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OUR REWARDS IN HEAVEN – PART 2

THE VICTOR'S INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN

In II Corinthians 5:10 (NKJV) it says, ***“For we (believers) must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ that each one may receive the things done (works) in the body (on earth) according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”***

The “judgement seat of Christ” is referred to as the “Bema Seat.” In Roman Olympics, the winner of each event was presented a reward at the seat of the judge of the Olympics, which was called in Greek the “Bema Set.” The winner was crowned with a green garland wreath. It would soon wither being a corruptible crown.

Paul wrote that every believer who successfully completes this “run of life” will have a reward. He speaks of it in I Corinthians 9:24-27. In vs. 25 he says we receive ***an incorruptible crown*** for having completed our “run” in life to the glory of God.

This incorruptible crown is for those who keep their body in subjection to the things and ways of God. It is a fight to keep one’s old nature of the flesh under discipline so as to bring honor to God rather than yielding to fleshly desires.

It is a life path of holiness. Hebrews 12:14 says, ***“Pursue...holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.”*** A holy life is one that is sanctified, or set apart, to the honor of the Lord. It does not mean we are able to live in sinless perfection as Christ did. It does mean that when we do sin, we confess to God and repent as it says in I John 1:9, ***“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”***

This will give us a victorious Christian life and an incorruptible crown of glory in heaven.