

On Friday, February 16, 2007,
Sarah Fillner received
“the **crown** of life.”

(picture of Sarah)

And when, dear Lord, before your throne in heaven
To me the **crown** of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns your saints forever raise you,
I too, shall praise you. (CW: *O Dearest Jesus* 117:7)

Some thoughts about crowns:

- + Rulers wear **crowns**
- + In ancient times winning athletes wore a **garland** on their heads. 1 Cor 9:25 refers to it as a crown.
- + The Old Testament refers to **crowns** being worn at joyous occasions, such as weddings.
- + Prov 10:31 says gray hair is a **crown** of splendor (that is a crown some embrace, but some use Clairol ☺)
- + Prov 17:6 says, “Children are a **crown** to the aged.”
- + Is 35:10 proclaims “and the ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy (‘the life’) will **crown** their heads.”

Generally, it seems . . . Crowns are good things!

Many of our hymns speak of crowns; of “the life” in heaven; also of Jesus as King & of Jesus’ throne.

Some examples:

H 33 V 4
*All Praise to You,
Eternal God*
You came to us in darkened night
To make us children of the light;
Like angels in the realms divine
Around your **throne** we, too, will shine. Alleluia!

H 40 V 5
*O, Jesus Christ,
Your Manger Is*
The World may hold Her wealth and gold;
But you, my heart, keep Christ as your true treasure,
To him hold fast Until at last
A **crown** is yours and honor in full measure.

H 50: v 4
Once in Royal
David’s City
Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by
Shall we see him, but in heaven,
Set at God’s right hand on high,
Then like stars his children **crowned**,
All in white, his praise will sound.

H 141: v 5 Father, who the **crown** shall give,
At The Lamb's Savior, by whose death we live,
High Feast We Spirit, guide through all our days,
Sing Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!

H 28: v 6 And, when you shall come again
Let the Earth As a glorious King to reign,
Now Praise I with joy may see your face,
the Lord Freely ransomed by your grace.

Some specific Bible verses:

Ps 149:4 For the LORD takes delight in his people; he **crowns** the humble with salvation.

2 Tim 4:8 Now there is in store 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 longed for his appearing.

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the **crown** of life that God has promised to those who love him.

1 Pet 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the **crown** of glory that will never fade away.

Rev 2:10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the **crown** of life.

Rev 3:11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your **crown**.

1 Cor 9:24-25 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a **crown** that will not last; but we do it to get a **crown** that will last forever.

These Bible verses standing alone may give a misguided idea about how and why we receive our crown of "the life." What idea might that be?

It is here that we want to look at another crown our dear Lord wore. Which crown is that? Mt 27:29, Mk 15:17, Jn 19:2 all refer to that crown.

Do you think it was an easy crown to wear? Remember, he was TRUE MAN!

(see "*A high-stakes encounter*" – Rev Thomas Jeske – Forward in Christ - Feb 2007)

**Rev 2:10 Be faithful, even to the point of death,
and I will give you the crown of life ("the life").**