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OF
GRACE**

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Running
to obtain the
Eternal Crown
of
Glory

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Running to Obtain the Eternal Crown of Glory.

The apostle Paul wrote:

- **2 Timothy 4:7-8:** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Henceforth 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.

Enduring in the faith and proclaiming the Gospel is called the good fight, because it is not fought with fist or weapons of war, but with love, mercy and grace, and the result of those who surrender is joy, peace, contentment, and eternal life in everlasting glory.

The glory and beauty of the Christian race: at the Grecian games, only one could obtain the highest prize all the rest who contended in those games, no matter how numerous they were, or how skilfully they contended, or how much effort they made, were subjected to missing out on the highest prize and the greatest reward. Every other competitor running the race was liable to the disappointment of missing out on the highest prize even though they crossed the finish line, but not so in the Christian faith. Here is the excitement the joy the thrill and the glory of running in the Christian race, no matter how numerous the competitors, or how worthy, talented, and skilled any one of them maybe all may obtain the highest prize, all may be crowned with a diadem of eternal life of equal brilliancy.

No one is excluded of eternal life because another is successful; no one loses the reward because another obtains it. Such is the wonder and splendour of God's love, grace and mercy in Christ, and the joy of running alongside our brothers and sisters having the knowledge that all who reach the finish-line receive the highest prize of an immortal and eternal crown, and not just the first to cross over it. In this race every brother and sister who runs may obtain the crown. The struggle is not between each other as competitors in such a sense that, if one obtains the crown all others must be excluded; but it is a crown which all who run can obtain.

- As many as run.
- As many as fight the good fight.
- As many as keep the faith.
- As many as love his appearing.

May win the crown, this is the beauty and glory in which the highest prize of this race differs from all other races. The prize is great since it is a prize not of debt, but of grace and is suitably fit not only for an apostle, but for even the most common of us who belong to the global family of Christ. The prize is given not only to those with great gifts and talents, but to all who look by faith and with love toward the Lords appearing. This crown is laid up, it is in view, but not in possession.

There is laid up for all who look to the Lord's return with anticipated excitement a crown of righteousness. The happiness of the future state of every brother and sister in Christ is signified by a crown on account of the glory and excellency of it; and in perfect agreement with the character of the those in Christ as kings who are raised to sit among princes and to inherit the throne of glory and have a Kingdom prepared for them.

The crown is called a crown of righteousness, because it comes through the righteousness of Christ; it is his righteousness that gives those in the Lord the right to it. Without Christ's righteousness that is obtained and possessed by faith, and not by works and self-effort it cannot be enjoyed. This crown can only be possessed by faith and God's grace it cannot be usurped (as crowns sometimes are), by self-righteousness, or self-effort in trusting in ceremonial rites, holy days and religious customs and traditions.

It is God the Father's free-gift unto his children, it is what they are spiritually born heirs into, and have an anticipated excitement for, and through their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and God's grace they have the legal title to it. This happiness, signified by a crown is laid up in the covenant of grace for every faithful brother and sister in Christ, which is promised with God's oath and therefore guaranteed in Christ in whose hands their life of glory is hidden and secure, laid up in heaven and reserved there for that glorious day of their Saviours return.

The crown of every brother and sister in Christ is a crown of righteousness purchased by the righteousness of Christ, they have not yet attained this state (except by faith and God's grace), but it is laid up in glory for those who endure through poverty, pain, sickness, and the agonies of death to the finish line. No brother or sister in Christ should despair since their crown is not like the perishing wreath of olive and laurel which could be presented on only one victor, but is an eternal crown that will be bestowed on all who endure in faith to the finish line. This is the honour and glory, the splendour and beauty of the Christian faith. (Author unknown).

Paul said:

- **Romans 1:16:** I am not ashamed of the Gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
