It includes pastors, teachers, missionaries, Sunday school teachers and anyone who gives themselves to help others grow in God's Word.

**B.)** they teach God's ways and will sacrifice to do so.

**OVERCOMER'S REWARDS OF REVELATION**

**1.)** To eat from the Tree of Life **2:7**

**2.)** Crown of Life. **2:10**

**3.)** Hidden manna and white stone. **2:17**

**4.)** Authority over the nations. **2:26**

**5.)** Clothed in white, name remains, confessed. **3:5**

**6.)** Made a pillar in the temple. **3:12**

**7.)** Made to sit with Christ on His throne. **3:21**