

Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
May 27, 2020

"MANY CROWNS?"

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, enthroned in worlds above, crown Him the king to whom is giv'n the wondrous gift name of Love. Crown Him with many crowns as thrones around Him fall; crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns for He is king of all. LSB 525, stanza 5

This past Sunday this hymn, "*Crown Him with Many Crowns*", was the hymn of the day for our observance of Christ's ascension to heaven. That final stanza (above) sums up the celebration of the event in heaven. Our Lord Jesus left this world to return home to heaven having won the victory for us over sin, death, and the powers of hell...the devil...by His obedient life, sacrificial death, and glorious resurrection. He returns to the Father in glory and receives the crown that is above all others as He lives and reigns at the Father's right-hand over all things and all kingdoms. The Apostle Paul puts it this way, "*God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*" (Philippians 2:9-11) The thrones and crowns of all the world and all in heaven are called to fall before that of Jesus as they submit to His rule and authority confessing Him as their Lord and Master. Ultimately that will happen when Christ returns to judge the living and the dead and to usher in His eternal Kingdom on earth. The concept of being crowned with many crowns took on a whole new meaning for me just yesterday. You see, Kay and I paid a visit to the dentist for our routine exam and cleaning. This would be our initial experience with this particular dentist. I can't say that I didn't see it coming, the previous dentist had suggested this about 6 months ago, but I didn't expect that I would be needing two crowns to replace old fillings that had previously replaced even older ones. On top of that, Kay needs two new crowns as well! I found out that our dentist has a son who is graduating high school this spring and most likely going off to college. I'm not cynical enough to think that this has anything to do with our need of dental work. Obviously, we are talking two very different kinds of crowns here. But there is a correlation. I'll be getting a temporary crown on July 9th, and then within a month later a more permanent one. All the crowns of this world are indeed also temporary, but later comes an eternal, permanent crown, for those who do on earth bow the knee to Jesus and confess that Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. That permanent crown that we receive won't be anywhere near equal to that of Jesus, as we see the saints in heaven "*casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea*" (*Holy, Holy, Holy*, stanza 2) before the throne of the Lamb in heaven in the Book of Revelation. Can you imagine what it is going to sound like singing that great hymn in heaven with all the saints of all times? It's going to be infinitely and eternally awesome!